

Tech Prep of the Rio Grande Valley, Inc.
ANNOUNCES THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL COMPETITION FOR THE
DR. LAURO F. CAVAZOS TECH PREP SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship Competition for 2008-2009 High School Seniors
For Studies Beginning in the 2009-2010 Academic Year

REQUEST FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS FOR UTB/TSC:
ISSUED May 8, 2009

Scholarships Available

Tech Prep of the Rio Grande Valley, Inc., is pleased to announce the Eleventh Annual Dr. Lauro F. Cavazos Tech Prep Scholarship competition. Five scholarships were available for award this year. The recipients of four of those scholarships have been named. Through unforeseen circumstances, the recipient of the scholarship for UTB/TSC was not able to receive the scholarship. Therefore, the scholarship-application process for UTB/TSC has been extended. This application is for a scholarship as follows:

- \$3,000 Scholarship for University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College

The scholarship that is awarded is funded by, and must be used at, UTB/TSC.

Important Information

1. Applicants are **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** to have their counselors or teachers review applications before submitting them. Counselors/teachers should review to be sure that applicants have fully complied with instructions. Applications for which applicants have not followed instructions will not be considered. (Counselors/teachers should verify that the Tech Prep program information is correct. Refer to the "Programs of Study" section of the "For Educators" section of Tech Prep RGV's webpage at <http://www.techpreprgv.com> for additional information.)
2. Funding for this scholarship is provided by the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College. The scholarship awarded is subject to UTB/TSC's rules. Generally these rules will require the scholarship recipient to remain in good academic standing and to be enrolled as a full-time student. The student who receives this scholarship will be given the name of a contact in the UTB/TSC Financial Aid office. This Financial Aid contact will explain the rules applicable to the scholarship.
3. The following information is available through Tech Prep RGV's website or by contacting the Tech Prep office at 956.364.4509 or 1.800.852.8784 ext. 4509:
Copy of scholarship application: <http://techpreprgv.com/downloads.shtml>
Information about Tech Prep Texas Scholars:
<http://www.techpreprgv.com/students/texasscholars.html>
Schedule of Tech Prep agreements with colleges:
<http://techpreprgv.com/educators/articulation.html>
4. Applications must be mailed or delivered to this address:
TECH PREP OF THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY, INC., Attention: Marketing and Awards Committee
TSTC Tech Prep Building; 1902 North Loop 499; Harlingen, Texas 78550-3697
5. Individual scholarship applications must be **RECEIVED by Thursday, May 21, 2009, at 5 p.m.**
6. The following applications will not be accepted: (a) late applications; (b) partial applications; (c) applications that are not typed or computer generated, and (c) faxed applications.
7. Complete information is contained in the attached application. For additional information, contact Tech Prep at 956.364.4509 or 800.852.8784 ext. 4509.

TECH PREP OF THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY, INC.
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*Please use the forms that are included in this packet. Submit a separate application for each scholarship for which you wish to be considered.

TECH OF THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY, INC.
DR. LAURO F. CAVAZOS TECH PREP SCHOLARSHIPS
Scholarship Competition for 2008-2009 High School Seniors
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INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS

SCHOLARSHIPS TO BE AWARDED: Tech Prep of the Rio Grande Valley, Inc., is pleased to announce the Eleventh Annual Dr. Lauro F. Cavazos Tech Prep Scholarship competition. Five scholarships were available for award this year; however, the application process for four of those scholarships has been closed. One scholarship remains open for applications, as follows:

- A \$3,000 scholarship for the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College

The scholarship awarded is funded by the university and will be subject to UTB/TSC's rules and regulations. The student who is awarded this scholarship will receive written notice from Tech Prep RGV that the scholarship has been awarded. The written notice will include the name of a contact in the UTB/TSC Financial Aid office who will provide specific information about the rules applicable to the scholarship.

Continuation funding for all scholarships is contingent on compliance with performance requirements applicable to the individual scholarship (for example, the scholarship recipient might be required to maintain full-time status and a 3.0 GPA). The requirements applicable to this scholarship will be explained by the representative in the Financial Aid office of UTB/TSC, which is funding the scholarship.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: Eligible applicants are high school graduates who graduated as Tech Prep Texas Scholars after the fall semester 2008 or who will graduate as Tech Prep Texas Scholars at the end of the spring semester 2009. **Applications for students who do not meet the selection criteria will not be considered.**

SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION:

Applications must be RECEIVED by the date and time, and at the location, specified below:

Date and Time: 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 21, 2009.

Location: Tech Prep of the Rio Grande Valley, Inc.
Attn.: Marketing and Awards Committee
TSTC Tech Prep Building
1902 North Loop 499
Harlingen, Texas 78550-3697

Applicants are strongly encouraged to have a counselor or a teacher review their applications prior to submitting them. Some applications have been disqualified for routine errors (such as not correctly identifying Tech Prep courses [articulated courses and/or dual/concurrent enrollment courses] and Tech Prep programs at colleges), and counselors or teachers should be able to assist applicants with answering these questions correctly. In addition, counselors or teachers should review applications to be sure that applicants have fully complied with instructions. Applications for which applicants have not followed instructions will not be considered.

Applications must be complete and in order, as follows:

- First: Scholarship Application Cover Page (form enclosed in this package).
- Second: Three separate letters of reference (forms enclosed in this package)--two from school personnel and one from a personal reference who is not a family member
- Third: Tech Prep Career Essay (form enclosed in this package)
- Fourth: Copy of a High School transcript reflecting a Tech Prep program of study

Applications may be mailed or hand-delivered, but must be received by the stated deadline. Late applications, partial applications, and faxed applications will not be accepted.

RECOGNITION CEREMONY:

Scholarship recipients may be invited to participate in an awards ceremony sponsored by the Tech Prep RGV Board later in the year. In addition, applicants may also be honored during ceremonies at their current schools.

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CRITERIA THAT MUST BE MET:

1. The applicant must be a fall 2008 or spring 2009 Tech Prep Texas Scholar high school graduate.
2. The applicant must have graduated from, or be preparing to graduate from the high school portion of a College Tech Prep program for which there is a plan in place with South Texas College, Texas State Technical College Harlingen, or Texas Southmost College. Schedules of these programs can be viewed on Tech Prep RGV's website at this address: <http://techpreprgv.com/educators/articulation.html> **THE NAME OF THE COLLEGE TECH PREP PROGRAM MUST APPEAR ON THE FRONT PAGE OF THE APPLICATION.**
3. The applicant should have participated in (or be scheduled to participate in, prior to graduation), a work-based learning experience. Work-based learning experiences include experiences similar to these: an industry speaker's presentation to the student's class (as in a career day or a Texas Scholars presentation); a career fair (e.g., the Education & Career EXPO); a field trip to an employer's place of business; job-shadowing; mentoring; an apprenticeship; an internship, externship, preceptorship, or co-op class; and so forth.

REQUIREMENTS FOR CAREER ESSAYS:

1. The applicant must submit a two-page essay explaining why he/she chose to pursue graduation honors as a Tech Prep Texas Scholar graduate. This essay should describe the **College** Tech Prep program named on the front page of the application and any other information the applicant believes is relevant (e.g., information about a related career concentration/career major/career pathway chosen by the applicant while he/she was in high school).
2. The essay should include a description of the Tech Prep course(s) in which the student has participated (which may be locally articulated courses, statewide articulated courses, and/or dual/concurrent enrollment courses included in Tech Prep plans developed with local colleges) and should explain the reason that the student does or does not plan to complete the associate degree portion of the College Tech Prep graduation plan after graduating from high school. (The courses should correspond to the six-year plan information for the **College** Tech Prep program.)
3. The applicant should explain why he/she wants to pursue post-secondary education at the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College.
4. The essay should explain the applicant's career goals, tell why the student has chosen to pursue this career area, and describe the place wherein the applicant sees himself or herself in the workforce ten years from now.
5. The essay should also describe any work-related experiences the applicant may have had in this field.
6. If the applicant's choice of a career field was influenced by someone who is currently in that field, the essay should include an explanation.
7. The essay **MUST** be either typewritten or computer-generated
8. The essay must be no more than **two double-spaced** pages in length using 12-point type

Tech Prep of the Rio Grande Valley, Inc. TECH PREP STAFF'S NOTES:
SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION FOR
2008-2009 SENIORS TO BE USED BEGINNING
2009-2010 ACADEMIC YEAR

Date Received: _____
Time Received: _____

DR. LAURO F. CAVAZOS TECH PREP SCHOLARSHIPS: APPLICATION

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Please type or computer-generate all information.
2. Completed applications must be received by 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 21, 2009.

- \$3,000 Scholarship to the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College**

Name of Applicant: _____

First Middle Last

Mailing Address: _____

Street City State ZIP

Home Phone Number: _____

Name of School District and High School: _____

College Tech Prep Program Information:

College with Which Tech Prep Program Is in Place: _____

Name of College Tech Prep Program: _____

Tech Prep Course(s) Included in the High School Component of the Program:

Do all Tech Prep courses appear on your attached high school transcript? ~ Yes No
If "No," explain: _____

Student's Extracurricular Activities Including Clubs, Organized Sports, Church Activities, Etc.:

Student's Employment History Including Company Name, Position Held, and Employment Dates:

Agreement: I understand that (1) this application and all attachments will be reviewed by Tech Prep staff and committee members; (2) I may be asked to participate in an Awards Ceremony honoring scholarship recipients; (3) my application will be kept confidential; and (4) any and all records of the Tech Prep of the Rio Grande Valley, Inc., scholarship program, which includes my application and all attachments, could be made available to the Internal Revenue Service.

Signatures:

School Personnel:

Student Applicant /Date

High School Principal or Counselor or /Date
CTE Director

Social Security Number

Parent or Legal Guardian (if under age 18) Date

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Letter of Reference (Submit THREE Letters of Reference—Two School and One Personal)

INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANT:

1. Please type or computer-generate all information.
2. Submit three letters--two school references (teacher, counselor, or administrator) and one personal reference who is not a family member (a pastor, doctor, scout leader, etc.).
3. The completed letter of reference form (and attachments, if any) must be included with the application submitted.
4. Applications must be received by the deadline to be considered. See instructions to applicants.

INSTRUCTIONS TO REFERENCE:

1. Please describe the student's achievements plus any particular traits or personal qualities that make this student outstanding. Please provide as much information as possible to allow the reviewers to take a closer look at the student. Cite specific examples.
2. If you are a teacher and you have taught the student in a class that is one of the Tech Prep courses (articulated or concurrent/dual courses) included in a College Tech Prep Plan, please tell us about the student's performance in that class.
3. You may type on this form or submit a separate typed reference letter. If you submit a separate letter, please use this page as a cover sheet for that reference letter. If your letter is computer-generated, please use 12-point type.
4. Please limit your letter to two doubled-spaced pages in length.

Applicant's Name: _____

Name of Person Making Reference: _____

Address of Reference:

Street City State ZIP

Type of Reference:

School Reference: _____
(relationship--teacher*, counselor - please be specific)

*If teacher, course(s) you have taught this student: _____

Personal Reference: _____
(relationship--pastor, scout leader, etc.- -please be specific)

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(relationship--teacher*, counselor - please be specific)

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Personal Reference: _____
(relationship--pastor, scout leader, etc.- -please be specific)

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1. Please describe the student's achievements plus any particular traits or personal qualities that make this student outstanding. Please provide as much information as possible to allow the reviewers to take a closer look at the student. Cite specific examples.
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4. Please limit your letter to two doubled spaced pages in length.

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Name of Person Making Reference: _____

Address of Reference:

Street City State ZIP

Type of Reference:

School Reference: _____
(relationship--teacher*, counselor - please be specific)

*If teacher, course(s) you have taught this student: _____

Personal Reference: _____
(relationship--pastor, scout leader, etc.- -please be specific)

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Tech Prep Career Essay

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONTENT OF ESSAYS

1. The applicant must submit a two-page essay (**MUST** be typed or computer-generated) explaining why he/she chose to pursue graduation honors as a Tech Prep Texas Scholar graduate. This essay should describe the College Tech Prep program named on the front page of the application and any other information the applicant believes is relevant (e.g., information about a related career concentration/career major/career pathway chosen by the applicant while he/she was in high school).
2. The essay should include a description of the Tech Prep course(s) in which the student has participated (which may be locally articulated courses, statewide articulated courses, and/or concurrent/dual enrollment courses included in Tech Prep plans developed with local colleges) and should explain the reason that the student does or does not plan to complete the associate degree portion of the College Tech Prep graduation plan after graduating from high school.
3. The applicant should explain why he/she wants to pursue post-secondary education at the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College.
4. The essay should explain the applicant's career goals, tell why the student has chosen to pursue this career area, and describe the place wherein the applicant sees himself or herself in the workforce ten years from now.
5. The essay should also describe any work-related experiences the applicant may have had in this field.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FORMAT OF ESSAYS

1. The essay **MUST** be typewritten or computer-generated.
2. Essays may be a maximum of two doubled-spaced pages in length using 12-point type.
3. Use this form as the cover page for your essay.

Name of Applicant: _____.

First Middle Last

Mailing Address: _____.

Street City State ZIP

Home Phone Number: _____.

Name of School District and High School: _____.

**ATTACH YOUR ESSAY TO THIS PAGE,
FOLLOWING THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN ABOVE AND IN THE
"INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS."**

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THIS SECTION IS INCLUDED FOR INFORMATION ONLY, SO THAT THE STUDENT CAN SEE HOW HIS/HER APPLICATION WILL BE EVALUATED.

Applicant No. _____ Reviewer: _____

Reviewer Instructions: Assign points within the range allowed. For each question, consider the applicant's information submitted on the proposal form. 100 total points are possible.

Mandatory Criterion: Tech Prep High School Graduate	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Is the student a Tech Prep Texas Scholar high school graduate?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Is the Scholarship Application Cover Sheet clear as to College Tech Prep program and college?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
PROCEED WITH BALANCE OF APPLICATION? (The answers to BOTH questions above must be "Yes." If the answer to either question is "No," then this application is not eligible to be considered for the Scholarship.)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

Academic Performance (15 points)	Range of Points	Points Awarded
Does the student's transcript indicate that he or she has performed well in his or her classes?	0-15	
SECTION TOTAL		

Work-Based Experience (20 points)	Range of Points	Points Awarded
Is the student participating in a work-based experience now, or has the student participated in a work-based experience in the past? NOTE: A "work-based experience" is one in which the student learns something from a non-school-district person. This could be an industry speaker coming to the student's class (as in a career day or a Texas Scholars presentation) or one of these: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a field trip, a career fair to an employer's place of business, or job-shadowing (in which the student goes to a business and observes for a short time) • mentoring (the student has a longer relationship with a business person or other community leader in which the leader "mentors" the student) • an internship, an apprenticeship, a co-op, preceptorship, etc. 	0-20	
SECTION TOTAL		

Tech Prep Career Essay (30 points):	Range of Points	Points Awarded
1. Is the essay well written (in terms of saying clearly what it means to say and being grammatically correct)? And is it no more than two pages in length?	0-15	
2. Does the essay address the following points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Explains why the applicant chose to pursue graduation honors as a Tech Prep Texas Scholar graduate; describes the College Tech Prep program named on the front page of the application and any other information the applicant believes is relevant (e.g., information about a related career concentration/career major/career pathway chosen by the applicant while he/she was in high school). ▪ Includes a description of the Tech Prep course(s) in which the student has participated (which may be locally articulated courses, statewide articulated courses, and/or concurrent/dual enrollment courses included in Tech Prep plans developed with local colleges) and explains the reason that the student does or does not plan to complete the associate degree portion of the College Tech Prep graduation plan after graduating from high school. ▪ Explains why the applicant has chosen to pursue post-secondary education at the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost college ▪ Explains the applicant's career goals, tells why the applicant has chosen to pursue this career area, and describes the place wherein the applicant sees himself or herself in the workforce ten years from now. ▪ Describes any work-related experiences the applicant may have had in this field. 	0-15	
SECTION TOTAL		

References (35 points)	Range of Points	Points Awarded
Were there two references from school personnel and one personal reference?	0-10	
Did a teacher from a Tech Prep (articulated or concurrent/dual) course write one of the letters of recommendation for the student? If "yes," did the teacher give satisfactory information about the student's participation in the Tech Prep class?	0-10	
Are the references supportive of the student's application? Do they demonstrate an understanding of the student's career goals?	0-15	
SECTION TOTAL		

SUMMARY	Maximum Possible Points	Points Awarded
SECTION--Please enter score from each section at right.		
Academic Performance	15	
Work-Based Experience	20	
Career Essay	30	
References	35	
TOTAL POINTS	100	

REVIEWER'S COMMENTS (if any):
