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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County to partner with Innovate+Educate to host its First Skills-Based Hiring Fair

**Fort Worth, Texas (October 17, 2017)** - Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County in partnership with Innovate+Educate (I+E) will host a skills-based **Hospitality, Retail and Tourism focused hiring event on October 25<sup>th</sup>** at the Ruthe Jackson Center. Major companies from the Tarrant County area will be on hand to meet with applicants and discuss over 250 available positions. Applicants interested in one or more of the available positions will take a simple skills assessment, Core Score, that will be used to best match their knowledge, skills, abilities and behaviors to individual positions.

This is a new type of hiring event that we are bringing to the area. Employers will have the opportunity to use Core Score to help identify candidates that are job-ready; measuring critical skills including customer service, communications, critical thinking, adaptability and drives for results. Core Score is an assessment tool that will help job seekers demonstrate their unique skills and abilities while helping employers find and hire great people!

“Being able to look past someone’s resume, and see their true potential is what excited us about this new assessment tool. What we found when working with area hospitality human resource professionals was the system they used was filtering out good candidates and they needed a solution. We feel we have found that solution in Core Score and Innovate+Educate. We are excited to launch the assessment in the Tarrant County area at our ‘Discover Tarrant. Discover Talent.’ Hiring event” said Judy McDonald, Executive Director of Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County.

More than 500 candidates are expected to attend the hiring fair and take the assessment for positions in Hospitality, Retail and Tourism. After taking the assessment, candidates will receive a Core Score report, which notes their competencies, and they can also earn their entry-level, service sector digital badge. Interviews will be conducted and job offers will be extended on-the-spot to appropriate candidates. Job seekers can also receive support from career coaches to help with job readiness.

Innovate+Educate is a national nonprofit that has multiple employer-driven projects across the U.S. with a focus on developing strategies for new employment pathway based on their framework; assess, hire, train and advance. Research shows employers who hire by skill scores experience a 25-75 percent reduction in turnover, a 50-70 percent reduction in time-to-hire, and

70 percent reduction in cost to hire. Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County is excited to support this innovative skills-based hiring method.

Interested candidates are invited to register for free ahead of time for the October 25<sup>th</sup> hiring fair at [www.discovertarrant.org](http://www.discovertarrant.org). The event begins at 3:00 pm and runs until 7:00 pm. In addition to the hiring fair, candidates will have the opportunity to receive a FREE professional headshot, to update their social media accounts from our friends at Kirkbooth.

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**About Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County:**

Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County is Tarrant County's local workforce board and provides services to job seekers and employers. A 29- member Board made up of business and community leaders chaired by Jon Gustafson, with Lockheed Martin works in partnership with the Workforce Governing Board (WGB), which is composed of Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price, Arlington Mayor Jeff Williams and Tarrant County Judge Glen Whitley, to oversee Workforce services in Tarrant County. More information about the workforce centers we have throughout Tarrant County can be found at our website: [www.workforcesolutions.net](http://www.workforcesolutions.net)

**About Innovate+Educate:**

I+E is a national nonprofit implementing evidence-based, employer-led strategies to drive competency-based training and hiring for in-demand jobs. Their vision is to create multiple pathways to employment, and their focus is on industry-driven solutions to education and employment. I+E is led by a Board of Directors from top industries across 35 states.

[www.Innovate-Educate.org](http://www.Innovate-Educate.org).