



The Office of Career and Professional Development (OCPD) provides support to students and alumni in all facets of career exploration and development. They assist employers across the nation in connecting with WT students and alumni through job fairs, events, and webinars. Additionally, OCPD supports WTAMU faculty and staff by sharing their expertise through classroom presentations, facilitating student participation in career-related events, and offering professional development opportunities to students and their supervisors.

Handshake is the online system used by West Texas A&M University's OCPD to connect students, alumni, and employers with valuable resources and employment opportunities. Each month, Handshake posts all on-campus student jobs and more than 1,000 jobs nationwide.

Institutional Effectiveness has partnered with OCPD to highlight their employment interactions. In alignment with the University's [strategic plan](#), specifically "Goal 7 – Meet the employment needs of the Texas Panhandle and beyond," OCPD tracks interactions with employers in the Top 26 counties to ensure students gain insights into key local employers' post-graduation. In 2024, 499 employers in these counties interacted with OCPD, demonstrating WT's contribution to the [economic impact](#) in the Panhandle.

Data Bite # 14 – OCPD Employer Feature

Currently, 19,197 employers are active on Handshake, and 300 are recruiting in person at career expos. OCPD hosted its 50th Career Expo this past fall, marking a milestone in supporting students' post-graduation success.

Supporting data further shows that OCPD's Employer Relations Coordinators engaged with 1,198 unique employers over the past year and introduced 37 new employers to WT.

OCPD is committed to its mission to “connect, equip, and empower students for professional success.” For more information, log into your [Handshake account](#), or to make an appointment with someone in OCPD.