



MHWC Workplace Partner Certification & Mayor's Workplace Awards

Overview

As an extension of the **Mayor's Health and Well-Being Council (MHWC) Workplace Partner Certification**, the **Mayor's Health & Well-Being Awards** recognize Austin/Travis County's top organizations that excel at creating a culture of health and well-being. Technical assistance to workplaces applying for the award programs and for MHWC Workplace Partner Certification is provided by **Austin Public Health**.

Who can apply?

Current MHWC Certified Partners (or organizations seeking MHWC Workplace Partner Certification) within Austin/Travis County are eligible to apply for the Mayor's Workplace Awards. Both applications can be submitted at the same time.

Award Categories

Mayor's Healthiest Workplaces (MHW):

Awards recognize organizations that implement employee engagement programs that support employee health and well-being. This award has subcategories:

- XSmall (Up to 50 employees)
- Small (51 - 250 employees)
- Medium (251 - 1,000 employees)
- Large (1,001 - 5,000 employees)
- XLarge (Over 5,000 employees)

*Winners are determined based on the total points earned from the MHWC Workplace Partner Certification application and the Mayor's Healthiest Workplace application (5 pillars of wellness must be completed).

Moving the Needle Award (MTNA):

Award honors the workplace(s) that has implemented and supported an outstanding employee health initiative(s) aligned with the MHWC Pillars of Wellness (Tobacco-Free Living, Physical Activity, Nutrition, Health Education/Preventive Services, and Mental Health. Additional award categories, such as Community Engagement, Social Connectedness, Champion Network may be determined annually by the ABGOH Review and Steering Committee.

*Organizations applying for the Moving the Needle Award only need to complete the sections related to the pillar of wellness they wish to compete in, not the entire application. Applicants must be MHWC Partner Certified to be eligible.

When will awards be given out?

Awards will be given out at the annual Mayor's Health & Well-Being Awards Ceremony held each September during Texas Obesity Awareness Week.

What is the application deadline?

Applications are due by close of business on July 31st each year.



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MHWC Partner Certifications & Mayor's Healthiest Workplace Awards Participation 2016-2024

Year	Total # of MHWC Partner Certifications	# of Mayor's Workplace Awards Applicants	# of Workplaces Awarded <i>MHW - Mayors Healthiest Workplace Award</i> <i>MTNA - Moving The Needle Award</i>	# of employee & volunteers impacted (Cumulative)
2016	2	--	--	387
2017	35	35 (MHW)	7 (MHA)	93,836
2018	44	26 (MHW)	6 (MHW)	94,669
2019	35	22 (MHW)	6 (MHW)	118,880
2020	--	--	--	--
2021	--	22 (MTNA)	--	--
2022	18	7 (MHW) 12 (MTNA)	4 (MHW) 7 (MTNA)	84,607
2024	31	11 (MHW) 18 (MTNA)	4 (MHW) 6 (MTNA)	170,000
2026	39	11 (MHW) 25 (MTNA)	5 (MHW) 5 (MHW)	95,521

***NOTE:** All programming was placed on hold in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Moving the Needle Award (MTNA) was launched in 2021 to recognize organizations/individuals that pivoted to meet the health and well-being needs of their workplaces, schools, and communities. In 2022, the worksites and school award programs were split and moved from an annual to alternating biennial cycles (worksites apply/recertify every other year; schools in the opposite year), which affects direct year-to-year comparisons.



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2026 Measurements & Review Committee Members

Susan Thompson (Chair) Gina Akin Bianca Enriquez
 Kyle Yarkosky Melody Carlton Karlee Harper

APH support staff = Cloe Butler (outreach & technical support)

2026 Partner Certification & Award Summary

2026 New or Recertified Partner Certifications			
Mayor's Healthiest Workplace Applicant/Organization Name	MHWC Partner Certification Level	Size	Total Number of Employees & Volunteers
American Heart Association	Gold	XSmall	13
Any Baby Can	Bronze	Small	228
Ascension Seton	Gold	XLarge	14,330
Austin Community College	Gold	XLarge	6,400
Austin ISD	Gold	XLarge	10,983
Austin Trauma Therapy Center	Gold	XSmall	18
Ballet Austin, Inc.	Gold	Small	318
Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority	Gold	Large	2,400
City of Austin	Gold	XLarge	18,542
El Buen Samaritano	Silver	XSmall	119
Employees Retirement System of Texas	Gold	Medium	403
Fairmont Austin	Gold	Medium	531
Foundation Communities	Gold	Large	515



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Greater Austin YMCA	Silver	Large	2100
HealthCode	Silver	XSmall	4
Huston-Tillotson University	Silver	Small	150
Integral Care	Gold	Large	1,299
Juiceland	Silver	Medium	632
Kendra Scott	Gold	Medium	600
Marvell	Silver	Small	130
National Instruments	Gold	Large	1,300
People's Community Clinic	Gold	Medium	284
Pflugerville Independent School District	Gold	Large	7,513
Powell Law Group, LLP.	Gold	XSmall	15
Samsung Austin Semiconductor	Gold	Large	4,500
SHI	Gold	Medium	900
St. Edwards University	Silver	Medium	547
Texas Commission on Fire Protection	Silver	XSmall	44
Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts	Silver	Large	2,100
Texas Department of Criminal Justice	Silver	Large	1,500
Texas Department of Information Resources	Silver	Medium	259
Texas Health & Human Services Commission	Gold	Medium	8,360
Texas Medical Liability Trust	Silver	Small	180
Texas Mutual Insurance Company	Bronze	Large	1,013
Texas Permanent School Fund Corporation	Gold	Small	96



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Texas Racing Commission	Gold	XSmall	45
Turner Construction	Gold	Medium	650
TXDOT	Silver	Large	2,000
Whole Foods	Gold	Large	4,828
Totals	Gold: 24 Silver: 13 Bronze: 2	Number of Employees Impacted	95,521



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2026 Moving the Needle Award Winners		
Award Category	Workplace/Organization	Program Highlights
Tobacco-Free Living	Powell Law Group	- Powell Law Group incorporates tobacco free living into their broader culture of wellness, embedding it within a comprehensive well-being strategy that emphasizes preventive health, work-life balance, and supportive leadership. - As a result of these initiatives and long-standing tobacco-free workplace policy, they currently have no workplace smokers on their team.
Physical Activity	Austin Community College	- The yearly ACC Exercise Stars Challenge is a signature wellness initiative designed to encourage employees across all campuses to incorporate regular physical activity into their daily lives through friendly competition, accountability, and community support. - This year, 326 employees successfully completed the challenge, resulting in a 68.1% completion rate- the highest since 2017, demonstrating exceptional engagement and commitment.
Nutrition	Whole Foods	- Whole Foods hosts the Healthy Retreats 6-day immersive program three times per year where employees from across the company can apply to attend. This free retreat features nutrition and lifestyle medicine education provided by globally renowned whole food, plant-based physicians and practitioners. - They also feature an annual health & wellbeing activation as part of their "On Point" company-wide safety activations that achieve 98% participation at all stores.
Health Education/Preventive Services	Foundation Communities	Employees are rewarded up to \$1000 per year and can purchase an Apple Watch for completing preventative health visits and health surveys.



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		• Their Workplace Wellness Health Coaching Program provides live lunch-and-learn sessions and virtual presentations throughout the year led by a professional health coach to educate employees on key wellness topics. Key offerings include heart health, nutrition, men's health, women's health and mental health.
Emotional/Mental Health and Well-being	TxDOT	• Their 'Take a Moment' campaign during Mental Health month in May helped employees slow down, reset, and build daily habits that support mental wellbeing. • Each week centered on a different self-care theme, supported by daily opportunities including Morning Coffee Chats, meditation sessions, webinars, Chair Yoga, and more self care opportunities. • 96% of employees reported reflecting on gratitude while participating in the campaign.



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2026 Healthiest Workplace Award Winners	
Award Level	Workplace/Organization
X-Large	City of Austin
Large	Samsung Austin Semiconductor
Medium	Turner Construction
Small	Texas Permanent School Fund Corporation
X-Small	Texas Racing Commission

2026 Healthiest Workplace Award Winner Profiles & Highlights

WORKPLACE (X-Small category) – Integrates tobacco-free living into culture of employee wellness with tobacco free workplace and cessation resources. Onsite fitness facility, fitness classes such as yoga, Zumba and strength training, and gym membership discounts. Eight-hour wellness leave incentive for employees who complete preventative health requirements. Employees have access to healthier meal and snack options through Farmer's Fridge, as well as nutritional educational sessions. Preventative health opportunities include annual wellness checkups, Catapult preventative screenings, blood drives, mammogram events, and Lunch and Learn opportunities. Mental health programs include guided meditation sessions, emotional wellness education and access to digital resources.

Texas Permanent School Fund Corporation (Small category) – Tobacco-free living supported through employee health benefits and access to tobacco cessation counseling. Employee wellness challenges, fitness benefits, and wellness committee programming available to employees. Participation in initiatives like Get Fit Texas, Sage Fitness and Well onTarget Fitness as well as the PSF 5k Run. Five to Thrive challenge to promote increased fruit and vegetable consumption and healthier eating habits. Health education provided through wellness newsletters, benefits education campaigns, and preventative care outreach. Mental Health Awareness month campaigns including resilience and stress management education and virtual mental health resources.

Turner Construction (Medium category) – Tobacco Free jobsites and work environments with onsite wellness professionals, personalized coaching, and continuous education for tobacco cessation. Wellness Wallet reimbursement program that supports fitness-related expenses such as gym memberships, home exercise equipment, and fitness trackers. Stretch & Flex program with structured warm-ups to prepare employees for the workday. Wellness Wednesday presentations, monthly wellness campaigns, and sourcing of lunch food from local restaurants and vendors that provide healthy options.



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Preventative health screenings provided at both offices and jobsites including blood pressure screenings, hydration assessments, and stretching instruction. Seasonal mental health program including suicide prevention, recovery resources, and year-end programs focused on Seasonal Affective Disorder.

Samsung (Large category) – Tobacco free worksite with Quit for Life program that includes coaching for smoking and vaping. Wellness centers including two onsite fitness centers, basketball courts, soccer fields, billiards, walking trails and sports leagues. Medical services available with onsite clinic staffed with registered nurses for health assessments and counseling. Cafeterias with culturally diverse offerings including Korean fare. Multiple biometric screenings provided free of charge to employees including bloodwork, cholesterol and glucose screenings as well as an Annual Flu Clinic and Big Pink Bus screenings for breast cancer. Annual Wellness Week with chair yoga, breath work classes, personal finance lessons and Understanding Preventative Care workshop. Best Place for Working Parents 2026.

City of Austin (XLarge category) –Year-round PE Program including virtual, in-person, and PE Anytime classes which syncs with fitness trackers to offer a balanced mix of fitness and mind-body classes such as Tai Chi, Western Square Dancing, and more for chronic disease prevention. Free, unlimited one-on-one sessions with a Health Coach and Registered Dietitian to encourage goal setting and skill building for life long nutrition. Diabetes Control Program provides free appointments with a dedicated pharmacist to provide guidance and review of health indicators such as A1C, glucose levels, and blood pressure, access to approved diabetes medications for \$0 copay.