

# **Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi**

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## **Coastal Bend Business Innovation Center at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi named an EDA University Center Designation provides \$337,000 grant to implement ‘Initiative for Vibrant Economy’**

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas – The United States Economic Development Administration (EDA) recently named the Coastal Bend Business Innovation Center (CBBIC) at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi as an EDA University Center.

The designation received by the CBBIC, which operates under Texas A&M-Corpus Christi’s College of Business and is the region’s primary business incubator, includes a three-year government grant totaling \$337,000 to implement the Texas Coastal Bend Initiative for a Vibrant Economy. This program will focus on identifying, targeting, and growing businesses that strengthen the region’s existing and developing industry clusters; and nurture and create innovation clusters that capitalize on the region’s strengths and opportunities.

Under the Texas Coastal Bend Initiative for a Vibrant Economy, the CBBIC will work closely with regional “BoldFuture for the Coastal Bend” partners, including the Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation, the Chambers of Commerce, the Coastal Bend Council of Governments, the Port of Corpus Christi, the Port Industries of Corpus Christi, and Del Mar College. Under the oversight of Dr. Jim Lee, professor in the University’s College of Business, all partners will collaborate to create an online economic gateway to data and research about the Coastal Bend region. The gateway of information will be used to provide technical assistance to the targeted businesses and start-ups within the CBBIC to ensure their success in creating high-paying jobs for the Texas Coastal Bend.

For more information on the Coastal Bend Business Innovation Center, go to [www.coastalbendinnovation.com](http://www.coastalbendinnovation.com).

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