



NEWS RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT

Cary Corbin, (830) 609-1932
Rebecca Helterbrand, (210) 924-8581

GOOD CAREERS ACADEMY OFFERS TUITION DISCOUNTS AT NEW BITTERS ROAD LOCATION *New accounting program lowers tuition for single parents, military, others*

SAN ANTONIO – Single parents, current and former members of the military and others who qualify have a special offer from Goodwill’s Good Careers Academy to get on a new career path in accounting.

The Good Careers Academy is offering a seven-week training course to prepare for a career as an accounting clerk, with tuition discounts now available for those who qualify, including individuals who have been unemployed or laid off within the last three months; have a low household income; qualify for disability through Social Security or receive TANF or Food Stamps.

The course is a new addition as the Good Careers Academy launches its second location in San Antonio. The new academy location is within the Goodwill store at 13311 San Pedro Avenue (Highway 281 and Bitters Road).

The accounting clerk program begins July 26 at the new location. Regular tuition is \$2,000 for the course, which meets four days a week. Those who qualify may receive tuition discounts of up to 25 percent.

“The goal of the Good Careers Academy is to provide affordable, top-quality training for careers in high-demand fields, so we’re pleased to kick off our new location and new accounting program by offering extra help to individuals seeking a growth-track career,” says Bob Dugas, Goodwill president and CEO.

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Both Good Careers Academy locations offer certification training for careers as certified nursing aides, medical front office staff, pharmacy techs, computer support specialists and business office administrators.

The academy provides certification training, affordable tuition, internships and job placement assistance. Students receive instruction through a partnership with the Alamo Colleges, which provide instructors, curricula and expertise for many of the academy's programs. Training programs vary in length from 6 weeks to 4 months.

As a program offered by Goodwill, a non-profit organization and a United Way agency, the academy offers tuition at a significantly lower rate than many other career training schools, while adding support both in and out of the classroom to help students successfully complete their programs.

Students have access to career coaching, resume help, job leads, job fair opportunities and one-on-one networking with employers through the academy. The academy also offers students support beyond the classroom to help them with factors affecting their academic success, such as childcare, transportation or uniforms.

"We want to make these certifications available, affordable and achievable for everyone who wants to enroll," Dugas says.

The first Good Careers Academy location within the Goodwill store at 12332 I-10 West at DeZavala Road opened in fall of 2009. More San Antonio locations are in the works.

Registration for all programs is ongoing. A non-refundable \$50 deposit is required upon registration. For more information please call 210-924-8581.

ABOUT GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF SAN ANTONIO:

Celebrating 65 years of community service, Goodwill is helping to change lives through the power of work. Each year, Goodwill provides employment services to nearly 50,000 San Antonio-area individuals who face employment barriers. In addition to operating 16 retail stores, over 25 donation stations and 8 Job Help Centers in San Antonio, New Braunfels, Seguin, Laredo and surrounding areas, Goodwill operates two Good Careers Academies and handles almost 40 contracts for services, ranging from document management to grounds maintenance.

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