



## Continuing Education



Due to its location between two universities and two cities, Tulia is uniquely situated for continuing education.



[West Texas A & M University](#) in Canyon is a half-hour away to the north. Founded in 1910, the university became part of the Texas A&M System since 1989, and offers 60 undergraduate programs, 43 masters, and one doctorate. Many classes are available online.

[Wayland Baptist University](#) in Plainview, a half-hour to the south, was established in 1906, with a current enrollment of 1,000 locally, 5,800 world-wide.

[Texas Tech University](#) in Lubbock (over an hour's drive) may be out of regular commuter distance, but online classes are available.

Community College classes are also easily accessible from Tulia:

[Amarillo College](#), locations in Amarillo and Hereford, both about an hour's drive away.

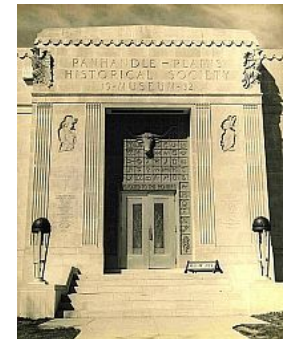
[South Plains College](#), based in Levelland, but with a satellite in Plainview.

Non-formal educational opportunities abound, as well:

Museums:

[Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum](#) on the campus of WTAMU in Canyon has become the largest history museum in Texas with more than 285,000 square feet and 3 million artifacts from prehistory to modern times.

The [National Ranching Heritage Center](#) is a museum and historical park in Lubbock, Texas, established to preserve the history of ranching, pioneer life and the development of the livestock industry in North America. Forty-five authentic, furnished ranch buildings and structures have been relocated to the NRHC and show the evolution of ranch life from the late 1780s through the 1930s. Nearby is [The Southwest Collection](#) on the campus of Texas Tech.



Swisher County Museum, located in Tulia, traces the area's history, and includes a JA ranch line cabin, a re-creation of spurmaker J O Bass' blacksmith shop, and examples of early area architecture.

The Llano Estacado Museum, on the campus of Wayland Baptist University in Plainview, offers a historically rich and remarkably well done presentation of regional history within a striking contemporary architectural design.

Other communities within an easy drive of Tulia feature notable museums.

Naturalists will enjoy the Amarillo Zoo and Amarillo Botanical Gardens (1400 Streit Dr).

Music lovers can find almost anything they want within an easy drive of Tulia.



Several Tulia residents are members of the Plainview Community Concert Association, which host from three to five presentations annually.

WTAMU and Texas Tech each have symphony orchestras, as do the cities of Plainview, Amarillo, and Lubbock. The universities have choral departments, as well.

Established in 1927, [Amarillo Little Theatre](#) is one of the oldest continuously operating community theatres in the country, producing top-quality performances on the "main stage" and in the more intimate "Adventure Space". ALT's Academy Program offers comprehensive training in the disciplines of theatre, dance, and voice to children and adults in the area.

The area's other theatrical opportunities include Amarillo Repertory Theatre, and productions at the universities and colleges.

Lone Star Ballet and Lubbock Ballet feature notable productions, and both cities have a variety of venues for those who like to dance.

Square dance clubs are organized in Plainview, Hereford, and Amarillo, all less than an hour's drive from Tulia.

[Swisher County Library](#), located in the Swisher Memorial Building is open 40 hours per week, and has five public computers with high speed Internet access. The library is accredited by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. The library is a member of the Harrington Library Consortium, which allows cardholder access to public and college libraries across the Panhandle.



## Employment

Employment opportunities exist in Tulia for older workers on a limited basis. The employment rate is 95.6%.

Some of the more obvious opportunities include: retail clerk/cashier, wait staff, bank teller or clerk, etc. Numerous small businesses (insurance offices, utility companies, accounting firms, etc) appreciate the dependability and experience of older employees. There is always a need for reliable computer and other technical help, and skilled labor.

Entrepreneurship is encouraged. The Swisher County Industrial Foundation, Texas Agrilife Extension, Ogallala Commons, Texas Department of Agriculture, WT Small Business Development Center, Panhandle Regional Planning Commission, and the Entrepreneur Alliance offer assistance in numerous ways for those wanting to strike out on their own.

Major employers include the following:

<b>Employer</b>	<b>Type of Business</b>
<a href="#">Tulia Independent School District</a>	Education
<a href="#">Tulia Transfer Facility State Prison</a>	Criminal Justice
<a href="#">Swisher Memorial Hospital</a>	Medical
<a href="#">Roll-A-Cone Mfg</a>	Manufacturing/Farm Eq
<a href="#">Swisher County</a>	Government
City of Tulia	Government
<a href="#">Rip Griffin's Fastop</a>	Fuel / Food
<a href="#">Swisher Electric Cooperative</a>	Utility
<a href="#">Lowe's Grocery</a>	Supermarket
<a href="#">D/A Manufacturing</a>	Manufacturing/valves
<a href="#">Mi Mama's Tortilla Factory</a>	Manufacturing/Food
<a href="#">Mid Plains Rural Telephone</a>	Utility