



# Strengthening Community College Capacity

*How colleges will use coronavirus relief funds appropriated by the state*

The Texas Association of Community Colleges (TACC) seeks **\$325M in investments, including \$75M to fund grants under the TRUE initiative and \$250M to strengthen postsecondary education and training programs at the state’s community college districts.** These one-time investments are needed to ensure that students and families across the state have access to robust postsecondary education and training programs, aligned with employers’ skills demands and delivered through facilities and equipment suitable for the 21st century workforce.

Texas community and technical colleges have a proven track record of delivering education and workforce training critical to equipping the Texas workforce with the skills needed by Texas employers. In fact, **Texas community colleges provide over 92% of workforce credentials in Texas** and are best positioned to ensure that both unemployed and incumbent workers are armed with the skills and credentials needed to effectively fill and succeed in high demand jobs.

## Funding Element

*Investments in Texas community colleges to address learning loss and meet workforce demand*

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| <p><b>Strengthening Community College Capacity</b></p> <p><i>Distributed to all 50 Community College Districts</i></p> | <p><b>\$250M</b></p> | <p><b>TRUE Workforce</b> (SB 1102 - 87R)</p> <p><i>Builds on the Initial Investment of \$25M for TRUE Grants from GEER Funds</i></p> | <p><b>\$75M</b></p> |
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TACC member colleges reported they plan to use vital state appropriations from available funds to address the **most urgent needs**, including:

| <p><b>Supporting Students for Completions</b></p>  | <p><b>College Readiness &amp; Learning Loss</b></p>   | <p><b>Upgrading Technology &amp; Equipment</b></p>   |
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| <p>Colleges will spend at least half of additional funding on <b>student support services</b> including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Academic advising &amp; support</li> <li>• Basic needs assistance</li> <li>• Growing demand for mental health services</li> <li>• Grant aid to students in workforce continuing education in high-demand fields</li> </ul> | <p>Colleges will continue to use federal funds to <b>address the decline in college readiness</b> among high school graduates by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reducing and waiving costs for mandated co-requisite courses</li> <li>• Implementing or expanding college readiness summer bootcamps</li> <li>• Employing general tutors</li> <li>• Offering faculty professional development to assist struggling students</li> </ul> | <p>Colleges will utilize federal funds to address college <b>technology and equipment needs</b> such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical training simulators</li> <li>• Industry-specific advanced manufacturing equipment</li> <li>• Enhanced cybersecurity</li> <li>• Virtual tutoring software</li> <li>• Instructional laboratory space</li> <li>• Program and curriculum development in continuing education and workforce training</li> </ul> |