Texas Rural Funders

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President & CEO
Texas Association of Community Colleges

October 26, 2021
Pre-pandemic, community colleges were the **largest sector of higher education** enrollments (Fall 2019)

Enrollments reflect the **diversity** of Texas

Community colleges serve students of **all ages**

THECB, Fall 2019
Service Areas & Taxing Districts
Labor Market Insights

June 20 – Sept. 17, 2021

Unemployment Rate

6.4%  
(April 2021)

Job Postings in Texas

652,796  
(September 2021)

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In 2020, Texas community colleges conferred 82% of all Career & Technical Education (CTE) credentials of statewide CTE credentials are conferred by rural colleges. 28% of rural credentials are CTE (without core & fields of study).
TRUE: Texas Reskilling & Upskilling through Education

- Adult Students & Displaced Workers
- Community Colleges
- Career Pathways & Credentials
- Texas Economy

Greater 60X30TX Success
**TRUE Outcomes**

Work and coordinate with state (TWC, THECB, others) and local partners (LWDBs, Chambers, others) to put Texans back to work.

**Workforce reskilling and upskilling through educational opportunities aligned with good careers.**

- **New accelerated employment training leading to credentials** of value that can be completed in weeks or less than six months.
- Certificates may be stacked leading to additional skills and credential attainment aligned to current COVID-impacted workforce needs.
- **Sustainable talent pipelines** to meet local and regional workforce needs of the future.

Short term credentials increased and recognized under 60x30TX plan to meet the goals of Texas higher education plan.

- New credentials identified under this initiative used to inform funding formula recommendations related to institutional appropriations of funds for public junior colleges.
TRUE Funding for Fiscal Year 2022

$25M from GEER Funding  
(awards expected in October 2021)

$15 M from federal COVID funds  
appropriated in Senate Bill 8 to be awarded Spring 2022

EXPANDING CAPACITY FOR HIGH-DEMAND, HIGH-VALUE EDUCATION | $48.1M

Institutional Capacity Grants

The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated changes in Texas higher education and workforce needs. GEER funding will support grants for public institutions of higher education to establish or expand programs that address workforce demand in high-priority sectors and occupations for regional and state economic development. Grants may be awarded for purposes including:

- Establishing, redesigning, or expanding workforce training programs that lead to postsecondary industry certifications or other credentials for high-demand fields, including up to $25 million for community, state, and technical colleges dedicated to launching the Texas Reskilling and Upskilling through Education (TRUE) initiative, consistent with provisions of SB 1102 (87R).
- Creating, redesigning, or expanding micro-credentials developed and deployed in consultation with employers, aligned with high-demand career opportunities.
- Supporting institutional data collection, infrastructure, and analytics related to increasing student success initiatives, including recommended course sequencing implementation.
- Incorporating work-based learning and apprenticeship opportunities into workforce training programs and short-term educational programs for high-demand fields, in consultation with the Texas Workforce Commission.

Funding will also support establishment of a publicly accessible web-based library of credentials awarded by Texas public and independent institutions of higher education, included in HB 3767 (87R), and technical analyses necessary for the Coordinating Board to support the community college finance commission established by SB 1230 (87R).

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE APPROVES CS SB 8, APPROPRIATING FEDERAL FUNDS

AUSTIN — The Senate Finance Committee today approved the Committee Substitute to Senate Bill 8 by Texas State Senator Jane Nelson, R-Flower Mound, allocating federal funds designated for Texas in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

“Our workgroups drilled down into over 200 requests and brought forth solid recommendations to improve this funding package, which will bolster Texas’ ongoing pandemic response and recovery,” Senator Nelson said. “These are one-time expenditures that will help our businesses, boost tourism, support frontline workers across the health care industry, ensure health care premium levels for our retired and active teachers do not rise as a result of the pandemic, expand access to mental health and help crime victims. These are strategic investments that take into account the wide range of needs that emerged from the pandemic.”

CS SB 8 appropriates a total of $16.3 billion from ARPA — $15.8 billion from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and another $500.5 million from the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund, including:

- $40 million the Texas Epidemic Public Health Institute;
- $15 million in grants for re-skilling and upskilling programs at Texas’ community colleges;
- $300 million for a State Operations Center to aid the state in disaster response;
- $200 million to bolster cybersecurity;
- $160 million to shore up funding for organizations serving sexual assault survivors and other crime victims;
Texas community colleges enroll more than 92% of all dual credit students.

Community colleges lead dual credit in Texas:
- 92%

27% of all enrollment at community colleges is through dual credit.

10% of statewide dual credit enrollment is by rural colleges.
Dual Credit in Texas

120%
From Fall 2010 to Fall 2020, dual credit enrollment increased by 120%

183,726
high school students enrolled in dual credit

23%
of all high school graduates have dual credit

25%
of all first-time students at public colleges and universities have dual credit

THECB, Fall 2020
Community College Finance Commission
(SB 1230)

PASSED & SIGNED BY

GOVERNOR ABBOTT
Goal: The Commission shall make recommendations for consideration by the 88th Texas Legislature for establishing a state funding formula and funding levels sufficient for sustaining viable community college education and training offerings throughout the state.

The Commission will examine trend and forecast data, seek stakeholder input, and account for equity in student outcomes. Based on its findings the Commission will make recommendations for:

- The components of state funding for public junior colleges, including contact hour funding formulas
- The feasibility of establishing shared service agreements or interinstitutional collaborations where institutions of higher education may perform administrative services, other than direct instruction and student support services, for other institutions of higher education for a fee or other consideration

The Commission may examine and make recommendations on other policy and finance matters, including:
- workforce demand and skills gaps;
- dual credit programs and costs;
- variation between taxing districts and service areas
- student graduation, transfer, and success metrics; and
- the relationship between economic cycles and student enrollment.
Community colleges receive state funding for instructional support through a formula consisting of contact hour funding, core operations funding, and the outcomes-based Student Success Point model. The state also provides support for group health insurance and retirement benefits.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY 20-21 Biennium (millions)</th>
<th>Final SB1 Conference Report (FY 22-23)</th>
<th>Final SB1 Difference from FY 20-21</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core Operations</td>
<td>$68.0</td>
<td>$68.0</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contact Hours</td>
<td>$1,533.7</td>
<td>$1,447.2</td>
<td>($86.5)</td>
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<td>Bachelor of Applied Technology</td>
<td>$3.3</td>
<td>$3.4</td>
<td>$0.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Success Points</td>
<td>$228.3 ($202.50 per SSP)</td>
<td>$314.8 ($253.65 per SSP)</td>
<td>$86.5</td>
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<td>95% Formula Hold Harmless</td>
<td>$1.9</td>
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<td>Need-Based Supplement</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$11M</td>
<td>$11M</td>
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<td>TOTAL*</td>
<td>$1,839.2 M</td>
<td>$1,844.4 M</td>
<td>$5.2 M</td>
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*Instructional Appropriation, excludes non-formula support items and HEGI
The Steering Committee includes:

- 11 presidents/chancellors;
- 7 trustees/regents;
- 2 faculty members;
- 2 resource partners; and
- 2 ex-official members from TACC & CCATT.

The Steering Committee will:

- Serve as a communications channel between the Commission and stakeholders (community colleges, students, policy makers, employers)
- Inform the Commission on the needs of today’s community college students
- Provide a historical perspective of community college funding in the state
- Ensure the Commission’s recommendations are realistic, fundable, actionable, and aligned to the mission of the institutions
- Serve as an ongoing “vetting vehicle” for Commission recommendations
- Debate issues internally then advise the Commission with a unified voice.

Visit our website on the Commission.
Invitation for a Conversation