Texas Commission on Community College Finance

Commissioner Harrison Keller, Ph.D.

Topline Findings from Statewide Polling

September 12, 2022
A statewide poll was conducted to understand Texans’ views on community colleges.

5,000 Texans were surveyed by WPA Intelligence between July and August 2022.

The goals of the survey were to gauge:

1. Impressions of community colleges and the value of credentials from local community colleges.
2. Understanding of the community college finance system in Texas.
3. Expectations and desired outcomes from community colleges.
Almost everyone (95%) has a positive impression of community colleges in Texas.

95% of Texans have a **positive impression** of community colleges.

40% of Texans have "**very positive**" views of community colleges.
A majority (85%) believe that credentials from community colleges are valuable.
Two-thirds (67%) think it is very important for credentials to align with employer needs.

91% of Texans believe it is important for degrees, certificates, and certifications to align with skills needed by employers.
Most Texans believe community colleges have very important roles in their communities:

- 69% Saving students money compared to tuition at a 4-year institution
- 68% Awarding credit that can be transferred to a 4-year institution
- 65% Providing educational opportunities for people who live in the community
Two-thirds (65%) support basing community college funding on student outcomes

65% of Texans support basing funding on outcomes instead of enrollment

TOP RANKED OUTCOMES

1. Job placement of community college graduates
2. Number of students who complete a credential
3. Incomes or wages earned after graduation by students
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