

# Implementing & Scaling 8-Week Courses for Institutional Transformation



Texas Success Center

**Webinar Learning  
Series: Financial  
Aid**

**Dr. Christine Bailie**

Director of Institutional  
Strategy, Texas Success  
Center



## TEXAS SUCCESS CENTER

Dedicated to social and economic mobility, we support community college strategies that will empower Texans to rise out of poverty and achieve better life outcomes.



# PATHWAYS FRAMEWORK

Building a Talent Strong Texas



Learners From  
Multiple Entry Points

**Connect**

**Enter**

**Progress**

**Succeed**



Enter Careers, Earn  
More Credentials, &  
Transfer to 4-Year  
Institutions

## 1. Mapping Pathways to Student End Goals

- Multiple entry points
- Default program maps
- Completion, further education, employment
- Guides through transition and transfer

## 2. Helping Students Choose and Enter a Program Pathway

- College readiness in 1<sup>st</sup> year
- Career exploration
- Early contextualization
- Accelerated remediation for most poorly prepared

# Texas Pathways

## Four Pillars of Essential Practices

## 3. Keeping Students on Path

- Strong, inescapable advising
- Clarity for education and career choices
- Predictable schedules
- Early intervention
- Academic and non-academic support

## 4. Ensuring that Students are Learning

- Program learning outcomes aligned with careers and further education
- Internships and apprenticeships
- Active culturally competent teaching practices

# Implementing and Scaling 8-Week Courses for Institutional Transformation

Anticipated Student Outcomes:

- As a result of scaling 8-week courses, TSC anticipates dramatic improvements in the following Key Performance Indicators:
  - (a) completion of 6+ credits in term 1,
  - (b) persistence from term 1 to term 2, and
  - (c) completion of college level courses (Math/Reading/Writing) in year 1.



# Leader Colleges Pairings

<b>Odessa College</b> <b>CEO: Dr. Greg Williams</b>	<b>Kilgore College</b> <b>CEO: Dr. Brenda Kays</b>	<b>Grayson College</b> <b>CEO: Dr. Jerry McMillian</b>
<b>Austin Community College</b> (Scaled Implementation in Fall 2023)  CEO: Dr. Richard Rhodes POC: Dr. Monique Umphrey, Provost	<b>Alvin Community College</b> (Scaled Implementation in Fall 2023)  CEO: Dr. Robert Exley POC: Stacy Ebert, Interim VP of Instruction	<b>Trinity Valley CC</b> (Transition through Fall 2024)  CEO: Dr. Jerry King POC: Dr. Kristin Spizzirri, VP of Instruction & Chief Academic Officer
<b>Houston Community College System</b> (Partial Implementation Fall 2023)  CEO: Dr. Cesar Maldonado, Chancellor POC: Dr. Madeline Burillo-Hopkins, Vice Chancellor Workforce Instruction, Houston Community College System President, HCC Southwest	<b>Laredo College</b> (Scaled Implementation in Fall 2023)  CEO: Dr. Minita Ramirez (July 1) POC: Dr. Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina, Chief Academic Officer/Texas Pathways Lead; Dr. Fred Solis, VP of Enrollment and Student Success	<b>Paris Junior College</b> (Implementation in Fall 2022)  CEO: Dr. Pam Anglin
<b>El Paso Community College</b> (Scaled Implementation in Fall 2023)  CEO: Dr. Serrata POC: Pam Payne, Angeles Vazquez, Steven Smith	<b>Del Mar College</b> (Scaled Implementation in Fall 2023)  CEO: Mark Escamilla POC: Dr. Jonda Halcomb	<b>Texarkana College</b> (Scaled Implementation in Fall 2023)  CEO: Dr. Jason Smith POCs: Donna McDaniel; Dixon Boyles
<b>Weatherford College</b> (Transition through 2025)  CEO: Dr. Tod Allen Farmer POC: Michael Endy, VP of Academics and Student Services	<b>Hill College</b> (Implementation underway; Scaled Implementation in Fall 2023)  CEO: Dr. Thomas Mills (August 1) POC: Dr. Kerry Schindler, Vice President of Instruction	<b>Howard College</b> (Scaled Implementation in Fall 2023)  CEO: Dr. Cheryl Sparks POC: Cindy Smith, Dean of Student Success; Amy Burchett, District VP, Academic & Student Affairs/CAO
	<b>Lamar State Orange</b> (Implementation in Fall 2021)  CEO: Dr. Thomas A. Johnson POC: Dr. Wendy Elmore, Provost	<b>Vernon College</b> (Scaled Implementation in Fall 2023)  CEO: Dr. Dusty Johnson POC: Shana Drury, VP of Instructional Services

# Expectations

- Redesign of systems to scale 8-week courses
- New course offerings for Fall 2023 (spring registration)
- CEO to CEO executive coaching
  - focused on institutional vision, scale, success metrics, and lessons learned
  - 4 check-ins through December (~monthly)
- Technical Assistance
  - Webinar Series (July 27, Sept 9, October 5)
  - Texas Pathways Pre-Institute (November 14)
- Site Visit (\$1,000 travel, hotel, and F&B expenses reimbursable)
- 2-page Progress Report due on 12/15/22 to TSC (use template)



# Institutional Leads & Presenters



**Kim McKay,**  
Vice President for Student Services,  
Odessa College



**Dr. Tracy Skopek,**  
Vice President of Instruction and  
Chief Academic Officer,  
Kilgore College



**Dr. Dava Washburn,**  
Vice President of Instruction,  
Grayson College



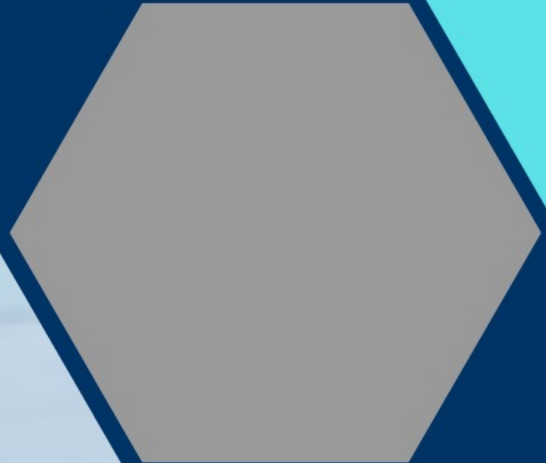
# Topic Overview: Financial Aid



Texas Success Center



GRAYSON  
COLLEGE





# GRAYSON COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

- ◆ Transitioned Fall 2018
- ◆ Previously disbursed after 16-week census, then began disbursing prior to census after transitioning to 8-week model
  - ◆ Increase in Pell recalculations for non-attendance and decrease in all “F” R2T4 at end of the semester
- ◆ Currently disburse for all modules within days of census
  - ◆ We were disbursing prior to census, but after first day of classes
  - ◆ Adopting Follett ACCESS caused us to push this back
- ◆ We are still a Formula 1, semester-based school

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide. It consists of a white vertical line, a cyan vertical line, and a large yellow hexagon at the bottom left.

# THINGS TO CONSIDER

- Multiple drops for non-payment
- Disbursement calendar/when to disburse
  - Disburse for each individual module or disburse all up front then Pell recalculation if non-attendance in modules
- Bookstore availability
  - We have to leave ability to charge in bookstore open all semester long
- Payment Plans
  - Can have payment plan for 2nd 8-week only, but only 2 payments (50% down)

# MORE THINGS TO CONSIDER

- ◆ Implement a way to capture drops prior to census but after 1st day of classes
- ◆ **Pell recalculation freeze date?**
  - ◆ If you adjust up, you must adjust down (enrollment status)
- ◆ **When do you run Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) for FA?**
  - ◆ We wait until all grades are posted at the end of 16-week term

# RETURN TO TITLE IV (R2T4)



**Best practice: module length needs to be at least 49% of semester**

This allows R2T4 exemption, still must perform calculation



**If student earns a passing grade in an 8-week module, but the module is not 49% or more of the countable days, R2T4 is still required and student may owe funds back to Institution**



**Successful course completions has increased.**

**Students who are unsuccessful in the 1st 8-weeks are less likely to return for 2nd 8-weeks.**

# VETERAN BENEFITS

- Registration in multiple modules MAY affect students' Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA) payment
  - To draw MHA, a student must be enrolled at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  time per module, not semester
  - At least one of those classes must be in person or hybrid
- If a student is enrolled in 3 hours during the 1st 8-week and 3 hours in the 16-week, the VA sees this as less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  time, so student would not be eligible for MHA payment
- Monetarily, it is better for students to either be all 16-week or only 8-week. Combing modules hurts the student



# CONNECT WITH ME

Stephanie Martin  
Director of Financial Aid &  
Veteran Services  
[martins@grayson.edu](mailto:martins@grayson.edu)

**WE ARE GRAYSON. WE ARE SUCCESS.**



# Odessa College | Financial Aid

## Daisy Garcia

- Director of Student Financial Services
- [dgarcia@odessa.edu](mailto:dgarcia@odessa.edu)
- 432-335-6367



assistant director | secretary | 3 specialists



Texas Success Center

registered for FALL 2 ONLY



**MARCH**  
award for  
new  
academic  
year

**MARCH –  
OCTOBER**  
students accept  
award

**1 WEEK OUT**  
aid transmitted  
and student can  
purchase books

**10 DAYS  
AFTER**  
refunds for fall  
2 courses

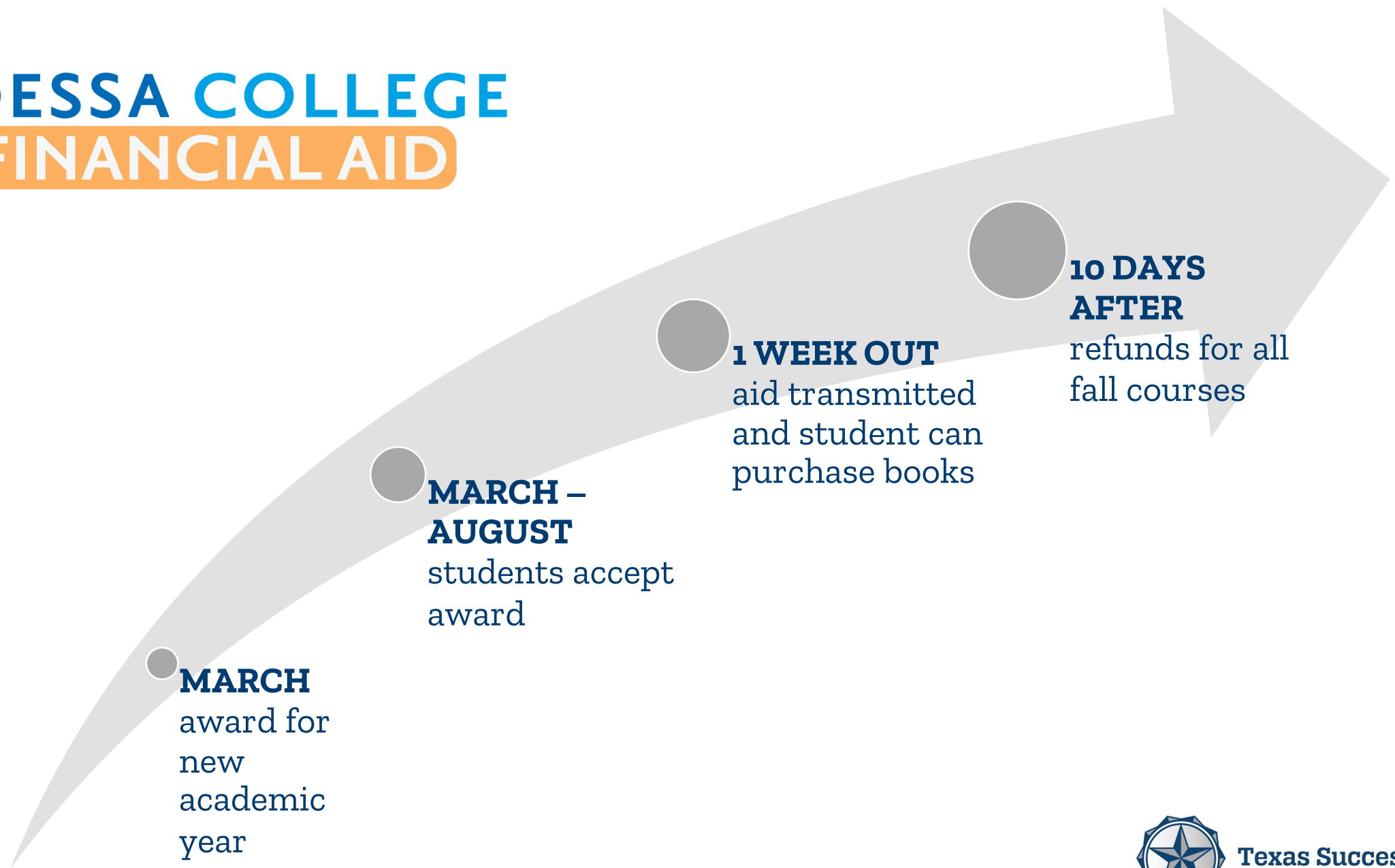
**ODESSA COLLEGE**  
**FINANCIAL AID**



Texas Success Center

# ODESSA COLLEGE

## FINANCIAL AID



**MARCH**  
award for  
new  
academic  
year

**MARCH –  
AUGUST**  
students accept  
award

**1 WEEK OUT**  
aid transmitted  
and student can  
purchase books

**10 DAYS  
AFTER**  
refunds for all  
fall courses



Texas Success Center

# concerns, considerations & success

- Register for semester and some leave before term 2
- Student Veterans
- Student Athletes
- International Students
  
- Financial like a paycheck
- Parts of term
  
- 12% decrease in RT4

**ODESSA COLLEGE**  
**FINANCIAL AID**



**Texas Success Center**

# Kilgore College-Financial Aid

**Jackie Kelley**-Director of Financial Aid & Scholarships

- [jkelly@kilgore.edu](mailto:jkelly@kilgore.edu)
- (903) 983-8171

**Chris Gore**-Dean of Enrollment Management & Student Success

- [cgore@kilgore.edu](mailto:cgore@kilgore.edu)
- (903) 983-8625

**Dr. Staci Martin**-Vice President of Student Services

- [smartin@kilgore.edu](mailto:smartin@kilgore.edu)
- (903) 983-8651

**Dr. Tracy Skopek**-Vice President of Instruction & CAO

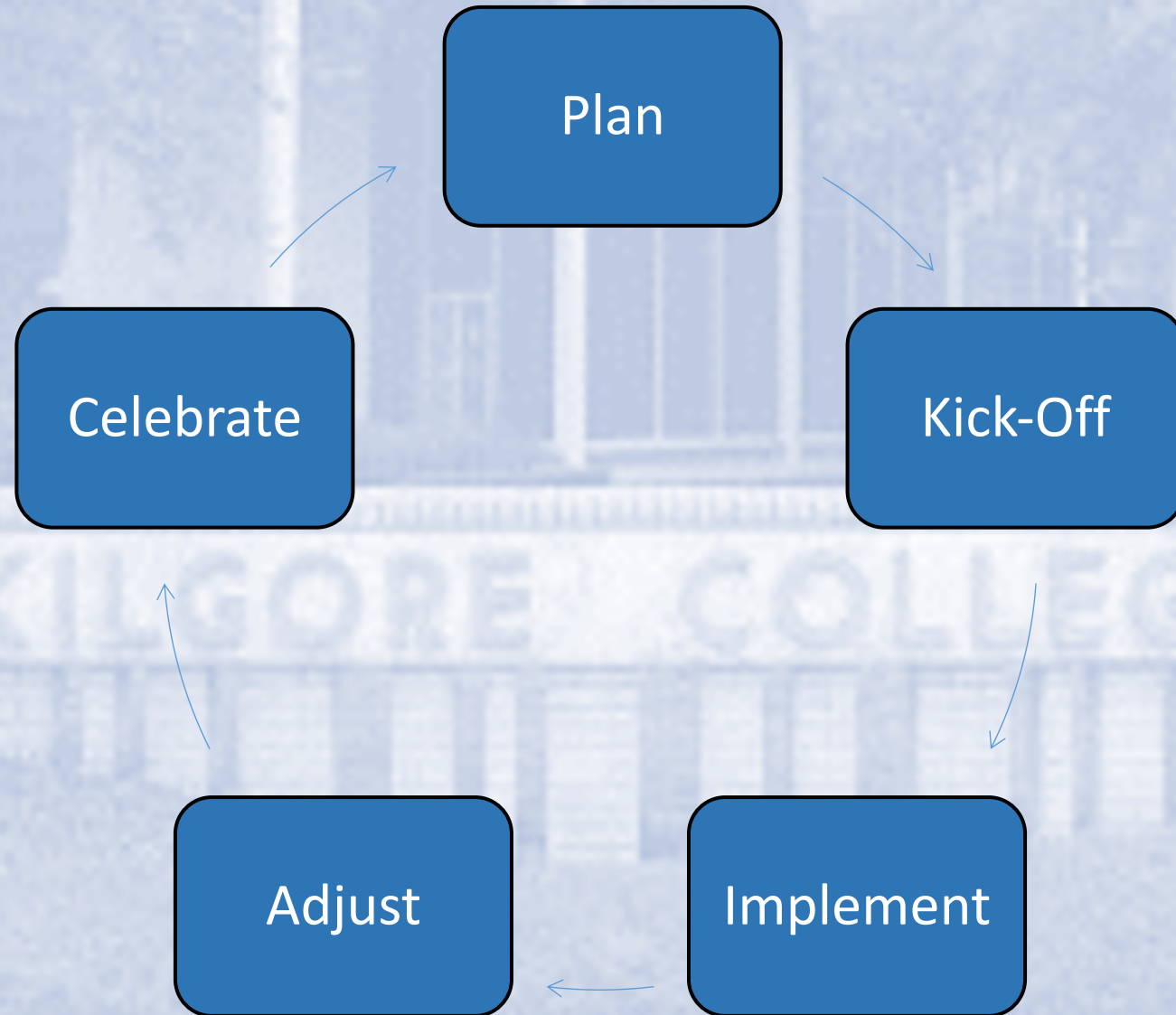
- [tskopek@kilgore.edu](mailto:tskopek@kilgore.edu)
- (903) 983-8123



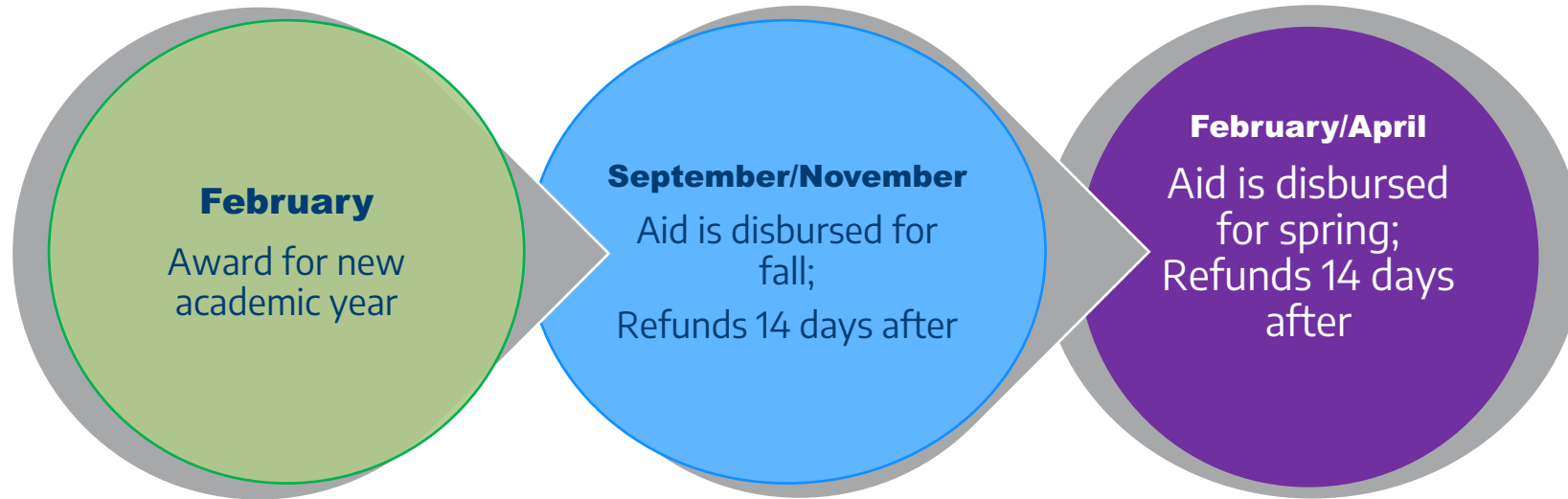
Texas Success Center

# KC Road to Success-2019

---



# Kilgore College-Financial Aid



# Concerns and Success

- On-going process
- Software limitations mean we return Pell Grant funds frequently
- Financial aid does not allow a student to retake a course 2<sup>nd</sup> 8 weeks that was failed 1<sup>st</sup> 8 weeks
- SAP Appeal issues due to software
- FA students have to wait sometimes to purchase course materials (software)
- R2T4 has decreased 14.6% since 8 weeks began
- It takes a village
- Try and try again





**Questions?**

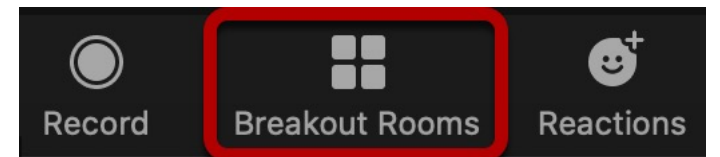


Texas Success Center

# Breakout Session: Q&A with Leader College



Texas Success Center



\* Select your designated Leader College

# Save the Date



## **Webinar #2: Faculty Buy-In**

12-1 PM (Central) September 9

## **Webinar #3: Dual Credit/Early College High School**

12-1 PM (Central), October 5

## **Pre-Institute, Texas Pathways Institute**

10 AM-1:30 PM (Central), November 14



Texas Success Center

# Resources

- Pre-Institute Workshop: [Transforming Culture and Adopting 8-week Terms to Improve Student Success](#), Odessa College, November 3, 2021
- Pre-Institute Workshop: [Implementing and Scaling 8-Week Terms](#) (PPT), Odessa College, Kilgore College, and Grayson College, April 6, 2022
- [Scaling 8-Week Terms](#) (PPT), Odessa College, April 7, 2022
- [8-Week Courses](#) (PPT), Kilgore College, April 7, 2022
- [TSC Events](#) Page: Recordings of each webinar will be posted



# Contact Information

- Dr. Dava Washburn, Grayson College [washburnd@grayson.edu](mailto:washburnd@grayson.edu)
- Dr. Tracy Skopek, Kilgore College [tskopek@kilgore.edu](mailto:tskopek@kilgore.edu)
- Kim McKay, Odessa College [kmckay@odessa.edu](mailto:kmckay@odessa.edu)
- Dr. Christine Bailie, Texas Success Center [cbailie@tacc.org](mailto:cbailie@tacc.org)
- Sway Youngston, Texas Success Center [success@tacc.org](mailto:success@tacc.org)

