



Texas Success Center

TALENT STRONG TEXAS PATHWAYS INSTITUTE #4

# “Steering” Students to Success: Strategies for Keeping Students on Their Right Pathway



FORT WORTH, TEXAS  
NOVEMBER 13-15, 2024



Texas Success Center

# Institute Orientation Webinar

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH

## **Dr. Kimberly Lowry**

Executive Director,  
Texas Success Center,  
Vice President, TACC

## **Dr. Christine Bailie**

Senior Director of  
Institutional Strategy,  
Texas Success Center

## **Dr. Martha Ellis**

Senior Pathways Lead,  
Texas Success Center

# Meeting Agenda

## Welcome

Talent Strong Texas Pathways Strategy Overview and Spotlight on Pillar 3 Essential Practices

## Pathways Institute Overview

Event Purpose, Registration, and Logistics

## Agenda-at-a-Glance

Featured Speakers, Pre-Institutes, Daily Agenda, Call for Proposals, and Pre-Readings

## Advance Work

Problem of Practice and Student Touchpoints Map

## Wrap-up

Q&A, Timeline, and DESSE Opportunity



Texas Success Center

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



# TEXAS SUCCESS CENTER TEAM



**Kimberly Lowry, Ph.D.**  
Vice President of TACC,  
Executive Director of TSC



**Christine Bailie, Ed.D.**  
Senior Director,  
Institutional Strategy



**Felicia Day, CPA**  
Senior Grants &  
Contracts Accountant



**Kristina Flores, Ph.D.**  
Senior Director,  
Research & Evaluation



**Nour Hammoudeh**  
Events Planner



**Amber Silva**  
Graphic Designer



**Sway Youngston**  
Project Manager

PATHWAYS COACHES  
FOR FALL INSTITUTE



Dr. Eileen Baccus



Ed Bowling



Dr. Martha Ellis



Dr. Maria Harper-  
Marinick



Dr. Tina Hart



Krista O'Neill



Dr. Mary Rittling



Laura Rittner



Dr. Teresa Leyba Ruiz



Dr. Adelina Silva



Dr. Stephanie Sutton



Dr. Linda Watkins



Dr. Linda Welsh

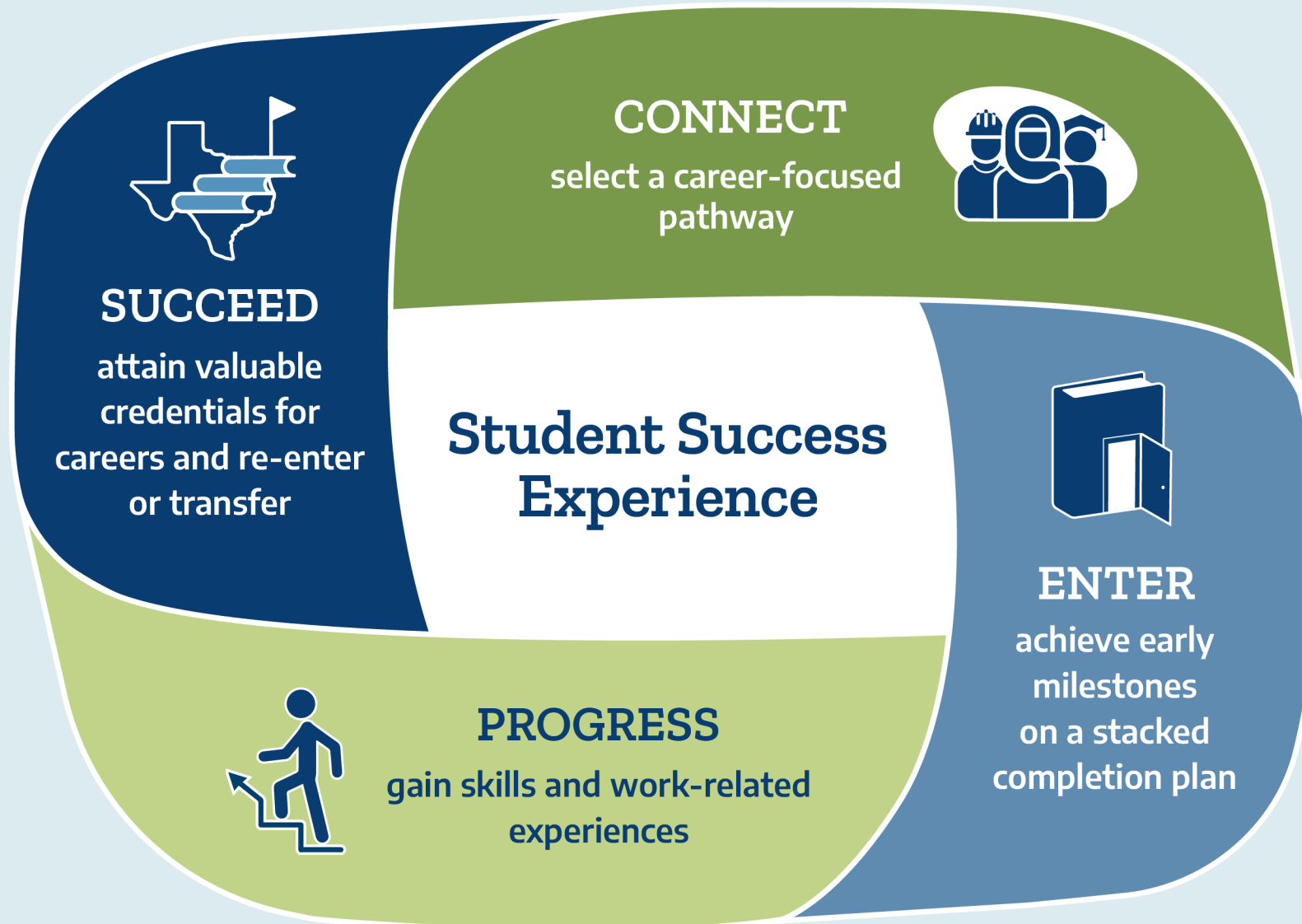


Dr. Ted Wright

# FUNDING PARTNERS



# Talent Strong Texas Pathways Framework





Success

Accomplishment and  
Self-Fulfillment Needs  
**Students' Career Goals**  
**Socio-Economic Mobility**

Belonging  
& Wellness

Psychological,  
Basic & Safety Needs



# Talent Strong Texas Pathways

## Four Pillars of Essential Practices

**1**

**Map pathways to student end goals**

Employer-informed maps from multiple entry & reentry points to completion, transfer, & valuable careers

**2**

**Help students choose and enter a pathway**

Career-focused onboarding with academic & social integration to promote college-level success in the 1st year

**3**

**Keep students on their pathway**

Proactive supports to improve completion & transfer, enhance belongingness, & address students' basic needs

**4**

**Ensure students are learning**

Active & work-based learning with culturally responsive teaching aligned with careers & further education

# Keeping Students on Their Pathway

## **3A. Effective Caseload Advising:**

- Caseload advising AND
- Professional or faculty advisors are assigned to students in specific programs or meta-majors

## **3B. Mandatory Advising:**

- All students receive inescapable advising every semester or at program milestones

## **3C. Systematic Checkpoint Communications:**

- All students receive early alerts OR registration alerts OR other systematic progress communications every semester OR at program milestones

## **3D. Programs Structured/Scheduled to Promote Completion:**

- Program courses are scheduled based on data from student educational plans AND
- College provides class schedules for one or more full year(s)

## **3E. Basic Needs Supports Systematically Communicated:**

- All students receive regular systematized communications directing them to basic needs supports AND
- College retains student-level records on basic needs supports use

## **3F. Planned Belonging Intervention(s) & Evaluation:**

- The college has planned interventions and experiences through pathway to promote student's sense of belonging AND
- College uses a tool to measure each student's sense of belonging at least annually AND
- College has system to use information about each student's sense of belonging to improve college practices and policies



Texas Success Center

“Steering” Students to Success: Keeping Students on Their Right Pathway

# Pathways Institute Overview



# Institute Purposes

As a result of actively engaging in this institute, *“Steering” Students to Success: Strategies for Keeping Students on Their Right Pathway*, college leadership teams will:

- 1** Consider **findings and reflections from national experts and successful Texas colleges** to inform and accelerate whole-college redesign efforts, focused on the **learner’s persistence and efficient completion** of their intended credential.
- 2** Engage with fellow Texas community college leaders in a **peer learning network** designed to implement the essential practices of Pillar 3 of Talent Strong Texas Pathways, associated with Keeping Student on Their Pathway.
- 3** Analyze data to gain insights into the student experience by analyzing **fall-to-spring persistence rates**, and **enrollment and completion rates by program**.
- 4** Develop detailed **action plans for scaling the Talent Strong Texas Pathways strategy** to promote improved student outcomes.

# Who Should You Bring?

1. **President/Chancellor/Chief Executive Officer**
2. **Chief Academic Officer**
3. **Pathways Lead (if different from CAO)**
4. **Chief Student Affairs Officer**
5. **Director of Advising**
6. **Others:**
  - Institutional Research Director
  - Financial Aid Director
  - Student Wellness and Belonging Champion
  - Adult Basic Education Lead
  - Chief Continuing Education Officer
  - Chief Career and Technical Education Officer
  - Student Parent Liaison/Minding College Minds Learning Community Lead
  - Faculty Leader



# Registration Information



## Registration Information:

Pathways leads will receive email on **September 6, 2024**

- Your college discount code will cover expenses for 7 team members, including: institute fee, pre-institute, and hotel on 11/13 & 11/14
- College may choose to cover
  - Hotel room for additional night on 11/12 for those attending pre-institutes
  - Additional team members (\$545/pp registration + hotel costs)



**Registration Deadline: Friday, October 18**

Hotel reservations will be made through the registration process



## Hotel:

**Omni Fort Worth  
Fort Worth, Texas 76102**

## FEATURED PLENARY SPEAKERS



**Dr. Chrissy Davis Jones**

Vice President of Student Success  
and Enrollment Management,  
Harrisburg Area Community College



**Dr. Stephen Handel**

Director of Strategy,  
Postsecondary Education Transformation,  
ECMC Foundation



## Unlocking Insights: Maximizing the Texas Higher Ed Secure Data Portal for Strategic Decision Making

### Interactive Data Dive

- Explore THECB's \*NEW\* Secure Data Portal with longitudinal student-level data
- Explore cohort data elements for 1-year persistence and 2-year persistence (by demographics and by program)
- Collaborate with peers to discuss how data insights can inform strategic decisions

### Presenter:

- Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

**Recommended:** Presidents, VPs, IR directors, & Pathways Lead

**Required:** ALL attendees must create an account to [request data access](#) PRIOR to event

## Guiding Student Success: Leadership Strategies for Strengthening Institutional Infrastructure

### Strategies for Persistence & Completion

- Learn about how Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC) redesigned Infrastructure
- Explore how to create a unified experience between continuing education, workforce, and academic programs
- Examine practical approaches to addressing the multifaceted challenges students face that can disrupt educational journeys
- Gain actionable strategies to assess and enhance your college's infrastructure

### Presenters:

- Chrissy Davis Jones, MSW, Ed.D., VP of Student Success & Enrollment Management, HACC
- Alfred Griswold, MS, Ed.D., VP of Academic Affairs & Workforce Development/Provost, HACC

**Recommended:** Pathways Lead, VPs, chief student affairs officer, advising lead, chief CE/CTE officer, & financial aid

## Minding College Minds: Embedding Mental Health Supports into Your Pathways Strategy

### Collaborative Planning Session

- Connect with peers and share experiences
- Discuss mechanisms for integrating mental health supports into broader TSTP strategy efforts
- Develop actionable next steps for enhancing institutional commitment
- Explore best practices for aligning mental health initiatives with overarching institutional goals

### Presenter:

- Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute

**Required for 13 Colleges in Cohort 1 of Minding College Minds Learning Community:** Pathways Lead & MCM Implementation Team Lead

# Agenda-at-a-Glance

Wednesday, November 13, 2024

10:00 AM – 1:30 PM

## **Pre-Institute Workshops** (lunch provided)

- Unlocking Insights: Maximizing the Texas Higher Ed Secure Data Portal for Strategic Decision Making
- Guiding Student Success: Leadership Strategies for Strengthening Institutional Infrastructure
- Minding College Minds: Embedding Mental Health Supports into Your Pathways Strategy

2:00 PM - 3:15 PM

## **Opening Plenary**

- Dr. Chrissy Davis Jones, Vice President of Student Success & Enrollment Management, Harrisburg Area Community College

3:30 PM - 4:45 PM

## **Team Strategy Time 1**

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

## **Reception**

- Weatherford College's student jazz combo

# Agenda-at-a-Glance

Thursday, November 14, 2024

7:00 AM - 8:50 AM	<b>Breakfast</b>
9:00 AM - 12:45 PM	<b>CEO Roundtable</b>
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	<b>Concurrent Session 1</b>
10:15 AM - 11:30 AM	<b>Problem of Practice: Networking &amp; Problem Solving</b>
11:45 AM - 12:45 PM	<b>Lunch</b> (Leadership Fellows Poster Gallery Walk)
1:00 PM - 2:15 PM	<b>Team Strategy Time 2</b>
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM	<b>Concurrent Session 2</b>
3:45 PM - 5:00 PM	<b>Team Strategy Time 3</b>
5:00 PM	<b>Adjourn</b> - Dinner on Your Own

# Agenda-at-a-Glance

Friday, November 15, 2024

7:30 AM – 8:50 AM	<b>Breakfast</b>
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	<b>Closing Plenary</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cynthia Ferrell Pathways Star of Excellence Award Ceremony</li><li>• Dr. Stephen Handel, Director of Strategy, Postsecondary Education Transformation, ECMC</li></ul>
10:15 AM – 11:30 AM	<b>Team Strategy Time 4</b>
11:30 AM	<b>Adjourn</b>

# Call for Concurrent Sessions Proposals

## Topics

- Effective Caseload Advising
- Advising for Milestone Momentum
- Student-Focused Schedules and Program Structure
- Student Wellness and Belonging
- Other Innovations Relating to Pillar 3

**Due Wednesday, October 2, 2024:**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TSTPI4>



**Scan here!**

# Pre-Readings

## Persistence and Supporting Students at Risk of Stopping Out

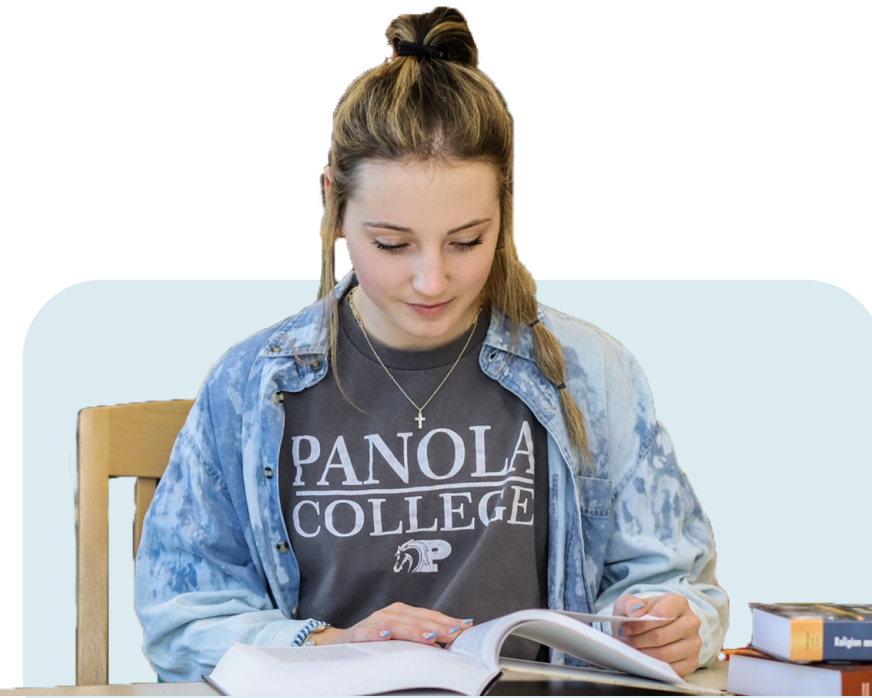
- [The State of Higher Education 2024](#) (Gallup & Lumina, 2024)
- [From Setback to Success: Meeting Comebacker Students Where They Are](#) (California Competes, February 2024)

## Institutional Barriers and Scalable Solutions for Advising

- [Driving Toward a Degree: The Dual Frontier in Student Success: New Solutions and New Challenges](#) (Tyton Partners, August 2024)

## Supporting Students Through Transfer Success

- [Helping Community College Students Climb the Transfer Ladder](#) (CCCSE, Fall 2023)
- [Three Perspectives on Transfer](#) (Handel & Strempele, August 2024)





Texas Success Center

“Steering” Students to Success: Keeping Students on Their Right Pathway

# Advance Work



# #1: Problem of Practice

A **Problem of Practice** is a dilemma that you face in your work that you cannot easily solve. The dilemmas that work best are those that can be adequately described in 5 minutes or less, but are sufficiently complex to generate meaningful conversations for problem solving.

## College Expectations

- Pathways Leads will consult with their guided pathways team and CEO to identify a Problem of Practice associated with Pillar 3.
- Pathways Leads will consult with their Pathways coach to refine the problem statement and supporting details.

## Guidelines for Submission (Template Provided in Advance Work Package)

- Utilize Pillar 3 essential practices and select a specific challenge associated with supporting learners in building momentum through to credential completion and successful transition to further education and/or employment.
- Consider key actions or strategies that have already been tried at the college. What was the extent of progress made? What data elements have already been collected relating to this problem?
- Who will be responsible for sharing out the Problem at the Institute?



# #2: Student Touchpoints Map

A **Student Touchpoints Map** is an audit of all touchpoints that have been implemented and map them along the different steps of the students learning journey. These touchpoints are intentional, systematic opportunities for the institution to engage with students, provide support, and ensure that they stay on track toward credential completion.

## College Expectations

- Pick a specific student population or persona to explore (e.g., transfer, CTE, first-generation, or parenting students)
- Touchpoints may come from advisors, faculty, financial aid, special programs, or others who intentionally reach out to students at key milestones (e.g., at the completion of 15, 30, and 45 SCH)
- Determine if each touchpoint is at scale

## Guidelines for Submission (Samples Provided in Advance Work Package)

- Visually diagram intentional outreach throughout the student experience from entry through credential completion (see Appendix for sample graphic representations)
- Consider key guiding questions provided (e.g., handoffs, case management, scheduling, collaboration, advising, etc.) to illuminate the student experience

# Prepare for the Institute with Your **Pathways Coach**

- 📺 Set up 1-hour Zoom prep meeting
- 📋 Review College Action Plan from April 2024
- 🔍 Identify priority discussion topics for your college:
  - Getting to know the team
  - Leadership & new priorities
  - Problem of practice
  - Student Touchpoints Map



*Excellence*

# Cynthia Ferrell Pathways Star of Excellence Award

## **Purpose:**

Recognizes Texas community college employees who significantly improve student success and experience.

## **Eligibility:**

- Any Texas community college employee
- Supports student success and elevating the student experience
- Drives positive change and promotes belonging

## **Selection Criteria:**

- **Leadership:** Change agent that makes a positive impact
- **Empathy and Care:** Connects with and supports students
- **Motivation:** Inspires student achievement
- **Advocacy:** Removes barriers to success

## **Process & Timeline:**

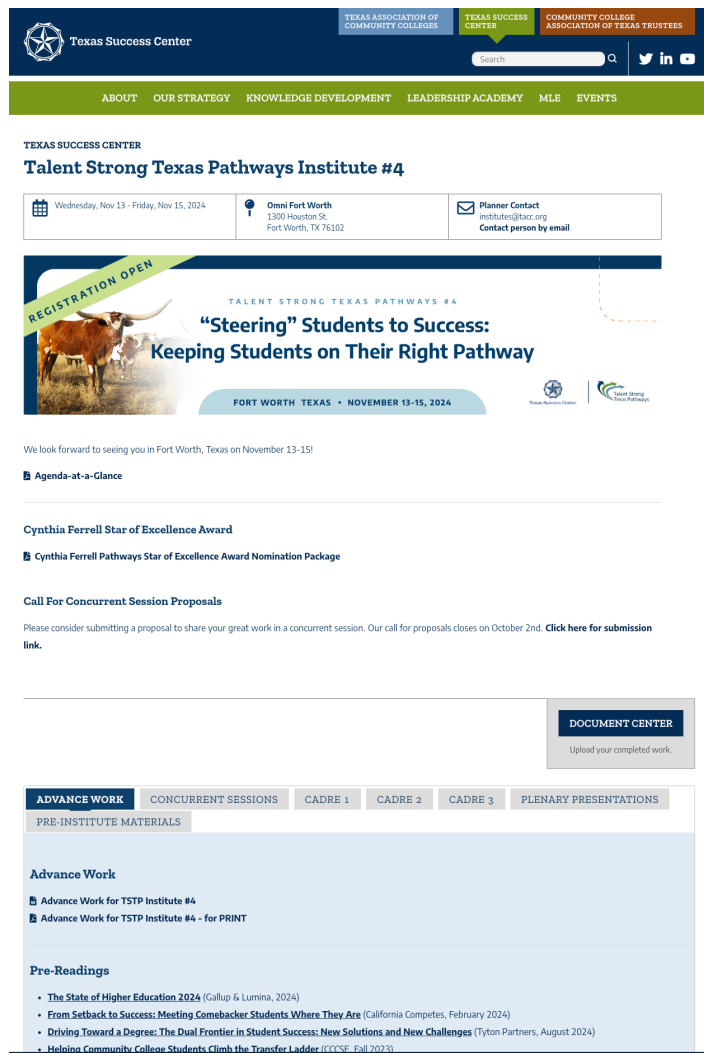
- Nominations open: September 6, 2024
- Nomination submission: Includes impact evidence + 2 recommendations
- Deadline: **October 2, 2024**
- Award ceremony: **November 15, 2024**





**Feedback & Questions?**

# Visit the TSTP Institute #4 Event Page



The screenshot shows the website for the Talent Strong Texas Pathways Institute #4. The header includes the Texas Success Center logo and navigation links: ABOUT, OUR STRATEGY, KNOWLEDGE DEVELOPMENT, LEADERSHIP ACADEMY, MLE, and EVENTS. The main content area features the event title, dates (Wednesday, Nov 13 - Friday, Nov 15, 2024), location (Omni Fort Worth, 1300 Houston St., Fort Worth, TX 76102), and a planner contact email (institute@tacc.org). A banner image shows a cow with the text "REGISTRATION OPEN" and "Steering Students to Success: Keeping Students on Their Right Pathway". Below the banner, there is a "DOCUMENT CENTER" button and a list of materials including "Advance Work" and "Pre-Readings".

## Hub for Institute Information

- [tacc.org/tsc/events/talent-strong-texas-pathways-institute-4](https://tacc.org/tsc/events/talent-strong-texas-pathways-institute-4)
- Pre-Readings
- Team Strategy Time Documents
- Digital Notebook
- Use the Document Center to upload your advance work and/or presentation slides
- Real-time access to presentations for plenaries, pre-institute workshops, and concurrent sessions

Explore materials from Spring 2024 archived on our [TSTP Institute #3 Event Page](#).

# Fall 2024 Timeline

## Event Logistics

**Friday, September 6:** Orientation webinar (see recording on [TSTP Institute #4 Event Page](#))

**Friday, September 6 :** Registration opens; all presenters/attendees attending Institute & Pre-Institute must register

**Friday, October 18:** Registration portal closes; hotel block released

**September/October:** Conduct institute prep meeting with your Pathways coach

**Wednesday, October 2:** Nominations due for Cynthia Ferrell Pathways Star of Excellence Award

**Wednesday, October 23:** Advance Work due (submit to DOCUMENT CENTER [TSTP Institute #4 Event Page](#))

**Wednesday, November 6:** Pathways leads and coaches receive Team Strategy Time documents

## Call for Proposals for Concurrent Sessions

**Friday, September 6:** Call for proposals open <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TSTPI4>

**Wednesday, October 2:** Proposal submission deadline

**Friday, October 11:** Selections announced

**Friday, October 18:** All presenters must be registered

**Friday, October 23:** Deadline to submit session materials to share at Institute

# Dual Enrollment Survey of Student Engagement (*DESSE*)

[cccse.org/grant-work/dual-enrollment](http://cccse.org/grant-work/dual-enrollment)

## The Beginning:

- Collaborated with CCRC (John Fink), community college leaders, and dual enrollment researchers to develop a dual enrollment survey.

## Survey Focus Areas:

- Academic Advising and Planning
- Academic Challenge
- Active and Collaborative Learning
- Barriers to Persistence
- Career Counseling
- Course Taking
- Getting Started
- Goals
- Instructor Expectations
- Motivation and Preparedness
- Sense of Belonging
- Stigma
- Student Effort
- Student-Faculty Interaction
- Support Services

## The Pilot:

- 17 colleges across 10 states (including 6 in Texas) participated in the pilot.

# Dual Enrollment Survey of Student Engagement (*DESSE*)

[cccse.org/grant-work/dual-enrollment](http://cccse.org/grant-work/dual-enrollment)

## Spring 2025:

- FREE survey administration for ALL Texas colleges.

## Next Steps:

- Complete Interest Form (QR code) by **September 20, 2024**
- CCCSE will send you link to register and information to prepare for a spring administration
- Administration will be from late February to early May 2025
- Results anticipated in August 2025







Texas Success Center

# See you in Fort Worth!

**Questions?**

[institutes@tacc.org](mailto:institutes@tacc.org)

[cbailie@tacc.org](mailto:cbailie@tacc.org)