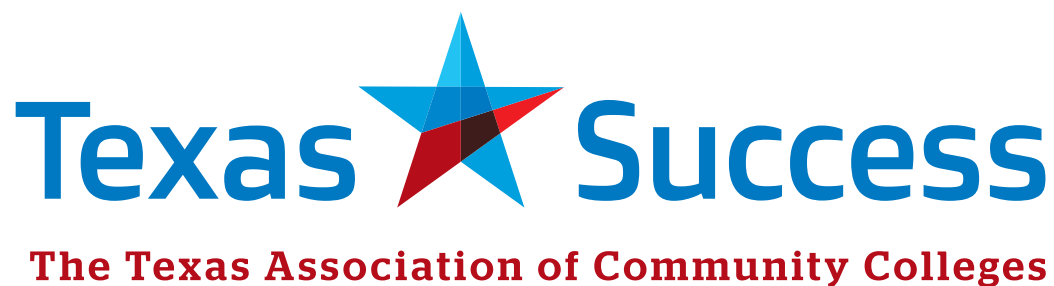


83rd Texas Legislature

Session Summary



July 2013

Texas Association of Community Colleges

83rd Texas Legislature: Session Summary

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SB 1, The General Appropriations Act

By Senator Williams

House Sponsor: Representative Pitts

The 83rd Texas Legislature passed SB 1, the General Appropriations Act, which provides funding for the 2014-15 biennium. All funds for the entire state budget total \$197 billion from all fund sources, an increase of \$7.1 billion (3.7%) above the 2012-13 biennium. General revenue funds, including general revenue dedicated funds, for the entire state budget total \$101.4 billion for the 2014-15 biennium, an increase of \$7.6 billion (8.1%) compared to the 2012-13 biennium (Source: *Summary of Senate Bill 1: Conference Committee Report*, Legislative Budget Board, June 2013).

Community College Appropriations - Instructional Funds (Art. III)

TACC proposed a new Student Success model for funding community college instruction which was adopted by the 83rd Texas Legislature. The three components of the new funding model appropriated in SB 1 are: 1) Core Operations, 2) Student Success Points, and 3) Contact Hour Funding.

	2014-15
Instructional Funds	1,770,152,918
Core Operations	50,000,000
Student Success Points	172,015,292
Contact Hour	1,548,137,626

Review of SB 1, General Appropriations Act:

- SB 1, as introduced in both the House and the Senate, did not adopt the new funding proposal. Instructional funds were appropriated using the same method as in the past: contact hour funding for all institutions with a small-institution supplement for nine college districts.

Items of Appropriation:		
A. Goal: ALAMO COMMUNITY COLLEGE		
A.1.1. Strategy: ACADEMIC EDUCATION	\$ 45,007,900	\$ 45,007,899
A.1.2. Strategy: VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL EDUCATION	\$ 14,105,809	\$ 14,105,809
Total, Goal A: ALAMO COMMUNITY COLLEGE	\$ 59,113,709	\$ 59,113,708
B. Goal: ALVIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE		
B.1.1. Strategy: ACADEMIC EDUCATION	\$ 3,611,331	\$ 3,611,330
B.1.2. Strategy: VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL EDUCATION	\$ 3,061,211	\$ 3,061,211
B.1.3. Strategy: SMALL INSTITUTION SUPPLEMENT	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000
Total, Goal B: ALVIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	\$ 6,922,542	\$ 6,922,541

- SB 1, as introduced in both the House and the Senate, funded community colleges at the same dollar per contact hour level as the 2012-13 biennium, but provided \$82 million less in instructional funds due to the 6.4 percent decline in base year contact hours from the previous biennium.
- SB 1, passed by the Senate, appropriated instructional funds with the new Student Success Model (core-student success points-contact hour) and added \$146.8 million over the initial appropriation in SB 1.
- SB 1, passed by the House, added \$49.3 million over the initial appropriation but did not adopt the new funding methodology.
- The SB 1 Conference Committee dealt with two major issues concerning community college instructional funds: 1) funding methodology and 2) dollar amount of instructional funds. The Conference Committee adopted the Student Success Model (core-student success points-contact hour; see bill pattern change below). The House and Senate conferees compromised on the different funding amounts between the two versions of SB 1 and added \$122.4 million over the initial appropriation in SB 1.

1. Informational Listing of Appropriated Funds. The appropriations made above for Educational and General State Support are subject to the special and general provisions of this Act and include the following amounts for the purposes indicated.			
A. Goal: ALAMO COMMUNITY COLLEGE			
A.1.1. Strategy: CORE OPERATIONS	\$	500,000	\$ 500,000
A.1.2. Strategy: STUDENT SUCCESS	\$	6,814,491	\$ 6,814,491
A.1.3. Strategy: CONTACT HOUR FUNDING	\$	<u>56,125,968</u>	\$ <u>56,125,968</u>
Total, Goal A: ALAMO COMMUNITY COLLEGE	\$	<u>63,440,459</u>	\$ <u>63,440,459</u>
B. Goal: ALVIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE			
B.1.1. Strategy: CORE OPERATIONS	\$	500,000	\$ 500,000
B.1.2. Strategy: STUDENT SUCCESS	\$	650,959	\$ 650,959
B.1.3. Strategy: CONTACT HOUR FUNDING	\$	<u>6,229,953</u>	\$ <u>6,229,953</u>
Total, Goal B: ALVIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	\$	<u>7,380,912</u>	\$ <u>7,380,912</u>

- Detail of instructional funds by college is provided on page 4 and a summary of instructional funds by fiscal year is provided on page 5.

Community College Appropriations - Employee Benefits (Art. III)

	2012-13	2014-15	\$ change
Group Health Insurance	198,398,280	286,087,634	87,689,354
Retirement (TRS & ORP)	104,873,325	116,072,125	11,198,800

- An agreement to share the cost of employee benefits was reached between community colleges and the Legislature concerning the funding of employee benefits. The state will fund 50 percent of the costs; community colleges will pay the remaining 50 percent of the costs.

- The BY 2014-15 appropriation for employee benefits was \$98.9 million more than the BY 2012-13 appropriation; an increase of 32.6 percent.
- SB 1812 (by Duncan) codifies the cost share agreement between the state and community colleges (see page 22 for additional information).
- TRS Retirement Rate: Employer share is 6.4 percent for FY 2014 and 6.8 percent for FY 2015 . The state share is 3.2 percent; the community college share is 3.2 percent in FY 2014. For FY 2015, the state share is 3.4 percent and the community college share is 3.4 percent.
- ORP Retirement Rate: Employer share is 6.6 percent for FY 2014 and FY 2015 (an increase from the previous rate of 6.0% for FY 12 and FY 13). The state share is 3.3 percent; the community college share is 3.3 percent.
- \$45.5 million was added over the initial appropriations bill for employee group health insurance; \$10.1 million was added to employee retirement benefits.

SB 1 Summary of Instructional Funds and Employee Benefits: The chart below summarizes the changes made in the community college appropriation during the 83rd legislative session. Over \$178 million was added to SB 1 during the session. The net change from 2012-13 is \$132.4 million for instructional funds and employee benefits.

	Introduced SB 1	Passed by House	Passed by Senate	Adopted SB 1	Difference from Introduced
Instructional Funds	\$1.65 B	\$1.7 B	\$1.79 B	\$1.77 B	+\$122.4 M
Employee Group Health	\$240 M	\$240 M	\$285.6 M	\$286.1 M	+\$45.5 M
Employee Retirement	\$106 M	\$112.9 M	\$116.1 M	\$116.1 M	+\$10.1 M
TOTAL	\$1.99 B	\$2.1 B	\$2.2 B	\$2.17 B	+\$178 M

Community College Appropriations - Mid-Biennium Reallocation Rider

The rider that required the mid-biennium reallocation of instructional funds was removed from SB 1.

- The mid-biennium reallocation rider was in the introduced version of SB 1.
- The Senate Finance Committee removed the mid-biennium reallocation rider from the introduced version of SB 1.
- A floor amendment by Representative Jimmie Don Aycock (R-Killeen) removed the mid-biennium reallocation rider from the House version of SB 1.

Summary by College, SB 1

	% change BY Contact Hrs	Instructional Funds				Group Health Insurance
		Core	Student Success	Contact Hour	TOTAL	
Community College TOTAL	-6.4%	50,000,000	172,015,292	1,544,339,333	1,766,354,625	286,087,633

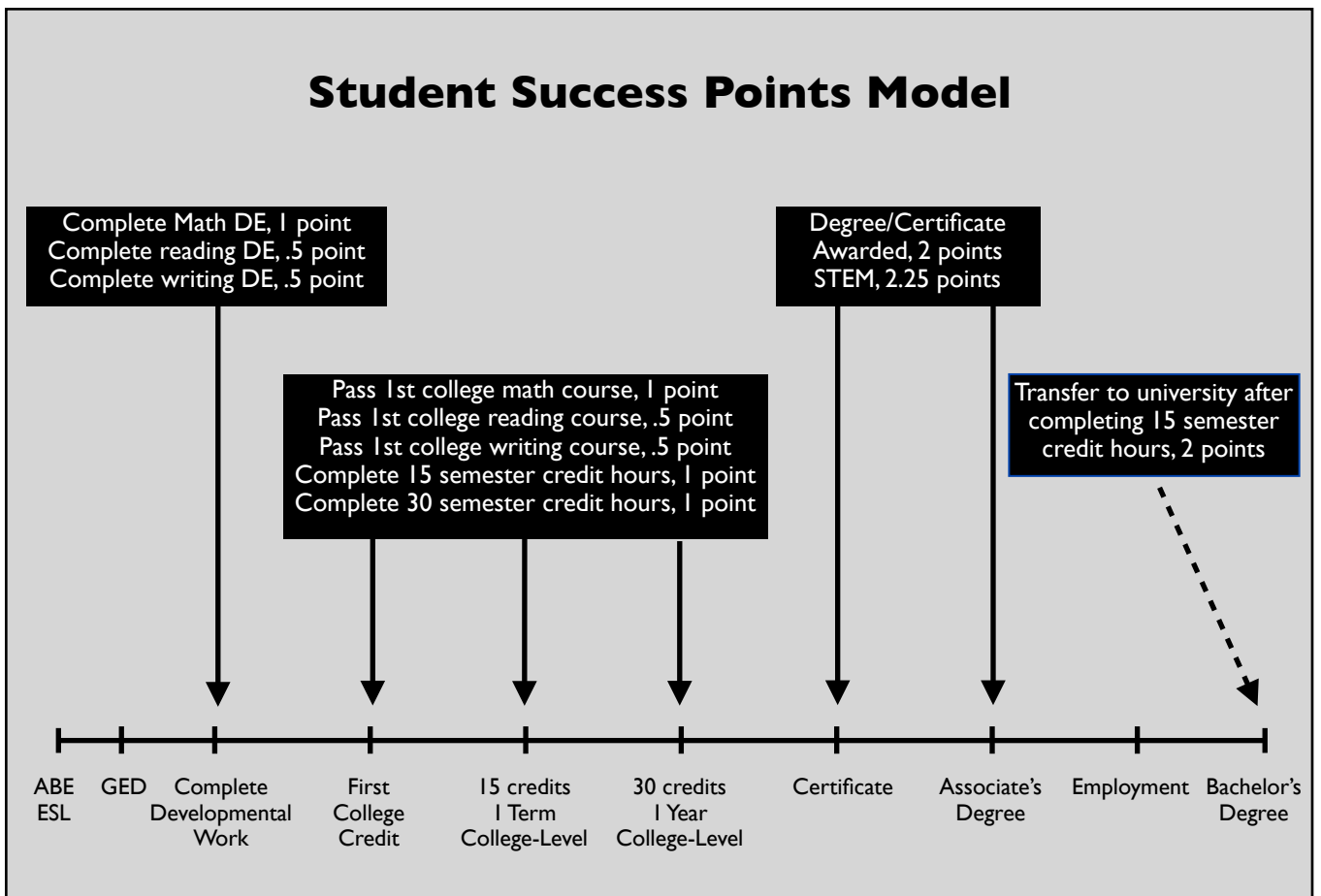
College District	% change BY Contact Hrs	Instructional Funds				Group Health Insurance
		Core	Student Success	Contact Hour	TOTAL	
Alamo	-11.1%	1,000,000	13,628,982	112,251,936	126,880,918	20,600,968
Alvin	-11.7%	1,000,000	1,301,918	12,459,906	14,761,824	2,686,370
Amarillo	-8.4%	1,000,000	2,376,196	27,180,720	30,556,916	6,222,531
Angelina	-14.1%	1,000,000	1,256,084	12,965,910	15,221,994	2,485,146
Austin	-7.7%	1,000,000	11,079,404	79,578,034	91,657,438	16,360,645
Blinn	1.2%	1,000,000	4,289,702	39,685,524	44,975,226	6,029,545
Brazosport	-8.4%	1,000,000	959,840	8,395,190	10,355,030	2,355,588
Central Texas	-4.1%	1,000,000	3,862,606	36,345,770	41,208,376	4,565,180
Cisco	-18.3%	1,000,000	1,090,090	8,438,420	10,528,510	1,598,645
Clarendon	-19.8%	1,000,000	463,490	3,506,696	4,970,186	805,876
Coastal Bend	-13.2%	1,000,000	1,117,164	10,464,272	12,581,436	2,033,958
College of the Mainland	-11.3%	1,000,000	996,448	10,210,630	12,207,078	3,768,067
Collin	1.3%	1,000,000	6,767,562	58,504,588	66,272,150	7,426,650
Dallas	-7.9%	1,000,000	15,785,652	157,506,402	174,292,054	28,283,229
Del Mar	-15.5%	1,000,000	2,669,464	26,717,374	30,386,838	6,700,707
El Paso	-1.7%	1,000,000	8,018,108	58,498,508	67,516,616	10,966,246
Frank Phillips	-7.6%	1,000,000	332,700	3,228,364	4,561,064	753,888
Galveston	-8.1%	1,000,000	573,176	5,945,240	7,518,416	1,342,152
Grayson	-13.3%	1,000,000	1,197,122	12,706,262	14,903,384	2,524,231
Hill	-4.1%	1,000,000	1,271,604	12,240,006	14,511,610	1,824,597
Houston	-7.2%	1,000,000	12,917,010	124,380,860	138,297,870	19,286,870
Howard	-19.4%	1,000,000	1,189,810	12,038,672	14,228,482	2,619,356
Kilgore	-15.2%	1,000,000	1,839,474	18,326,688	21,166,162	3,835,506
Laredo	-10.3%	1,000,000	2,327,832	18,570,968	21,898,800	5,643,025
Lee	-17.1%	1,000,000	1,575,362	14,784,854	17,360,216	3,474,075
Lone Star	7.5%	1,000,000	14,595,748	129,355,652	144,951,400	17,899,818
McLennan	-11.3%	1,000,000	2,288,060	23,624,842	26,912,902	4,803,228
Midland	-9.1%	1,000,000	1,361,050	14,483,070	16,844,120	3,338,066
Navarro	-4.4%	1,000,000	2,671,300	28,853,326	32,524,626	2,877,680
North Central Texas	5.8%	1,000,000	2,279,004	19,359,250	22,638,254	2,670,099
Northeast Texas	-5.4%	1,000,000	925,822	7,798,414	9,724,236	1,607,187
Odessa	-5.2%	1,000,000	1,214,662	12,487,610	14,702,272	3,476,644
Panola	8.5%	1,000,000	613,810	7,017,642	8,631,452	1,550,585
Paris	-14.7%	1,000,000	1,533,988	14,458,786	16,992,774	2,116,676
Ranger	37.2%	1,000,000	406,626	5,302,704	6,709,330	788,296
San Jacinto	-3.8%	1,000,000	7,225,112	66,060,594	74,285,706	12,921,234
South Plains	-8.9%	1,000,000	2,295,758	23,501,518	26,797,276	5,775,912
South Texas	3.2%	1,000,000	6,789,900	62,878,492	70,668,392	8,671,154
Southwest Texas	-13.1%	1,000,000	1,480,626	12,142,862	14,623,488	2,393,932
Tarrant	-2.3%	1,000,000	11,369,076	96,424,886	108,793,962	21,986,421
Temple	-8.8%	1,000,000	1,392,306	13,316,466	15,708,772	2,493,620
Texarkana	-23.3%	1,000,000	1,041,572	11,321,308	13,362,880	2,508,816
Texas Southmost	-53.5%	1,000,000	2,566,720	6,621,749	10,188,469	3,449,957
Trinity Valley	-7.1%	1,000,000	1,855,964	19,813,018	22,668,982	3,173,795
Tyler	-12.4%	1,000,000	3,121,398	29,454,676	33,576,074	6,026,555
Vernon	-16.8%	1,000,000	787,118	9,235,814	11,022,932	1,857,774
Victoria	-7.6%	1,000,000	1,071,902	10,418,734	12,490,636	2,398,142
Weatherford	-4.5%	1,000,000	1,453,536	13,945,844	16,399,380	2,703,816
Western Texas	-4.5%	1,000,000	723,220	6,118,764	7,841,984	1,246,112
Wharton	-1.9%	1,000,000	2,064,214	15,411,518	18,475,732	3,159,063

Instructional Funds: FY 2012-FY 2013-FY 2014-FY 2015

College District	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
Alamo	66,004,803	63,235,863	63,440,459	63,440,459
Alvin	7,360,558	6,957,909	7,380,912	7,380,912
Amarillo	15,320,559	15,097,690	15,278,458	15,278,458
Angelina	7,807,740	7,240,829	7,610,997	7,610,997
Austin	45,006,598	45,708,400	45,828,719	45,828,719
Blinn	20,534,713	21,493,324	22,487,613	22,487,613
Brazosport	4,818,174	4,812,919	5,177,515	5,177,515
Central Texas	19,832,232	19,510,350	20,604,188	20,604,188
Cisco	5,525,146	5,232,820	5,264,255	5,264,255
Clarendon	2,540,249	2,359,072	2,485,093	2,485,093
Coastal Bend	6,510,887	6,322,062	6,290,718	6,290,718
College of the Mainland	6,028,791	5,823,845	6,103,539	6,103,539
Collin	30,210,041	31,087,895	33,136,075	33,136,075
Dallas	89,930,932	88,829,819	87,146,027	87,146,027
Del Mar	16,640,354	16,001,819	15,193,419	15,193,419
El Paso	30,997,449	32,619,755	33,758,308	33,758,308
Frank Phillips	2,062,851	2,015,171	2,280,532	2,280,532
Galveston	3,364,137	3,143,636	3,759,208	3,759,208
Grayson	7,575,517	7,499,167	7,451,692	7,451,692
Hill	6,681,563	6,531,540	7,255,805	7,255,805
Houston	70,232,038	70,014,003	69,148,935	69,148,935
Howard	8,096,417	7,123,936	7,114,241	7,114,241
Kilgore	11,295,802	10,659,235	10,583,081	10,583,081
Laredo	10,887,184	10,698,693	10,949,400	10,949,400
Lee	9,331,885	8,686,592	8,680,108	8,680,108
Lone Star	62,918,245	66,839,742	72,475,700	72,475,700
McLennan	13,889,811	13,677,168	13,456,451	13,456,451
Midland	8,479,985	8,158,090	8,422,060	8,422,060
Navarro	15,639,707	15,861,990	16,262,313	16,262,313
North Central Texas	9,570,446	10,101,187	11,319,127	11,319,127
Northeast Texas	4,287,181	4,484,927	4,862,118	4,862,118
Odessa	6,826,221	6,925,372	7,351,136	7,351,136
Panola	3,381,641	3,722,735	4,315,726	4,315,726
Paris	8,894,020	8,924,665	8,496,387	8,496,387
Ranger	2,208,261	2,748,719	3,354,665	3,354,665
San Jacinto	36,080,029	36,957,166	37,142,853	37,142,853
South Plains	13,591,786	13,434,783	13,398,638	13,398,638
South Texas	31,810,174	33,527,445	35,334,196	35,334,196
Southwest Texas	7,304,514	6,422,513	7,311,744	7,311,744
Tarrant	51,882,972	53,068,368	54,396,981	54,396,981
Temple	7,820,446	7,804,893	7,854,386	7,854,386
Texarkana	7,682,738	7,243,447	6,681,440	6,681,440
Texas Southmost	11,320,102	11,157,850	5,094,234	5,094,235
Trinity Valley	11,128,260	10,844,135	11,334,491	11,334,491
Tyler	17,475,155	16,477,885	16,788,037	16,788,037
Vernon	5,852,020	5,525,348	5,511,466	5,511,466
Victoria	5,898,092	5,950,049	6,245,318	6,245,318
Weatherford	7,675,921	7,654,277	8,199,690	8,199,690
Western Texas	3,619,276	3,525,806	3,920,992	3,920,992
Wharton	8,505,371	8,594,090	9,237,866	9,237,866
CC TOTAL	868,338,995	868,338,995	883,177,312	883,177,313

Student Success Points

- The Student Success appropriation for the 2014-15 biennium is \$172 million; 10 percent of the instructional funds appropriated to community colleges (after first deducting the core amount).
- The distribution of the 2014-15 Student Success appropriation is based on the three year average (FY 10-11-12) of student success points for each college district (detail by college in chart on page 7). The appropriation was determined by taking the total amount appropriated for student success points (\$172 million) and dividing by the total number of student success points (929,188) to derive a dollar amount per point (\$185). The funding for each college district was determined by multiplying the number of points for each institution by \$185.
- The student success points model (see chart below) details the points college districts can earn based on a system that recognizes student achievement along a continuum from successful completion of college readiness courses to intermediate success measures (e.g., pass 1st college math course) to successful outcome metrics (e.g., degree awarded; transfer to university).



- The 2014-15 Student Success appropriation should be viewed as a starting point for incorporating performance funding into the community college instructional appropriation. Rider #23 in SB 1 requires a new methodology for student success points allocation in the 2016-17 biennium:

“The Public Community/Junior Colleges and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall jointly develop recommendations for an allocation system for student success points for the 2016-17 biennium. The allocation system should allocate funds to college districts for improvement in student achievement. The allocation system shall be developed in a manner that compares the performance of the college district to itself using the allocation for student success points in the 2014-15 biennium as the baseline for comparison. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall report these recommendations to the Legislative Budget Board and the Governor no later than August 1, 2014.”

Total Community College Student Success Points = 929,188 points
3 Year Average (Fiscal Years 2010-2011-2012)

College District	Success Pts	College District	Success Pts
Alamo	73,621	Lone Star	78,843
Alvin	7,033	McLennan	12,360
Amarillo	12,836	Midland	7,352
Angelina	6,785	Navarro	14,430
Austin	59,848	North Central Texas	12,311
Blinn	23,172	Northeast Texas	5,001
Brazosport	5,185	Odessa	6,561
Central Texas	20,865	Panola	3,316
Cisco	5,888	Paris	8,286
Clarendon	2,504	Ranger	2,197
Coastal Bend	6,035	San Jacinto	39,028
College of the Mainland	5,383	South Plains	12,401
Collin	36,557	South Texas	36,678
Dallas	85,271	Southwest Texas	7,998
Del Mar	14,420	Tarrant	61,413
El Paso	43,312	Temple	7,521
Frank Phillips	1,797	Texarkana	5,626
Galveston	3,096	Texas Southmost	13,865
Grayson	6,467	Trinity Valley	10,026
Hill	6,869	Tyler	16,861
Houston	69,775	Vernon	4,252
Howard	6,427	Victoria	5,790
Kilgore	9,936	Weatherford	7,852
Laredo	12,574	Western Texas	3,907
Lee	8,510	Wharton	11,150

Bachelor of Applied Technology (BAT) Instructional Funds (Art. III)

	2012-13	2014-15	\$ change
BAT Instructional Funds	929,958	1,510,266	580,308
Brazosport	125,224	200,772	75,548
Midland	93,044	184,548	91,504
South Texas	711,690	1,124,946	413,256

Community College Appropriations - Financial Aid (from THECB Section of Article III)

	2012-13	2014-15	\$ change
TX Educational Opportunity Grant	24,061,600	27,811,600	3,750,000
Texas Grant	559,537,824	724,617,824	165,080,000

Community College Appropriations - Nursing (from THECB Section of Article III)

- Total appropriation for Nursing (all sectors of higher education) is \$33.75 million for 2014-15 (increase of \$3.75 million).
- THECB Rider #34 - Professional Nursing Shortage Reduction Program

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) shall allocate the funds appropriated in their bill pattern in Strategy D.1.12, as follows:

(a) Up to 5 percent each year may be used for administrative expenses.

(b) In each fiscal year \$5,550,187 shall be distributed in an equitable manner to institutions with nursing programs, including institutions graduating their first nursing class, based on increases in numbers of nursing student graduating. The THECB shall apply a weight of 1.5 for increased graduates in nursing educator programs identified with a Classification of Instructional Program code of 51.3808 and 51.3817. The THECB shall allocate up to 50 percent in each fiscal year of the biennium and any unexpended amounts to community colleges.

(c) \$7,745,625 in fiscal year 2014 and \$7,745,625 in fiscal year 2015 shall be distributed at a rate of \$10,000 per year for each additional nursing student enrolled in a professional nursing program to institutions with professional nursing programs based on the following criteria: (1) a graduation rate of 70% or above as reflected in the final 2012 graduation rates reported by the THECB and (2) an increase in new enrollees for fiscal year 2014 equal to 12 percent and 18 percent in fiscal year 2015 of the first-year enrollments for the 2011-2012 academic year as reported by the institutions to the Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies.

(d) \$3,579,188 in fiscal year 2014 and \$3,579,188 in fiscal year 2015 to (1) professional nursing programs with nursing graduation rates below 70 percent as reflected in the final 2010 graduation rates reported by the THECB, (2) hospital-based diploma programs, or (3) new professional nursing programs whose graduation rates which have not been determined by the THECB. From funds available for that purpose, institutions shall receive \$20,000 for each additional initial RN graduate in two year programs and \$10,000 for each additional graduate in one-year programs. If sufficient funds are not available to provide this allocation, the THECB shall submit a plan to the Legislative Budget Board and to the Governor outlining a method of proration. THECB shall develop an application process for institutions willing to increase the number of nursing graduates. The application shall indicate the number of nursing graduates for initial licensure the institution will produce; indicate the number of payments and payment schedule; identify benchmarks an institution must meet to receive payment; and specify the consequences of failing to meet the benchmarks.

(e) For THECB expenditure purposes, any funds not expended in fiscal year 2014 may be expended in fiscal year 2015 for the same purposes. If an institution does not meet targets for

purposes of subsections b, c and d, the institution shall return these unearned funds to the THECB by date specified by THECB rule. The THECB shall reallocate these funds to other qualified programs. All institutions receiving funds shall submit to the THECB a detailed accounting of funds received, obligated or expended.

(f) If the funds appropriated under Paragraphs (b), (c), or (d) exceed the funds that can be expended in accordance with the requirements of that paragraph, THECB may expend the excess funds for any purpose described in Paragraphs (b), (c), or (d).

Community College Appropriations - Adult Basic Education (from THECB Section of Article III)

	2012-13	2014-15	\$ change
Adult Basic Education	4,000,000	4,000,000	0

THECB Rider #36: Adult Basic Education Community College Grants

Out of funds appropriated above in Strategy, F.1.3, ABE Community College Grants, \$2,000,000 in general revenue for fiscal year 2014 and \$2,000,000 in general revenue for fiscal year 2015 shall be used for the purpose of awarding competitive grants to community colleges and public technical institutions to increase participation and success of adult basic education students transitioning from community and federally-funded ABE programs into postsecondary education and/or training programs. Any balances as of August 31, 2014 are hereby appropriated for the same purpose for the fiscal year beginning September 1, 2014.

Community College Appropriations - Developmental Education (from THECB Section of Article III)

	2012-13	2014-15	\$ change
Developmental Education	4,000,000	4,000,000	0
THECB		1,600,000	
New Mathways		2,400,000	

THECB, Rider #57: Mathways Project. Out of funds appropriated above in Strategy F.1.1, Developmental Education Program, \$1,200,000 in general revenue for fiscal year 2014 and \$1,200,000 in general revenue for fiscal year 2015 shall be transferred to The University of Texas at Austin for the purpose of implementing the New Mathways Project.

THECB, Rider #7: Texas Success Initiative.

a. Developmental Education Coursework. Funds appropriated for developmental courses under Education Code § 51.3062, shall be expended only for those costs associated with providing developmental education courses including instruction, tutorial, evaluation, retraining of faculty, and other related costs. The funds shall not be used for the recruitment of students.

b. Intent Concerning Developmental Needs. It is the intent of the Legislature that all affected institutions of public higher education fully address developmental needs identified by the institutions through the Texas Success Initiative with appropriations made in this Act for the developmental education coursework and other available institutional funds.

THECB, Rider #44: Developmental Education. Funds appropriated above in Strategy F.1.1, Developmental Education Program, \$800,000 in general revenue for fiscal year 2014 and \$800,000 in general revenue for fiscal year 2015 shall be used for the purpose of scaling effective strategies that promote systemic reform and dramatically improve developmental education outcomes and provide

professional development opportunities for faculty and staff to improve advising, access, and acceleration of under prepared students. Out of funds appropriated to this strategy, the Higher Education Coordinating Board will collaborate with Texas public institutions of higher education on the development of student profiles that identify student populations best served by particular strategies, including but not limited to traditional models, non-course based remediation, paired courses, and modular offerings. Out of funds appropriated to this strategy, the Higher Education Coordinating Board will analyze and compare information collected annually from all Texas public institutions on the Developmental Education Program Survey to determine the most effective and efficient combination of developmental education inventions and submit a report to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House of Appropriations, the Chair of the Senate Finance Committee, the Chair of House Appropriations, Senate Committee on Higher Education and House Committee on Higher Education before January 1, 2015. Any balances remaining as of August 31, 2014 are hereby appropriated for the same purpose for the fiscal year beginning September 1, 2014.

Public Community Colleges, Rider #20: Developmental Education Intervention Formulas.

It is the intent of the Legislature that during fiscal years 2014 and 2015 the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board use the funds appropriated by this act to be in a position to implement funding formula recommendations on a weighted contact hour basis, under Sec. 61.059, Education Code, for semester length and non- semester length developmental education interventions (including course-based, non-course based, alternative-entry/exit, modules, paired courses, and competency based courses, and other intensive developmental education activities) based on existing developmental education cost studies, ongoing research studies, and survey data.

Transition funding for Texas Southmost College and the University of Texas at Brownsville (from THECB Section of Article III)

Rider #53: Higher Education Coordinating Board Contingent Appropriations, Formula Funding for The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College. Appropriations made to the Higher Education Coordinating Board in Strategy F.1.4, UTB TSC Transition Funding in the amount of \$7,836,013 in fiscal year 2014 and \$7,836,012 in fiscal year 2015 are contingent on:

- a) The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College providing the Higher Education Coordinating Board with updated 2014-15 base period semester data for lower level undergraduate semester credit hours at The University of Texas at Brownsville, excluding dual credit hours, and non-developmental education academic contact hours at Texas Southmost College, excluding dual-credit hours;
- b) The Legislative Budget Board calculating the lower level undergraduate formula funding amounts for The University of Texas at Brownsville, excluding dual credit hours, and non-developmental education academic contact hour formula amounts for Texas Southmost College, excluding dual-credit hours for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 using the data provided in subsection a; and
- c) The Legislative Budget Board not issuing a written disapproval before the 15th day after the date the staff of the Legislative Budget Board concludes its review of the new lower level undergraduate semester credit hours at The University of Texas at Brownsville excluding dual credit hours, and non-developmental education academic contact hours at Texas Southmost College, excluding dual-credit hours and forwards the staff's recommendations to the Chair of the House Appropriations Committee, Chair of the Senate Finance Committee, Speaker of the House, and Lieutenant Governor.

The new formula funding allocations for lower level undergraduate semester credit hours at The University of Texas at Brownsville, excluding dual credit hours, and non-developmental education academic contact hours at Texas Southmost College, excluding dual-credit hours, will be provided by the Legislative Budget Board staff to the Higher Education Coordinating Board to transfer the lower level undergraduate formula funding appropriations, excluding dual credit hours, to The University of Texas at Brownsville and the non-developmental education academic contact hour formula funding appropriations, excluding dual-credit hours, to Texas Southmost College for fiscal years 2014 and 2015.

Should the total amount of formula funding allocations provided to the Higher Education Coordinating Board by the Legislative Budget Board for formula funding purposes described in this rider for fiscal year 2014 and fiscal year 2015 exceed the amounts appropriated above in F. 1.4, UTB TSC Transition Funding for the 2014-15 biennium, the formula funding allocations provided to the Higher Education Coordinating Board by the Legislative Budget Board for formula funding purposes described in this rider for fiscal year 2014 and fiscal year 2015 shall be prorated and shall not exceed the total amount appropriated in the 2014-15 biennium in F.1.4, UTB TSC Transition Funding.

If the total amount of formula funding allocations provided to the Higher Education Coordinating Board by the Legislative Budget Board for formula funding purposes described in this rider for fiscal year 2014 and fiscal year 2015 are less than the amounts appropriated above in F.1.4, UTB TSC Transition Funding for the 2014-15 biennium, the remaining appropriation amount shall lapse.

For purposes of the requirements of Article IX, Sec. 6.08 of this Act, appropriations made to the Higher Education Coordinating Board in Strategy F.1.4, UTB TSC Transition Funding and transferred to the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College shall be counted as if they were directly appropriated to the two institutions.

Community College Appropriations - Non-Formula Funds (Art. III)

Non-Formula Items	2012-13	2014-15	\$ change
New Mathways Project		2,400,000	2,400,000
STARLINK	400,188	642,408	242,220
Virtual College of Texas	712,500	712,500	0
Southwest Institute for the Deaf (Howard)	5,302,579	5,302,586	7
Small Business Development Center (Dallas)	3,303,808	3,634,189	330,381
Import/Export Center	322,390	331,140	8,750
Museums	1,731,305	1,931,303	199,998
Star of Republic (Blinn)	507,653	507,653	0
Heritage Museum/Genealogy Center (Hill)	513,002	713,000	199,998
American Airpower Heritage (Midland)	710,650	710,650	0
4-year Degree Program (Brazosport)		1,000,000	1,000,000
Viticulture Center (Grayson)		50,000	50,000
TOTAL	11,772,770	16,004,126	4,231,356

Community College Appropriations - Skills Development Fund and Self-Sufficiency Fund (from TX Workforce Commission Section of Article VII)

	2012-13	2012-13	\$ change
Skills Development Fund	48,541,943	48,915,561	373,618
Self-Sufficiency Fund	5,235,817	5,227,047	-8,770

Community College Appropriations - Inmate Education (from Dept. of Criminal Justice Section of Article V)

	2012-13	2012-13	\$ change
Inmate Education	2,727,766	3,838,088	1,110,322

Dept. of Criminal Justice Rider #32: Postsecondary Education Programs

Out of funds appropriated above in Strategy C.2.2, Academic and Vocational Training, the Department of Criminal Justice may provide postsecondary education courses only to inmates who have:

- a. demonstrated a clear and convincing record of rehabilitation while incarcerated, and
- b. demonstrated an interest in a field of study that lends itself to performing specific and beneficial tasks while incarcerated, and
- c. demonstrated the aptitude and capabilities to do college-level study.

The costs of such postsecondary education programs shall be reimbursed by the inmate as a condition of parole. One hundred percent of the reimbursements are appropriated to Strategy C. 2.2, Academic and Vocational Training. The Department of Criminal Justice shall not provide in-cell tutoring for inmates who are in administrative segregation.

The Department of Criminal Justice may not transfer appropriations out of Strategy C.2.2, Academic and Vocational Training. All of the funds appropriated above in Strategy C.2.2, Academic and Vocational Training, are to be distributed to the community colleges that provide the postsecondary education programs and services. No funds appropriated above in Strategy C. 2.2, Academic and Vocational Training, may be retained by TDCJ or the Windham School District for administration. Programs under Strategy C.2.2, Academic and Vocational Training, are to be administered by TDCJ's Rehabilitation Programs Division.

Summary of SB 1, The General Appropriations Act

By Senator Williams

House Sponsor: Representative Pitts

Source of Funds	2012-13	2014-15	\$ change
Instructional Funds	1,736,677,990	1,770,120,691	33,442,701
BAT Instructional Funds	929,958	1,510,266	580,308
Group Health Insurance	198,398,280	286,087,634	87,689,354
Retirement (TRS/ORP)	104,873,325	116,072,125	11,198,800
Sub-Total	2,040,879,553	2,173,790,716	132,911,163
Non-Formula Funds	11,772,770	16,004,126	4,231,356
New Mathways Project	0	2,400,000	2,400,000
STARLINK	400,188	642,408	242,220
Virtual College of Texas	712,500	712,500	0
TX Educational Opportunity Grant	24,061,600	27,811,600	3,750,000
Texas Grant	559,537,824	724,617,824	165,080,000
Skills Development Fund	48,541,943	48,915,561	373,618
Self-Sufficiency Fund	5,235,817	5,227,047	-8,770
Inmate Education	2,727,766	3,838,088	1,110,322
Nursing Graduates (Total Pool)	30,000,000	33,750,000	3,750,000
Adult Basic Education	4,000,000	4,000,000	0
Total	2,726,757,273	3,037,954,962	311,197,689

Key Bills

HB 5 by Aycock (Public Education Reform)

Amends current law relating to public school curriculum, assessment and requirements for high school graduation, and funding in support of certain curriculum authorized for graduation.

CURRICULUM

Replaces the Recommended High School Program (RHSP), Minimum High School Program (MHSP), and Distinguished Achievement Program (DAP) with one 22-credit foundation school program. Requires the SBOE to adopt rules that require:

- 4 credits in English language arts (English I, II, III, and an advanced ELA)
- 3 credits in math (Algebra I, geometry, and an advanced math credit)
- 3 credits in science (Biology, IPC or an advanced science credit, and another advanced science credit)
- 3 credits in social studies (U.S. History, .5 economics, .5 government, and either world history or world geography, or a new course)
- 2 credits in languages other than English
- 1 credit in fine arts
- 1 credit in P.E.

Endorsements

Requires a district to ensure that each student entering grade nine indicate in writing an endorsement choice. Mandates that the district allow a student to choose, at any time, to earn an endorsement other than the one previously selected.

Establishes endorsements in five categories:

- (1) STEM
- (2) Business and Industry
- (3) Public Services
- (4) Arts and Humanities
- (5) Multidisciplinary

Distinguished Level of Achievement

Provides that a student who has completed the core curriculum of an institution of higher education has earned a “distinguished level of achievement.” Permits a student who has earned the distinguished level to apply for admission to an institution of higher education for the first semester or other academic term after the student completes the core curriculum.

Considers a student who receives a diploma through the early college high school

pilot program to have earned the distinguished achievement level under the foundation program and allows a student to apply for admission to an institution of higher education the semester after the student earns the diploma.

Applied STEM Courses

Adds technology applications to a district's allowable applied STEM courses, in addition to approved CTE courses. Mandates that applied STEM courses may only substitute for a science course after successful completion of biology (removes chemistry and physics prerequisites).

Career and Technology Education Courses Developed through Local Partnerships

Introduces a new career and technology education (CTE) course development option. Allows a district to offer a course or other activity needed to obtain an industry-recognized credential or certificate that is approved by the local school board for credit without obtaining SBOE approval under certain circumstances. Requires that the courses or activities be developed by the district in partnership with a public or private institution of higher education and local business, labor, and community leaders.

Requires the courses or activities to allow students to enter a career and technology training program in the district's region of the state; an institution of higher education without remediation; an apprenticeship training program; or an internship required as part of accreditation toward an industry-recognized credential or certificate. Mandates that a district report such local course offerings to the TEA on an annual basis, and that TEA makes the information available to other districts.

District Responsibilities for CTE Courses

Requires a district to encourage to the greatest extent possible that students in CTE programs enroll in dual credit courses that lead to a degree, license, or certification.

College Preparatory Courses

Removes responsibility of the development of college preparatory courses from the TEA and higher education commissioners. Assigns responsibility of college preparatory courses to districts that must partner with at least one institution of higher education to develop and provide college preparatory courses in English language arts and math.

ASSESSMENT

End-of-Course Exams Required for Graduation

Requires TEA to adopt five end-of-course (EOC) exams, including:

- English I (reading and writing on a single test and given one score)
- English II (reading and writing on a single test and given one score)
- Algebra I
- Biology

- U.S. History

Texas Success Initiative Score in Lieu of EOC Score

Considers a student who satisfies the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) college readiness benchmarks, prescribed by the THECB, at the end of a college preparatory course to have satisfied EOC requirements for an equivalent course.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Indicators of Student Achievement

Adds new student achievement indicators to include the percentage of (1) students completing the distinguished level of achievement; (2) students completing an endorsement; and (3) at least three additional indicators of student achievement to evaluate district and campus performance, which must include either:

- Percentage of students that satisfy the TSI college readiness benchmarks in reading, writing, or math; or
- Number of students that earn at least 12 plus or 30 plus hours of postsecondary credit, an associate's degree, or an industry certification.

District Performance Ratings

Requires the commissioner to adopt rules to assign each district a performance rating of A, B, C, D, or F and to determine the criteria for each letter rating. States that a rating of A, B, or C is deemed "acceptable" performance and a rating of D or F reflects an "unacceptable" performance.

OTHER HIGHER EDUCATION IMPACTS

Dual Credit From Another Community College District

Includes language that limits the number of hours a student can take to 9 total from a community college that is outside the student's community college service area.

Texas Success Initiative Exemptions

Exempts students from Texas Success Initiative (TSI) requirements who meet the college readiness standards on the English III or Algebra II EOC exams. Requires the higher education commissioner by rule to establish the period for which an exemption is valid.

Automatic College Admissions

Introduces a new requirement that a student must have earned the "distinguished achievement level" under the foundation program to be eligible for automatic admission if the student graduates in the top 10 percent of the student's graduating class.

HB 1297 by Alvarado (Skills Development Fund)

Requires each community or technical college to conduct a review by October 1 each even-numbered year to determine the effectiveness of its workforce training programs in improving the wages of participants who complete the program. The provisions also requires community or technical colleges to identify strategies for improving the delivery of workforce training to more effectively impact economic development. The report would only be required for programs for which skills development funds were used. The detailed report must be submitted to the Texas Workforce Commission for inclusion in the report to the governor and legislature.

HB 2668 by Vo (Boards of Trustees)

Requires the governing board of the community college district with a total student enrollment of more than 20,000 in any semester of the preceding academic year to post its meeting materials on its website and broadcast its open meetings. Also requires the community college to archive the broadcast on its website.

HB 2760 by Branch (TSTC Partnerships)

Adds new subchapter to the Education code that provides, with approval of the Higher Education Coordinating Board, that TSTCs and a community college may enter into a partnership for delivery of technical education programs as long as the agreements meet certain conditions. Allows the participating institutions to fill necessary personnel by joint appointment and to assign certain functions to a particular institution in the partnership. Allows the participating institutions to individually or collectively lease, purchase, finance, construct, or rehabilitate physical facilities for the partnership and notes that the owning or financing of these facilities promotes public purposes as indicated under Section 52-a, Article III of the Texas Constitution. The bill also provides that the system and participating institutions remain eligible for formula funding on the same basis as if they were not in a partnership.

SB 31 by Zaffirini (Dual Credit Courses)

Limits dual credit courses to: 1) a course in the core curriculum; 2) a career and technical education course that applies to a certificate or associate's degree at the providing institution; and, 3) a foreign language course. Does not apply to courses in an early college education program.

SB 62 by Nelson (Bacterial Meningitis Vaccinations)

Amends the Education Code to lower from 30 to 22 years of age the minimum age at which an entering student at an institution of higher education or private or independent institution of higher education is exempt from providing to the institution a certificate signed by a health practitioner or an official immunization

record evidencing that the student has received a bacterial meningitis vaccine dose or booster during the five-year period preceding the compliance date established by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Requires the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) to develop and implement a secure, Internet-based process to be used exclusively at community colleges that elect to use the process to allow an entering student to apply online for an exemption from the bacterial meningitis vaccination requirement for reasons of conscience. Authorizes a community college to require an entering student to use the Internet-based process as the exclusive method to apply for an exemption from the required bacterial meningitis vaccination for reasons of conscience.

Adds as an alternative condition for a student to be exempt from the bacterial meningitis vaccination requirement that the student (or a parent or guardian of the student) submits to the institution confirmation that the student has completed the Internet-based process for declining the vaccination for reasons of conscience, if applicable to the student. Requires DSHS to report to the legislature annually the number of exemptions applied for in the preceding academic year using the Internet-based process.

SB 146 by Williams (Criminal Background Checks / Students)

Allows an institution of higher education is entitled to obtain from the Department of Public Safety criminal history record information that relates to a student, or to an applicant for admission as a student, who applies to reside in on-campus housing at the institution. The criminal history record obtained may be used by the chief of police or by the institution's housing office only for the purpose of evaluating current students or applicants for enrollment who apply to reside in on-campus housing. Requires the institution to notify the student of any use of the information to deny the student the opportunity to reside in the on-campus housing at the institution. The criminal history may not be released or disclosed to any person except on court order or with the consent of the person who is the subject.

SB 215 by Birdwell (Higher Education Board Sunset Bill)

Higher Education Coordinating Board Sunset bill makes significant changes to the Board's processes and powers.

Board Processes/Authority/Powers

- Requires the Coordinating Board to provide opportunities for public comment at each board meeting. Requires one-third of the members of the Coordinating Board to have experience in the field of higher education. Requires the Coordinating Board to adopt rules for its use of advisory committees, ensuring the committees meet standard structure and operating criteria, and report

recommendations directly to the board.

- Redefines the Coordinating Board's powers and duties in statute to reflect the major functions of a higher education coordinating entity, including repealing outdated subsections of the Education Code and moves other subsections to new sections of law. Combines long-range planning requirements for higher education in statute.
- Updates the Coordinating Board's statute to define its academic program approval authority in one section of law.
- Requires the Coordinating Board to periodically re-evaluate the ongoing need for all existing data requests it imposes on higher education institutions through rule or policy.
- Provides for the Coordinating Board to administer pilot projects to identify best practices only in circumstances where other entities cannot or will not administer the programs.
- Requires the Coordinating Board to engage affected institutions of higher education in negotiated rulemaking processes when adopting a policy, procedure or rule relating to admissions policies, the allocation or distribution of funds, including financial aid or other trustee programs, certain data requests and compliance monitoring.

Financial Aid

- Requires the Coordinating Board to strengthen its internal controls for allocating financial aid funding and ensure stakeholder input by adopting allocation methodologies in rule.
- Requires the Coordinating Board to establish and administer a pilot program at selected postsecondary educational institutions to improve student loan default rates and financial aid literacy among postsecondary students. The board would select at least one institution from several categories of postsecondary educational institutions to participate in the program. In selecting institutions, the board shall give priority to those that have a student loan default rate of more than 20% or a negative trend in the institution's three-year student loan default rate.
- Changes TEXAS Grant eligibility by removing 2-year colleges from eligibility for TEXAS grant funding. The bill would require the Higher Education Coordinating Board to allocate the TEXAS grant funding "proportionally" among the remaining eligible institutions. Under provisions of the bill, a community college student could still receive a TEXAS Grant in fiscal year 2014 and subsequent renewal recipients in fiscal year 2015 would also receive TEXAS Grants. Beginning in fiscal year 2015, new community college students will not be eligible for TEXAS

Grants. The General Appropriations Act includes rider moving TEXAS grant funding for community college students to the Texas Educational Opportunity Grant (TEOG) program.

- Removes all two-year institutions from participation in the B-On-Time loan program and provides that the Coordinating Board establish a plan for improving participation in, and success in completing B-On-Time awards.
- Requires the Coordinating Board to study the creation of a state financial assistance programs for students attending WGU Texas or similar on-line universities.
- Amends various sections of the Education Code as it relates to the the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation (TGSLC), including converting the corporation from a public nonprofit corporation to a nonprofit corporation under Chapter 22, Business Organization Code.

SB 307 by Huffman (Adult Basic Education)

Amends the Labor Code and the Education Code to transfer adult education and literacy programs from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).

Requires TWC to do the following: 1) provide adequate staffing to develop, administer, and support a comprehensive statewide adult education program and coordinate related federal and state programs for the education and training of adults; 2) develop the mechanism and guidelines for the coordination with other agencies of comprehensive adult education and related skill training services for adults; 3) administer all state and federal funds for adult education and related skill training services in this state; 4) prescribe and administer standards and accrediting policies for adult education; 5) prescribe and administer rules for teacher certification for adult education; 6) accept and administer grants, gifts, services and funds from available sources for use in adult education; 7) adopt or develop and administer a standardized assessment mechanism for assessing all adult education program participants who need literacy instruction, adult basic education, or secondary education leading to an adult high school diploma or the equivalent; 8) monitor and evaluate educational and employment outcomes of students who participate in the commission's adult education and literacy programs; (9) provide, within the context of administering adult education and literacy program, training opportunities for parents regarding how to be the primary teachers for their children and full partners in their children's education; 10) establish an adult education and literacy advisory committee composed of not more than nine members appointed by the commission; and (11) develop and establish a performance-based process for annually awarding funds to entities that deliver adult education and literacy services. In addition, the bill also requires that not later

than the 60th day before the date of the transfer of the administration of adult education and literacy programs from TEA to TWC, the agencies shall enter into a memorandum of understanding relating to that transfer.

Requires TWC, in consultation with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) and TEA, to review the standard assessment mechanism required under the provisions of the bill and recommend any changes to allow for the proper placement of a student in an adult basic education course or to provide the student with the proper developmental or English as a second language, coursework, as appropriate.

SB 414 by Ellis (Baccalaureate Degree Programs in Community Colleges)

Requires the Higher Education Coordinating Board to conduct a study of regional workforce needs in Texas to determine the regions of the state that would benefit from authorization of baccalaureate degree programs in the field of nursing and in the field of applied life sciences at public community colleges. Also requires the Board to establish appropriate metrics for determining whether a public community college should offer those degree programs. The report is due by August 1, 2014, to each legislative standing committee with primary jurisdiction over higher education.

SB 441 by Birdwell (Texas Fast Start Program)

Amends the Labor Code to require the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), in partnership with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, to establish and administer the Texas Fast Start Program to identify and develop methods to support, and to provide support for, competency-based, rapid-deployment education delivery models for use by public junior colleges, public state colleges, and public technical institutes.

Requires the models to be designed to assist students in maximizing academic or workforce education program credit from public junior colleges, public state colleges, and public technical institutes to expedite the entry of those students into the workforce. The bill requires TWC to work collaboratively with the coordinating board, public junior colleges, public state colleges, and public technical institutes to accomplish the program's purposes. The bill authorizes those colleges and institutes to use the competency-based, rapid-deployment education delivery models in developing or expanding a fast start program at the college or institute.

SB 497 by Seliger (Associate Degree Hours)

To earn an associate degree a student may not be required by an institution of higher education to complete more than the minimum number of semester credit hours required by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools unless the institution determines that this is a compelling academic reason for requiring

completion of additional semester credit hours. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board may review one or more of an institution's associate degree programs to ensure compliance with this new section.

SB 498 by Seliger (Reverse Transfer)

Modifies statute relating to applying credit earned by a student at a general academic teaching institution to an associate's degree at a lower-division institution of higher education previously attended by the student. The cumulative total number of credit hours for course work successfully completed by the student is lowered from 90 to 66.

SB 1458 by Duncan (TRS Reforms)

Provides that to retire without reduced benefits, a member must achieve age 65 with at least five years of service credit in the Teacher Retirement System (TRS) or age 62 with five years of service credit and the sum of the member's age and service is 80. Active members are grandfathered under current law if they become a member on or before August 31, 2014.

Sets the member's contribution rate to 6.4 percent in 2014, 6.7 percent in 2015, 7.2 percent in 2016, and 7.7 percent in 2017. For service rendered after 2017, the member contribution would be 7.7 percent, which would be reduced if the state lowered the contribution rate below the level the state paid in 2015.

Requires employers, excluding institutions of higher education, whose members do not participate in the federal Old Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance Program (Social Security) to contribute 1.5 percent of each member's minimum salary into the pension trust fund beginning in fiscal year 2015.

SB 1812 by Duncan (50/50 Plan for Employee Benefits)

Places into statute the 50/50 cost-sharing plan between the state and community colleges for employee benefits - both employee group health insurance and the employer portion of employee retirement. The bill provides that the number of qualified employees for whom the state must cover cannot be adjusted higher than than the change in student enrollment at a college. An institution is allowed to petition the Legislative Budget Board to maintain the number of eligible employees up to 98 percent of the previous biennium.

Also includes a provision that the Legislature finds that all governmental acts and proceedings of the board of trustees of a public junior college or of an officer or employee of the college to comply with demands for payment of retirement contributions by the comptroller or TRS for fiscal years 2012 and 2013 are valid as of the dates on which they occurred.

SB 1907 by Hegar (Storing of Handguns in Locked Cars by CHL Holders)

Amend the Government Code to prohibit an institution of higher education from adopting or enforcing any rule, regulation or other provision, or taking other certain actions prohibiting individuals with a valid concealed handgun license, including students enrolled at the institution, from storing a legal firearm or ammunition in their locked vehicle while parked on campus.

Other Bills

HB 12 by Flynn (Salary Supplement Information Online)

Amends the Government Code to require a state agency (including institutions of higher education) to post information online regarding the amount of any gifts used as a salary supplement for an agency employee.

HB 16 by Flynn (Posting of Certain Reports Online)

Amends the Government Code to require that state agencies (including institutions of higher education) to post internal agency audit plans, annual reports, and any resulting concerns or weaknesses resulting from the plans or reports on agency websites, subject to requirements set by the State Auditor. Agencies are required to post any actions taken to addresses issues raised by an audit plan or annual report.

HB 86 by Callegari (Sunset Review of Occupational/Professional Licences)

Amends the Government Code to require the Sunset Commission, during its review of an agency that licenses an occupation or profession, to consider whether the program serves a meaning public interest (as defined by the provision) and provides the least restrictive form of regulation that would protect the public interest (as defined by the provision). In addition, allows members of the legislature to submit proposed legislation that would create or significantly change a licensing program to the Sunset Commission for review. Requires the Commission to submit a report to the legislature before the start of the next legislative session for any proposed legislation that it chose to review.

HB 407 by King (Weatherford College)

Adds Hood County into the Weatherford College service area so that the college has the ability to charge a maintenance tax or a full tax to allow a facility to be built in Hood County

HB 437 by Davis (JET Program)

Ends grants to nonprofit organizations and community and technical colleges for the purpose of providing scholarships under the Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) program administered by the Comptroller. Individuals currently receiving scholarships before the effective date of the enactment of the bill for the 2013-2014 academic year will continue to receive the scholarship until they are no longer eligible under the provisions of the bill.

Creates the Texas Innovative Adult Career Education (ACE) Grant program and provide that the Higher Education Coordinating Board designate Austin Community College's (ACC) governing board as the grant administrator of the program since it meets the criteria of the bill. The bill requires ACC to establish a program advisory board that provides input and recommendations for the awarding of grants along with providing oversight of the grant administrator.

The Comptroller will establish a General Revenue Dedicated Account, which may receive legislative appropriations, interest earnings, gifts, grants, and donations from public and private sources for facilitating this program. The bill would authorize ACC to award grants to develop, support, or expand programs of eligible nonprofit workforce intermediary and job training organizations to prepare low-income students to enter careers in high-demand and significantly higher-earning occupations.

HB 809 by Davis (Employment Information for High School Students)

Amends current law relating to the dissemination of information regarding employment opportunities in this state to secondary school students.

HB 842 by Bell (CTE)

Currently, college credit program provisions require each school district to make a program available for students to earn the equivalent of at least 12 semester credit hours of college credit in high school. Hb 842 allows school districts to provide CTE students the opportunity to earn the credit for a course or activity, including an apprenticeship or training, needed to obtain an industry-recognized credential or certificate or an associate degree.

HB 939 by Davis (Skills Development Fund)

Amends the Labor Code relating to the transfer of certain amounts from the employment and training investment holding fund and the training stabilization fund. Requires the transfer of 15 percent of the amount in General Revenue (GR) Account 5128--Employment and Training Investment Holding and 15 percent of the amount in the Training Stabilization Fund to the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) for one-time expenses related to workforce development or to the administration of Subtitle A, Title 4 of the Labor Code. Also requires TWC to transfer 15 percent of the amount received to the Texas Veterans' Commission to be used to fund employment programs for veterans.

HB 1284 by Johnson (Notice of Students Making False Alarms)

Amends the Education Code by requiring each institution of higher education and private or independent institution of higher education to notify all incoming

students, as soon as practicable, of the penalty for the offense under Section 42.06 of the Penal Code, of making a false alarm or report involving a public or private institution of higher education.

HB 1296 by Alvarado (CTE and State Workforce Needs)

Requires the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to prepare information comparing institutions of higher education in the state and to post the information on the agency's website. This information will be provided to public school students at their request and would include identification of postsecondary education and career opportunities; comparisons of each institution with other institutions regarding cost of tuition, retention rates, graduation rates, average student debt, student loan repayment rates, and employment rates; identification of future workforce needs from Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) projections; and annual wages for the top 10 highest demand jobs in the state. Each institution would be required to provide a link on its website to the information posted on TEA's website

Requires the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (Board), in conjunction with TWC and in consultation with any other state agency as requested by the Board or TWC, to collect information and make a five-year projection concerning the workforce needs of the state, and the educational attainment and training of persons projected to enter the state workforce. Based on the projections, the Board shall identify the types and levels of education, training, and skills that are needed to meet the state's future workforce needs and shall make recommendations concerning the expansion of existing programs or the development of new programs at public and private postsecondary educational institutions in this state as necessary to meet the projected workforce needs. Requires that by February 1, 2015, the Board must prepare and submit electronically to each standing legislative committee with primary jurisdiction over higher education or workforce development, TEA, and each public and private postsecondary educational institution in this state, a report of the information collected and analyzed, including recommendations of the Board for programming at postsecondary educational institutions. Provisions of the bill would expire on August 31, 2017.

HB 2000 by Thompson (Student Loans for Non-Profit Career Schools)

Make the changes necessary for students of nonprofit career schools and colleges to be eligible for federal student loans. The bill amends current law relating to the qualification of certain nonprofit schools and educational institutions for exemption from state laws regulating career schools and to complaints made against those entities.

HB 2099 by Guillen (Nursing Shortage Reduction)

Implements recommendations from the report, "Maximize the Capacity of Nursing Education Programs to Reduce the Shortage of Nurses in Texas." Amends the Education Code to require the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) to determine whether the adoption of an electronic common application form for undergraduate nursing education programs would be cost-effective. If the THECB determines that the form is cost-effective, the THECB shall adopt a form for both new and transfer students seeking admission to those programs. Also creates a nursing faculty loan repayment assistance program administered by the THECB.

HB 2127 by Howard (Adjunct Faculty Health Insurance)

Amends the Insurance Code to change eligibility rules for the participation of adjunct professors and faculty in the Group Benefits Program (GBP) administered by the Employees Retirement System (ERS). The bill would lower the requirement for adjunct professors from teaching at the institution for the previous three years to only the preceding year. The bill would also extend coverage to professional librarians who are members of the adjunct faculty.

HB 2201 by Farney (High School CTE Courses)

Requires the State Board of Education to ensure that at least six advanced CTE courses, including courses in personal financial literacy and statistics, are approved to satisfy a fourth credit in mathematics. Also amends current law relating to increasing the courses offered in the career and technology education curriculum.

HB 2448 by Turner (Houston Community College / Lone Star College)

Requires a governing board of a community college district that includes at least six campuses to allow a person who resides outside the district but inside the taxing district of a contiguous junior college district to pay tuition and fees at the same rate as the district campus the student resides as of January 1, 2013. The area in which the person resides would have to be designated as a super neighborhood by a municipality with a population greater than two million.

HB 2474 by King (Branch Maintenance Tax)

Enables a county to benefit from receiving a rating in the future should they wish to issue debt for the benefit of a junior college district or refinance outstanding lease-revenue bonds by expanding the permissible use of the proceeds from a junior college district branch campus maintenance tax, with the intention of allowing counties and junior college districts to channel the savings into educational programs.

HB 2549 by Patrick (College Readiness Standards)

Requires the periodic review and revision of college readiness standards and recommend revisions for approval by the Commissioner of Education and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

HB 3332 by Keffer (Ranger College)

Allows the citizens of Brown County to petition for, and participate in, an election for annexation by Ranger College.

HB 3573 by Aycock (Health Science Technology Teaching Certificate)

Amends the Education Code related to the requirements for obtaining a health science technology education teaching certificate and to the scope of courses a person may teach holding a technology applications teaching certificate.

HB 3640 by Pitts (TSTC Extension Center)

Amends current law by allowing the creation of an extension center of the Texas State Technical College System in Ellis County.

HB 3659 by Reynolds (Houston Community College District)

Expands Houston Community College System District's service area to include part of the Fort Bend Independent School District that is located in the municipalities of Houston and Pearland.

HB 3662 by Clardy (Workforce Innovative Needs Program)

Creates the Texas Workforce Innovation Needs Program to provide selected school districts, public institutions of higher education, and private or independent institutions of higher education with the opportunity to establish innovative programs designed to prepare students for careers for which there is demand in the state.

SB 59 by Nelson (Required Reports to State Government)

Amends multiple statutes to modify or eliminate certain required reports prepared by state agencies and institutions of higher education that are filed with the office of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, members of the Legislature and other state entities.

SB 163 by Van de Putte (Property Tax Exemptions)

Amends the Tax Code, regarding property taxation, taxable property and exemptions, to grant a total property tax exemption on the homestead of a surviving

spouse of an individual who is killed in action as a member of the armed services of the U.S. if the surviving spouse has not remarried since the death of the member of the armed services.

SB 435 by Duncan (Dual Credit Tuition)

Amends the Education Code to remove the expiration date of September 1, 2013, for the statutory provision exempting a school district from being required to pay a student's tuition or other associated costs for taking a course in a college credit program.

SB 533 by Zaffirini (Energy Savings Performance Contracts)

Amends Section the Education Code, regarding energy savings performance contracts and guidelines for those contracts established by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), by requiring THECB to review reports submitted by institutions of higher education that measure and verify cost savings and provide periodic analyses of those cost savings to the institution's governing board and the Legislative Budget Board.

SB 680 by West (Study on Improving Loan Default Rates)

The Higher Education Coordinating Board will establish, and administer, a pilot program at selected postsecondary educational institutions to improve student loan default rates and financial aid literacy among postsecondary students.

SB 860 by Lucio (Dropout Recovery Programs)

Allows community colleges to partner with a public technical institute as part of a dropout recovery program curriculum for career and technology education courses that lead to industry or career certification. A public technical institute may receive an amount from the partnering community college for that partnership based on an amount negotiated between the institutions.

SB 1158 by Van de Putte (Veterans)

Amends the Education Code in regards to tuition and fee exemptions for certain military personnel and their families. The bill clarifies certain eligibility requirements and removes the age requirement of children to be 25 years of age or younger on the first day of the semester or academic term to receive an exemption of tuition and fees for dependents of certain deceased, disabled, or missing in action veterans. Requires an applicant to submit an application for the exemption not later than the last class date of the semester or term to which the exemption applies.

Transfers the administrative responsibility for exemptions under Section 54.341 of the Education Code to the Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) from the THECB. In

particular, TVC is required to prescribe a form and necessary evidence requirements for eligible individuals seeking the exemption to submit to institutions of higher education, provide assistance to veterans and family members in claiming and qualifying for the exemptions of tuition and fees under this specified section, and electronically monitor the use of tuition and fee exemptions under this section at institutions of higher education. TVC is also provided authority to adopt rules on the exemption relating to the use of federal and state benefits, number of semester credit hours used, and the exemption for hours that do not receive state funding. THECB is required to provide TVC with access to a system able to monitor the tuition and fee exemptions provided under this particular section by January 1, 2014.

Amends the Government Code by establishing the Veteran Education Excellence Recognition Award Network and the Veterans Education Counselors Program. TVC shall establish an award program for institutions of higher education in providing education and related services to veterans. For the Veterans Education Counselors Program, TVC shall employ veteran's education counselors to work with institutions of higher education, veterans groups, military installations, and local workforce development boards to perform activities to enhance educational opportunities for veterans. Each institution of higher education must support the work of regional veteran's education counselors, including providing access to veteran resource centers or other student meeting areas and providing information, as permitted by law, related to veterans at the institution.

SB 1159 by Van de Putte (Veterans' Tuition & Fee Exemptions)

Requires the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and Texas Veterans Commission, to study, review, and make recommendations concerning tuition and fee exemptions provided under Section 54.341 of the Education Code. Institutions of higher education are required to cooperate in both providing and ensuring validity of data relating to the tuition and fee exemptions.

SB 1210 by Zaffirini (Tuition & Fee Exemptions/Waivers)

Requires that after initially qualifying for an exemption or waiver from the payment of all or part of the tuition or other fees at an institution of higher education, a person may continue to receive the exemption or waiver for a subsequent semester or term only if certain conditions are met. One condition, that applies to graduate and undergraduate students, includes maintaining a grade point average that satisfies the institution's grade point average requirement for making satisfactory academic progress. Another condition for undergraduate students is tied to the student not completing at the beginning of the semester or term a number of credit hours that is considered excessive unless good cause is shown. Each institution would be required to adopt a policy to allow a student to be able to continue waivers, exemptions, or reduction in demonstrated hardship cases.

SB 1855 by Eltife (Texarkana College)

Amends the Education Code to authorize the governing board of the Texarkana College District by resolution, or order of the board, to decrease the number of board members from nine to seven, with four members elected from respective commissioner precincts and three members elected at large. The bill requires the resolution, or order, to establish transition terms of office to conform to elections held in even-numbered years and staggered six-year terms.

The bill also expands the taxing district in relation to the service area of the Texarkana College District to include all of Bowie County, rather than part of the municipality of Texarkana and part of the Pleasant Grove Independent School District.

Vetoed Bills

SB 15 by Seliger (Governing Board Authority / Training)

Would have required that governing board members go through a training program that focuses on the official role and duties of governing board members, including training in the areas of budgeting, policy development, and governance before being allowed to vote on institutional budgets.

SB 17 by Patrick (Training for Public School Safety)

Would have required the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to establish and maintain a training program in school safety and protection for school district or open-enrollment charter school employees who possess a valid concealed handgun license and had been approved by the district board of trustees or charter school governing board to carry a concealed handgun and attend the training.