Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
2012 Star Award for Closing the Gaps

Programs, Projects, and Activities
at Texas Institutions of Higher Education

Purpose

The Texas Higher Education Star Award for Closing the Gaps, established by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in 2001, recognizes exceptional contributions toward meeting one or more of the goals of *Closing the Gaps by 2015*, the Texas higher education plan adopted by the Coordinating Board in October 2000. The plan establishes four goals – to close the gaps in student participation, student success, academic excellence, and research.

General Eligibility

For programs, projects, and activities at Texas institutions of higher education to achieve recognition through the Star Award for Closing the Gaps, a program, project, or activity must be nominated for the award (self-nominations are welcome). Nominees should be those programs, projects, or activities that are making a contribution to *Closing the Gaps by 2015*. Award recipients will be chosen by a designated committee after review of the nominees who complete Star Award for Closing the Gaps Applications. The most important criteria in evaluating nominee applicants will be: (1) demonstration of successful outcomes in student participation, student success, academic excellence, and/or research that are clearly attributable to the program, project, or activity through the use of data, benchmarks, and other comparison data that allow progress to be monitored and evaluated; and (2) demonstration of an efficient cost/benefit ratio for the program, project, or activity so that it could serve as a cost effective model for other institutions to implement in their efforts to achieve the goals and targets established in *Closing the Gaps*.

Eligibility Criteria for the Star Award for Closing the Gaps

Nominated programs, projects, or activities must have been in operation for at least three years at one of the following types of Texas institutions of higher education:

- public and independent two- and four-year colleges and universities
- public technical and state colleges
- public and independent health science centers
- degree-granting career colleges and schools

Nomination Submission Requirements

The completed Nomination Cover Sheet and Summary Description must be received at the Coordinating Board offices no later than midnight on June 1, 2012.

1. Complete the Nomination Cover Sheet. This is a form completed by the nominator that includes the nominee's contact information. Please note self-nominations are welcome.
2. Complete the Nomination Summary Description. This is a summary that includes a brief overview of the nominated program, project, or activity and explains how the nominee is making an outstanding contribution to *Closing the Gaps* in student participation, student success, academic excellence, and/or research.
3. Save your form and accompanying description as a PDF file on your computer or flash drive.
4. Email the PDF file to StarAwards@thecb.state.tx.us.

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

2012 Star Award for Closing the Gaps

PROGRAMS, PROJECTS, AND ACTIVITIES AT TEXAS INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

NOMINATION COVER SHEET

This form is to be the first page of the nomination materials; nominee description limited to two pages.

INFORMATION ABOUT NOMINATED PROGRAM, PROJECT, OR ACTIVITY
(Please complete all fields)

TITLE OF PROGRAM: _____

INSTITUTION NAME: _____

DEPARTMENT NAME: _____

NOMINEE CONTACT NAME: _____

NOMINEE CONTACT TITLE: _____

NOMINEE CONTACT EMAIL: _____

NOMINEE CONTACT PHONE: _____

THE NOMINATED PROGRAM, PROJECT, OR ACTIVITY CONTRIBUTES TO THE FOLLOWING *CLOSING THE GAPS* GOAL(S):

_____ **PARTICIPATION** _____ **SUCCESS** _____ **EXCELLENCE** _____ **RESEARCH**

NOMINATED BY:

_____ _____
Name *Email*

_____ _____
Title, Institution *Date*

DESCRIPTION OF NOMINATED PROGRAM, PROJECT, OR ACTIVITY

Please note: Description of nominated program, project, or activity is limited to two pages.