



Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

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THECB to gather input on draft Texas Success Initiative operational plan

Jan. 10, 2014 – Austin, Texas – The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) will hold regional meetings across the state to gather input from stakeholders on a newly proposed Texas Success Initiative (TSI) operational plan that provides recommendations and guidelines for institutions of higher education to address the newly identified group of students testing into ABE basic skill levels. After receiving input from these regional meetings, THECB staff will present the TSI operational plan for approval by the THECB board of directors on April 24.

“Texas has been among national leaders in identifying and implementing innovative practices to improve academic preparation of underprepared college students,” explained THECB deputy commissioner David Gardner, Ph.D. “This TSI operational plan is a critical next step and we look forward to consulting with higher education leaders around the state as we work collectively to improve student success.”

The new TSI assessment was introduced in fall 2013 to assess college readiness. The operational plan, drafted by the THECB Developmental and Adult Education Unit, provides recommendations to the state and institutions of higher education that are designed address the needs of underprepared students through a number of promising practices, including holistic advising that is effective, multidimensional and high touch for individual students.

“With the establishment of the new TSI placement and diagnostic assessment, institutions of higher education are now able to better understand the skill levels of underprepared students and target instructional interventions to enhance student success,” said Judy Loreda, Ph.D., assistant commissioner for the THECB Division for P-16 Initiatives. “The Coordinating Board’s draft TSI operational plan is intended to help institutions address individual student’s developmental and adult basic education needs. We welcome input from Texas community college officials, including presidents, chancellors and chief instructional officers to achieve student success goals.”

THECB staff held a statewide webinar on Dec. 17, 2013, to initially present the proposed plan. Regional meetings are scheduled Jan. 13 through Feb. 26 in Amarillo, Midland, Fort Worth, El Paso, McAllen, Houston, Killeen, San Antonio, and Tyler. Specific times and locations are posted on the THECB website at <http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/TSI>. During the regional meetings, THECB staff will present the most recent version of the proposed plan, followed by a discussion and comment session. In addition, stakeholders can provide online feedback through Feb. 28 at <https://tinyurl.com/comments-for-TSI-Plan>.

Regional Meetings

Jan. 13	Amarillo College
Jan. 16	Midland College
Jan. 17	Tarrant County College
Jan. 29	El Paso Community College
Jan. 31	South Texas College
Feb. 12	Houston Community College
Feb. 14	Central Texas College
Feb. 20	Alamo Colleges
Feb. 26	Tyler Junior College

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THECB Mission Statement: The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board’s mission is to work with the legislature, governor, governing boards, higher education institutions, and other entities to help Texas meet the goals of the state’s higher education plan, *Closing the Gaps by 2015*, and thereby provide the people of Texas the widest access to higher education of the highest quality in the most efficient manner.