

Academic Planning and Policy E-News

Academic Quality and Workforce | College Readiness and Success | Strategic Planning and Funding



Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Office of Academic Planning and Policy, David W. Gardner, Deputy Commissioner

Volume 7, Number 5, May 2015

Committee Zeroes in on Strategies for 60x30TX Plan

During the 13th meeting on May 14, members of the [Texas Higher Education Strategic Planning Committee](#) (TxHESPC), led by Chair Woody Hunt and Vice-Chair Larry Faulkner, discussed possible strategies for achieving the four goals and associated targets proposed for the next higher education plan for Texas. [The draft plan](#) has now been widely distributed to institutional representatives, including chancellors, presidents, provosts, chief financial officers, deans, and other stakeholders and is available on the home page of the Coordinating Board's website.

During the deliberations and prior to adopting the new 2030 higher education strategic plan in July 2015, the Coordinating Board encourages public input via [College Town Hall-Texas](#). For all materials distributed, the comment period ends May 29. The Higher Education Strategic Planning Committee and Coordinating Board staff will review all comments.

The next meeting of the TxHESPC is June 4, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Coordinating Board offices and will feature continued discussions about possible strategies to help reach the targets and goals of the new Texas higher education plan. Barring technical difficulties, the TxHESPC's meetings are open to the public and broadcast live on the Coordinating Board's website. The presentations and minutes for all TxHESPC meetings are available on the [TxHESPC's web page](#).

Mary E. Smith | Assistant Deputy Commissioner
| Academic Planning and Policy



Upcoming 60x30TX Webinars Focus on Student Debt, 60x30, and Completion Goals

The Coordinating Board staff is hosting several webinars to discuss the new higher education strategic plan, 60x30TX. All webinars include an overview of

Calendar

Next Texas Higher Education Strategic Planning Meeting

June 4, 2015
10:00 a.m.

Next Board Meeting

July 23, 2015
8:30 a.m.

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the draft plan and a Q&A. Each webinar will also focus on one goal in the plan.

Coordinating Board staff held the webinar about the marketable skills goal on May 19. The webcast for this goal is available under "Recent Webcast Events" at <http://www.theccb.state.tx.us/apps/Events/>. The remaining webinars will broadcast on the dates that follow.

Fri., May 22, 2-3:30 p.m. CST: 60x30TX Plan - Webinar on Student Debt

- Event address: click [here](#)
- Audio conference: 415-655-0003
- Access code: 667 961 959

Tues., May 26, 10-11:30 a.m. CST: 60x30TX Plan - Webinar on 60x30

- Event address: click [here](#)
- Audio conference: 415-655-0003
- Access code: 664 007 451

Weds., May 27, 10-11:30 a.m. CST: 60x30TX Plan - Webinar on Completion

- Event address: click [here](#)
- Audio conference: 415-655-0003
- Access code: 660 052 047

For more information about the webinars, contact [Ginger Gossman](#), Senior Director of Innovation and Policy Development. For more information about the the 60x30TX plan, a draft is available on the Coordinating Board's website at <http://www.theccb.state.tx.us/>.

2015 Student Success Summit to Focus on Best Practices, Funding, Obstacles

The University of Houston will co-host the 2015 Student Success Summit, the fourth of its kind, on July 14-15 at the Hyatt Regency Lost Pines Resort and Spa, just east of Austin. Sponsored and co-hosted by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, the summit will gather higher education faculty, staff, and administrators from across the state. On hand will be national and regional speakers and program resources that support student success in higher education.

Building on the momentum and efforts of previous summits, participants will explore peer-to-peer instructional support models and interventions, minority student-success strategies, course-transformation and student-engagement practices, and guided pathways. Keynote and plenary sessions will address implementing practices, overcoming administrative and policy obstacles and coming up with solutions, seeking funding, and devising staffing strategies.

All Texas institutions of higher education will receive an invitation to register and participate in the 2015 Student Success Summit. Additional information is available at <http://www.txccrn.uh.edu/events/sss-2015/index.php>.

APP Links

[Higher Ed Data](#)

[Higher Ed Strategic Plan](#)

[Higher Education Almanac](#)

[Accountability System](#)

[College Readiness and Success](#)

[Finance and Resource Planning](#)

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[Compare College TX](#)

The APP E-NEWS is written and produced by the staff of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB). For newsletter questions or comments, contact Ramona Reeves, Editor, at ramona.reeves@theccb.state.tx.us or (512) 427-6434.

ACGM Advisory Committee Meets, Approves Updates

The Academic Course Guide Manual (ACGM) contains the official list of approved courses for general academic transfer that public community and technical colleges in Texas may offer for state funding. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) guarantees the transferability of ACGM courses, which may fulfill core curriculum, field of study curriculum, and academic degree requirements at the lower division.

THECB staff recently updated the ACGM to reflect changes made this spring. The latest revisions to the ACGM resulted from ACGM Advisory Committee decisions. At their March 30 meeting, the advisory committee reviewed statewide course enrollments and the number of institutions offering individual courses, considered multiple semester-credit-hour versions of the same content, and voted to delete some courses with low enrollments. The committee also approved Basic Academic Skills Education (BASE) Non-course Competency Based Options (NCBO). The new descriptions for the BASE NCBO are included in the Developmental Education section of the ACGM.

The ACGM is available as an interactive database and as a [PDF](#). A summary of changes voted on by the committee is available on pages 12-14 of the PDF. The ACGM database is available at <http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/ACGM>.

For questions or comments regarding the ACGM, contact [Rebecca Leslie](#).

Rex Peebles | Assistant Commissioner | Academic Quality and Workforce

Coordinating Board Seeks Star Award Nominations for Final Year of Closing the Gaps

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board welcomes nominations for the 2015 Texas Higher Education Star Award for Closing the Gaps, the final year for this competition, which is tied to the current Texas higher education plan. Visit <http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/StarAwardGuidelines> for nomination information and guidelines.

The Texas Higher Education Star Award, established by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in 2001, recognizes exceptional contributions toward 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. In addition to a custom-designed award, recipients receive public recognition for their efforts. The Coordinating Board's Star Award website includes a link to [previous Star Award winners](#).

Nominations are due by 5 p.m. on June 5. Coordinating Board staff will notify nominees for the 2015 Star Award via email by 5 p.m. on June 10 and will send an application form to each contact person to submit by July 10. Coordinating Board staff will notify finalists by September 15. Board members and staff will present the awards at the 2015 Texas Higher Education

Leadership Conference/State of Higher Education Luncheon, held in Austin this fall.

For 2015, Coordinating Board staff will consider Star Award nominees and applicants in the following categories:

1. Programs, projects, and activities at Texas institutions of higher education that are helping to close higher education gaps in student participation, student success, academic excellence, and/or research. (Self-nominations welcome.)
2. Groups and organizations in Texas that are helping to close higher education gaps in student participation, student success, academic excellence, and/or research (such as those that help promote a college-going culture). (Self-nominations welcome.)
3. Partnerships (among higher education institutions, public/private schools/districts, businesses, or the community) that are helping close higher education gaps in student participation, student success, academic excellence, and/or research. (Self-nominations welcome.)

Note: Public/private schools/districts will be considered for the 2015 Star Award if the school/district is part of a partnership.

To request additional information, contact [Mary E. Smith](#), Ph.D., Assistant Deputy Commissioner for Academic Planning and Policy, 512-427-6213.

Mary E. Smith | Assistant Deputy Commissioner
| Academic Planning and Policy

Approved Amendments Clarify TSI Rules

At the March meeting of the Committee on Academic and Workforce Success (CAWS), Coordinating Board staff presented amendments to the Board rules governing the Texas Success Initiative (TSI). The amendments do not add new rules to the current set, which appear under the Texas Education Code, Section 51.3062. Rather, the amendments clarify existing language and provide Texas public institutions with more information about applying TSI rules. Specifically, the approved amendments:

- Provide Texas public institutions of higher education with a more precise definition of the co-requisite (mainstreaming) and course pairing options, which allow institutions to co-enroll qualifying students in developmental and college-level coursework (Rule §4.53)
- Add language to clarify that deviations to TSI Assessment administration processes and requirements are disallowed (Rule §4.56)
- Provide clarification for the college-readiness standard for the writing portion of the TSI Assessment by outlining the required components and allowable combinations in meeting the standards (Rule §4.57)
- Clarify when an underprepared student may enroll in college-level coursework and be considered college-ready (Rule §4.59)

After CAWS approval, Coordinating Board staff presented the proposed TSI rule amendments to board members for approval at the April meeting. The

approval process included a 30-day public comment period prior to CAWS consideration.

Revised rules with amended language are effective May 25, 2015, and will be available that day on the Developmental Education/TSI website at www.thecb.state.tx.us/tsi. For further information, contact [Suzanne Morales-Vale](#), Director of Developmental and Adult Education, 512-427-6262.

Suzanne Morales-Vale | Director of Developmental and Adult Education | College Readiness and Success

Members of the 2014-15 Texas Higher Education Strategic Planning Committee

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board would like to acknowledge the members of the 2014-15 Texas Higher Education Strategic Planning Committee for their work on the next higher education plan for Texas.

Woody Hunt, Chair
Larry R. Faulkner, Ph.D., Vice Chair
James R. Anderson, Ph.D.
Martin Basaldua, M.D.
Jerry Bawcom, Ph.D.
Laurie Bricker
James Dickerson
Ramon Dovalina, Ph.D.
Bernie Francis
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