

Texas Dropout Prevention and Recovery Success *We Are Making Progress and We Know What Works*

Fewer students are dropping out in Texas, and more are graduating.

- The grade 9-12 longitudinal dropout rate decreased from 9.4% for the class of 2009 to 7.3% for the class of 2010, and the actual number of dropouts declined by more than 5,800.ⁱ
- Out of 314,079 students in the class of 2010, 84.3% graduated, 7.2% continued in high school the year following their anticipated graduation, and 1.3% received General Educational Development (GED) certificates.ⁱⁱ
- In just two years, almost 1,300 previous dropouts have completed the requirements for graduation through innovative recovery strategies.ⁱⁱⁱ

Texas is a recognized national leader in tackling the dropout problem.

- Texas ranks 7th nationally among 26 states that were reported to use the National Governors Association four-year, on-time graduation rate, which emphasizes using actual student data over estimates.^{iv}
- The state's accountability system evaluates districts and schools based on their dropout and graduation rates.^v
- Texas employs cutting-edge strategies to recover students who have previously dropped out.

Texas implements proven research-based strategies^{vi}.

- Learning environments are challenging and personalized for each student.
- Mentors are used as role models and advocates for students.
- Students who are behind in school receive academic support.
- Data systems identify struggling students who need early intervention.

Texas targets millions of state and federal dollars to reduce the number of dropouts and promote high school completion.

- In the 2010-2011 biennium, Texas allocated approximately \$500 million in state and federal funding for targeted dropout prevention and recovery initiatives.^{vii}
- In 2006, the Legislature created the High School Allotment, approximately \$335 million every year for dropout prevention and college readiness.^{viii}
- State investment has attracted millions of dollars in matching funds from private foundations.^{ix}

- ⁱSecondary School Completion and Dropouts in Texas Public Schools, 2009-10
http://www.tea.state.tx.us/acctres/dropcomp_index.html
- ⁱⁱSecondary School Completion and Dropouts in Texas Public Schools, 2008-09
http://www.tea.state.tx.us/acctres/dropcomp_index.html
- ⁱⁱⁱTexas Dropout Recovery Pilot Program
<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index3.aspx?id=3686>
- ^{iv}The National Governors Association Compact Rate: A Comprehensive Approach to Improved Accuracy and Consistency in High School Graduation Rates, Class of 2009 Update
http://www.tea.state.tx.us/acctres/DropComp_compact_rate_brief_class_09_2011.pdf
- ^vThe TEA 2011 Accountability Manual
<http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/perfreport/account/2011/manual/ch02.pdf>
- ^{vi}IES Practice Guide: Dropout Prevention. September 2008. U.S. Department of Education
http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/pdf/practiceguides/dp_pg_090308.pdf
- ^{vii}Texas Legislature – General Appropriations 2010-2011
<http://www.lbb.state.tx.us/>
- ^{viii}TEA High School Allotment Program
<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index4.aspx?id=4181>
- ^{ix}Texas High School Project
<http://www.thsp.org>