



# Connect High School to Career and College



## WHY THIS MATTERS

**4.8%**

Being prepared for life after high school means being ready for both college and career. Career readiness is re-emerging in Texas, with almost double the number of graduates obtaining an industry credential compared to the prior year. But much work remains. Only **4.8%** of the class of 2018 received an industry credential along with their high school diploma<sup>19</sup>. Our strategic plan calls for an integrated set of actions to ensure every student in Texas has a high school experience that successfully launches them into what comes next, be it college, a career, or the military.

## OUR THEORY OF ACTION

Through the Tri-Agency Workforce Initiative, identify current and future career opportunities

Identify pathways that prepare students for career entry

Promote the creation of rigorous school models



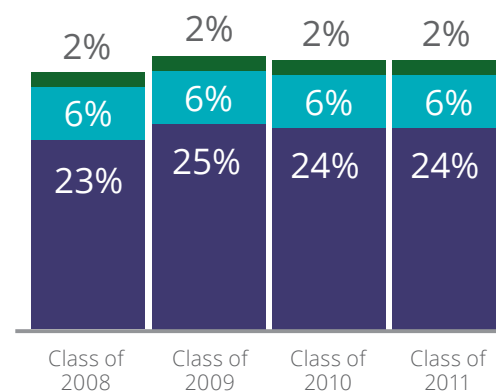
Expand access for students to choose their desired pathways

Support advising practices shown to improve postsecondary entry and completion

## POSTSECONDARY COMPLETION – 6 YEARS AFTER GRADUATION

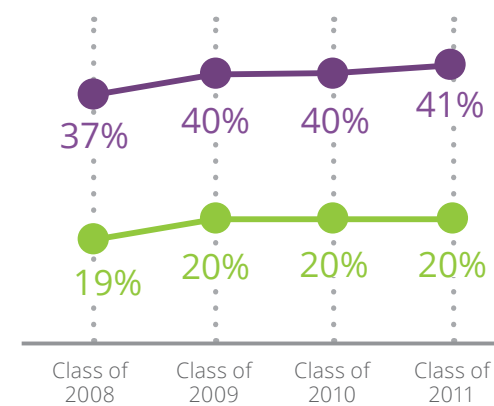
Thanks to increasingly rapid technological advances, the requirements of our workforce are much different than they were even a decade ago. Employment in the modern economy often requires much more than a high school diploma. Six years after graduating from a Texas high school, 32 percent of the Class of 2011 completed some kind of post-secondary credential – be that a bachelor’s degree, an associate degree, or a trade credential.<sup>20</sup>

### POSTSECONDARY COMPLETION WITHIN 6 YEARS BY COMPLETION TYPE (ALL STUDENTS)



- Earned Industry Certificate
- Earned 2-Year Degree
- Earned 4-Year Degree

### ANY POSTSECONDARY COMPLETION WITHIN 6 YEARS (ECO DIS VS. NON-ECO DIS)



- Non-Economically Disadvantaged Students
- Economically Disadvantaged Students

## Conroe ISD Advising students in college and career

Conroe Independent School District employs highly-trained counselors as full-time college and career advisors in each of the district’s high schools. This keeps student advising firmly rooted in the context of a comprehensive counseling program, which provides continuous support for students and families. Beginning in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, students participate in engaging activities that help them explore the realm of college and career in a way that connects to each student’s high school plan. Once in high school, students continue to receive services through the College and Career Center. Through collaborations with



universities, community colleges, the military, and local industry, Conroe ISD is providing meaningful opportunities to students, which will help ensure they have their next steps well planned after high school graduation.