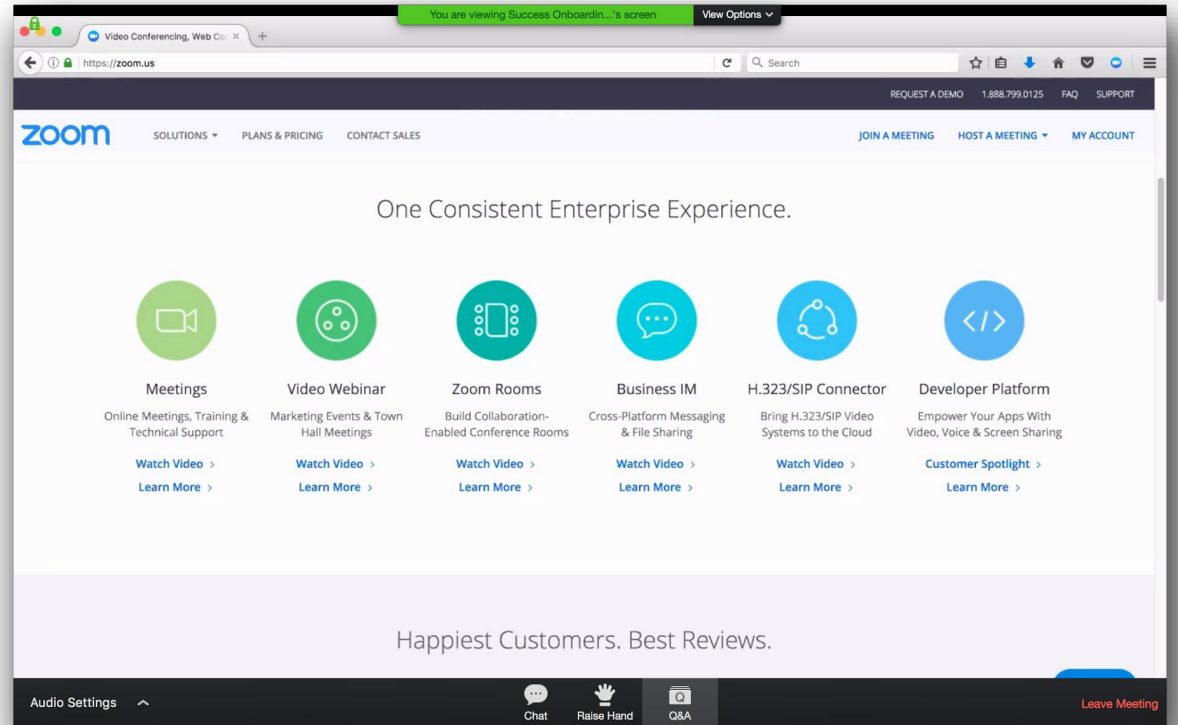


# Welcome!

Use the chat box to say hello and tell us your name, your role, and something you are looking forward to in 2025!



# A Few Things...

## Webinars



All our webinars are recorded and sent out to ALL registrants.



Please use the Q & A function in zoom to ask questions.



Webinars and recordings are posted on our webpage and sent via email.



**The Texas First Program:  
Rewarding Texas' Early Graduates**

# Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Texas First Program
- Counselor Role and Resources
- Student Scholarship Story
- Bright Ideas
- Texas OnCourse Resources
- Q&A

# Professional Learning and Engagement Team



**Lara Gueguen**

Director of Professional Learning and Engagement



**Andrea Panter**

Senior Network Coordinator



**Lauren Discher**

Professional Learning Coordinator



**Jared Garza**

Network Marketing Coordinator



**Ariyana Wells**

Professional Learning and Engagement Intern

# Guest Speakers



**Suzanne Morales-Vale,  
Ph.D.**  
Senior Director  
College Readiness and  
Student Success



**Alex Bobe**  
Manager II  
Student Financial Aid  
Programs-Operations



**Ashley Hermes**  
Lead Curriculum Specialist  
Special Projects/School  
Programs



**Josie Brunner**  
Scholarship Parent

A person with a backpack is hiking on a trail in a mountainous area. The person is seen from behind, wearing a plaid shirt and a large tan backpack. The trail is dirt and leads through a valley with green vegetation and mountains in the background. The text is overlaid on the image in white.

Provide advising professionals with the resources and community they need to deliver exceptional college and career advising to every student.

# Quiz Time!

Which institutions in Texas can award the Texas First Scholarship?



# Overview of Texas First Diploma Program

# Texas First Early High School Completion Program



- The Texas First Early High School Completion Program was established by the 87th Texas Legislature.
- The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) adopted rules for the Texas First program that can be found in the [19 Texas Administrative Code \(TAC\), Part 1, Chapter 21](#).
- Student **eligibility requirements** for the program are outlined in [19 TAC, Part 1, §21.52](#).
- The THECB has also adopted rules to implement the Texas First Scholarship Program in [19 TAC, Part 1, Chapter 22, Subchapter T](#).

# Minimum Requirements for Texas First Early High School Completion Program

- 22 high school credits
- Final grade point average (GPA) equivalent to 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
- Earned an overall score in at least the 80<sup>th</sup> percentile on one or more of the ACT, SAT, PSAT/NMSQT, TSIA/TSIA2\*, or GED **or** has a GPA in the top 10% of the student's current class
- Completed assessment requirements for STAAR
  - English I or II
  - Algebra I
  - Biology

*\*Math: 969; ELAR: 958*





Students are also required to have shown **mastery of each of the following subject areas:**

- English Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Languages Other Than English (LOTE)

**Mastery** in the subject areas can be shown in the following ways:

- Meeting the STAAR college readiness benchmarks by scoring 4,000 on Algebra II and English III STAAR tests;\*
- Credit earned in the core curriculum of an institution of higher education in which the student earned at least a C; or
- Meeting the standards outlined in [Figure 1](#) of the rule.

*\*No longer being offered, but results are valid up to five (5) years from date of testing*

# Minimum Requirements for Texas First Early High School Completion Program

TEXAS FIRST EARLY HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION PROGRAM										
Subject Area Assessments and Benchmarks										
ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENT	ENGLISH SUBJECT AREA	MS	MATH SUBJECT AREA	MS	SCIENCE SUBJECT AREA Biology, Physics, Chemistry, or other science	MS	SOCIAL STUDIES SUBJECT AREA History, Government, Economics, Psychology, or other social studies	MS	LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH SUBJECT AREA World language, American Sign Language, or Computer Science	MS
SAT	EBRW	480	Math	530	SAT ST	700	SAT ST	690	SAT ST	730
ACT	English	18	Math	22	Science	23	Reading	22	--	--
PSAT/NMSQT	EBRW	460	Math	510	--	--	--	--	--	--
ACT - Plan	English	19	Math	19	Science	20	Reading	18	--	--
AP	English	3	Math	3	AP ST	3	AP ST	3	AP ST	3
CLEP	English	50	Math	50	CLEP ST	50	CLEP ST	50	CLEP ST	50
IB	Language/Literature	4	Math	4	Sciences ST	4	Individuals and Societies ST	4	Language Acquisition ST	4
TSIA	Reading	351 + 4E	Math	450	--	--	--	--	--	--
TSIA2	ELAR	945 + 5E	Math	950	--	--	--	--	--	--
GED	English	165	Math	165	Science	165	Social Studies	165	--	--
<u>FLATS</u>										<u>P</u> <u>(Pass)</u> <u>101,</u> <u>102,</u> <u>or 201</u>

Figure 1 from 19 TAC §21.52(a)(2)(c)



# Foreign Language Achievement Testing Service (FLATS) Test

- Effective February 15, 2024, students can take the FLATS test to demonstrate mastery for the language other than English (LOTE) requirement.
- The FLATS test is online and administered by Brigham Young University.
- There is a \$10 cost to the test.
- Score reports are sent directly to institution
- Full URL: <https://info.flats.byu.edu/>

# Required Notification



We're excited to introduce the **TEXAS FIRST PROGRAM**. This prestigious opportunity enables you to graduate early with the Distinguished Level of Achievement AND receive a scholarship for college.

As one of Texas' top students, you may be eligible to accelerate your path to college and receive a scholarship for one or two semesters at any Texas public institution of higher education, including colleges, universities, and technical colleges.



Talk to your counselor today to see if this exciting new opportunity is the right path for you!

For more information, visit [our website](#) or scan the QR code on the left.

**LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION**



**THE FINE PRINT:**

Here's what you need to be eligible:

- Texas residency
- FAFSA completion
- At least 22 high school credits and a final GPA equivalent to 3.0 or higher
- Additional academic requirements, including college readiness test scores, STAAR exam participation, and demonstration of mastery in various subjects

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board website link above includes a detailed list of eligibility requirements.

If you graduate two or more semesters before your class, you'll receive a two-semester scholarship, equivalent to the amount of the TEXAS grant, upon admission to any Texas public institution of higher education, including colleges, universities, and technical colleges. You may also be eligible for additional financial aid at most of these institutions!

The Texas First Diploma does not guarantee automatic admission for students. Ask your counselor if your grade point average at graduation qualifies you for automatic admission under the state's top 10 percent law.

You can apply to any college or university you choose; however, the scholarship will apply only at the Texas public institution of higher education where you have been admitted.

**Use it or lose it!** The scholarship offer will expire at the end of the first academic year following your graduation, so we encourage you to attend college directly after high school.

**NOTE:** Before September 1, 2023, the Texas First Scholarship was only applicable at 10 Texas public universities. However, effective September 1, 2023, the number of

institutions of higher education eligible to award the Texas First Scholarship to eligible Texas First Diploma graduates expanded from 10 universities to all Texas public institutions of higher education, including colleges, universities, and technical colleges (Senate Bill 2294, 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session). Please see your high school counselor for information regarding eligibility requirements to graduate early under the Texas First Program and receive a scholarship up to one year upon admission to any eligible Texas public institution of higher education, per Texas Education Code, Section 61.003.

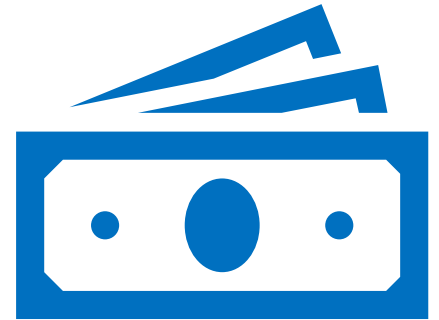
Beginning with the 2023–2024 school year, upon a student's initial enrollment in high school, school districts must provide written notification to the student and the student's parent or guardian listing the eligibility criteria for the Texas First Early High School Completion Program and Texas First Scholarship Program.



Full URL: <https://bit.ly/42oTs2S>

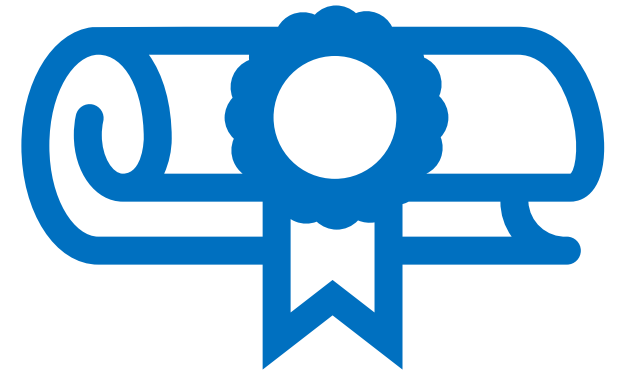
# Texas First Early High School Completion Program Scholarship

- SB 2294 (88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2023) extended the scholarship opportunity from the 10 research institutions in the state to **all Texas public institutions of higher education**, including all public colleges, universities, and technical colleges.
- The scholarship award will expire at the end of the first academic year after students graduate. Students graduating on the program are encouraged to attend college directly after they graduate.





- A student who earns a diploma by satisfying the requirements of the Texas First Early High School Completion Program must have successful completion of the program indicated on the transcript.
- Students who graduate early through the Texas First Early High School Completion Program are considered to have earned a diploma with a **distinguished level of achievement**.
- School districts are also required to indicate completion of the distinguished level of achievement on a student's high school transcript.





## Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS)

The data element (E1736) in the Texas Student Data Standards (TSDS) for PEIMS is used to report how early students graduate by completing the Texas First Early High School Completion Program.

Data Element ID	Data Element Name	Date Issued	Date Updated
E1736	TexasFirstEarlyHSCompletionProgram	12/01/2022	
Definition			
<p><b>TexasFirstEarlyHSCompletionProgram</b> indicates the student graduated early under the Texas First Early High School Completion Program and specifies whether the student graduated two or more semesters or less than two semesters or equivalent earlier than the expected graduation date of the student's high school cohort.</p>			
Special Instructions			
Table Identification	Length	Data Type	Domain of Values
TexasFirstEarlyHSCompletionProgram(C233)		Descriptor	
Used in Entities			
<p>PriorYearLeaver &gt; GraduationSet            StudentAcademicRecord &gt; Diploma</p>			
Used in Domain			
<p>Prior Year Leaver , Student Academic Record</p>			

**The PEIMS data element is reported on the graduate record in Submission 1/Fall.**



The code table associated with the data element in TSDS PEIMS (Code Table 233 or C233) identifies whether the students graduated **less than two semesters early** (01) or **two or more semesters early** (02).

Table ID	Name	Date Issued	Date Updated
C233	TexasFirstEarlyHSCompletionProgram	12/01/2022	

Descriptor	Short Description	Long Description
01	Student Graduated Two Or More Semesters Early	Student Graduated Two Or More Semesters Early
02	Student Graduated Less Than Two Semesters Early	Student Graduated Less Than Two Semesters Early

Additionally, diploma code “40” in the diploma type codes (formerly graduation type codes) in Code Table 62 (C062) in PEIMS is used to report the Texas First Early High School Completion Program graduates.



Descriptor	Short Description	Long Description
	Code 40 will apply only to students who graduate by completing the Texas First Early High School Completion Program under Title 19, Part 1, TAC Chapter 21, Subchapter D.	
40	Texas First Early High School Completion Program	Texas First Early High School Completion Program TAC Chapter 21.52, adopted to be effective August 21, 2022, [47 TexReg 4850]



**Beginning with 2023–2024 graduates**, districts will use new data elements to report graduates who earned the distinguished level of achievement (DISTING-LEVEL-ACHIEVEMENT-GRADUATE).

Data Element ID	Data Element Name	Date Issued	Date Updated
E3089	DistingLevelAchievementGraduate	03/01/2024	
<b>Definition</b>			
<p><b>DistingLevelAchievementGraduate</b> indicates the student has successfully completed the distinguished level of achievement as provided by TEC §28.025 (b-15) or TEC §28.0253.</p>			
<b>Special Instructions</b>			
Table Identification	Length	Data Type	Domain of Values
		Boolean	
<b>Used in Entities</b>			
<p>PriorYearLeaver &gt; GraduationSet            StudentAcademicRecord &gt; Diploma</p>			
<b>Used in Domain</b>			
<p>Prior Year Leaver , Student Academic Record</p>			



## Texas Records Exchange (TREx) System

A data element (TE148) was added to the TREx system to indicate the completion of the Texas Early High School Completion program on the high school transcript.

Common Name	XML Name	Complex Type	Date Issued	Date Updated
<b>TEXAS-FIRST-EARLY-HS-GRADUATE</b>	TexasFirstEarlyHSG raduate	AcademicStatus Type	9/1/2023	
<b>Definition</b>				
TEXAS-FIRST-EARLY-HS-GRADUATE indicates the student graduated early under the Texas First Early High School Completion Program.				
<b>Special Instructions</b>				
<b>Data Specifications</b>				
Element ID	Code Table ID	Required?	Domain of Values	
TE148 (PEIMS: E1736)	TC16 (PEIMS: C233)	No	0, 1	
Applicable Record	Length	Type	Pattern	
AAR – Transcript	1	Coded	#	



Districts will use the same data element in PEIMS and TREx to identify **all graduates** who earn the distinguished level of achievement, including graduates who complete the Texas First Early High School Completion Program.

Common Name	XML Name	Complex Type	Data Issued	Date Uploaded
DISTING-LEVEL-ACHIEVEMENT-GRADUATE	DistingLevelAchievementGraduate	Academic Status	7/1/2024	
Definition				
DISTING-LEVEL-ACHIEVEMENT-GRADUATE indicates the student has successfully completed the distinguished level of achievement as provided by TEC §28.025 or TEC §28.0253				

# Recommended Steps to Texas First Diploma (TFD) Early Graduation

- 1) Counselor identifies interested students
- 2) Counselor reviews student's record to verify eligibility and/or provide guidance for student to meet eligibility
- 3) Counselor and student review admissions requirements for institution(s) where the student is interested in attending, including special requirements for early high school graduates (if any)
- 4) Student contacts early graduation admissions advisor at the institution(s) where the student plans to attend for additional admissions guidance
- 5) Student completes and submits ApplyTX admissions application or follows other instructions provided by the admissions advisor (e.g., special admissions application or process)
- 6) Student completes and submits FAFSA or TASFA





# Steps to Texas First Diploma Verification

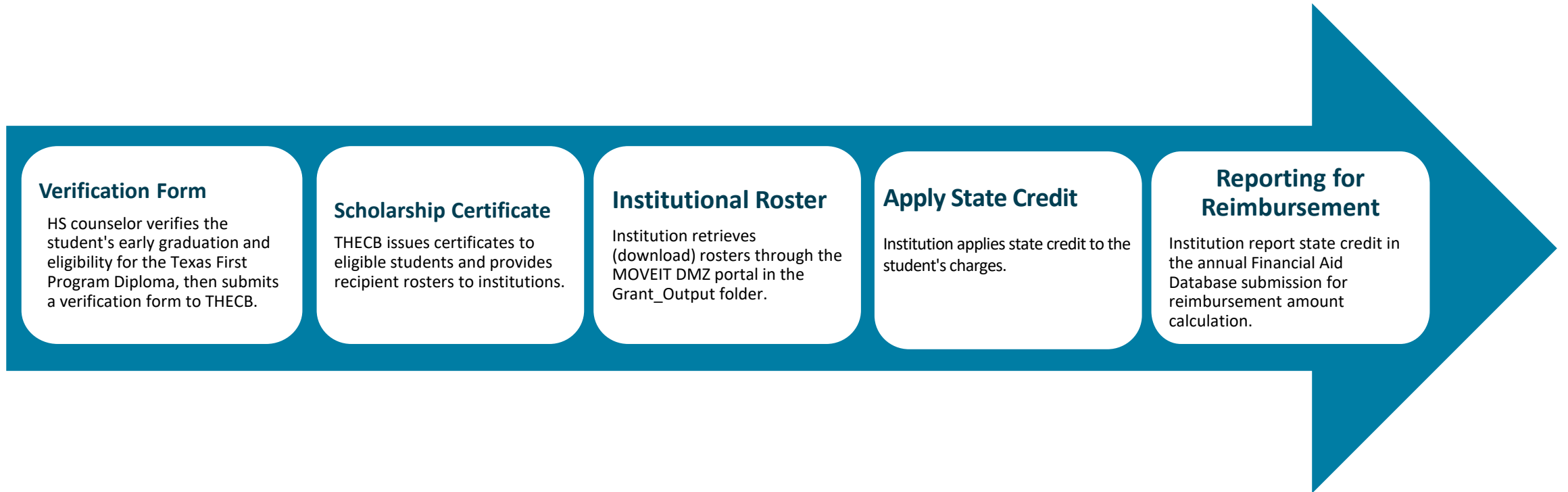
- Counselor or school district administrator completes and submits the Verification Form **after** the student has graduated with the TFD
- Form easily accessible within the Texas OnCourse Academy:
  - Scholarship Application Texas OnCourse module
  - High School Graduation Plan Texas OnCourse module
- ISD reporting official uses TFD PEIMS codes to report TFD graduation



1. Student receives Texas First Program Scholarship Certificate via email at the email address reported by the counselor on the Verification Form (check junk folders!)
2. Student contacts the financial aid office at the institution where the student is or will be enrolled to submit the Scholarship Certificate and other requested information needed to secure the scholarship award from the institution
3. The institution's financial aid office will provide additional steps and further guidance for the scholarship award



# Texas First Scholarship Process Flow



# Texas First Scholarship Eligibility

To be eligible, a student **must**:

- have graduated early from high school with a Texas First Program Diploma (also referred to as the Texas First Early High School Completion Program);
- be enrolled at an eligible institution;
- be a resident of Texas; and
- be registered for Selective Service, or be exempt.



**ALL public institutions of higher education are required to participate in the program.**

# Texas First Scholarship Amounts



The amount of state credit offered to the student is contingent on the number of semesters the student graduates early and the maximum annual (two semester) Toward Excellence, Access, and Success (TEXAS) Grant award amount for the applicable academic year, which is determined by the THECB.

**For example:** A student could receive up to \$10,858 in Fall 2025 if they graduate two or more semesters early.

# Applying Texas First Scholarship

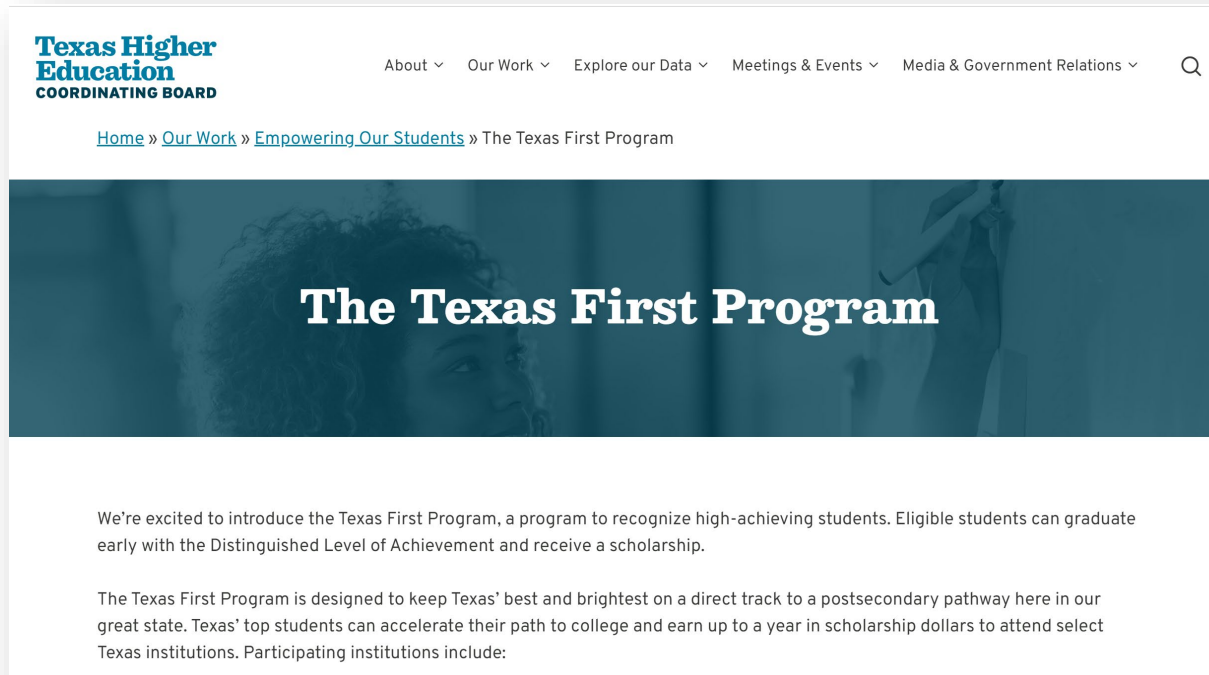
Upon enrollment of an eligible Texas First Early High School graduate, the institution must apply a state credit to the student's charges that is equal to the lesser of:

- the amount of the state credit available to the student; or
- the student's actual tuition, mandatory fees, and other costs of attendance at the institution.

**Note:** The amount of state credit offered to a student may NOT be considered in the calculation of any state or institutional need-based aid awards or the calculation of the student's overall financial need, unless the combination of the credit and other federal, state, and institutional financial aid (excluding work-study and loan programs) exceeds the student's estimated total cost of attendance (COA).

# Texas First Program Resources

## Texas First Program Webpage:



The screenshot shows the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board website. The header includes the logo and navigation links: About, Our Work, Explore our Data, Meetings & Events, and Media & Government Relations. A search icon is also present. Below the header is a breadcrumb trail: Home » Our Work » Empowering Our Students » The Texas First Program. The main content area features a large teal banner with the title "The Texas First Program" in white. Below the banner, there is a paragraph of introductory text and a paragraph describing the program's purpose and participating institutions.

**Texas Higher Education**  
COORDINATING BOARD

About ▾ Our Work ▾ Explore our Data ▾ Meetings & Events ▾ Media & Government Relations ▾ 🔍

[Home](#) » [Our Work](#) » [Empowering Our Students](#) » The Texas First Program

## The Texas First Program

We're excited to introduce the Texas First Program, a program to recognize high-achieving students. Eligible students can graduate early with the Distinguished Level of Achievement and receive a scholarship.

The Texas First Program is designed to keep Texas' best and brightest on a direct track to a postsecondary pathway here in our great state. Texas' top students can accelerate their path to college and earn up to a year in scholarship dollars to attend select Texas institutions. Participating institutions include:

<https://www.highered.texas.gov/our-work/empowering-our-students/the-texas-first-program/>

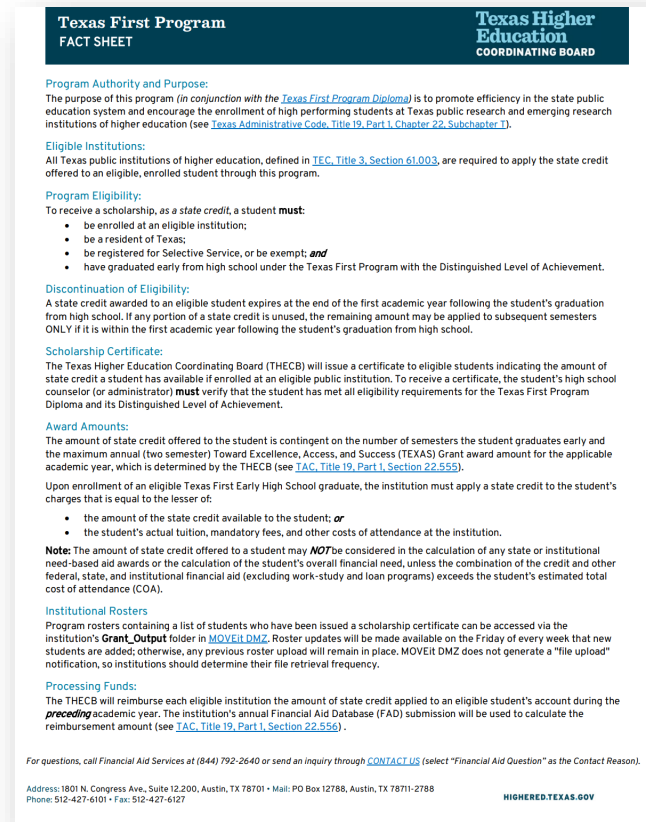
# Texas First Program Resources

## Texas First Scholarship Program Guidelines:



<https://reportcenter.highered.texas.gov/agency-publication/guidelines-manuals/texas-first-scholarship-program-fy-2025-guidelines/>

## Texas First Program Factsheet:



<https://reportcenter.highered.texas.gov/agency-publication/guidelines-manuals/texas-first-program-fact-sheet/>



# Questions? CONTACT US

To ensure inquiries are routed correctly, complete these steps:

- ✓ Select **Institution** in Received From box
- ✓ Enter the **Institution's Full Name**
- ✓ Always select **Financial Aid Question** as the Contact Reason
- ✓ Enter a detailed **Description** of your inquiry
- ✓ Provide the best **Direct Phone Number**

**Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board**

### Contact Us

*An asterisk \* by the field indicates a required field!*

Received From\*

Institution

Contact Reason\*

Description\*   
4000 characters max

Please do NOT include your full Social Security Number inside the issue description. If you have a question about the status of a new loan application, accounts in repayment, or deferments, please use the last four digits of your SSN instead.

Is this a complaint No  Yes

Contact Preference E-MAIL  LETTER  PHONE

Salutation\*

First Name\*

Last Name\*

E-mail\*

Phone (10-digit)  Phone Ext

Mail Address

Mail Address2

Mail Address3

City

State  Zip Code (5-digit)

| [Help](#)

# True or False

**Counselors and school administrators can access the Texas First Diploma Eligibility Verification Form within the Texas OnCourse Academy.**

# Student Scholarship Story



# What contributed to my student graduating early?

- Access to supportive counseling staff who communicated often with my student and me throughout the process
- District offered multiple opportunities for high school credit courses in middle school, including Algebra I
- District offered universal college readiness testing as early as grade 8 and the SAT prior to the spring of the junior year
- District offered multiple college credit opportunities, including dual credit, OnRamps, and AP, as early as grade 9

# How did the scholarship help my student to be successful in college?

- Additional (non-loan) financial support makes college more affordable for my student and her older siblings.
- All courses my student took her “senior” year applies toward her engineering degree (29 hours).
  - For her degree, not many dual credit, AP, or OnRamps courses would count toward her requirements and would have transferred or articulated as elective credit. She had taken most of the transferable courses her junior year, such as US History, Physics, or English 1301/1302.
  - She is classified as a “junior” in her second year at university.
  - Having direct access to advising from her program, she is now considering the Fast-Track master’s program in engineering to finish within 5 years.
- She was able to take many lower division courses with her college graduation cohort instead of starting at higher level courses because her core courses were complete.

# What concerns did I have as a parent?

- My student did not complete calculus and wants to go into engineering. Is she at a disadvantage compared to other students who attend an additional year of high school?
- She is too young to leave home early. She needs the additional year to build stronger life skills.
- She will miss out on many important social and extracurricular events that happen in the senior year.
- She will not receive the same high school diploma as her siblings.



# What resources were useful in guiding you through the process?

- Texas First Diploma Requirement Check-list
  - We understood what needed to be completed her junior year and what could already be demonstrated.
- Subject Assessment Rubric
  - The age requirement for GED was not clear on the rubric.
- Applying to college and Apply Texas resources
- FAFSA resources



# What I wish I knew then that I know now...

- Students need to know they want to commit to the Texas First Diploma well before fall of their junior year.
  - We missed FAFSA priority deadline due to spring decision to commit.
- Timing of when assessment results are available and when summer college activities start (i.e. orientation and fall course registration, housing applications).
  - AP science scores are available in July, but college deadlines are in June.
  - She took the ACT as backup.
- Housing options are limited for students under 18 who are not emancipated.
- Students might not be able to participate in their class commencement ceremony. (Her ceremony took place while she was attending her fall college courses.)



**Bright Ideas**





# Bright Ideas!



We asked and you answered!

**How do you introduce the Texas First Diploma to your students?**

- During 8th grade planning for high school coursework
- Added to district handbooks and course guides
- Include links and information in parent newsletters, parent night sessions, and social media



# Bright Ideas!



We asked and you answered!

**What are some of the challenges that exist with the Texas First Program?**

- Need a timeline for qualifying students based on grade level
- Need to understand the full requirements, process, and financial aid benefit
- Need turn-key resources to send directly to families

## RECOMMENDED STEPS and REMINDERS

for **Counselors** and **Students** for the Texas First Program

1. Upon enrollment, high school **counselors** must provide **written notification** to each high school student and their parent/guardian about the **Texas First Program**.
2. **Counselor** or **student** identifies interest in the Texas First Program.
3. **Counselor** reviews student's record to verify eligibility and/or provide guidance for student to meet eligibility.
4. **Counselor** and **student** review admissions requirements for institution(s) where the student is interested in attending.
5. **Student** contacts the admissions counselor at the institution(s) where they plan to attend for additional guidance.
6. **Student** completes and submits an ApplyTexas admissions application by the institution's deadline.
7. **Counselor** completes the Texas First Diploma Eligibility Confirmation Form after the student graduates.
8. **Student** receives the Texas First Program Scholarship Certificate via email after counselor submits the confirmation form. The **student** will submit the certificate to the financial aid office at the institution they plan to attend.
9. **Counselor** verifies the correct information is recorded in the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) and in the Texas Record Exchange (TReX) to show completion of the Texas First Program.



# MONTHLY Professional Learning SERIES

2024-2025

TEXAS ONCOURSE

The Texas OnCourse Professional Learning Series offers free digital learning opportunities focused on college and career planning. Participants can connect with colleagues and learn from expert guest speakers on counseling and advising topics. This year, each session will conclude with a 30-minute optional Q&A with our contributors, providing a chance to discuss thoughts and questions relevant to college and career advising. Join us live to continue the conversation!

#### Who should attend?

Middle and high school educators, advisors, counselors, administrators, and higher education staff

#### Registration details:

The webinars will take place on Zoom on the second Tuesday of every month from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (CST). [Click to register](#)

SESSION DATES	Fall 2024:	Spring 2025:
	Aug. 13, Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 12	Feb. 11, March 18, April 8, May 13



August 13, 2024:

#### [The New ApplyTexas Application Is Ready!](#)

The ApplyTexas application has a completely fresh new look with an enhanced student experience. Your students can apply to Texas colleges and universities with an application system that has been streamlined and simplified and is already live. This will be an extended two-hour session where our staff will highlight student navigation and the Counselor Suite.



September 10, 2024:

#### [College Readiness Examined: A Closer Look at Assessments](#)

The Texas OnCourse team is excited to talk about the SAT, ACT, and TSIA2 in this highly requested webinar. We want to make sure you are equipped with the tools and tips necessary to help your students succeed when they prepare for and take these assessments. These tests are an important part of the college application process, and this session will focus on SAT and ACT score guidelines and how they relate to direct admissions. We will also discuss updates made to the TSIA2, testing strategies, and the [Texas OnCourse Academy](#) SAT and ACT professional learning modules.



October 8, 2024:

#### [Advising Students with Disabilities](#)

Helping students with disabilities transition into adulthood requires careful planning and support to ensure they have the skills and services needed to be successful. We will discuss transition planning and an overview of legal requirements under the [Individuals with Disabilities Education Act](#). In addition, we will provide methods to engage family, community, and campus teams for special education students.



November 12, 2024:

#### [Dual Credit: Maximizing Your Students' Potential to Earn College Credit in High School](#)

Learn about how dual credit can be beneficial for your students' postsecondary success. Texas OnCourse will spotlight the [Advising All Students to Be College Ready](#) module within the Texas OnCourse Academy and help educators understand the registration process and the importance of taking college coursework in high school. We will also explore the redesigned ApplyTexas dual credit application.



February 11, 2025:

#### [The Texas First Program: Rewarding Texas' Early Graduates](#)

The [Texas First Program](#) is designed to keep Texas' best and brightest students on track for postsecondary success. The scholarship, awarded to those who graduate high school early and earn a Texas First Diploma, has expanded to include all public institutions of higher education in Texas. In this learning session, staff from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the Texas Education Agency will share updates and data related to the program, [FAQs](#), and [counselor steps](#) to support students through this process from start to finish.



March 18, 2025:

#### [Leveraging the Texas OnCourse College and Career Readiness Curriculum](#)

The [Texas OnCourse College and Career Readiness Curriculum](#) aims to introduce students to college and career topics as early as middle school. Our curriculum writers will share the structure of a lesson and teaching strategies, the curriculum scope and sequence, online student learning modules that support unit content, and how to use the Texas OnCourse Academy to enhance curriculum lessons.



April 8, 2025:

#### [The Future of the Texas OnCourse Academy](#)

Texas OnCourse will be enhancing the [Texas OnCourse Academy](#) for the 2025-2026 school year. We are developing new learning modules and adding navigation tools to simplify your learning experience. We will provide an interactive overview of the academy, updates to practical advising resources, and unique implementation strategies.



May 13, 2025:

#### [Building a College and Career Readiness Culture](#)

Preparing students for life beyond high school involves a holistic approach. This session will provide techniques on collaborating with colleagues, families, and communities across your campus and district. We encourage you to share your fun, engaging activities and how you celebrate student success.

TEXAS ONCOURSE

TEXAS ONCOURSE

# My Texas Future Learning Institute



The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and Texas OnCourse offer a series of learning sessions for educators in our network to introduce [My Texas Future](#). The series includes four 90-minute learning events designed to provide a comprehensive walk-through of My Texas Future and how it can support career and college exploration for Texas learners in middle school, high school, and as adults.



#### Who should attend?

Counselors, advisors, teachers, administrators, and higher education staff are encouraged to participate.



#### Why attend all sessions?

Each session covers different content and features within My Texas Future, ensuring a thorough understanding of its full potential.



#### Registration Details:

Register for the [My Texas Future Learning Institute](#) and plan to attend live. Spots are limited.

Participants in the [My Texas Future](#) Learning Institute will gain the following:

- In-depth information needed to use My Texas Future comprehensively with students this year and in the future
- Access to a set of new educator toolkits that include lesson plans, student activities, and tips on navigating the site
- A complete walk-through of the new [ApplyTexas](#) student application and Counselor Suite
- Continuing professional education (CPE) credit

## SESSION One:

Your Tomorrow Starts Today with [My Texas Future](#) and [ApplyTexas](#)



The Professional Learning and Engagement team will cover the benefits of creating a learner profile in My Texas Future, and how that information parallels the questions in ApplyTexas. Seniors will have an opportunity to self-report admissions data (GPA, class rank, and test scores) and discover which Texas colleges and universities match their application profile. We will share the list of institutions participating in [Direct Admissions](#), and what the experience will look like for students using the site.

September 19th, 2024: 10 am CST  
[Click to Register](#)

## SESSION Three:

Connecting [My Texas Future](#) to [ADVi](#) and the [Texas OnCourse Academy](#)



Texas learners will soon have the opportunity to access ADVi's advisor messaging platform through My Texas Future! In this session, educators will explore the ADVi student messaging experience, common ADVi topics, and the ADVi opt-in process in My Texas Future. Attendees will also experience a live [Texas OnCourse Academy](#) demo of My Texas Future resources. In addition, live participants will have a chance to receive a My Texas Future launch kit with student stickers and pens for hosting a learning event!

February 20, 2025: 10 am CST  
[Click to Register](#)

## SESSION Two:

[College and Career Action Plans](#) for Your Learners



[My Texas Future](#) provides [college and career action plans](#) that give learners a step-by-step list of action items to complete each year to prepare for college and career. Starting in 7th grade, students will find resources about exploring career clusters, endorsements, choosing a program, and applying and paying for school. The [Program Explorer](#), which has over 100 different degree programs in Texas, allows students to filter to compare programs to find the right fit for their future.

November 21st, 2024: 10 am CST  
[Click to Register](#)

## SESSION Four:

Comprehensive [Career Exploration](#) for All Learners



[My Texas Future](#) provides an opportunity for learners to begin making decisions about their career preferences using the [Career Quiz](#) and the [Career Explorer](#) as early as 7th grade. The My Texas Future student profile saves their information year after year and provides over 500 different careers that are in demand within our state. Learners are able to update their progress and continue their journey while preparing their [ApplyTexas](#) college application along the way! We will dive into comparing careers by earnings, skills, and credentials.

April 17th, 2025: 10 am CST  
[Click to Register](#)

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TEXAS@NCOURSE  
**Network  
Newsletter**

**Your Monthly Toolkit for College and Career Success**

# Subscribe to us on YouTube!

The screenshot shows the YouTube channel page for Texas OnCourse. The channel name is "Texas OnCourse" with a blue location pin icon. It has 1.03K subscribers and 131 videos. Below the channel name are buttons for "Customize channel" and "Manage videos". The navigation menu includes "Home", "Videos", "Playlists", and "Community". There are three sorting options: "Latest", "Popular", and "Oldest". The main content area displays four video thumbnails:

- October 2024: Advising Students with Disabilities** (1:19:15) - 36 views • 3 weeks ago
- Session 1: Your Tomorrow Starts Today with My Texas Future and ApplyTexas** (1:10:09) - 176 views • 1 month ago
- September 2024: College Readiness Examined: A Closer Look at Assessments** (1:41:16) - 112 views • 1 month ago
- August 2024: The New ApplyTexas Application is Ready!** (1:15:57) - 1K views • 2 months ago

- Subscribe to us on YouTube @TexasOnCourse



The Texas First Program: Rewarding Texas' Early Graduates  
February 11, 2025

**Texas OnCourse Resources**

<a href="#">Texas OnCourse Website</a>
<a href="#">Texas OnCourse Academy</a>
<a href="#">Professional Learning Series Schedule</a>
<a href="#">My Texas Future Learning Institute</a>
<a href="#">Texas OnCourse YouTube Website</a>
<a href="#">Sign up for our Network Newsletter!</a>

**The Texas First Program**

<a href="#">THECB Texas First Diploma</a> website
<a href="#">TEA Texas First Diploma</a> website
<a href="#">Foreign Language Achievement Testing Service (FLATS) Website</a>
<a href="#">Texas First Diploma Eligibility Confirmation Form</a>
Texas First Diploma <a href="#">Texas Administrative Code</a>
<a href="#">Texas First Program flyer</a> for parents and students
The Texas OnCourse Academy modules with more details about the Texas First Program: <a href="#">Scholarship Applications</a> and <a href="#">High School Graduation Plan</a>
Texas First Program <a href="#">subject area assessments and benchmarks chart</a>
<a href="#">Texas First Scholarship Program Guidelines 2024-2025</a>
<a href="#">Texas First Program Factsheet</a>
<a href="#">Texas First Program steps for counselors and students</a>
<a href="#">Contact the THECB with any questions</a>

**Presentation Resources**

<a href="#">Slide Deck</a>
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**Feedback**

Please take a moment to complete our [survey](#). We value your feedback, thank you!



A wide-angle photograph of a long, straight asphalt road stretching into the distance. The road has a dashed yellow center line and solid yellow edge lines. The landscape is a vast, flat desert with sparse, low-lying vegetation. In the far distance, a range of mountains is visible under a clear, bright sky. The overall scene is bright and open, suggesting a sense of journey and exploration.

# Questions and Comments

**We appreciate  
your feedback!**

