



January 26, 2021

## Highly Mobile and At-Risk Student Programs Division



*Comal ISD students socially distance in hallway lineup.*

**Greetings from the Highly Mobile and At-Risk  
Student Programs Division**

We hope that you and your family had a wonderful holiday season and despite the various obstacles faced in 2020, have a renewed sense of hope and expectancy for 2021. To kick off the new year, our division is looking ahead and planning more support for Texas students and educators during the COVID-19 pandemic. As guidance continues to change, educators are continuing to adapt within the virtual and in-person environment. Thank you for your leadership, intentionality, and effort. We are committed to providing resources, information, and tools to assist you in serving highly mobile at-risk students during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This newsletter contains program updates, links to important resources, and tips for the start of 2021.

Thank you for all that do!

### Upcoming Newsletters

This year, our division will increase the dissemination of program updates and information by releasing a newsletter from each of our program areas on a bi-monthly basis. [Subscribe](#) to *all* of the Highly Mobile and At-Risk newsletters to receive more in-depth updates on all of our student programs!

## Resource Highlight



[Engaging Highly Mobile and At-Risk Students](#): This guide provides best practices, resources, and practical strategies to address student support, engagement, and academic achievement for *all* students, with a focus on highly mobile, at-risk, and special student populations.

## Subscribe!

[Subscribe](#) to our newsletters.

[Subscribe](#) to the English Learner Support newsletter via the EL web portal.

## Upcoming Trainings & Events

### January 2021

Human Trafficking Awareness Month

[National Mentoring Month](#)

**January - June, 2021** Human Trafficking Prevention and Awareness Webinar Series | [Register Here](#)

**01/29** Trauma of Trafficking Youth Panel | [Register Here](#)

**01/27** McKinney-Vento 101 | [Register Here](#)

### February 2021

Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month

**02/01** SAMHSA 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Prevention Day | [Register Here](#)

**02/04** Highly Mobile and At-Risk Webinar | [Register Here](#)

**02/11** McKinney-Vento 201 | [Register Here](#)

**02/14-21** [Random Acts of Kindness Week](#)

### March 2021

Texas Mental Health Creative Arts Contest | [Submit your art!](#)

**03/01** [Self-Injury Awareness Day](#)

### April 2021

**04/01** Highly Mobile and At-Risk Webinar | [Register Here](#)

## Mental and Behavioral Health

Returning to school after the holiday break yields a variety of emotions. With the likelihood of this spring looking different than years past as well as the anniversary of last year's COVID-19 shutdown, this can add additional anxiety. While preparing for this semester, be realistic, plan accordingly, acknowledge your feelings, and [reach out](#) if needed. Consider the Texas Education Agency's [Educator Wellness document](#).

The Mental & Behavioral Health team has collaborated with state stakeholders and is in the final stages of launching the Texas Mental Health Toolkit. This Toolkit provides guidance, best practices, tools, templates, and resources to help Texas schools build and sustain comprehensive mental health systems. Please be on the lookout for a launch date in late February 2021.

Sign up for our [Mental and Behavioral Health newsletter](#) to stay updated!

## Project Restore Training



This trauma-informed training video series is designed to address educators' extraordinary and unprecedented needs resulting from COVID-19. These videos will connect you to relevant science and strategies that can help you address your own emotional needs as well as the needs of your students and colleagues. This series will help educators create an environment that jumpstarts teaching and learning and drives student achievement.

*Each video has been created with a COVID-19 lens and includes support for both in-person and remote instruction. Educators will be able to implement trauma-informed strategies immediately after watching the videos and reflect*

*on their practices to support long term changes. LEAs can have educators watch the videos on their own or bring school staff together in a facilitated professional development session. Each video has a facilitation guide for a school leader, instructional coach, or mental health professional to lead their respective team on the content of the video. There are additional mental health and emotional well-being resources on the Project Restore website.*

[www.TexasProjectRestore.org](http://www.TexasProjectRestore.org)

## Child Abuse and Human Trafficking Prevention

January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. Throughout the pandemic, some school-aged children have become more susceptible to abuse, neglect, manipulation, and exploitation by traffickers. LEAs and educators represent the largest professional resource for reporting suspected child abuse, or neglect, including the trafficking of a child. Learn the [red flags and indicators of trafficking](#) from the National Human Trafficking Hotline. Additionally, visit the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children for resources on [internet safety](#), cyber tips, and other topics.

## Mandatory Reporting Requirements

All educators are mandatory reporters who are required to report suspicions of child abuse and neglect, including trafficking of a child, within 48 hours. TEA hosts a myriad of resources that equip educators to recognize the signs of child abuse, neglect, and human trafficking. These resources include [guidance](#) for reporting, a [toolkit](#) for educators, and a free training [module](#). You can find these resources and more here: [Human Trafficking Prevention and Awareness Requirements and Mandatory Reporting Reminders](#).

## Webinar Series for ESCs and LEAs

**SAVE THE DATES**  
Human Trafficking Prevention and Awareness  
Webinar Series

Educators are in a unique position to help in the fight against human trafficking. Not only are educators vital in recognizing the warning signs of trafficked students, but also in guiding potential victims to find resources and support. TEA, the Title IX Part A Statewide School Safety Initiative (ESC Region 10, ESC Region 12), and the Office of the Governor's Child Sex Trafficking Team are launching a series of webinars to support ESCs and LEAs during the 2020-2021 school year.

All Zoom meetings will be held from 10:30-11:30 am and are open to ESCs and LEAs, unless noted below.

Please click link to access each meeting:

See topics and dates below:

Friday, Nov 6	Community Resource/Asset Mapping (ESC only)
Friday, Dec 4	Human Trafficking (HT) 101
Friday, Jan 8	HT Prevention Awareness Month - Internet Safety
Friday, Jan 29	HT Prevention Awareness Month - Panel with HT survivors
Friday, Feb 5	Topic TBD
Friday, Mar 5	Topic TBD
Friday, Apr 9	Topic TBD (ESC only)
Friday, June 4	Topic TBD

[preventinghumantrafficking@tea.texas.gov](mailto:preventinghumantrafficking@tea.texas.gov)

The Office of the Governor hosts a monthly webinar series on human trafficking prevention and awareness. This series is designed to support ESCs and LEAs in the fight against human trafficking in the 2020-2021 school year.

### Upcoming webinar

*Panel with Human Trafficking Survivors*

**Date:** Friday, January 29th

**Time:** 10:30 am -11:30 am CST

[Register Here](#)

For more information, please email: [PreventingHumanTrafficking@tea.texas.gov](mailto:PreventingHumanTrafficking@tea.texas.gov)

## Military Connected Students

We know that being part of a military-connected family might also mean a transition in the middle of the school year. With the switch to virtual interaction and possibly needing to quarantine after a move, COVID-19 can make the transition process even more difficult for military families. Families and school staff can find resources to help with school transitions on our [Military Family Resources](#) page.

## Purple Star Campus Designation



Congratulations to our Purple Star Campus awardees! A total of 116 campuses across the state were awarded the [Purple Star Campus Designation](#) for the 2020-2021 school year. Each of these Texas campuses demonstrated support and commitment to meet the unique needs of military-connected students and their families. You can find the list of awarded schools here: [Purple Star Campus Designation Awardees | TAA](#).

Applications for the 2021-2022 school year will open this spring.

Sign up for our [Military-Connected Students newsletter](#) to stay updated!

## Pregnancy Related Services (PRS)

LEAs throughout Texas offer Pregnancy Related Services, including Compensatory Education Home Instruction (CEHI), supports for eligible students during the pregnancy and postpartum periods. These programs are designed to help students stay in school and adjust academically, mentally, and physically.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we encourage LEAs and educators to prioritize communication that emphasizes the health and education of students who are pregnant and parenting. For more information on how to support these students during the pandemic, visit [TEA's COVID-19 FAQ: Pregnancy Related Services](#).

## Coming Soon! | PRS FAQ

To be released within the next month, this FAQ will equip educators with determining how to navigate PRS and CEHI services during remote instruction for the 2020-2021 school year. This resource answers questions related to attendance reporting, CEHI waivers, and PRS program requirements. The FAQ will be released on the [Special Populations COVID-19 Support](#) page.



# Texas Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program (TEHCY)

Unable to attend the fall TEHCY McKinney-Vento 101 trainings? Are you a new McKinney-Vento Liaison? Or just need a quick McKinney-Vento refresher course? The TEHCY Support Center will be providing two statewide TEHCY McKinney-Vento trainings via Zoom on:

**Date:** Wednesday, January 27th

**Time:** 10:30 am – 12:00 pm CST

[Register Here](#)

**Date:** Thursday, February 11th

**Time:** 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm CST

[Register Here](#)

During this training, we will discuss the key requirements of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. Participants will learn more about identification, enrollment, dispute resolution, and the roles and responsibilities of LEAs and McKinney-Vento liaisons to support students experiencing homelessness.

Sign up for our [McKinney-Vento newsletter](#) to stay updated!

## TEHCY Program Infographic

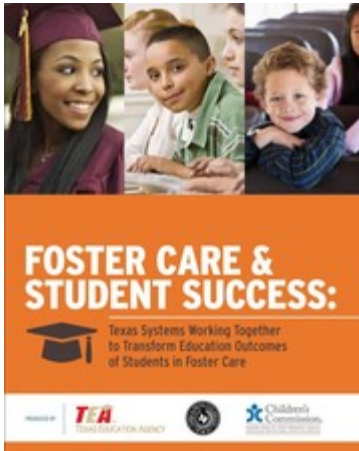


To learn more about statewide identification and graduation data, see our new [TEHCY Program Infographic](#). This resource includes at-a-glance information on McKinney-Vento eligibility and Texas data on students experiencing homelessness.

## Foster Care and Student Success

As we continue into the 2020-2021 school year, it is important to consider the unique needs of students in foster care. Maintaining positive connections, ensuring educational continuity, expediting enrollment and withdrawals, and streamlining transitions in the event of a school move continue to be paramount during this time. See our [COVID-19 FAQ for Students in Foster Care](#) for information on how to ensure students receive the support they need.

## Resource Guide Update



Our team is working with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) and the Children's Commission to release an updated version of the *Foster Care and Student Success Resource Guide*. This version will include new laws, resources, and key updates, **PLUS** two new chapters covering the Every Student Succeeds Act and Trauma-Informed Education. The updated guide will be featured on our [Foster Care & Student Success](#) webpage in the coming months.

Sign up for our [Foster Care newsletter](#) to stay updated!

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