

General Description:

As part of TEA’s College and Career Readiness School Models (CCRSM), Texas Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (T-STEM) Academies are innovative 6-12 or 9-12 campuses that blend high school and college coursework that focus in STEM fields to help historically underserved and at-risk students develop technical skills, pursue high-wage, high-demand career paths at no cost to the participating students. T-STEM Academies form strong strategic alliances with local business and industry and higher education. In addition, campuses identified as a T-STEM must offer students the opportunity to:

- Participate in work-based learning
- Earn certificates and/or credentials
- Maintain partnerships with higher education and industry/business
- Provide student supports for academic success

Authority:

Texas Education Code (TEC), §39.235
Texas Administrative Code (TAC), §102.1093

T-STEM Designation:

TEA provides opportunities for campuses to annually apply to TEA to become and maintain their T-STEM designation. Beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, campuses interested in starting a T-STEM Academy apply to enter into a T-STEM Planning Year. Campuses accepted into the T-STEM Planning Year; spend a year building partnerships and planning to implement the T-STEM Blueprint design elements with students the following year. T-STEM Planning Year campuses receive technical assistance from a TEA selected technical assistance provider. T-STEM Academies wanting to maintain their designation reapply each year to demonstrate they are meeting the T-STEM Blueprint student Outcomes-Based Measures and the design elements. Designated T-STEM Academies receive technical assistance and support from a TEA selected technical assistance provider.

T-STEM Blueprint:

Throughout the 2017-2018 school year, TEA engaged with stakeholder groups across Texas and received public comment regarding recommendations to the T-STEM Blueprint and Designation process. These recommendations were incorporated into the revised Blueprint and included Outcomes-Based Measures. T-STEM Academies are required to meet the required design elements detailed in each of the Blueprint Benchmarks and the student Outcomes-Based Measures.

Funding:

Source: General Appropriations Act, Article III, Rider 48, 85th Texas Legislature, 2017

T-STEM Academies Profile

2018-2019 Designees

- 94 Designated T-STEM Academies*
- 6 T-STEM Planning Year Campuses

2017-2018 Designees

- 132 Designated T-STEM Academies

2017-2018 Students Served: 67,207

Models

- Stand-alone on high school campus
- Smaller learning community within a larger high school (School-within-School)
- Central location such as a STEM/CTE center where students are enrolled at their home campus

T-STEM Blueprint Benchmarks

- School Design
- Target Population
- Strategic Alliances
- Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
- Work-Based Learning
- Student Support

Outcomes-Based Measures

- Access
- Achievement
- Attainment

*prior to the 2018-2019 school year, some campuses held dual designations (ECHS and T-STEM). For 2018-2019 TEA required campuses to select a single model to implement with a cohort of students. In addition, TEA added 2 new models (P-TECH and ICIA). This caused a shift in the number of designees.

Use of Funds	FY 2018	FY 2019
T-STEM designated campuses technical assistance	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000
T-STEM online designation	\$30,000	\$30,000
T-STEM professional development (covers the biennium)	\$100,000	
T-STEM planning year campuses technical assistance	\$270,000	\$370,000
TOTAL	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000
Total Projected Expenditures for the Biennium:		\$3,000,000

Resources: T-STEM Academies website - <http://tea.texas.gov/T-STEM/>