

South Texas Early College Conference

APRIL 24, 2017



Presentation Overview

- Rationale & vision for change
- Process for redesign
- Timeline for implementation
- 1st Draft for public comment
- Opportunities to provide input

Rationale & Vision for ECHS Blueprint Redesign

Rationale for Change

- Current ECHS Blueprint has not changed substantively for 10 years
 - Largely compliance-based
 - Focused on growing new model, but ECHS is no longer “new” – 164 currently in operation for 2016-2017 (198 for 2017-2018)
 - Feedback: compliance with some blueprint requirements are onerous and do not acknowledge differences in regional and local needs
- Growth in new types of ECHSs (e.g., Industry Cluster Innovative Academies)
- Changes in dual credit policies

Vision for Blueprint Redesign

- Designation status and recognition become a function of outcomes, not just inputs or compliance exercises
- Broader recognition and supports for high-quality programs and what they provide Texas students
- Clearly defined goals for outcomes combined with greater flexibility for how different ECHSs meet these goals

TEC 29.908

Early College Education Program

- Serve students who are at risk of dropping out of school or who wish to accelerate completion of the high school program.
- Provide for a course of study that enables a participating student to combine high school courses and college-level courses during grade levels 9 through 12;
- Allow a participating student to complete high school and, on or before the fifth anniversary of the date of the student's first day of high school, receive a high school diploma and either:
 - an associate's degree; or
 - at least 60 semester credit hours toward a baccalaureate degree;

TEC 29.908

Early College Education Program

- Include articulation agreements with colleges, universities, and technical schools in this state to provide a participating student access to postsecondary educational and training opportunities at a college, university, or technical school; and
- Provide a participating student flexibility in class scheduling and academic mentoring.

Vision for Blueprint Redesign

- Statutory requirements provide basis of definition for ECHS model and will remain in place
- TEA program requirements and Commissioners Rules will be amended to reflect an updated outcomes-based approach
 - As noted, these amendments will also seek to provide ECHS more flexibility in “how” they choose to manage their programs to successful outcomes

Vision for Blueprint Redesign

- Blueprints may vary for different types of ECHS models and reflect growing need for college and career readiness
 - Traditional ECHS vs. Industry Cluster Innovative Academies
- Outcomes may vary depending on the focus of the ECHS
 - Associate's degree
 - Industry-based certification or credential
 - Some combination of the two

Blueprint Redesign: Timeline

Redesign Timeline

Timeframe	Action
January 2017-February 2017	Research
March 2017-May 2017	Stakeholder Input Survey 3/9/17-3/30/17
April 2017	Draft Recommendations
April 17-28, 2017	Public Comment round 1
May 1 –May 13, 2017	Revisions incorporating public comment
May 15-19, 2017	Public Comment round 2
May 22-June 1, 2017	Revisions incorporating public comment
August 2, 2017	2018-2019 ECHS Blueprint released

Draft recommendations and public comment available:

www.tea.texas.gov/echs



Implementation timeline

- **Transition year: 2017-2018**
 - Operate under existing ECHS Blueprint
 - Prepare for implementation
 - Data collection
 - Collaboration with dual credit partner
- **Implementation year: 2018-2019**
 - All redesigned Blueprint elements to be in place
 - Designation application will reflect redesigned Blueprint (released Fall 2017)

Opportunities for Stakeholder Input

1st Draft Public Comment

- Download .pdf file of 1st draft
- Watch a 12 minute walk thru webinar
- Submit public comment

Public comment open through 4/28/17 at 5:00 pm

<http://tea.texas.gov/echs/>

Questions



Thank you

SOUTH TEXAS EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCE: UPDATE ON REDESIGN PROCESS

Jobs for the Future Team:

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with Julia di Bonaventura, Sarah Hooker, and Anna O'Connor

OUR MISSION

JFF works to ensure that all young people and workers have the skills and credentials needed to succeed in our economy.

OUR VISION

The promise of education and economic mobility in America is achieved for everyone.



PHOTOGRAPH © 2008 Jerry Davis

WHAT WE DO: JFF'S GOALS

- 1. PREPARING FOR COLLEGE AND CAREER:**
All young people graduate high school on a clear path to college completion and career success.
- 2. EARNING POSTSECONDARY CREDENTIALS:**
All students gain the skills they need to earn postsecondary credentials with high labor market value.
- 3. ADVANCING CAREERS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH:** All workers obtain the education and training required to move into family-supporting careers with clear paths for advancement.

Expanding
Opportunity
Today and for
America's Next
Generation



JOBS FOR THE FUTURE

GET TO KNOW OUR TEAM

PATHWAYS TO PROSPERITY

- 16 education and youth workforce development professionals on Pathways to Prosperity team in Boston
- 14 education and youth workforce development professionals on Building Educational Pathways for Youth team in Oakland
- ~130 talented JFF staff members across the country



A Review of the Recommendations

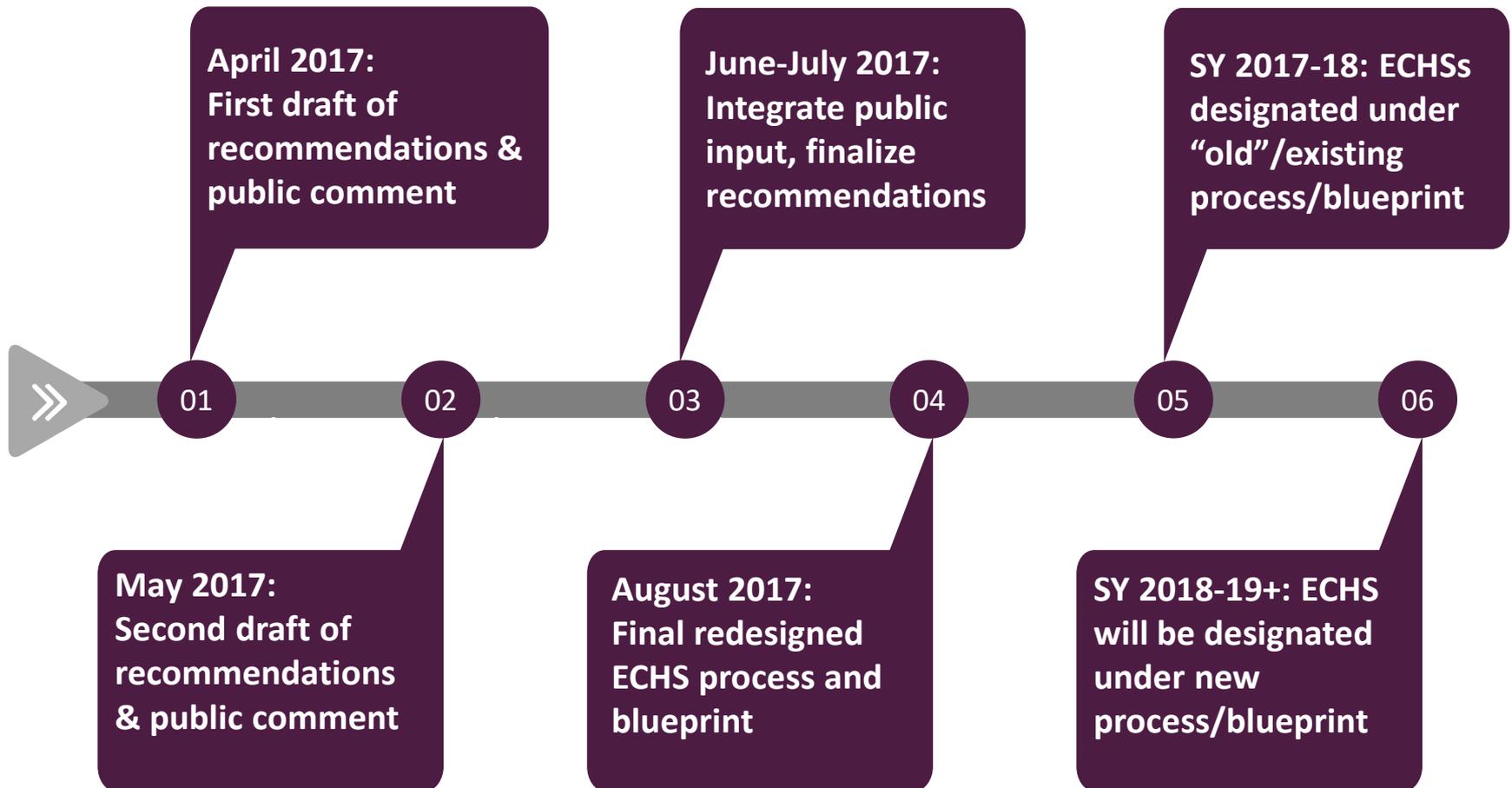
FIRST DRAFT

OUR INTENT:

- > The recommendations are:
 - High-level revisions to the designation process
 - Meant to signal a change of focus from compliance to outcomes
- > The recommendations do not*:
 - Identify specific metrics and targets
 - Provide revisions to the ECHS blueprint

* A second draft of the recommendations will provide a more detailed set of recommended changes to the design elements of the ECHS blueprint as well as more details on the categories and outcomes-based measures described below

TIMELINE



RECOMMENDATION #1:

Require one year of planning for new ECHS candidates prior to submitting a designation application

- > Candidates work with a TA provider for one year
- > During that year, the candidate and the TA provider plan to ensure the ECHS will meet requirements
- > After the year of planning, the candidate can submit an application for ECHS designation
- > If designated, the school will begin implementing at the Provisional level (see recommendation #3)
- > TEA will provide guidelines on the specific benchmarks and activities that must be met during the planning year

Define metrics for ECHS designation and recognition

- > TEA should define observable metrics in four broad categories, which include design elements as well as metrics that measure access, achievement, and attainment
 - For details, see the “First Draft Recommendations” at www.tea.texas.gov/echs for definitions of each category
- > This version of the recommendations does not identify the specific metrics under each category

RECOMMENDATION #3:

Differentiate designation categories

- > TEA should use four differentiated ECHS designation categories, based on number of years and outcomes-based measures met.
 - Provisional Early College: demonstrates all design elements and stays in this category until it meets other access, achievement, and attainment benchmarks
 - Early College: meets specified benchmarks in each category
 - Distinguished Early College: meets all benchmarks in each category and has been operating for at least five years
 - Needs Improvement: performing below specified benchmarks and will receive targeted assistance for two years to meet benchmarks or lose designation

RECOMMENDATION #4:

Require ECHS to meet outcomes-based measures

- > TEA should review outcomes-based measures from all ECHSs annually, and designate ECHS status according to performance on observable metrics
 - Proposed designated categories (see recommendation #3) will be expected to meet outcomes by year and metric category (see recommendation #2)
 - This version of the recommendations does not specify the expected outcomes in each metric category

PROPOSED DESIGNATION CATEGORIES ALIGNED WITH OUTCOMES-BASED MEASURES

PATHWAYS TO PROSPERITY

Designation Category	Provisional Early College				Early College				Distinguished Early College				Needs Improvement			
	Design	Access	Achievement	Attainment	Design	Access	Achievement	Attainment	Design	Access	Achievement	Attainment	Design	Access	Achievement	Attainment
First Year																
Second Year																
Third Year																
Fourth Year																
Fifth Year or Above					*				*							

More than two outcomes-based measures categories are not met.



All metrics are met

Most metrics are met



Metrics are not reviewed or not applicable

*

Continuous learning visit from TEA

NEXT STEPS:

- > Jobs for the Future will continue to conduct focus groups and structured interviews with key stakeholders across the state
- > TEA seeks your input and comments on these recommendations through the ECHS website at www.tea.texas.gov/echs
- > Jobs for the Future will develop a second, more detailed draft of these recommendations, which will be released in mid-May for additional public comment

- > You have two opportunities to share your feedback in person:
 - Day 1 (today): 3:30-4:30
 - Day 2 (tomorrow): 11:30-12:30
- > Please participate in either Day 1 or Day 2 focus group sessions, *not both*
- > Following the afternoon breakout sessions today, please attend a focus group in one of these rooms:
 - Room 201
 - Room 202
 - Room 203

- > The focus group sessions will have two main components:
 - An opportunity for you to provide feedback on the first draft of the recommendations
 - Time to talk with the colleagues about the design elements of the blueprint that you would like to see reflected in the next set of recommendations

In addition to our in-person focus groups, we would like to gather (and address) any questions you may have, and collect other comments from you:

- > We will gather your questions about the ECHS redesign process via texting from your phone or typing from your computer
- > We will leave open a poll for you to submit other questions and comments throughout the duration of this Conference

HOW TO USE POLL EVERYWHERE

1. Take out your smart phone (or computer: pollev.com/jffevents)
2. Text “JFFEVENTS” to 37607
3. You’re ready to use poll everywhere
4. Reply with “LEAVE” at the end of this conference

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