Adult Education

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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Agenda

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- ➤ High School Equivalency
- ➤ Adult Education Pilot
- ➤ Other Adult Education Schools/Programs

Adult Education: Overview

Students over 18 can to earn either a high school diploma or a Certificate of High School Equivalency (TxCHSE).

Diploma:

➢ The Texas State Board of Education (SBOE) sets standards, curriculum and graduation requirements

➢ High Schools that award diplomas must be accredited

➢ Students who first enrolled in Grade 9 during or after the 2011-2012 school year must pass End-of-Course exams "to be eligible to receive a Texas diploma" (English I,II, and III; Algebra I and II; Biology; U.S. History)
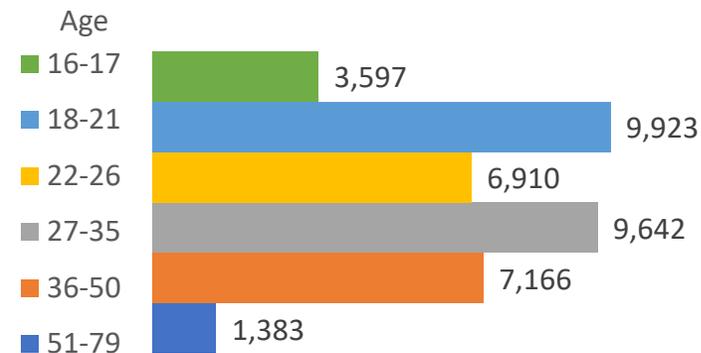
Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency:

➢ A resident of the state who has not graduated from an accredited high school is eligible to take the high school equivalency test if they are 18 years of age or older

High School Equivalency

Individuals lacking an accredited high school diploma can earn a Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency by passing either the GED or HiSET tests.

- The GED consists of four computer-based tests.
- The HiSET consists of five tests that can be taken on computer and/or paper.
- Tests can be taken in either English, Spanish or a combination.
- Average cost for a battery of tests: $141.00
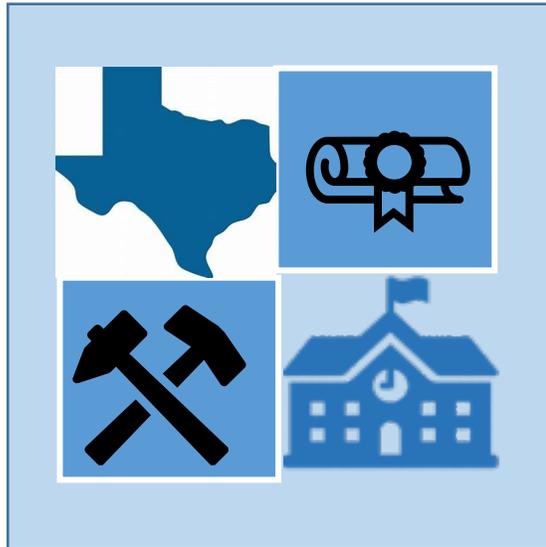
Number of 2019 Test takers by Age

Age
- 16-17: 3,597
- 18-21: 9,923
- 22-26: 6,910
- 27-35: 9,642
- 36-50: 7,166
- 51-79: 1,383

Calendar Year 2019	# of Test Takers	# of Completers	# of Passers	Pass Rate
	Number of test takers that took at least one test in a series	Number of test takers that completed all tests in a series	Number of test takers that completed and passed all tests to earn a certificate	Number of Passers / Number of Completers
Total	38,537	24,161	18,648	77.18%
Institutional *	10,634	6,319	4,924	77.90%

*Includes Texas Department of Criminal Justice, county jails, private correctional facilities and juvenile programs

Adult Education Pilot

Adult Education Pilot

Senate Bill (SB) 1142 by the 83rd Legislature established a pilot program to fulfill community and workforce development needs in the state of Texas

- ➤ Allows participation of students 18-50 years old

- ➤ Enables successful completion of a high school program leading to diploma and industry certification

- ➤ Original statutory maximum enrollment was removed - no current maximum enrollment

  - ▪ Enrollment for students 26-50 years old is effectively fixed by the biennial funding amount set in the GAA

  - ▪ Enrollment for students 18-25 is funded via FSP

Adult Education Pilot

Eligibility:

➤ An eligible non-profit entity must demonstrate a successful history of serving an older student demographic and commit at least $1 million to the program

➤ Commissioner shall approve and grant an open-enrollment charter school based on an application submitted by a single, non-profit entity

➤ TEA must create a performance framework containing performance data in order to evaluate the performance of the charter school

Goodwill Excel Center for Adults (Excel)

Goodwill Industries of Central Texas is the single entity awarded the Adult Education charter as part of the Adult Education Pilot program

➢ Excel provides education to students up to the age of 50

➢ The mission-specific charter began serving adult students in the 2014-15 school year (referred to as adults)

- Goodwill Industries of Central Texas also applied for an open-enrollment charter and began serving 17-25-year-old students in the 2015-16 school year (referred to as youth)
- Goodwill surrendered their open-enrollment charter serving youth at the end of the 2019 school year

Excel Center Features

Required by statute:

- Deliver 75%+ of instruction in person
- Provide child-care for children of students
- Provide life coaching and mental health counseling
- Instructional supports for students with identified disabilities

Excel-driven innovations:

- Transportation vouchers
- Flexible scheduling, including 8-week accelerated sessions
- Enrollment support for ACC and industry credential programs

Excel Center Enrollment

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Youth (charter school)	Not yet open	279	226	350	118	0
Adults ages 18-25 (charter school)	46	0	0	1	169	305*
Adults ages 26-50 (charter school)	86	147	148	195	213	401

* 2019-20 includes age 17

Excel Center Funding

➢ State Funding for all students is similar to other open-enrollment charter schools which is based on the state average basic allotment and district tax rates

➢ For students at least **18 years of age and under 26 years of age** funding is appropriated through Foundation School Program (FSP)

➢ For students **26 years of age and older** funding is appropriated through a rider in the General Appropriations Act each biennium with a specific appropriation. The set amount of funding in the rider effectively limits the number of students 26 years of age and over who may be served

Excel Center Enrollment & Funding

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Adult Education Charter School						
Ages 18-25 Enrollment	46	0	0	1	169	305*
ADA	31.684	0	0	0	85.276	152.715
FSP Funding	$293,522	$0	$0	$0	$830,340	$1,749,553
Ages 26-50 Enrollment	86	147	148	195	213	401
ADA	66.613	91.797	88.249	87.441	124.486	271.941
Rider Funding	$589,747	$847,600	$747,652	$876,989	$1,183,752	$2,755,266
Total Enrollment	132	147	148	196	382	706
Total ADA	98.297	91.797	88.249	87.441	209.762	424.656
Total Funding	$883, 269	$847,600	$747,652	$876,989	$2,014,092	$4,504,819

*2019-2020 includes four (4) 17-year-olds
Separate Funding Sources: FSP funding for Age 18-25 and Rider funding for Age 26-50

Excel Center Accountability Ratings

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Overall accountability rating (Youth)	Not open	Met alternative standard	Overall: **Improvement required**	Overall: **F** (58)	Overall: **D** (65)
Closing gaps (Youth)	Not open	Met standard	Met Standard	Closing gaps: **F** (30)	Closing gaps: **F** (30)
Overall accountability rating (Adults)	Not rated	Not rated	Not rated	Not rated	Not rated
Closing gaps (Adults)	Not rated	Not rated	Not rated	Not rated	Not rated

TEA is currently refining the adult-ed-specific charter school performance framework

An Adult Education Charter School Performance Framework is necessary in order to properly evaluate program success.

Rating will consist of:

- 70% academic rating

- 20% financial rating

- 10% operations and compliance rating

Will include:
Performance on STAAR, Graduation rate, and Enrollment in IHE or IBC

Elements of Charter FIRST rating include: Overall FIRST rating, days of cash on hand, short-term solvency, debt services, revenues exceed expenses

Excel Center Graduation and Certifications

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Annual Graduates (Youth)	Not yet open	Not reported	65	54	89
Industry-based certifications (Youth)	Not yet open	Not reported	Not reported	0	0
Annual Graduates (Adults)	Not reported	48	66	68	79
Industry-based certifications (Adults)	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	0	0

Excel Center College Enrollment

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Enrolled in TX IHEs (Youth)	Not yet open	Not reported	Not reported	12.3%	25.9%
Enrolled in TX IHEs (Adults)	Not reported	Not reported	14.6%	15.2%	16.2%

Other Adult Education Schools/Programs

Adult Diploma Programs in Texas

District	Campus Name	AEA ?	Dropout Recovery ?	Econ Disad %	Special Ed %	# students 18+	Total Students	% of Age 18+	Campus Rating
BROWNSVILLE ISD	BROWNSVILLE LEARNING ACAD H S	Y	Y	96.1	0	115	127	91	B
YSLETA ISD	PLATO ACADEMY	Y	Y	78.1	9.6	115	116	99	D
MULLIN ISD	PECAN RIDGE H S	Y	N	100	1.1	94	94	100	X

Highlights from High Performing Adult Education Programs in Texas

Brownsville ISD's Learning Academy HS

- B rated campus
- Heavy focus on personalized learning
- Deep CTE programming linked to local workforce needs
- Graduates obtain HS diploma and industry credentials

Pharr-San Juan-Alamo's Pathways Toward Independence program

- Heavy emphasis on adult special education students
- Key design elements include job internships
- Track record of 100% job placement and persistence
- Currently codifying the model in an effort to explore replication of the program