



PHILANTHROPY ADVOCATES

a COLLABORATION with EDUCATE TEXAS

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES IN FOCUS: PATHWAYS to COLLEGE and CAREER

Philanthropy Advocates empowers philanthropy to invest and engage in public and higher education policy and advocacy.

We work to protect, promote, and improve public and higher education so that all Texas students can achieve their educational goals from cradle to career. Our work to ensure the success of our students and future prosperity of our state doesn't end at high school graduation. We must work to ensure that students—even in elementary and middle school grades—are on **pathways to college and career** success.

THE CHALLENGE

THE JOB MARKET IS INCREASINGLY REQUIRING HIGHER EDUCATION

The U.S. job market changed during the recession in 2008, and it will change again as the result of the global pandemic. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board estimates that by 2030, 60% or more of all new jobs will require some level of higher education¹. Yet only 39% of Texans between the ages of 25 and 34 have an associate degree or higher².

TEXAS STUDENTS NEED PATHWAYS THROUGH EDUCATION TO THE WORKFORCE

Creating opportunities for multiple pathways to marketable skills, degrees and industry-recognized credentials supports students, while bolstering our state's economy, competitiveness and workforce needs. We should continue to examine and address obstacles for students transferring from community college to a four-year institution, as well as examine the impact of COVID-19 on this student population.



ONLY 23% OF TEXAS 8TH GRADERS GO ON TO COMPLETE A POSTSECONDARY CREDENTIAL³



THIS LEAVES THE TEXAS WORKFORCE IN DEMAND FOR HIGH SKILLED LABOR

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

“Without these apprenticeships and, most importantly, the skills I got from them—it would have been a lot harder for me to provide for my family. I have been employed on a consistent basis and that's because I have workforce skills to back me up.”

Joscelyn Lee, Young Invincibles
Young Advocates Program 2020 Alumni



LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS



Provide actionable, accessible, and transparent data for schools and institutions to utilize in efforts to meet 60x30TX goals and ensure college, career, and military readiness.



Support continued rigor and access in dual credit, Early College High Schools, and P-TECH, with a focus on increasing the number of students earning college credit, degrees, workforce certificates, and credentials while in Texas high schools.



Ensure continued support for and implementation of credit transferability as envisioned in SB 25 (2019).



Support improved coordination and collaboration between the Texas Education Agency and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to provide K-12 and postsecondary institutions with resources that better position students and schools to meet our 60x30TX goals.

LEARN MORE ABOUT PHILANTHROPY ADVOCATES' POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

View our 2021 policy recommendations at philanthropyadvocates.org/2021Leg

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We empower Texas philanthropy to invest and engage in effective public and higher education policy and advocacy at the state level.

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