

# THE TEXAS TRANSFER ALLIANCE

Actively working to meet state goals to ensure more students complete degrees, receive credentials, and obtain the skills needed for the future of the Texas economy and workforce.

# WHAT IS THE TEXAS TRANSFER ALLIANCE?

The Texas Transfer Alliance is a collaboration of Texas universities and community colleges focused on improving transfer student outcomes. The Alliance is led by the Charles A. Dana Center at the University of Texas-Austin, which receives support from the Trellis Foundation and Greater Texas Foundation for this effort, and is guided by representatives from:

Texas A&M University System Texas Association of Community Colleges Texas State University System University of North Texas System University of Texas System

Dr. Bill Crowe, Project Coordinator at the Charles A. Dana Center, leads the in-state infrastructure (e.g., institutional liaisons, coordination of technical assistance) with the Dana Center's regional coordinators.

The Alliance is aligned to <u>60x30TX</u>'s goals, as outlined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and receives advisory support from **Educate Texas**. The Alliance's membership represents 86% of all public undergraduate enrollments in the state. Additionally, the Alliance receives resources and technical assistance from **Tackling Transfer**, a collaboration among three national partners supported by four foundations.

Tackling Transfer PartnersThe Aspen Institute's College Excellence ProgramHCM StrategistsSova Solutions

Tackling Transfer is a three-state effort (MN, TX, VA) that aims to foster the conditions for scaled and measurable improvements in attainment rates for baccalaureateseeking community college students, especially the large number of low-income students and students of color who begin education in the two-year sector.

\*The work of the Texas Transfer Alliance is supported in part by a grant from the Trellis Foundation. Tackling Transfer is made possible through the commitment and support of Ascendium Education Philanthropy, ECMC Foundation, The Joyce Foundation, and The Kresge Foundation.

# 2025 GOALS OF THE TEXAS TRANSFER ALLIANCE

- Increase the six-year transfer-out rate from 21% to 33%, eliminating all gaps by race/ethnicity and Pell status.
- Increase the four-year bachelor's completion rate of community college transfers from 58% to 67%, eliminating all gaps by race/ethnicity and Pell status.
- Decrease the average number of attempted credits to degree from 142.9 for transfer students and 136.4 for native students to 135 credits for both groups, while eliminating all gaps by race/ethnicity and Pell status.
- Decrease the average time-to-degree for transfer students from 7.6 years to 6.5 years and eliminate all gaps by race/ethnicity and Pell status.
- Increase the percent of Texas community college students completing college-level math and writing in the first year to 45% (from 19% and 33%, respectively) and eliminate all gaps by race/ethnicity and Pell status.

\*The Alliance will monitor data and performance toward these goals.

# **PROGRESS TO DATE**

Since fall of 2018, the Texas Transfer Alliance has:

- Identified common goals to improve equitable transfer student outcomes and developed metrics to track progress;
- Held six regional convenings across the state, with 93% of Texas public colleges and universities in attendance;
- Conducted research into what Texas institutions want and need for improving transfer student outcomes through a set of interviews, analysis of institutional self-assessments, and deep listening;
- Developed customized data reports for institutions to understand transfer student outcomes;
- Launched the Transfer Partnership Strategy (TPS) to work intensively with partnering institutions across the state to strengthen their local efforts around community college transfer;
- Collaborated with the Texas Success Center to support the April 2021 Texas Pathways Institute focused on transfer;
- Developed strategies to support institutional leaders as they prioritize and support transfer student success; and
- Launched a variety of tools, resources, and learning opportunities that feature Texas institutional representatives to promote statewide learning and disseminate innovative and promising practices as they emerge.

#### INSTITUTIONAL ENGAGEMENT

#### **Transfer Partnership Strategy**

<u>Who</u>: A cohort of 26 institutions that commit to one year of deep partnership-level work (see next page for list of institutions).

Resources include:

- One in-person statewide convening supplemented by virtual learning opportunities (e.g., webinars and virtual technical assistance) focused on areas such as fostering improved collaboration, capturing student voice, and implementing requirements in SB25;
- In-region technical assistance, facilitated by a Dana Center Regional Coordinator, to facilitate local meetings, troubleshoot challenges, and identify next steps;
- Customized data reports capturing transfer student outcomes;
- Direct access to the expertise of the Tackling Transfer partners;
- A \$4000 pass-through grant to cover expenses associated with participation; and
- Opportunities to influence the Texas Transfer Alliance's efforts to inform system-level practice, process and policy developments.

#### **Learning Opportunities**

Who: Interested Texas institutions.

<u>Resources include</u>: The Texas Transfer Alliance and Tackling Transfer partners will make available transfer resources to institutions statewide. This will include webinars on select topics (e.g., engaging student voice, assessing practices, using data). Webinars will also share lessons from the Transfer Partnership Strategy institutions and encourage peer to peer practice-sharing. In addition, tools like institutional self-assessments and action planning templates will be available online.

## TRANSFER PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY

In 2019, 26 Texas institutions were selected for the Alliance's Transfer Partnership Strategy, representing two- and four-year institutions across the state, with funding from the Trellis Foundation. Institutions were chosen based on prior success in student transfer-related efforts as well as their relative sizes and positions within the state's higher education landscape. The institutions participating in the Transfer Partnership Strategy as of early 2021 are:

Alamo Colleges District	South Plains College
Amarillo College	South Texas College
Austin Community College	Texas A&M University–Commerce
Collin College	Texas A&M University–Kingsville
Dallas County Community College District	Texas Southmost College
El Paso Community College	Texas State University
Frank Phillips College	The University of Texas at Arlington
Lone Star College	The University of Texas at Dallas
Navarro College	The University of Texas at El Paso
North Central Texas College	The University of Texas at San Antonio
Paris Junior College	University of North Texas
Sam Houston State University	University of North Texas at Dallas
San Jacinto College	West Texas A&M University

In 2021, with support from the Greater Texas Foundation, the following institutions will also join the Transfer Partnership Strategy: Texas Tech, Angelo State, Midwestern State and Texas Women's Universities.

The Transfer Partnership Strategy institutions represent 44% of all public undergraduate enrollments in the state.

### **CONTACT & ACCESS TO MEMBER RESOURCES**

Please visit the <u>Texas Transfer Alliance</u> web site for tools and resources such as a 90-Day Cycle Action Planning Worksheet, case-making data, and a recent publication from the Dana Center entitled <u>Emerging Solutions: Texas</u> <u>Transfer Alliance</u>.

https://highered.aspeninstitute.org/texas-transfer-alliance/

For more information about the Texas Transfer Alliance, please contact:

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