

TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD



Special Called Board Meeting

September 10, 2020

SCHEDULE OF QUARTERLY COORDINATING BOARD MEETINGS

October 22, 2020

January 21, 2021

April 22, 2021

July 22, 2021

October 21, 2021

TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD**PREFERRED MAILING ADDRESS LIST**EMAIL: boardmember@highered.texas.gov

BOARD MEMBER	ADDRESS/PHONE/EMAIL	TERM ENDS
Stuart W. Stedman <i>Chair</i> HOUSTON	c/o Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board P. O. Box 12788, Austin, TX 78711 Phone: (512) 427-6101	08/31/21
Fred Farias III, O.D. <i>Vice Chair</i> MCALLEN	c/o Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board P. O. Box 12788, Austin, TX 78711 Phone: (512) 427-6101	08/31/25
Ricky A. Raven. <i>Secretary of the Board</i> SUGAR LAND	c/o Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board P. O. Box 12788, Austin, TX 78711 Phone: (512) 427-6101	08/31/21
S. Javaid Anwar MIDLAND	c/o Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board P. O. Box 12788, Austin, TX 78711 Phone: (512) 427-6101	08/31/21
Cody C. Campbell FORT WORTH	c/o Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board P. O. Box 12788, Austin, TX 78711 Phone: (512) 427-6101	08/31/23
Emma W. Schwartz EL PASO	c/o Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board P. O. Box 12788, Austin, TX 78711 Phone: (512) 427-6101	08/31/25
R. Sam Torn HOUSTON	/o Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board P. O. Box 12788, Austin, TX 78711 Phone: (512) 427-6101	08/31/25
Donna N. Williams ARLINGTON	c/o Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board P. O. Box 12788, Austin, TX 78711 Phone: (512) 427-6101	08/31/23
Welcome W. Wilson, Jr. HOUSTON	c/o Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board P. O. Box 12788, Austin, TX 78711 Phone: (512) 427-6101	08/31/23
Levi D. McClenny <i>Student Representative</i> COLLEGE STATION	c/o Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board P. O. Box 12788, Austin, TX 78711 Phone: (512) 427-6101	05/31/21

Dated 06/17/20

Standing Committee Membership
Effective June 1, 2020

Committee on Academic and Workforce Success (CAWS)

Fred Farias III, O.D., Chair

Donna N. Williams, Vice Chair

Cody Campbell

Emma W. Schwartz

R. Sam Torn

Welcome W. Wilson, Jr.

Levi D. McClenny (Student Representative), Ex-Officio

Stuart W. Stedman, Ex-Officio

Committee on Innovation, Data, and Educational Analytics (IDEA)

S. Javaid Anwar, Chair

Welcome W. Wilson, Jr., Vice Chair

Ricky A. Raven

R. Sam Torn

Donna N. Williams

Levi D. McClenny (Student Representative), Ex-Officio

Stuart W. Stedman, Ex-Officio

Agency Operations Committee (AOC)

Ricky A. Raven, Chair

Emma W. Schwartz, Vice Chair

S. Javaid Anwar

Cody Campbell

Fred Farias III, O.D.

Levi D. McClenny (Student Representative), Ex-Officio

Stuart W. Stedman, Ex-Officio

NOTE: The Coordinating Board meeting will be broadcast live on the Internet at <http://www.highered.texas.gov/Events>. Board meeting agendas, minutes, presentations, and reports are also available at this address.

TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
A G E N D A

Special Called Board Meeting

Video Conference

3:00 PM, Thursday, September 10, 2020

This meeting is convened pursuant to section 61.025 of the Texas Education Code and section 551.121 of the Texas Government Code. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board may convene in Executive Session at any point in this meeting, concerning any item listed in the agenda, or to seek or to receive its attorney's advice on legal matters related thereto, pursuant to Texas Government Code Ann. 551.071.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: The presiding chair shall designate whether public testimony will be taken at the beginning of the meeting, at the time the related item is taken up by the Board after staff has presented the item, or any other time as determined by the presiding chair. For procedures on testifying please go to <http://www.highered.texas.gov/public-testimony>.

I. Call to Order: Opening Remarks and Announcements

II. Public Testimony

III. Matters relating to the Full Board

- A. Consideration of adopting the Commissioner's recommendation to the Board relating to the agency's Legislative Appropriation Request for Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023.
- B. Commissioner's Report to the Board on exceptions or modifications made pursuant to Emergency Rule § 1.15(b).
- C. Consideration of approving the issuance of a Request for Applications for the Texas Reskilling Support Fund funded by the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund, which is one component of the Education Stabilization Fund in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act
- D. Consideration of approving the issuance of a Request for Offer for the Digital Learning Clearinghouse Project funded by the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund, which is one component of the Education Stabilization Fund in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act
- E. Consideration of approving the issuance of a Request for Applications for:
 - (1) Open Educational Resources Course Development and Implementation Grant Program funded by the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund, which is one component of the Education Stabilization Fund in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

- (2) Open Educational Resources Technical Assistance Grant Program funded by the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund, which is one component of the Education Stabilization Fund in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.
- (3) Digital Learning Clearinghouse Grant Program funded by the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund, which is one component of the Education Stabilization Fund in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

IV. Adjournment

Governor Abbott's office approved a request by the Office of the Attorney General to temporarily suspend a limited number of open meeting laws in response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) disaster. This action will allow governmental bodies to conduct meetings by telephone or video conference to advance the public health goal of limiting face-to-face meetings (also called "social distancing") to slow the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). All persons requesting to address the Board regarding an item on this agenda should follow standard Board protocol for doing so and they will be provided a toll-free telephone number, free-of-charge video conference link, or other means by which to do so.

Special Called Board Meeting

AGENDA ITEM I

Opening Remarks: Opening Remarks and Announcements

Mr. Stuart Stedman, Chair of the Board, will call the meeting to order and provide opening remarks.

Special Called Board Meeting

AGENDA ITEM II

Public Testimony

RECOMMENDATION: No action required

Background Information:

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: The presiding chair shall designate whether public testimony will be taken at the beginning of the meeting, at the time the related item is taken up by the Board after staff has presented the item, or any other time as determined by the presiding chair.

Special Called Board Meeting

AGENDA ITEM III-A

Consideration of adopting the Commissioner's recommendation to the Board relating to the agency's Legislative Appropriation Request for Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

Background Information:

State funding for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board is appropriated to the agency through the biennial General Appropriations Act (GAA). This act is approved by the Texas legislature and signed by the Governor. Prior to the start of a legislative session, each state agency is required to develop a Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR). The LAR provides information to the Governor and legislature about the agency's funding needs and priorities.

The LAR starts with the base level funding and then builds upon this with any exceptional items that the agency requests. The LAR base being presented today is aligned with the General Appropriations Act (GAA) of the 86th legislature, less a mandated five percent reduction in general revenue and general revenue dedicated. This item requires approval.

Key points:

- This LAR is for fiscal years 2022 and 2023 and delineates the method of funding and expense by strategy.
- The base level funding reflected in this budget is in alignment with the base level funding from the General Appropriations Act from the 86th legislature and includes a mandated five percent reduction. Base funding was approved and provided to the agency by the Legislative Budget Board (LBB).
- This LAR includes additional funding requests, referred to as exceptional item requests.
- The FY 2022-2023 LAR has been reviewed and approved by the Commissioner and Chief Financial Officer.

LAR materials will be sent under separate cover. Rey Rodriguez, Deputy Commissioner and Chief of Staff, and Ken Martin, Assistant Commissioner for Financial Services and CFO, will present this item and be available for questions.

Special Called Board Meeting

AGENDA ITEM III-B

Commissioner's Report to the Board on exceptions or modifications made pursuant to Emergency Rule § 1.15(b)

RECOMMENDATION: No action required

Background Information:

Under emergency rule, 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Rule § 1.15(b), the Commissioner may grant exceptions, or modify formula funding provisions set out in rule for institutions of higher education in an area declared a disaster pursuant to Chapter 418 of the Government Code. The rule requires the Commissioner to report any exceptions or modifications made under this authority to the Board at its next meeting.

One modification has been made pursuant to this emergency rule:

- On August 31, 2020, the Commissioner granted a modification to Rule 19 TAC § 4.264(c).
- The modification removes the restriction on submitting distance education courses for formula funding when taken by nonresident students who are located outside of Texas, subject to certain reporting instructions.
- The modification applies to all public institutions of higher education in Texas pursuant to the Governor's March 13, 2020, proclamation, and subsequent proclamations, certifying that COVID-19 poses an imminent threat of disaster in the state and declaring a state of disaster for all counties in Texas.
- The modification is effective as of August 31, 2020, for reporting in each semester, beginning with certified submissions for Summer 2020 through the end of the disaster declarations or expiration of emergency Rule § 1.15(b).
- The modification does not apply to students outside of Texas who are enrolled in classes in a program formally classified as distance education.

Ms. Emily Cormier, Assistant Commissioner for Funding, will present this item and be available to answer questions.

Special Called Board Meeting

AGENDA ITEM III-C

Consideration of approving a Request for Applications for the Texas Reskilling Support Fund funded by the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund, which is one component of the Education Stabilization Fund in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

Background Information:

The Texas Reskilling Support Fund is one component of the allocation of \$175 million provided to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board from the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund, which originate from the U.S. Department of Education's administration of the Education Stabilization Fund in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020. The CARES Act (HR 748/S 3548 of the 116th Congress) was signed into law on March 27, 2020.

The \$46.5 million Texas Reskilling Support Fund will provide financial assistance to Texas students impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Consistent with the completion goals of 60x30TX, these funds will support displaced Texas workers who need to reskill or upskill to move quickly back into the workforce and Texans students who have previously stopped out of higher education institutions without completing a postsecondary credential. Coordinating Board staff requests permission to issue a Request for Applications (RFA) during fall 2020 to public institutions of higher education in Texas to award the Texas Reskilling Support Fund. Public higher education institutions will be required to distribute funds to students upon receipt of funds. The RFA will require that institutions place priority on students pursuing credentials in high value/high-demand fields, and who are either in short term credential programs leading to employment or students who are within twelve months of completing their credential.

Coordinating Board staff engaged with institutional representatives to aid in the development of eligibility criteria and selection, which will be detailed in the published RFA. Applications will be evaluated by agency staff based on that eligibility criteria, after which applications will be recommended for grant awards. The Board, through the Commissioner as its delegate and with approval of the Board Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Chair will make the final award selections. These funds are intended to be provided to public institutions during the first half of academic year 2020-21.

Stacey Silverman, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Quality and Workforce will present this item and be available for questions.

Special Called Board Meeting

AGENDA ITEM III-D

Consideration of approving the issuance of a Request for Offer for the Digital Learning Clearinghouse Project funded by the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund, which is one component of the Education Stabilization Fund in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

Background Information:

The Digital Learning Clearinghouse Project is one component of the allocation of \$175 million provided to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board from the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund, which originates from the U.S. Department of Education's administration of the Education Stabilization Fund in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020. The CARES Act (HR 748/S 3548 of the 116th Congress) was signed into law on March 27, 2020.

The Request for Offer for the Digital Learning Clearinghouse Project solicits bids for the design, launch, and upkeep of a website that will curate effective online teaching practices and resources for Texas faculty and instructional support staff. Consistent with the completion goals of *60x30TX*, the Digital Learning Clearinghouse Project seeks to enhance quality online course offerings for Texas students impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Coordinating Board staff will consult with representatives from Texas institutions of higher education (particularly digital learning innovators and student success leaders) to design the specifications of the Digital Learning Clearinghouse. These funds are intended to be deployed as quickly as reasonably possible during the 2020-21 academic year.

Stacey Silverman, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Quality and Workforce will present this item and be available for questions.

Special Called Board Meeting

AGENDA ITEM III-E (1)

Consideration of approving the issuance of a Request for Applications for Open Educational Resources Course Development and Implementation Grant Program funded by the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund, which is one component of the Education Stabilization Fund in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

Background Information:

The Open Educational Resources Course Development and Implementation Grant Program is one component of the allocation of \$175 million provided to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board from the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund, which originates from the U.S. Department of Education's administration of the Education Stabilization Fund in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020. The CARES Act (HR 748/S 3548 of the 116th Congress) was signed into law on March 27, 2020.

Coordinating Board staff requests applications from Texas institutions of higher education to award matching grants to support faculty teams developing new or redesigning existing open educational resources (OER) for most frequently transferred Texas Core Curriculum courses, co-requisite courses, and workforce courses in high value/high demand fields. Consistent with the completion and student debt goals of ~~60x307X~~, the grant program will help to enhance quality online course offerings and reduce the costs of instructional materials for Texas students impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Request for Applications (RFA) will provide background information, definitions, instructions, award criteria, and forms for completing the applications. Coordinating Board staff is currently working to develop eligibility criteria and allocation methodologies. These funds are intended to be deployed as quickly as reasonably possible during the 2020-21 academic year.

Stacey Silverman, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Quality and Workforce will present this item and be available for questions.

Special Called Board Meeting

AGENDA ITEM III-E (2)

Consideration of approving the issuance of a Request for Applications for Open Educational Resources Technical Assistance Grant Program funded by the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund, which is one component of the Education Stabilization Fund in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

Background Information:

The Open Educational Resources Technical Assistance Grant Program is one component of the allocation of \$175 million provided to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board from the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund, which originates from the U.S. Department of Education's administration of the Education Stabilization Fund in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020. The CARES Act (HR 748/S 3548 of the 116th Congress) was signed into law on March 27, 2020.

Coordinating Board staff requests applications from organizations and/or institutions of higher education with demonstrated capabilities to work directly with institutional grantees as technical assistance partners to award grants to promote effective design and enhance scalability of the Open Educational Resources Course Development and Implementation Grant Program. Consistent with the completion and student debt goals of *60x30TX*, the grant program will help to enhance quality online course offerings and reduce the costs of instructional materials for Texas students impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Request for Applications (RFA) will provide background information, definitions, instructions, award criteria, and forms for completing the applications. Coordinating Board staff is currently working to develop eligibility criteria and allocation methodologies. These funds are intended to be deployed as quickly as reasonably possible during the 2020-21 academic year.

Stacey Silverman, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Quality and Workforce will present this item and be available for questions.

Special Called Board Meeting

AGENDA ITEM III-E (3)

Consideration of approving the issuance of a Request for Applications for Digital Learning Clearinghouse Grant Program funded by the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund, which is one component of the Education Stabilization Fund in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

Background Information:

The Digital Learning Clearinghouse Grant Program is one component of the allocation of \$175 million provided to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board from the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund, which originates from the U.S. Department of Education's administration of the Education Stabilization Fund in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020. The CARES Act (HR 748/S 3548 of the 116th Congress) was signed into law on March 27, 2020.

Coordinating Board staff requests applications from Texas institutions of higher education to award matching grants to digital learning and teaching/student success centers to populate a Digital Learning Clearinghouse website with examples of effective online learning practices and other resources for Texas instructors. Consistent with the completion goals of *60x30TX*, the Digital Learning Clearinghouse Grant Program seeks to enhance quality online course offerings for Texas students impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Request for Applications (RFA) will provide background information, definitions, instructions, award criteria, and forms for completing the applications. Coordinating Board staff is currently working to develop eligibility criteria and allocation methodologies. These funds are intended to be deployed as quickly as reasonably possible during the 2020-21 academic year.

Stacey Silverman, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Quality and Workforce will present this item and be available for questions.