

Central Texas Regional Strategies

60x30TX Educated Population

Deepen institutional alignment with workforce and industry partners. For example:

- Collaborate with business and industry partners to identify marketable skills that are in-demand
- Expand experiential learning opportunities, including career-oriented internships for students
- Enhance or develop business/industry councils/advisory boards in targeted sectors

Completion

Strengthen guided pathways through higher education for students starting in high school, adult basic education, credit and non-credit continuing education, or other non-traditional starting points, through higher education, including transfer, to completion, and entry into the workforce. For example:

- Create semester-by-semester degree maps
- Develop transfer pathways for every degree program, align degree program requirements across institutions, reduce the number of courses in the core, and expand reverse transfer
- Use data to identify lost graduates (those who have enough credits or nearly enough credits to complete) and support them to finish

High School-to-Higher Education

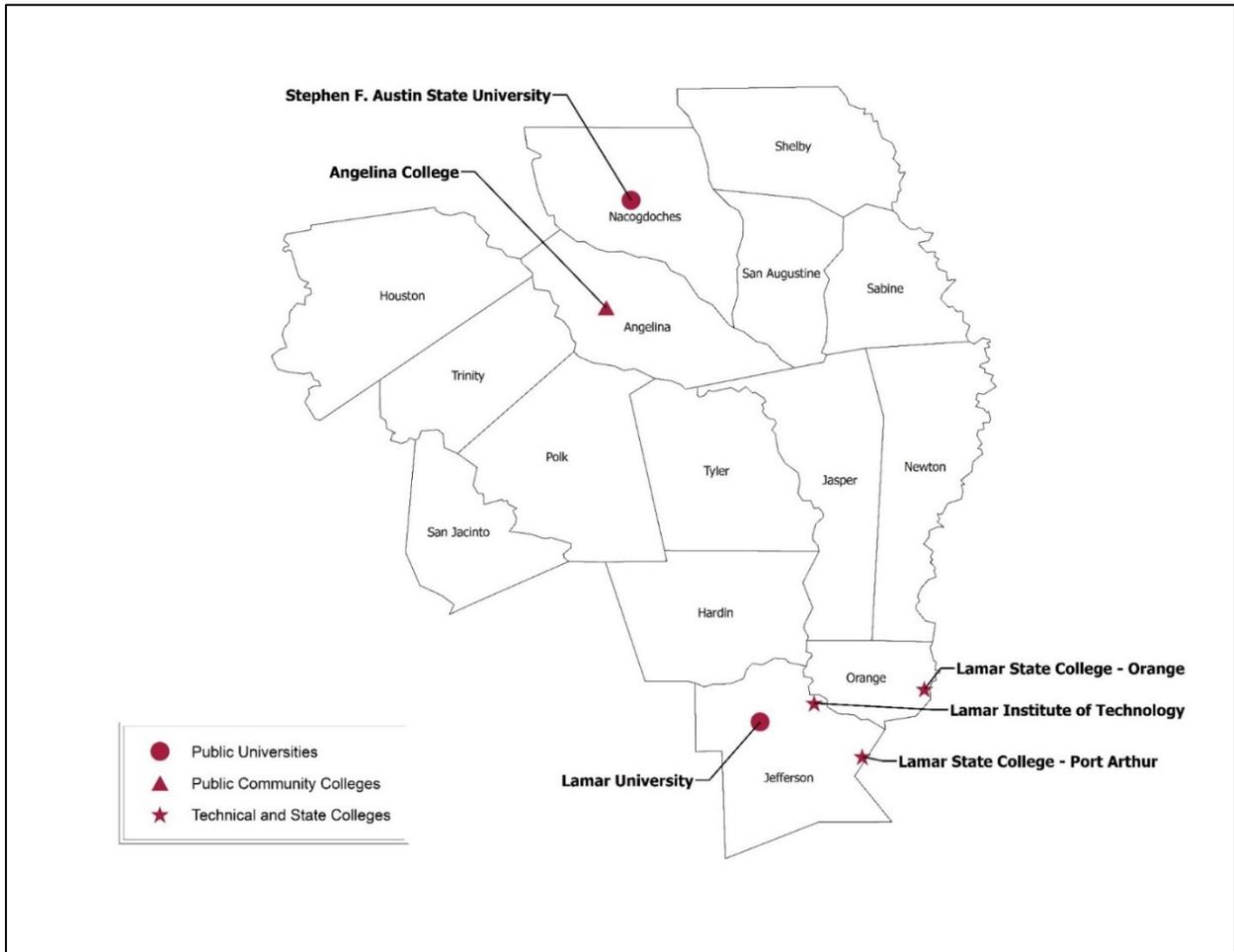
Increase coordinated data analysis regarding high school-to-college transitions with a specific cross-regional focus

For example:

- Increase the number of students who prepare for college by completing the FAFSA
- Regularly communicate success metrics to ISDs such as rates of matriculation and college readiness
- Engineer a data sharing system to pass contact information of high school graduates not enrolled in higher education

Southeast Regional Strategies

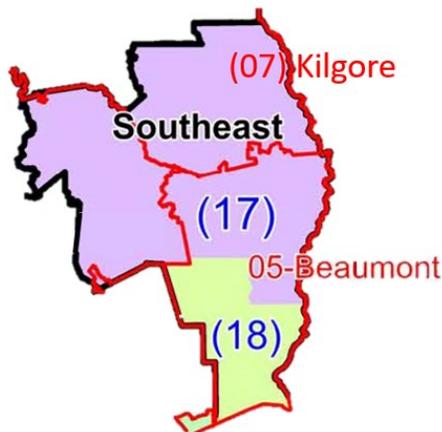
Institutions of Higher Education



Education Service Centers, and Texas Workforce Development Areas

Education Service Centers (K12)
 (05) Beaumont
 (07) Kilgore

TWC Workforce Development Areas
 (17) Deep East Texas
 (18) South East Texas



Southeast Regional Strategies

60x30TX Educated Population

Implement a large-scale public information campaign co-led by higher education entities and business and industry partners to communicate the value of earning a higher education credential, that will include:

- Starting early initiatives with students in grades 5 through 8
- Providing non-traditional and returning students with information on value of earning a college certificate or degree

Completion

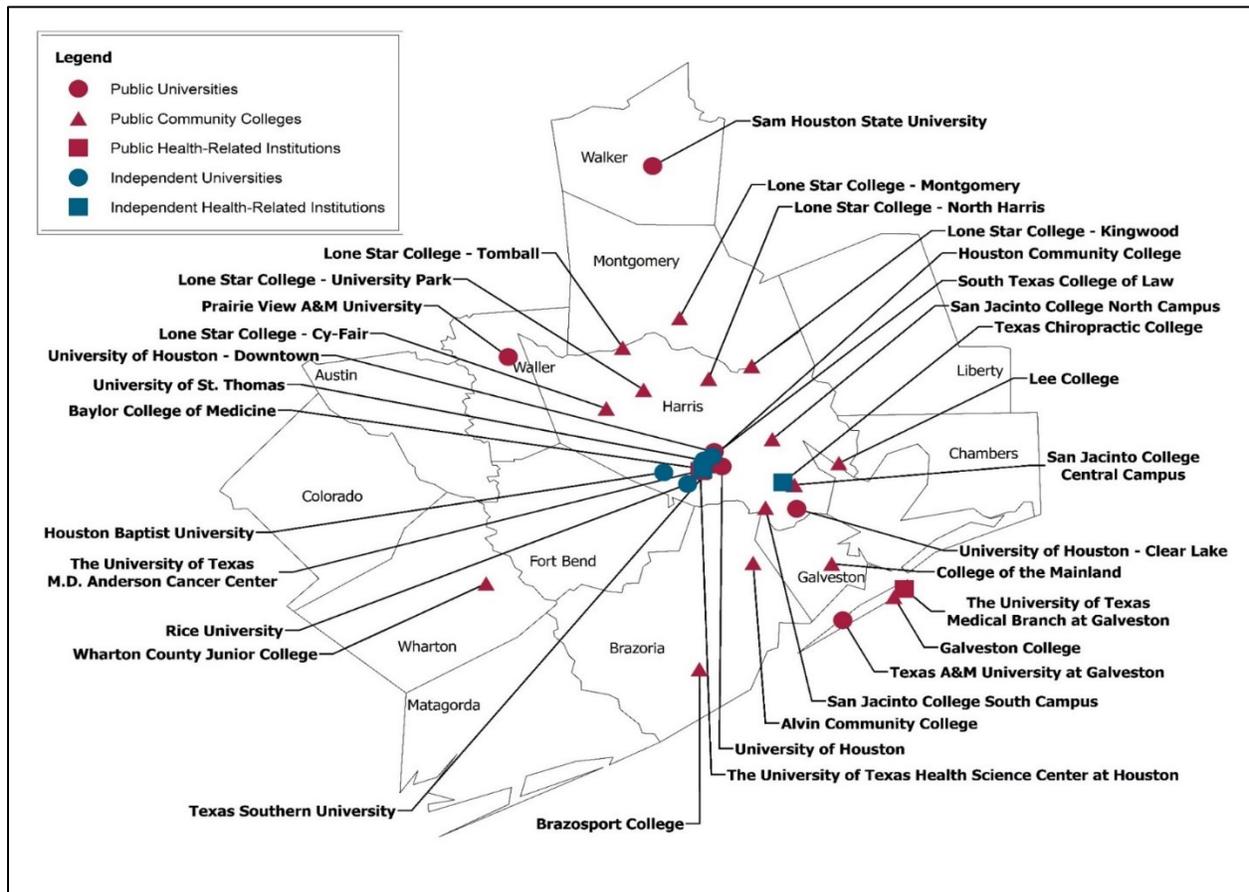
Develop clear pathways for student success, including transitions into and between institutions of higher education, with mechanisms for supporting at-risk student populations.

High School-to-Higher Education

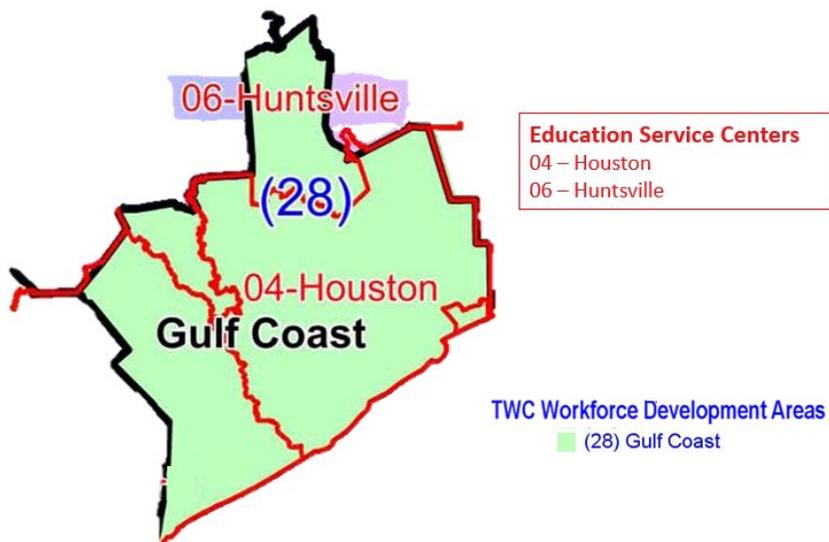
Strengthen partnerships with high school counselors, school district administrators, and other stakeholders to promote a college-going culture and increase the number of high school students, including those from underrepresented populations, enrolling in higher education.

Gulf Coast Regional Strategies

Institutions of Higher Education



Education Service Centers, and Texas Workforce Development Areas



Gulf Coast Regional Strategies

60x30TX Educated Population

Gulf Coast higher education institutions will collaborate with industry partners and the Greater Houston Partnership through UpSkill Houston (<https://www.houston.org/upskillhouston/>) to create an UpSkill plan for the Gulf Coast region that will recruit/develop/retain the talent pipeline – with credentials from level-one certificates to graduate degrees – for the Gulf Coast workforce.

Completion

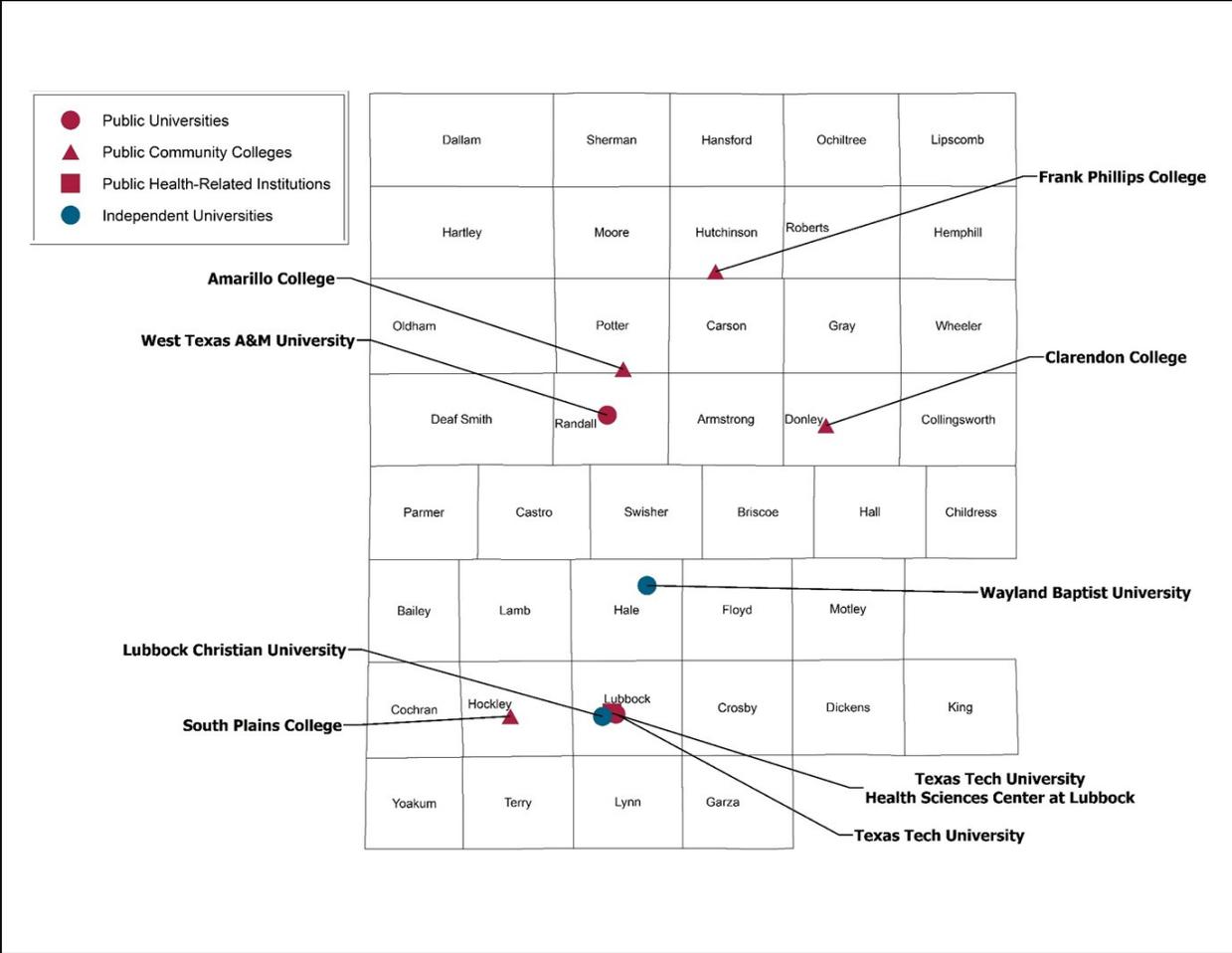
Modeled on the success of Houston GPS, Gulf Coast higher education institutions will create a Regional Transfer Consortium that will strengthen transfer pathways from two-year colleges to four-year universities so that more students are able to transfer efficiently with minimal excess credits and time to degree.

High School-to-Higher Education

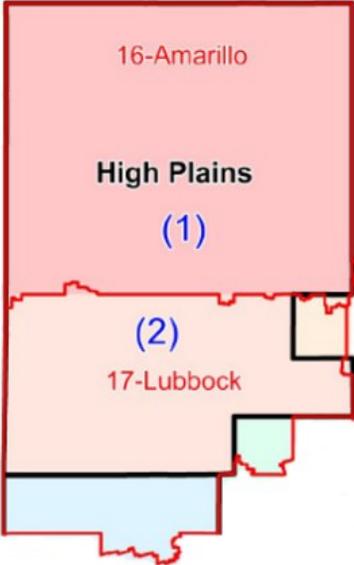
Gulf Coast higher education institutions will partner with Gulf Coast K-12 partners to improve or expand recruitment strategies and efforts at their schools by sharing data and best practices, with a targeted focus on direct enrollment into college the first semester after high school.

High Plains Regional Strategies

Institutions of Higher Education



Education Service Centers, and Texas Workforce Development Areas



Higher Education Region

Education Service Centers (K12)

- (16) Amarillo
- (17) Lubbock

TWC Workforce Development Areas

- (1) Panhandle
- (2) South Plains

High Plains Regional Strategies

60x30TX Educated Population

Representatives of two- and four-year institutions of higher education will collaborate to identify stop-out and drop-out students in our region and develop a plan highlighting potential degree/certificate completion pathways relevant and specific to individual students (including degree audits from multiple institutions). Representatives will also coordinate with the Texas Workforce Commission/Workforce Solutions to identify career opportunities in the High Plains Region and will develop methods to communication both completion pathways and career opportunities to the students.

Completion

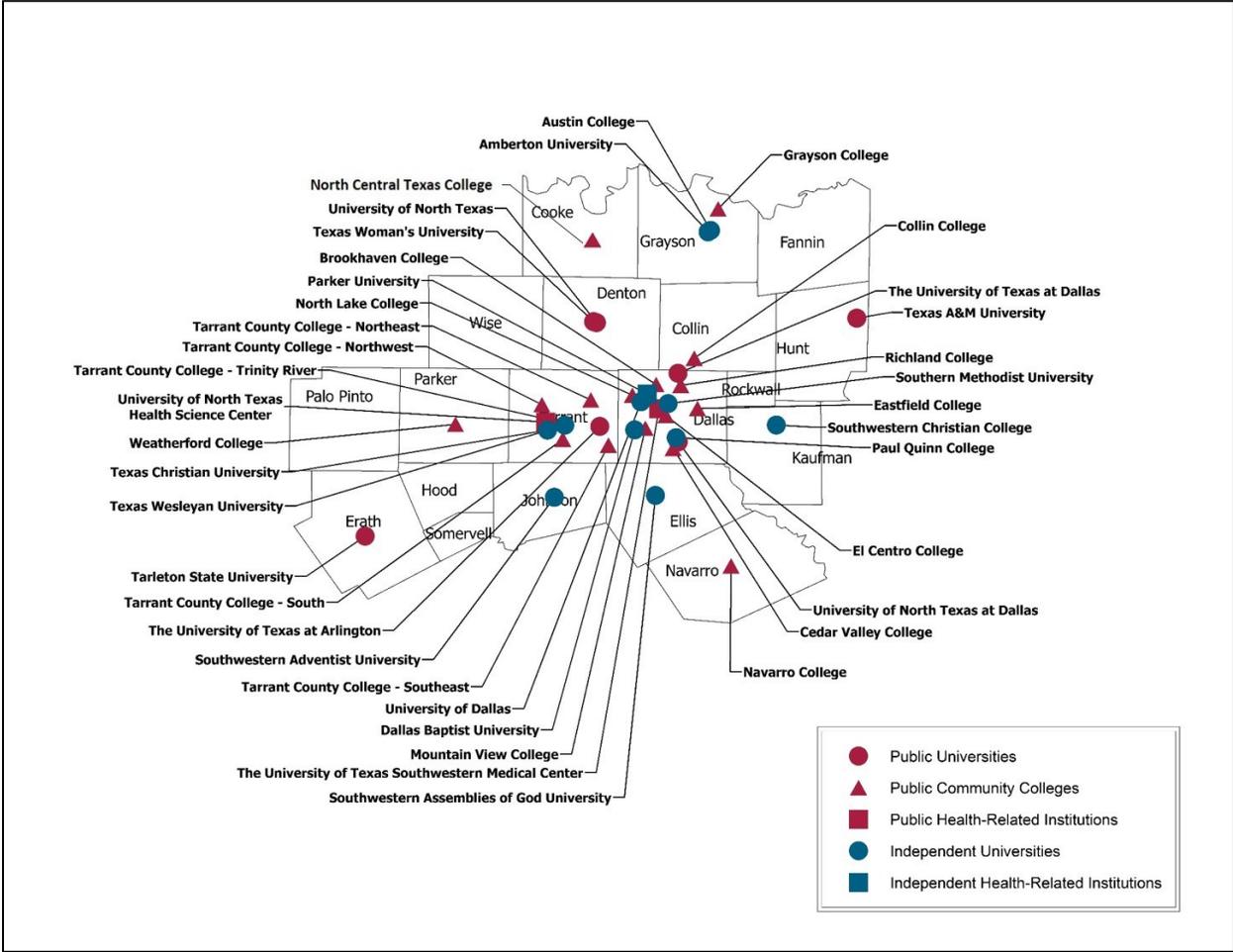
All institutions of higher education in the High Plains Region will work together to utilize, transcript, and embed state-mandated field of study curricula into guided pathway degree programs.

High School-to-Higher Education

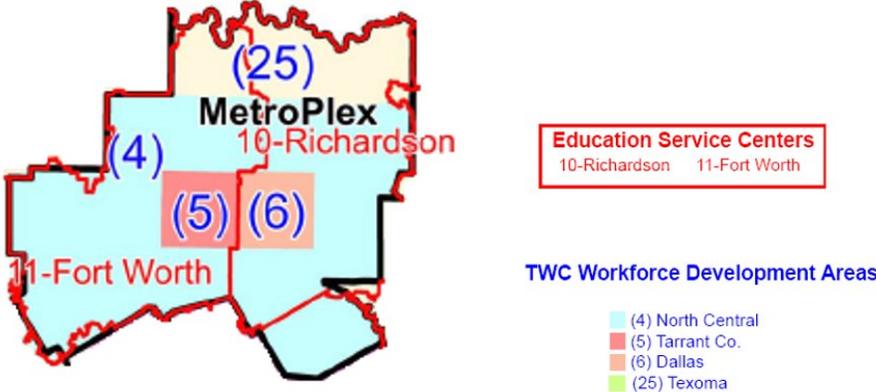
High Plains Region school districts, two-year, and four-year institutions of higher education will work together to provide seamless guided pathways from high school dual-credit to associates and baccalaureate degrees in both academic and career and technical fields. Partners will also work together to increase FAFSA completion rates for high school seniors to encourage post-graduation participation.

Metroplex Regional Strategies

Institutions of Higher Education



Education Service Centers, and Texas Workforce Development Areas



Metroplex Regional Strategies

60x30TX Educated Population

Strategy 1. Partner with Metroplex institutions and organizations to facilitate expansive pathways in support of non-traditional students through innovative approaches such as prior learning assessment (PLA), military credit, competency-based education (CBE), and adult education learners (AEL) transition, etc.

Strategy 2. Partner with Metroplex agencies, chambers of commerce, and other organizations to align higher education pathways with employment opportunities and required skills.

Completion

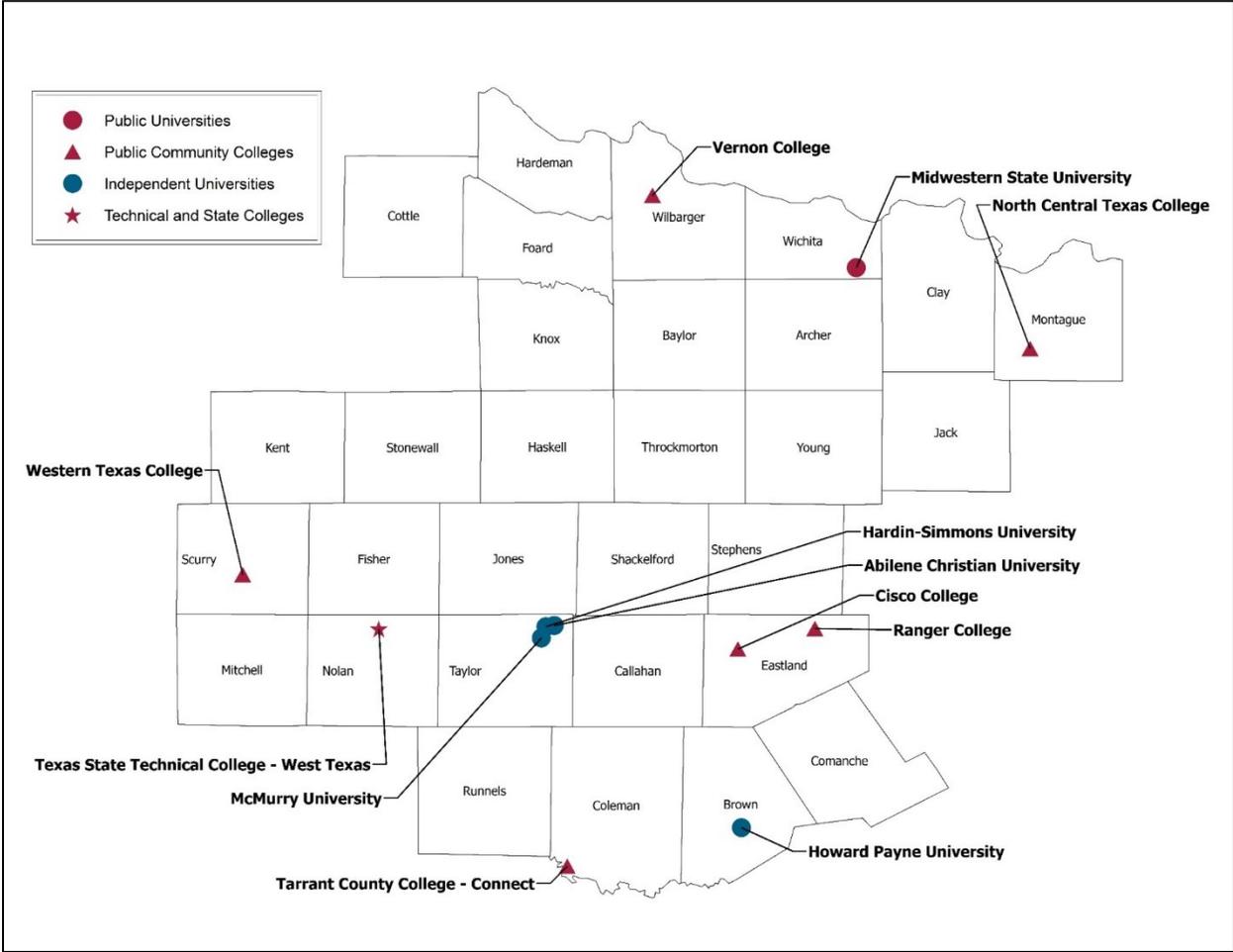
Partner with Metroplex secondary and post-secondary institutions to develop pathways for FTIC transfer students; streamline transfer; and optimize credit application toward degree programs.

High School-to-Higher Education

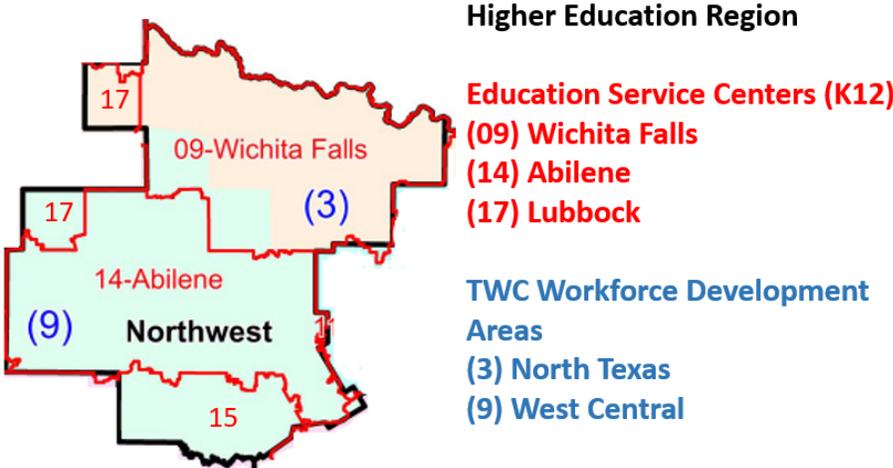
Create partnerships among education service centers, independent school districts, and institutions of higher education to develop and offer 12th-grade college preparatory courses recognized at Metroplex community colleges and universities.

Northwest – Regional Strategies

Institutions of Higher Education



Education Service Centers, and Texas Workforce Development Areas



Northwest – Regional Strategies

60x30TX Educated Population

Work with local industry and the Texas Workforce Commission to identify and expand experiential learning opportunities between the institution and industry.

Increase internships in high need fields with industry partners that lead to career prospects and direct employment. Increase use of Advisory Boards to advise institutions on workforce needs and educational programming.

Increase instructional options to enable students working access to two- and four-year degrees (online, hybrid, evening, and weekend).

Completion

Automate reverse transcripts from four-year to two-year schools so more students are able to transfer credits to complete the associates degree while continuing their education toward a bachelor's degree.

Maximize integration of Field of Study (FOS) courses into degree plans and increase articulation agreements to construct seamless transfer from two- to four-year institutions and expedite degree completion(s).

Increase Certificate-to-AS and BS programs (i.e., RN to BSN). Create semester degree maps and strengthen transfer pathways.

High School-to-Higher Education

Act to identify specific curriculum that informs high school students of career opportunities and can result in faster completion of degrees.

Develop and provide curricular maps that link high school student interests with degree and career opportunities.

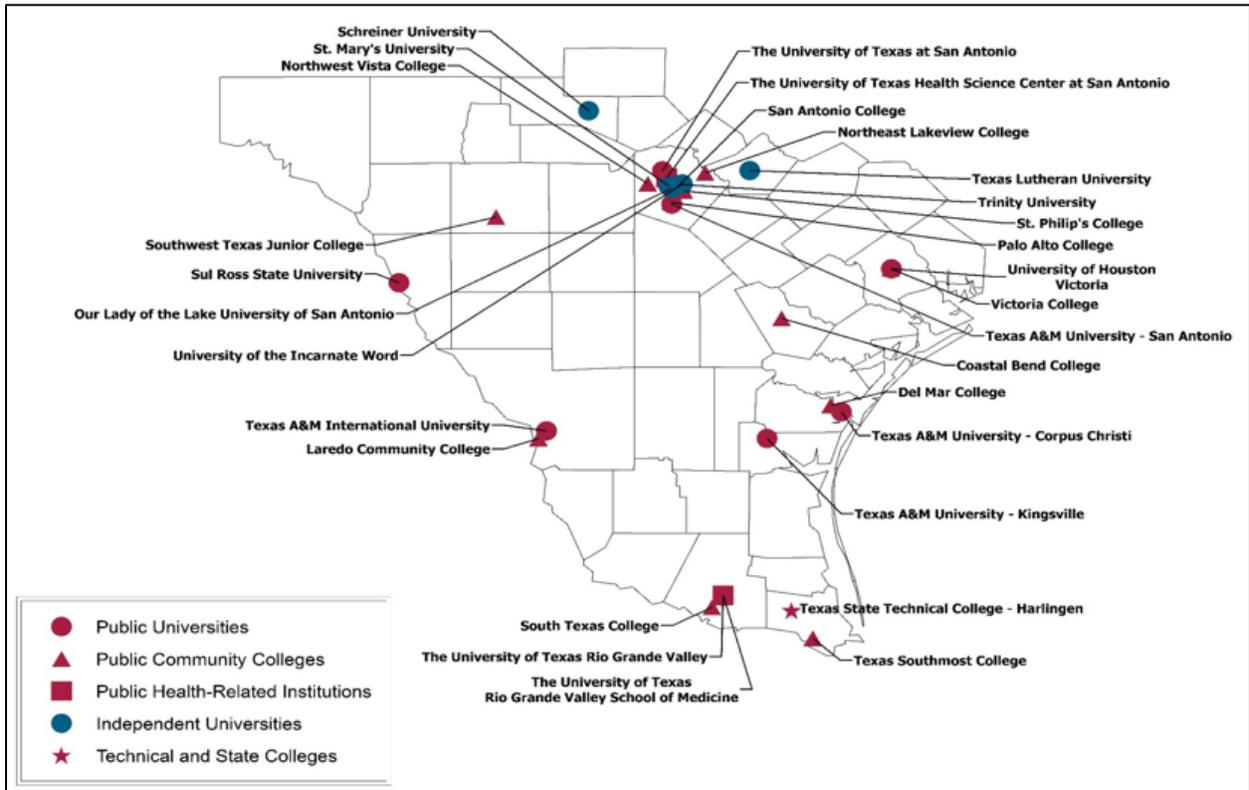
Collaborate with ISD's to:

- foster awareness of postsecondary degree and career options;
- improve and expand recruitment efforts; and
- promote financial assistance for first generation students and those who qualify based on income.

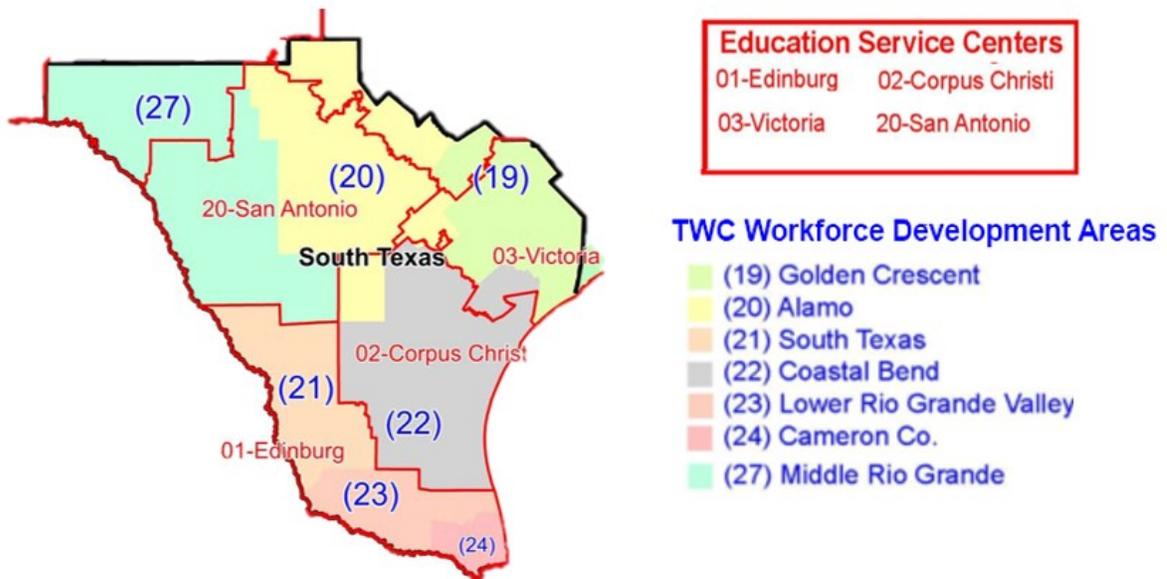
Increase collaboration with the community to support more Hispanic students to enroll in higher education. This includes the need for all outreach materials to be in English and Spanish.

South Texas –Regional Strategies- Draft

Institutions of Higher Education



Education Service Centers, and Texas Workforce Development Areas



South Texas –Regional Strategies- Draft

San Antonio

60x30TX Educated Population

Upgrade, a new program in San Antonio focused on supporting adults who have some college credit and have not yet finished their degree or certificate. Upgrade’s advisors work with individuals, higher education institutions and employers seeking to upskill their employees. Upgrade’s advisors assist returners with exploring educational options, financial aid guidance process, career advising, transfer and transcript evaluation, referrals for childcare, and financial planning. Upgrade serves the almost 300,000 adult learners in San Antonio with some college, no degree and this is accomplished through partnerships with multiple Chambers, the City of San Antonio, Bexar County, higher education institutions, SA Works, The Graduate Network and others. An additional advisor will be added in January, thereby providing an opportunity for greater outreach to area employers.

Completion

Pathways - Establish transfer pathways through alignment of pathway courses and expected learning outcomes with transfer institutions, to optimize applicability of community college credits to university majors.

High School-to-Higher Education

Outreach and recruitment activities in partnership with K-12 schools to include enrollment fairs, workshops, and financial aid application processes. One of the largest, most collaborative initiatives is Destination College, whose purpose is to heighten awareness of college opportunities and career pathways for high schools students, help create a more robust college-going culture in San Antonio, reinforce the importance of postsecondary education to elementary and middle school students, and build community support around college access and completion. Destination College includes a Career Summit for high school juniors, College Signing Day where over 1,000 high school seniors participate, tool kits with activities for teachers to utilize in the classroom and a city-wide Wear Your College T-shirt Day. The targeted population is elementary, middle and high schools students, parents, the business community and other stakeholders invested in college readiness. Partners include the San Antonio Education Partnership, SA2020, UT Outreach, Trinity Advising Corps, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, P16Plus, Education Service Center – Region 20, Communities in Schools, City Year, TX A&M College Advising Corps, UTSA Office of P-20 Initiatives and the Boys and Girls Clubs of SA.

South Texas –Regional Strategies- Draft

Laredo/Kingsville/Corpus Christi

60x30TX Educated Population

Full implementation of pathways which include clear plans to college/university graduation with initial recruitment and advising, by well-trained professional advisors, to begin at the P-12 levels and continuing to non-traditional students such as those in continuing education programs. Concurrent with the pathways will be a marketing campaign to demonstrate the value of higher education. This campaign will include a focus on high school-to-college to encourage the undecided recent high school graduates to seek higher education. A second prong of the marketing will focus on non-traditional students showing how returning for a degree or certificate could improve their employability and income. The marketing campaign will include a permeating theme of industry recognized credentials. These credentials will be established through collaborative efforts with the Texas Workforce Commission, area employers, and career services at educational institutions.

Completion

Effective advising to include monitoring student progress (including dual enrollment and ECHS students) to meet student needs, for example: reverse transfer, translating excess semester credit hours to facilitate completion, and small completion grants for student near graduation but exhausted funding sources.

High School-to-Higher Education

Advising with guided pathways that are aligned between high schools and colleges, including industry-sponsored experiences such as shadowing and a summer bridge program.

South Texas –Regional Strategies- Draft

Lower Rio Grande Valley

60x30TX Educated Population

Reconnect Stop Outs / Building a strategy for reaching out to students with significant college credits who did not complete the requirements for the degree. The strategy will include outreach, recruitment and strong student support systems to facilitate degree completion

Completion

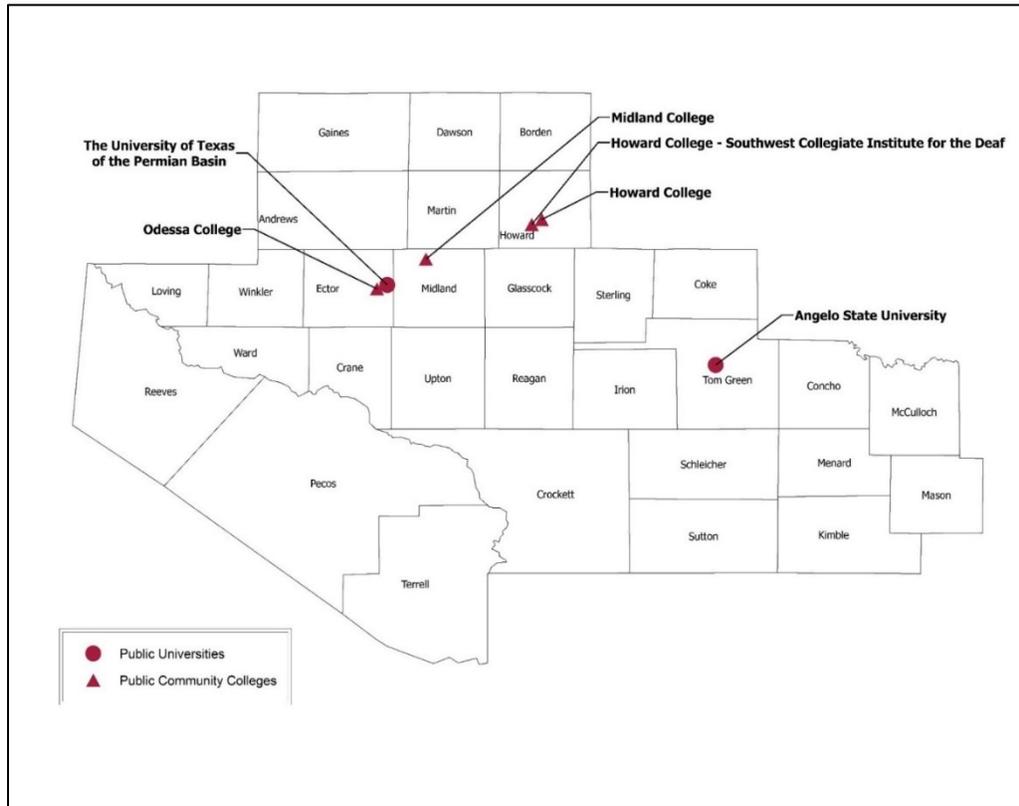
Reverse transfer -- Collaboration to strengthen the process for awarding associate degrees to students who transferred in pursuit of a bachelor's degree prior to completing the requirements for an associate degree at the 2-Year institution.

High School-to-Higher Education

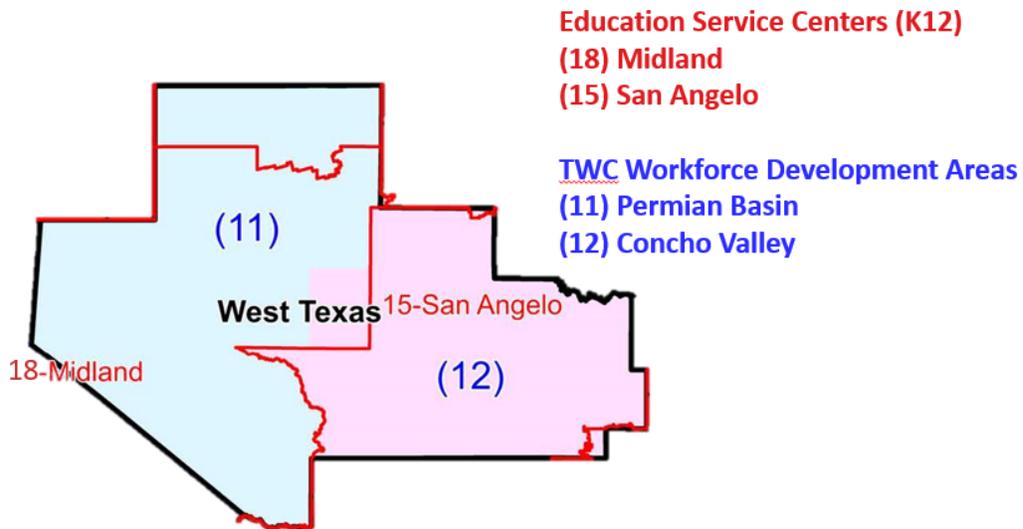
FAFSA/TASFA Regional Strategy -- Continue to build on the regional strategy to increase FAFSA/TASFA completions to support immediate and continued college enrollment

West Texas –Regional Strategies

Institutions of Higher Education



Education Service Centers, and Texas Workforce Development Areas



West Texas –Regional Strategies

60x30TX Educated Population

The five higher education institutions, in collaboration with our regional school districts, educational service centers, and workforce development centers to develop a regional advertising campaign that says college is for everyone and highlights a variety of regional graduates and workforce opportunities.

The local school districts and regional Education Service Centers will partner with the five higher education institutions to create print, television, radio, and social media campaigns promoting higher education, ranging from certificate through doctoral programs.

The West Texas 60x30 Regional Strategies Consortium in conjunction with the Texas Workforce Commission, education service centers and school districts will develop an annual or bi-annual job expo to educate students in diverse job opportunities and the salary and credentials needed to be competitive in the careers of our region.

Completion

The West Texas 60x30 Regional Strategies Consortium (Consortium) will create and implement an academic advising program making students aware of a course of study/degree plan as soon as a student enrolls either in dual credit or as a traditional student in general studies or workforce education programs. This will ensure students are on a correct path that leads to the degree they wish to obtain. This will also limit excessive hours, prevent unnecessary debt, and lead to more timely completion.

The Consortium will develop a webpage in conjunction with the 60x30TX initiative to provide one website that uses common language of the postsecondary community to help students navigate the process from enrollment to certificate or degree completion and what certificate and degree programs are available in our region.

The Consortium will be creating communication and marketing messages informing traditional and non-traditional students about federal and state financial aid renewal processes, application deadlines, emergency aid programs, and external financial assistance programs supporting retention and completion goals.

High School-to-Higher Education

The five higher education institutions will create a college completion recruiting campaign working with high schools that is degree specific.

The West Texas Region will do intentional advising with high school students to ensure they are on a path and can see the progression leading to a certificate or associate's, bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree.

The five higher education institutions will work together to show a student how they can progress through a pathway from dual credit courses taken in high school, in both the academic and workforce areas, leading to a certificate or associate's or baccalaureate degree.