

2025 - 2026

Program Guidelines

Texas Transfer Grant (TRANSFER GRANT)



**Texas Higher
Education**
COORDINATING BOARD

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Texas Transfer Grant

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) Program Guidelines are intended to support institutions by highlighting requirements that appear in the Texas Education Code (TEC) and Texas Administrative Code (TAC). When administering this program, institutions should always refer to the relevant statutes and rules. The information in this document is to be used solely as a resource and does not override the statute or rules for this program.

TAC Citations

The THECB made nonsubstantive revisions to the guidelines to reflect rules **adopted** at the January 24, 2025, board meeting, which will be effective May 15, 2025.

In addition, the THECB is **proposing** nonsubstantive amendments to rules found in these program guidelines at the April 24, 2025, board meeting. If adopted, these amendments (effective May 15, 2025) may cause temporary discrepancies between rule citations found in the current program guidelines and the revised rules found in the [TAC](#). However, the informational content of the guidelines will remain unchanged.

Updated guidelines reflecting any rule changes will be published in subsequent versions.

Program Authority and Purpose ([TAC Section 22.200](#))

The Texas Transfer Grant Program is authorized by the Texas Administrative Procedure Act, [Texas Government Code, Title 10, Section 2001.003\(6\)](#). Rules for administering the program can be found in [TAC, Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 22, Subchapter K](#). The program is funded by appropriations from the Texas Legislature and from any gifts and grants to the program. The purpose of the Texas Transfer Grant Program is to provide need-based grants to enable eligible students to transfer from two-year institutions of higher education to four-year institutions of higher education in this state.

State Priority Deadline ([TEC Section 56.008](#) and [TAC Section 22.6](#))

 **ALERT:** The THECB extended the 2025-26 (Fiscal Year 2026) state financial aid application priority deadline to **February 15, 2025**, due to exigent circumstances related to federal aid development, as authorized under [TAC 22.6\(a\)\(3\)](#).

The THECB sets the same priority deadline for all applications that qualify for state-funded financial aid in an academic year. General Academic Teaching Institutions (GATIs) in Texas (**including** Lamar State College Orange and Lamar State College Port Arthur), as defined in [TEC Section 61.003\(3\)](#), must publicize and use **January 15** as the state priority deadline for identifying eligible students to be given priority in receiving offers through the state financial aid programs.

Institutions may define how their students must meet the priority deadline and are encouraged to adopt a policy describing the actions that students must take to meet the deadline. The priority deadline is neither a guarantee to receive funding if a student applies by the applicable date for the academic year, nor is it a restriction to those that apply beyond the date. It is a mechanism used to evaluate similarly situated students to prioritize limited funding and to encourage students to complete their application timely to increase the likelihood of receiving state funding.

Eligible Institutions ([TAC Section 22.202](#))

GATIs (**excluding** Lamar State College Orange and Lamar State College Port Arthur) and medical and dental units (i.e., health-related institutions, or HRIs), as defined in [TEC Section 61.003](#), are eligible to participate in this program.

Program Eligibility

Eligibility ([TAC Section 22.203](#))

To receive a grant, a student must:

- ✓ Be a Texas resident.
- ✓ Be registered with Selective Service or be exempt (see [Selective Service Statement](#)).
- ✓ Have applied for any available financial aid assistance.
- ✓ Show financial need.
- ✓ Be enrolled full-time.
- ✓ Meet satisfactory academic progress (SAP) requirements as determined by the institution's financial aid office.
- ✓ Have been awarded an associate degree by a public junior college, public state college, or public technical institute. In addition, the credit hours earned toward completion of the associate degree must:
 - Include completion of the core curriculum or an abbreviated core curriculum related to a specific approved field of study curriculum transferable to one or more general academic teaching institutions.
 - Have completed the associate degree with at least a 2.5 GPA.
 - Have completed the associate degree prior to enrolling in a baccalaureate degree program at the institution offering the Transfer Grant.
- ✓ Be enrolled in a baccalaureate degree program at an eligible institution, no later than the end of the 12th month after the calendar month the student ceased being enrolled in a public junior college, public technical institute, or public state college.

Additional Information

Transfer Grant and TEXAS Grant

A student may not receive a Transfer Grant while simultaneously receiving a Toward EXcellence, Access, and Success (TEXAS) Grant (see [TAC Section 22.205](#)).

Child Support Arrearages

Per [Texas Family Code, Title 5, Section 231.006](#), a student who is obligated to pay child support and is more than 30 days delinquent is not eligible to receive a state-funded grant or loan.

Institutions determine how to best comply with this state requirement and should work with their legal counsel on questions related to this statutory mandate.

Satisfactory Academic Progress ([TAC Section 22.204](#))

Transfer Grant recipients must meet SAP requirements used by the institution's financial aid office to qualify for a continuation grant.

Discontinuation of Eligibility ([TAC Section 22.205](#))

Unless an extension of eligibility (due to a hardship circumstance) is granted, a student's eligibility ends if any of the following maximums are met or the student earns a baccalaureate degree, **whichever comes first**.

PROGRAM MAXIMUMS			
# Years for Degree Program	Time Frame	Attempted Hours*	Hours While Receiving Grant Funds
4 years or less	2 years from the start of the semester enrolled in the baccalaureate program	135 SCHs or equivalent	150 SCHs No Hardship Allowed
More than 4 years	3 years from the start of the semester enrolled in the baccalaureate program	135 SCHs or equivalent	150 SCHs No Hardship Allowed
<i>*Attempted hours are defined as every course in every semester for which a student has been registered as of the official Census Date, including but not limited to, repeated courses, courses the student drops, and courses from which the student withdraws. For transfer students, transfer hours and hours for optional internship and cooperative education courses are included if they are accepted by the receiving institution towards the student's current program of study.</i>			

Hardship Provisions ([TAC Section 22.206](#))

In the event of a hardship, a student who is ineligible for a Texas Transfer Grant may be eligible to receive a grant under the following provisions:

- If the student is enrolled in fewer semester hours than required
- If the student fails to meet SAP
- If the student requires an extension of the year limits to complete their degree
- If the student receives a grant after **attempting** more than 135 hours
 - However, the total number of hours **paid for**, at least in part, with Texas Transfer Grant funds may not exceed 150 semester credit hours or the equivalent.
- If the student enrolls beyond the 12th month after the calendar month in which the student ceased being enrolled in a public junior college, public technical institute, or public state college.

The institution will determine any acceptable reasons to grant a hardship decision. Each institution must adopt a hardship policy and have the policy available for public review. All hardship decisions must be documented in the student's record and be available for submission to the THECB, upon request.

Selective Service Statement ([TAC Section 22.3](#))

Under [TEC Section 51.9095](#), an individual must file a statement of their Selective Service status with the institution confirming registration or exemption.

This statute applies to all state-funded financial aid, as well as “federal funds or gifts and grants accepted by this state.” The statement is required from students receiving federal aid, state-appropriated funds, or institutional funding, which includes programs funded by tuition set-asides, exemptions, and waivers.

Any of the following can be used to meet the statutory statement requirement:

- THECB Selective Service Statement of Registration Status ([English Statement](#) or [Spanish Statement](#))
- Printout from [SSS.gov](#) website
- Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR) if status is available*
- THECB Selective Service Statement of Registration Status embedded in the Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA)

*As of Fiscal Year 2023-24, registration status is no longer reported on the ISIR. Institutions can use any prior year ISIR that confirms registration to meet the statutory requirement for a student's status.

Institutions are **not** required to collect “proof” of registration or exemption from students or to verify the accuracy of the statement against external databases or other resources if conflicting information does not exist. See [Updated Guidance on Statutory Requirements that Impact Financial Aid Memo](#).

SELECTIVE SERVICE STATEMENT OF REGISTRATION STATUS

In accordance with [Texas Education Code, Section 51.9095](#), male students must file a Selective Service Statement of Registration Status with their institution or other entity granting financial assistance. For more information about the Selective Service System, visit [sss.gov](#).

Please mark **one** option below:

☐ I was born female and not required to register. ☐ I was born male and am under the age of 18 and not currently required to register. ☐ I was born male and am REGISTERED with the Selective Service. ☐ I was born male and am over the age of 18. I am not registered with Selective Service and I am not exempt from registration with Selective Service.	☐ I was born male and am EXEMPT from registration because: (please briefly explain why you are exempt in the box below.)
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I, _____, hereby certify that the Selective Service status statement provided above is true and accurate.

Student ID: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Complete and return to the Financial Aid Office at your institution of higher education.

Selective Service Statement of Registration Status
As of 09/28/2021

Additional Information

Collection Method

The institution has flexibility to create an online, paper, or alternate method to collect the statement as long as it uses the content developed and required by the THECB.

Frequency of Collecting the Statement

If the student's status will NOT change, the statement collected can be used for subsequent semesters at the same institution.

If the student is NOT registered for Selective Service, a statement must be collected each time they apply for financial aid or a student loan until the statement indicates registered or exempt.

Males Age 26 or Older

Individuals older than the maximum age at which an individual is required to be registered with the Selective Service System under federal law are not required to complete this status statement.

Retention Schedule

The status statement must be retained in the student's record based on the retention schedule outlined in the institution's Program Participation Agreement.

Packaging

The maximum semester grant amount will be consistent with the maximum semester grant amount for the Toward EXcellence, Access, and Success (TEXAS) Grant.

Priorities in Grants to Students ([TAC Section 22.207](#))

If allocated funds are insufficient to offer a grant to all eligible students, below is the priority for offering funds:

- Precedence goes to Renewal Year (RY) students over Initial Year (IY) students.
- Once all eligible RY students have been offered a grant, precedence goes to eligible IY applicants who:
 - Have a Student Aid Index (SAI) that does not exceed **\$6,514**.
 - Have also demonstrated the highest levels of academic achievement prior to transfer as determined by the participating institution.

For similarly situated applicants, the priority deadline ([TEC Section 56.008](#)) is used as an additional determining factor.

Priority Student Aid Index

The priority SAI set by the THECB should serve as a method for prioritizing initial year grants for eligible students and is not an eligibility requirement to receive a grant.

Semester Maximum ([TAC Section 22.208](#))

Students receiving a Texas Transfer Grant cannot exceed the **semester** maximum amount. Students may be issued three grants (fall, spring, and summer) in an academic year. Proration is not required for this program, but institutions have discretion in determining the grant amount, up to the semester maximum.

- The grant maximum amount is \$5,429 per semester.
- A student could receive up to \$16,287 for the 2025-26 award year.
- The amount offered may not be reduced by any gift aid for which the student receiving the grant is eligible unless the total amount of the student's grant plus any aid other than loans received equals or exceeds the student's financial need.

Institution Type	Semester Max	Year Max (fall, spring, & summer)
Public Universities, HRIs	\$5,429	\$16,287

Grant Adjustments ([TAC Section 22.11](#))

Institutions may be required to make grant adjustments in the following circumstances:

- Student officially withdraws from enrollment.
 - The institution must use the general refund policy to determine the amount of financial aid to be reduced.
 - A refund is not owed to the program if a student drops or withdraws after the end of an institution's refund period.
- Student's disbursement exceeds their eligibility amount.
 - The institution must recalculate eligibility amount.

Note: If funds are available after a grant has been adjusted, they can be re-offered to other eligible students at the institution. If the funds cannot be re-offered, they must be returned to the THECB based on the [Timely Distribution of Funds](#) requirements.

Processing Funds

Each biennium (the two-year state budget period), funds not requested in the first year will be carried forward by the THECB on behalf of the institution for use in the second year. Any funds not requested in the second year of the biennium become available for redistribution as determined by the THECB.

All public institutions of higher education are invited annually to participate in the Transfer Grant Program by opting in or out of the allocation process. Those choosing not to participate will not be considered in the allocation calculation for the applicable award year. Those opting into the program will receive an even distribution of appropriated funds through the allocation process for the fiscal year.

Institutions can **begin submitting** requests for funding on **August 15, 2025**. The THECB will **begin processing** funds after **September 2, 2025**. Institutions have through **August 1, 2026**, to request program funds. An official notification will be sent to institutions in the summer to provide instructions on how to request funds for Fiscal Year 2026.

Timely Distribution of Funds ([TAC Section 22.2](#))

Institutions **must** follow these requirements when processing program funds:

- Institutions have **3** business days after receiving the funds to apply the funds to a student's account.
- Institutions have **6** business days after receiving the funds to return undisbursed funds.
- Institutions have **45** calendar days from the date a student becomes ineligible to return disbursed funds.
- Institutions have **120** calendar days to return funds after a student has notified the institution of a decision to cancel the grant.

Late Disbursements ([TAC Section 22.11](#))

Funds that are disbursed after the end of a student's period of enrollment must only be used to pay the student's outstanding balance for the period of enrollment or to make a payment on an outstanding loan received during that period of enrollment. The institution must document the reason for a student's late disbursement. All late disbursements must be processed before the end of the state's fiscal year, unless granted an extension by the THECB. Under no circumstances should funds be released directly to the student in this situation.

Appendix 1: Quick References

Contact Information	
By phone: (844) 792-2640	
Program Rules and Statutes	
Texas Program Statutes	Texas Education Code
Texas Program Rules	Texas Administrative Code TAC, Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 22, Subchapter A TAC, Title 19, Chapter 22, Subchapter K
Websites, Portals, and Guides	
General program information for institutions	Student Financial Aid Programs Information Webpage
General college enrollment and financial aid information for students	My Texas Future
Grant and Aid Processing Platform (GAPP) - Institutions can log into the GAPP to access certain state financial aid programs	GAPP Login GAPP Help Desk GAPP Account Creation Instructions [PDF]
Secure file transfer and processing portal	MOVEit DMZ Portal MOVEit DMZ User Access Guide [PDF]
Forms and Instructions	
Form for adding, updating, or removing a user's access for state financial aid web portals	User Access Form [PDF]
Instructions for returning funds electronically	Electronic Funds Transfer Information [PDF]