

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Senate Bill 1, as Introduced

*Presentation to the Senate Finance Committee
Harrison Keller, Ph.D., Commissioner of Higher Education*

Feb. 23, 2021

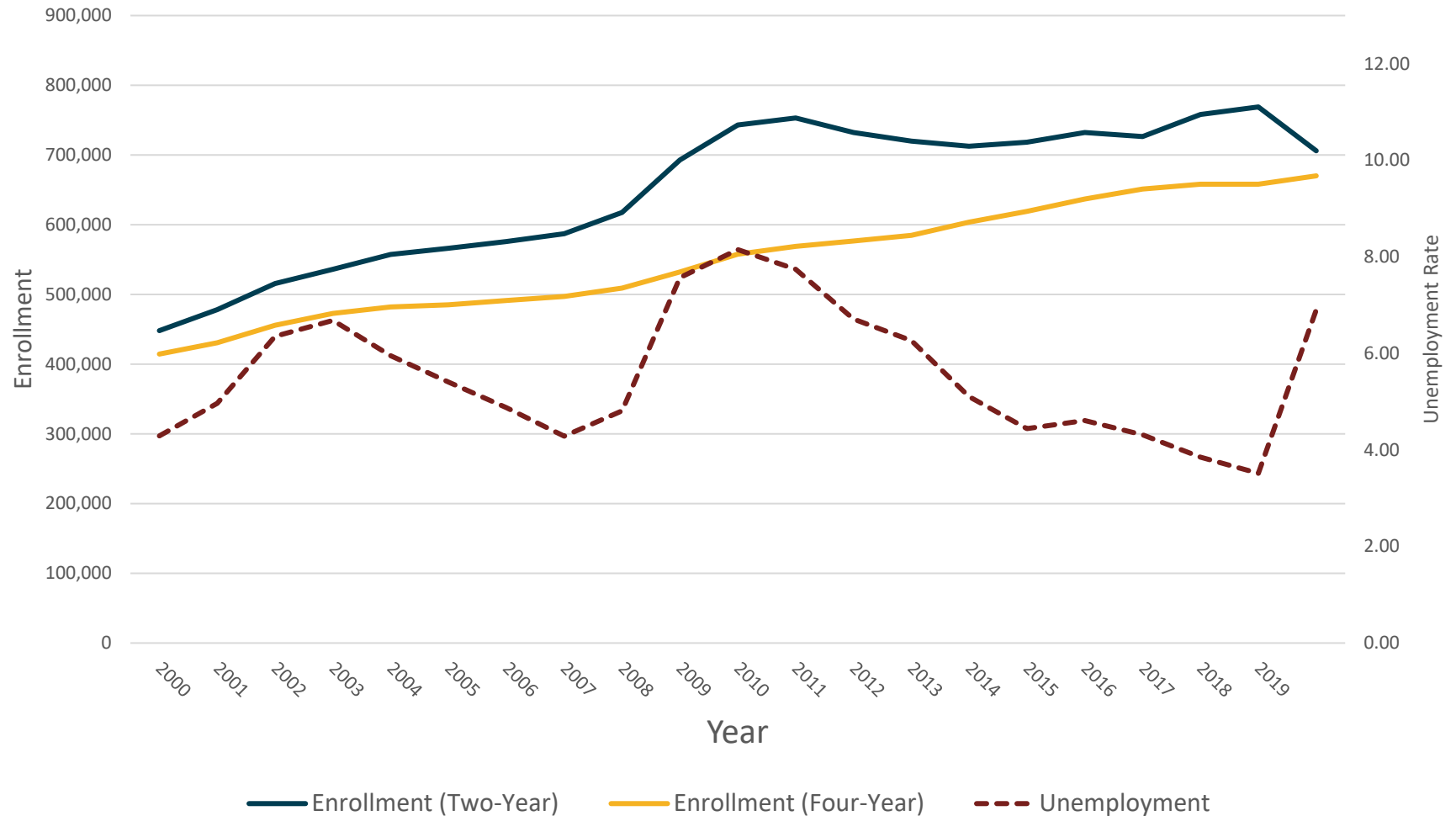
Unemployment and Enrollment Trends

Historically, enrollments at both two- and four-year institutions rise when unemployment is high

During the most recent crisis, two-year institutions have seen large enrollment declines **(-8.85%)**

Continuing workforce education has seen the largest decline **(-50%)**

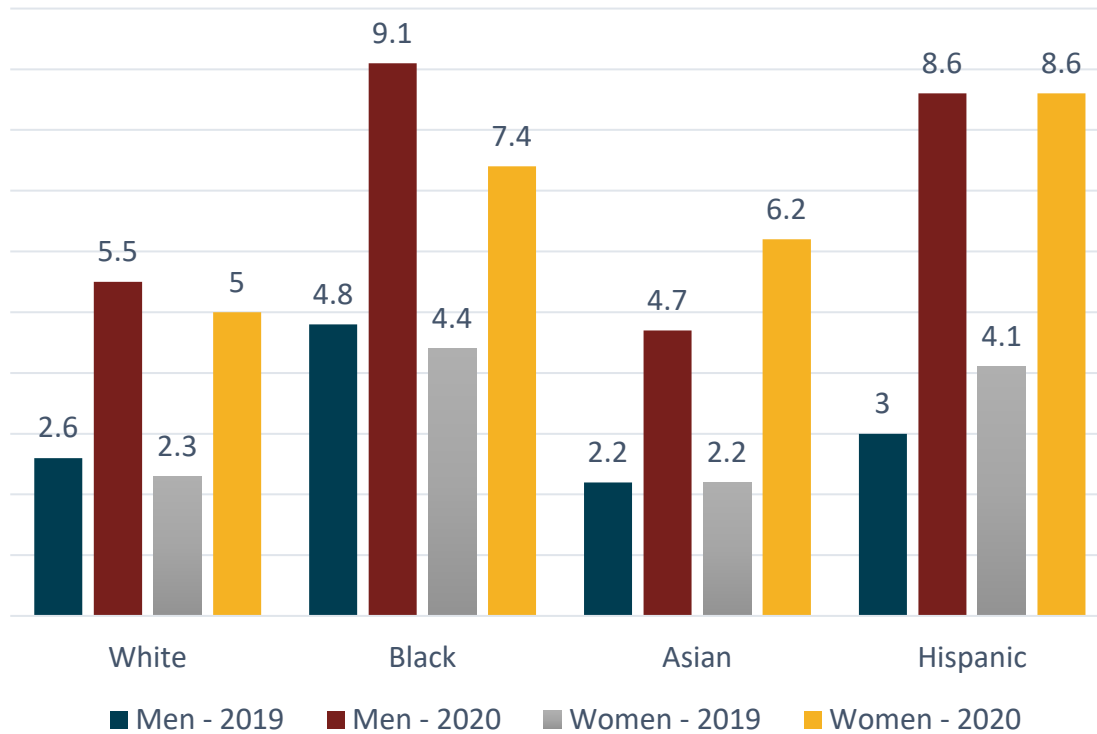
Statewide, four-year institutions show modest growth **(+1.38%)**



Degree Completion and Unemployment Trends

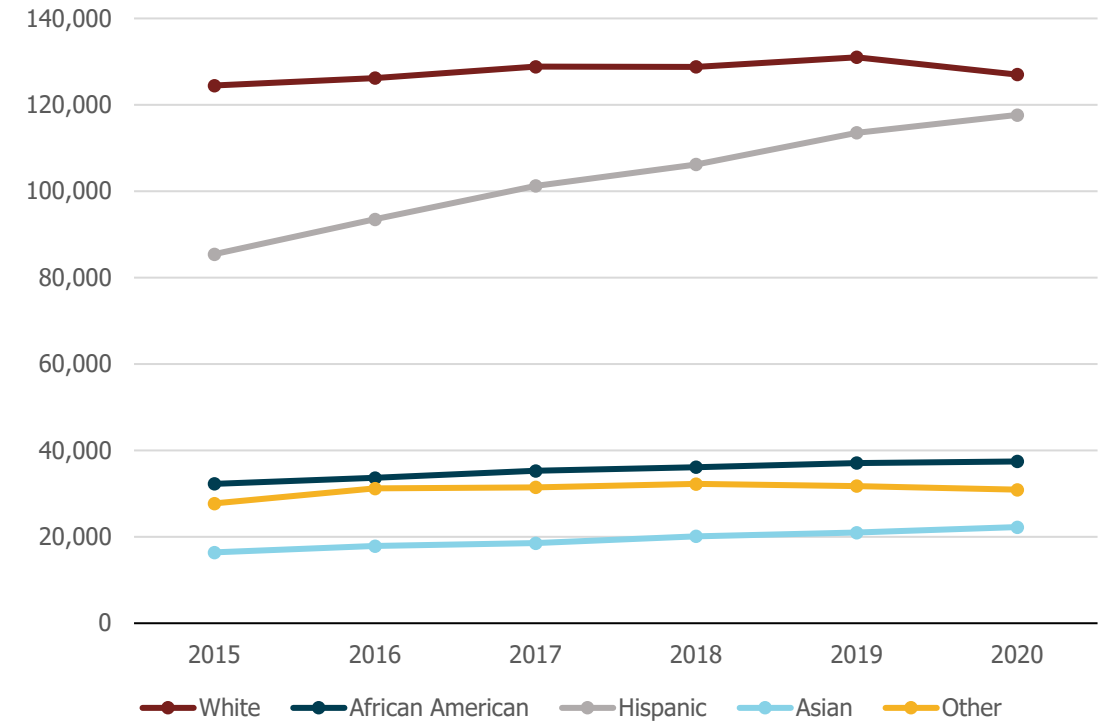
U.S. Unemployment by Race & Ethnicity, Sex

Dec. 2019 vs Dec. 2020



TX Degrees Awarded by Race & Ethnicity

Fall 2015-2020 degrees awarded including graduate and undergraduate



GEER-funded Initiatives

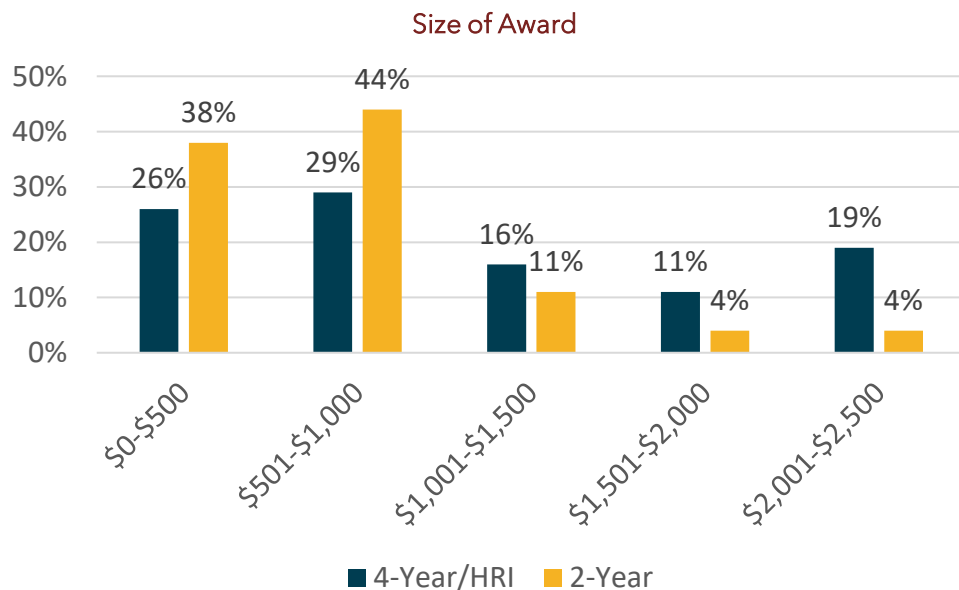
In July 2020, Gov. Greg Abbott and legislative leadership directed **\$175 million** in federal Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Funds to the THECB.

- \$57M to maintain State Financial Aid Programs
- \$46.5M for Emergency Educational Aid
- \$46.5M for Reskilling and Upskilling Grants
- \$10M for Online Learning Support
- \$15M for Data Infrastructure Modernization

GEER-funded Initiatives

Emergency Educational Aid

During the fall 2020 semester, 95 public institutions of higher education used GEER funds to provide Emergency Educational Grants to more than **40,800 students**.



State Financial Aid Programs

GEER funding supported more than **21,000 Texas students** across the state's public and private colleges and universities for the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 semesters.

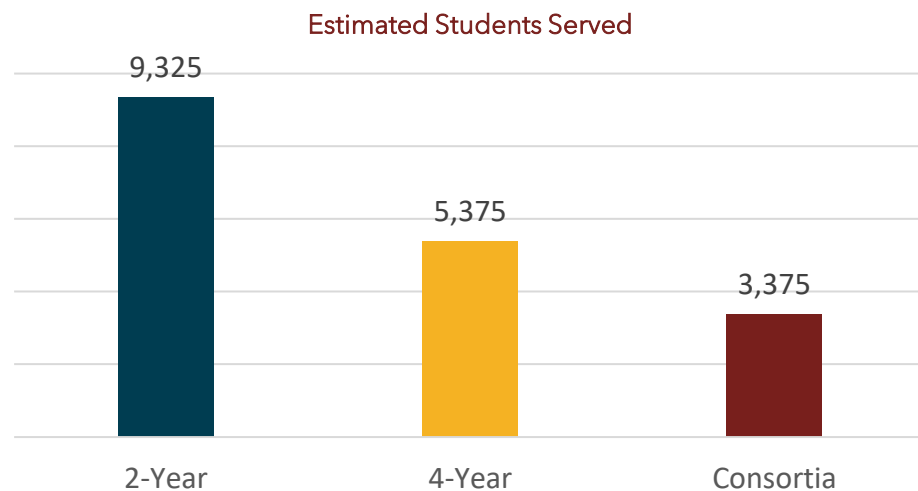
Financial Aid Program	% Funds Allocated	Students Served	Average Award
TEXAS Grant	99%	13,726	\$3,116
TEOG	97%	2,766	\$1,681
TEG	99%	4,900	\$1,814

GEER-funded Initiatives

continued

Reskilling and Upskilling Grants

In December 2020, the Coordinating Board announced the first round of grants totaling **\$18.1M** and serving an estimated **12,000 students**. A second round of grants in February 2021 is expected to total **\$9.3M** and serve an estimated **6,000 students**.



Online Learning Support

The Coordinating Board awarded **\$812,000** in technical assistance grants to support applicants and awardees. Implementation and development grants have been distributed to institutions in three rounds, totaling nearly **\$1M**.

Grant Type	Total Awards
Technical Assistance Grants	\$812,000
Implementation Grants	\$201,441
Development Grants	\$780,599

GEER-funded Initiatives

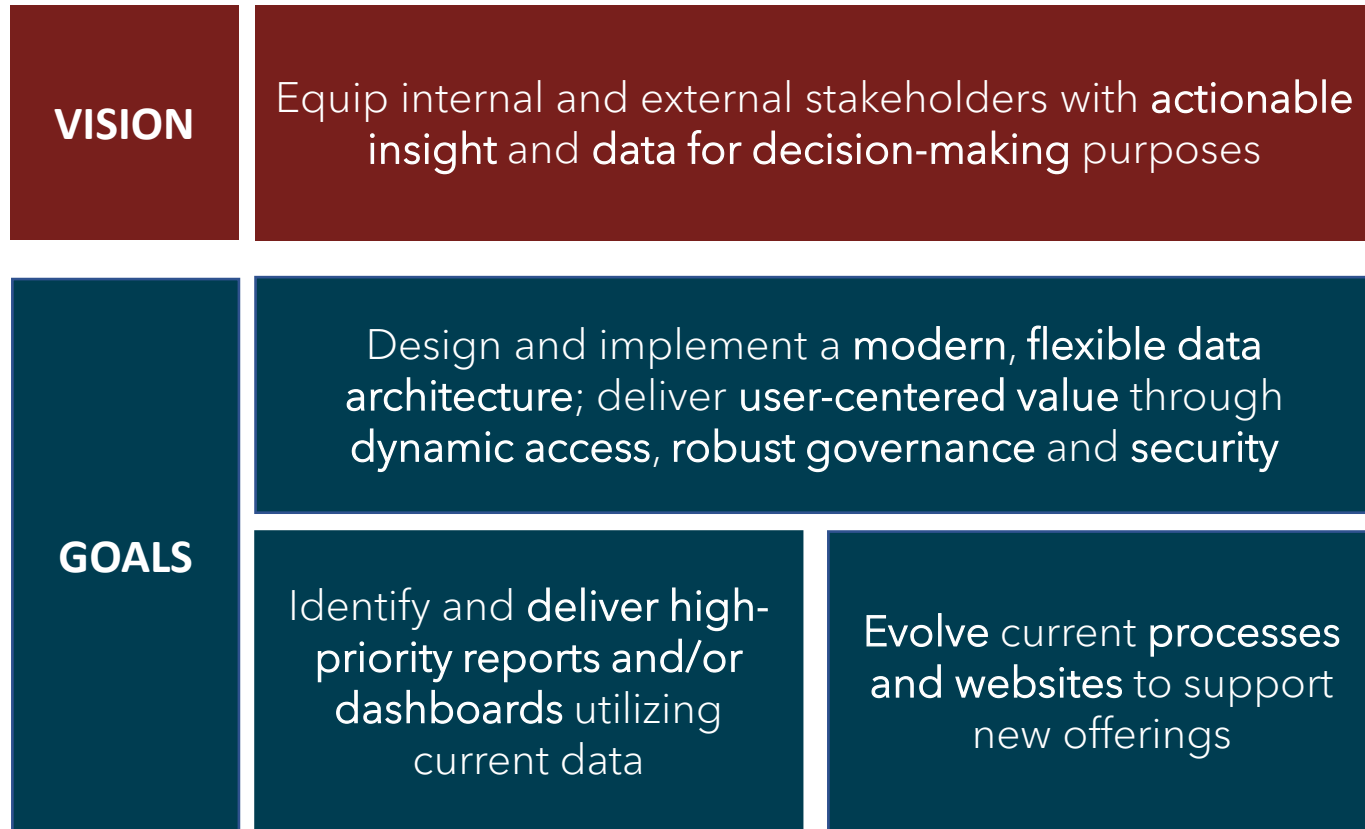
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Data Infrastructure Modernization

The Coordinating Board is the steward of the state's education and workforce data and is working closely with the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) on a comprehensive data modernization initiative.

The agency is developing and implementing a new data architecture that will take advantage of powerful new tools and allow "deep dive" analyses on education and workforce data.

This initiative will make data more useful and accessible for students, families, institutions, and policymakers.



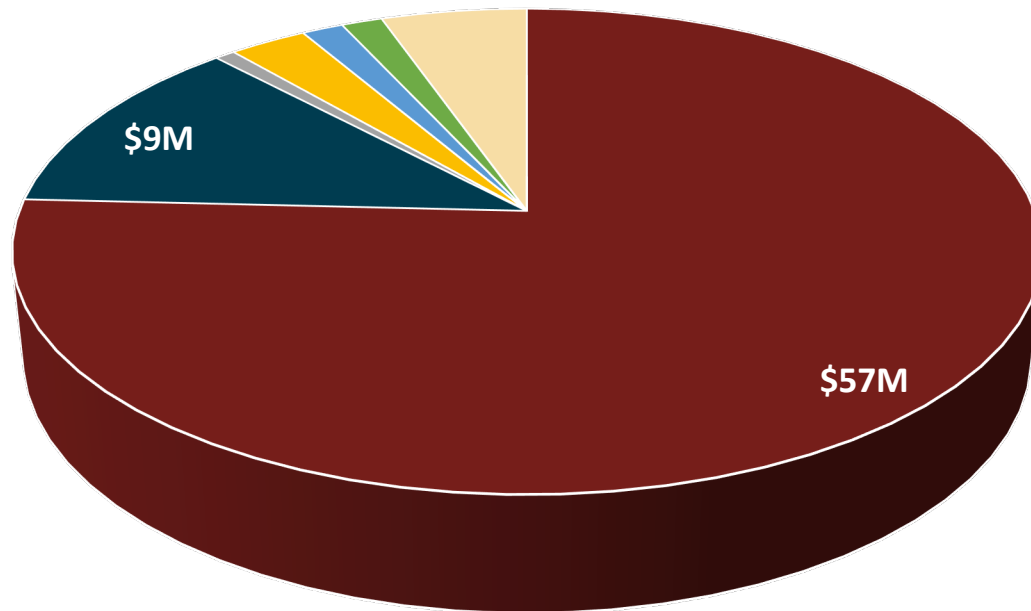
Exceptional Item Requests

The Coordinating Board requested the following Exceptional Items in its FY22-23 Legislative Appropriations Request:

- Restoration of Base Funding: \$74.5M
- Student Financial Aid: \$110M
- GradTX - Reskilling & Upskilling: \$4M
- Data Security & Accessibility: \$4M
- Capitol Complex Move: \$1.2M

Exceptional Item Requests

Breakdown of FY2022-23 Base Funding Reductions



- Major Financial Aid Programs
- Medical Ed Programs
- Agency Admin
- Research Programs
- Other Aid Programs
- Loan Repayment Programs
- Other Programs

Restoration of Base Funding

This item restores base funding amounts for FY22-23 to FY20-21 appropriated levels. Because most agency funding is in trusteed programs, reduction in FY22-23 base funding will substantially impact major programs and operations of critical importance to students and families, IHEs, and our state economy.

Exceptional Item Request: \$74.5M

Exceptional Item Requests

continued

Student Financial Aid

As a new strategy within the agency's existing Affordability and Debt Goal, this funding would allow the Coordinating Board to direct additional aid to students within each higher education sector through existing need-based grant programs, using real-time student enrollment and financial need data to ensure Texas maintains the proportion of students in need supported by these programs.

Exceptional Item Request: \$110M

Percent of Eligible New Students Receiving a Grant				
	FY18 -19		FY20 - 21	
	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual*
TEXAS Grants	70%	59%	70%	-
TEOG - Community	19%	18%	19%	-
TEOG - State/ Technical	13%	16%	13%	-
TEG**	55%	51%	58%	-

* Data not available at this time.

** Because the TEG program does not differentiate between initial-year and continuing grants, these amounts include both.

Exceptional Item Requests

continued

GradTX: Reskilling & Upskilling

An estimated 4 million Texans have some college credit but have not earned a credential that could help them improve their earning potential. The Coordinating Board has relaunched its GradTX initiative as a pilot program in the Greater Houston region to specifically target and support working adults with some college credit but no credential.

This request will allow the agency to begin scaling GradTX engagement efforts across the state, to re-engage adult learners and support them in completing credentials of value and contributing to the state's economic recovery.

Exceptional Item Request: \$4M

Some College/No Credential Attainment in Texas	
Central Texas	552,658
Gulf Coast	1 million
High Plains	146,522
Metroplex	1.1 million
Northwest	98,268
South Texas	748,846
Southeast	138,140
West Texas	104,590
Upper East	154,259
Upper Rio Grande	150,728

Exceptional Item Requests

continued

Data Security & Accessibility

This funding will support the two most critical IT goals of the agency: to reduce risk to Coordinating Board data and systems from deliberate or unintentional misuse, and to increase the value of Coordinating Board IT assets to agency staff and external partners.

The requested funding would initiate the agency's move to the cloud following industry best practices, which will greatly enhance the value of Coordinating Board data and IT assets, and support the completion of the agency's Legacy Application Portfolio Modernization Project, which will reduce maintenance costs while increasing IT security and user effectiveness.

Exceptional Item Request: \$4M

Capitol Complex Move

The Coordinating Board is scheduled to relocate from its current leased office space to a new Capitol Complex office building in Summer 2022.

While the Texas Facilities Commission will cover basic costs associated with interior build-out of the office space, this funding is needed for moving expenses associated with the relocation and the purchase of equipment, such as interior computer cabling, hallway lights and emergency signage, and badge readers for secure areas, necessary for agency operations and the safety and security of staff, stakeholders, and visitors.

Exceptional Item Request: \$1.2M