

# Building a Talent Strong Texas

Update to the Commission on Community College Finance  
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# Building a Talent-Strong Texas

**ATTAINMENT**  
of Postsecondary  
Credentials

Postsecondary  
**CREDENTIALS**  
**OF VALUE**

**RESEARCH,**  
Development &  
Innovation

**EQUITY:** Data will be disaggregated & tracked by race, gender, and income

**COORDINATION:** Across public and private sectors, with input and support from educators, institutional leaders, policy makers, employers, and students

# Attainment of Postsecondary Credentials

By expanding attainment to include all working age Texans, we can increase employment opportunities and income for individuals, create a deeper talent pool for employers, and align skills with the jobs the workforce demands.

## TARGETS

- **60% of Texans ages 25-34** with a degree, certificate, or other postsecondary credential of value by 2030.
- **60% of Texans ages 35-64** with a degree, certificate, or other postsecondary credential of value by 2030.

By expanding our attainment goals to include all working-age Texans, we will increase employment opportunities and incomes for individuals, create a deeper talent pool for employers, and align skills with the jobs our economy increasingly demands.

# Postsecondary Credentials of Value

Credentials from Texas institutions of higher education must propel graduates into lasting, successful careers that equip them for continued learning and greater earning potential, with low or manageable debt.

## TARGETS

- **550,000 STUDENTS COMPLETING** postsecondary credentials of value each year.
- **95% OF GRADUATES** with no undergraduate student debt or manageable levels of debt in relation to their potential earnings.

Credentials from Texas colleges and universities must equip graduates for continued learning and lasting, successful careers, with no or manageable student debt.

# Research, Development, and Innovation

Texas must be a leading state in generating knowledge through basic and applied research and translating it to innovations, discoveries, and economic development.

## TARGETS

- **\$1 BILLION** additional annual private and federal research and development expenditures by 2030.
- **7,500 RESEARCH DOCTORATES** awarded annually by Texas institutions of higher education.

Advancing Texas competitiveness in the global economy will require strengthening our state R&D infrastructure and translating discoveries into innovations that benefit individual Texans' lives and drive economic development.

# Advancing Equity for the Benefit of All Texans

In raw numbers, Texas grew more than any other state over the past decade, and more than 95% of that growth was in communities of color. Data for *Talent Strong Texas* indicators will be disaggregated and reported by race, gender, income level, and geographic area to monitor that all goals are being advanced equitably and all Texans have opportunities to succeed.

# Bolstering Small and Medium-Sized Colleges

What are the unique challenges small, medium-sized, and rural-serving colleges face in operating and providing academic and workforce educational opportunities aligned with the needs of their students, communities, and the state?

## Key Activities

- **STEERING COMMITTEE** of institutional leaders and key experts
- **REGIONAL LISTENING TOUR** with institutional leaders
- **LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT** of college needs and challenges
- **RECOMMENDATIONS** of areas of focus for college support

## FALL 2021

In Fall 2021, 22 of 50 community colleges had 12<sup>th</sup> day class enrollments less than 5,000 students.

15 community colleges had 12<sup>th</sup> day class enrollments between 5,000 and 10,000.

# Questions?