

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

# Community College Finance Research Project

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# Research Outline

## **What are the outcomes experienced by students from the community college systems of Texas?**

- What fraction of students earn credentials and how does it vary by college?
- What fraction of credits are successfully transferred to bachelor's degree programs?
- What fraction of dual credits courses count toward the student's ultimate degree?
- What is the return on investment in terms of earnings for various degree programs?

## **What determines the characteristics of students in the community college systems of Texas?**

- What factors lead some students to be more likely to attend community colleges while other students enter the workforce and yet other students go directly to bachelor's degree institutions?
- Are recent enrollment declines likely to persist?
- What is the role of dual credit courses in college attendance behaviors for various demographic groups?

## **What does it cost to provide those outcomes through the community college system?**

- How do those costs differ for different programs?
- How do those costs differ for different student populations?