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BACKGROUND

In 2015, the Texas State Legislature invested in improving college and career planning and readiness, creating Texas OnCourse.

In 2021, Texas OnCourse moved operations from UT Austin to THECB.

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STATEWIDE COLLABORATION

Texas OnCourse is the result of educators, employers and state agencies working together.



2,500 educators helped build Texas OnCourse.

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CORE OFFERINGS



Digital, on-demand **professional development** for educators



Interactive college and career exploration **tools and curriculum** for students and families

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Counselors Role in Student Outcomes

- The role of counselors has been positively linked to student outcomes
 - Increase students' postsecondary aspirations¹
 - Increase the selectivity of colleges students attend²
 - Increase persistence in higher education³
 - Increase students' likelihood of receiving financial aid and enrolling in college⁴

¹Farmer-Hinton & Adams, 2006; Hurwitz & Howell, 2014; McDonough, 1997; Mulhern, 2019; Poynton & Lapan, 2017; Stanton-Salazar, 1997

²Stephan & Rosenbaum, 2013

³Bettinger & Baker, 2014

⁴Bettinger, Long, Oreopoulos, & Sanbonmatsu, 2012

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However...

- Pre-service training in college advising varies by states, organizations, and school districts¹
- High caseloads²
 - Lead to lower postsecondary outcomes
- Increased reliance on non-counseling staff
- No instrument to measure educators' knowledge of postsecondary topics

¹Bridgeland & Bruce, 2011; McDonough, 2005; National Association of College Admissions Counselors, 2004; Savitz-Romer, 2012

²National Association of College Admissions Counseling & ASCA, 2018; Woods & Domina, 2014

Background

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ABOUT ▾ WHAT'S NEW ▾ EDUCATORS ▾ DISTRICT LEADERS ▾ STUDENTS & FAMILIES ▾

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Texas OnCourse Academy

by Texas OnCourse

Educators: register or login

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The Academy



The screenshot shows the 'The Academy' dashboard. On the left is a vertical navigation menu with icons for Academy, Account, Dashboard, Courses, History, Search, and Help. The main area is titled 'Dashboard' and contains a grid of eight module cards. The cards are: 'Specialties: Middle School College and Career', 'Career Pathways: Career Pathways: Foundational Knowledge', 'Career Pathways: Career Exploration', 'Career Pathways: Academic Planning', 'Career Pathways: Career Planning', 'Career Pathways: Career Learning Experience', 'Success in Higher Education: College Finances and Beyond', and 'Success in Higher Education: Holistic College Ready Advising'. A search bar is located at the top right of the dashboard area.

30+ Modules across:

- Financial Aid
- Career Pathways
- Postsecondary Pathways
- Success in Higher Education

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What educators say

"If I don't know the answer, I can quickly obtain it, as well as provide training for other counselors and staff members in my school."

- Holly Moore, District College Advisor



"As questions come up from students and parents or even other administrators, I have a go-to. That makes me look good - that I know where to go to find an answer if I don't know it."

- Jenifer Price, College Counselor



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Digital Learning works

For counselors, completing all TXOC modules is associated with the **same growth in knowledge** as 11-30 years of experience.



When educators use Texas OnCourse, they report that their **confidence in their knowledge** doubles.

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Recognized nationally



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New infrastructure for THECB

With Texas OnCourse THECB can:

- Build products that **meet and exceed** end-users' wants and needs.
 - A dedicated product management team
 - Human-centered design processes
- Deliver learning opportunities that **support program and policy implementation** across K12 and higher education.
 - Over 18,000 educators and advisers already use Texas OnCourse
 - Modules for new programs and initiatives (transfer pathways- Field of Study Curricula)

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Bolstering success of other THECB advising initiatives

- Connect ADVi knowledge base to TXOC content and resources processes and subject matter experts
- Support Apply Texas implementation with virtual training and webinar series
- Advance Advise Texas adviser training with the TXOC Academy
- Assess counselor and student college and career knowledge with a new assessment

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