



## Report of Efforts Concerning Timely Graduation

1. For each undergraduate degree program, the average number of semester credit hours attempted and the average number of fall and spring semesters attended by a student completing the program:

### Average Credits Attempted and Mean Semesters Toward Baccalaureate Degree in Program Areas\*

Degree Program	# Grads	Credits Attempted	Mean Semesters
Science and Math	186	158	11
Agriculture	54	155	11
Arts and Architecture	1,222	147	10
Business	681	143	10
Engineering	10	180	11
Health	162	150	10
Social Sciences and Service	898	153	11
Total Graduates	3,213		
Institutional Average		149	10

\* Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

2. The specific efforts implemented to ensure that undergraduate students graduate in a timely manner.
  - Hundreds of individual course equivalencies and numerous institutional articulation agreements are in place to ensure that the courses students take at other institutions will transfer to Texas State.  
[http://admission.txstate.edu/undergrad/transfer\\_credit.htm](http://admission.txstate.edu/undergrad/transfer_credit.htm)
  - The Office of Testing, Research-Support and Evaluation Center provides important information to students about the Texas Higher Education Assessment (THEA). This office also maintains and administers credit policies for the College Board's Advanced Placement Program (AP) and SAT-II Subject Examinations, the College Level Examination Program (CLEP), the International Baccalaureate Program (IB), and departmental examinations.  
<http://www.txstate.edu/trec/>
  - Academic advisors in each of the colleges work with students each semester to review progress and select courses for the upcoming semester.
  - Academic advisors and students use the Degree Audit Reporting System (DARS) to verify the student's progress toward graduation.  
<http://www.txstate.edu/ucollege/DARS.pdf>
  - Current degree programs and requirements are outlined in the University catalog.

- At Summer Orientation, new students are counseled about the importance of taking sufficient course loads to graduate in a timely fashion.
- PAWS Preview is a mandatory program for all freshmen who have fewer than 30 semester hours of college credit. At PAWS Preview, students learn where to turn for help and answers, connect with a wide array of campus services, meet faculty, staff and Texas State students, get connected to campus technology resources and share in 100 years of Texas State traditions. <http://www.pawspreview.txstate.edu>
- Residential College is a highly successful and innovative program that offers students the opportunity to live in a residential setting with a faculty family. Students in this program have the unique opportunity to live in University housing, while having ready access to a faculty mentor. Retention and graduation rates for students living in the Residential College are significantly higher than in other housing settings.
- Freshmen Interest Groups (FIGs) are an interactive living arrangement which places 8-16 students with a similar major or interest (i.e. leadership) in the same residence hall. The students work with residence assistance, staff, and faculty to create connections between coursework and the interest group theme. Often the students will be enrolled in similar courses and develop study groups. Students participating in FIGs tend to have better grades and higher retention rates.
- Residence Housing Policy helps to establish a successful academic foundation for the students. The outcomes of the requirement have been better grades, higher persistence rates, and higher graduation rates for students living in the halls.
- Student Learning Assistance Center (SLAC) offers learning support resources to improve academic skills. Any student, from freshman to graduate level, can benefit from SLAC services. Programs offered by SLAC include Supplemental Instruction, subject-area tutorial services, subject content handouts, online support for writing and mathematics, standardized test preparation and the learning lab.
- Supplemental Instruction (SI) is a free academic support service offered to students in selected academic core courses that typically have a high incidence of D, F and W grades. Student instructors collaborate with faculty to provide weekly review and study sessions that are tailored to the individual faculty member's course. Students who participate actively in SI support sessions typically perform at a higher level than students in the same class who do not.
- Student Support Services, a TRiO grant program, offers tutoring, study skills and life skills development to first generation and low socio-economic status students. The program assists 200 students each year.
- Writing Center is an academic service coordinated by the Department of English. The Center provides assistance to students on developing writing and comprehension skills. Workshops such as writer's voice, punctuation and grammar are also provided throughout the year.
- Math Lab is an academic service coordinated by the Department of Mathematics. The Lab provides assistance to students for math courses using peer and online tutoring. Study groups are also formed to support courses and often meet in the Lab.
- Collaborative Learning Center is a grant funded assistance center for STEM majors. The program offers peer tutoring and study skill development to assist students in the STEM courses.

- University Seminar (US 1100) is a course designed to help meet transitional needs of new Texas State University students. The course encourages reflection upon the value and nature of a university education, as well as helping students to develop strategies for life-long learning. Course content includes class discussion, student participation, and involvement in the university community. University departments, speakers, and events are commonly used resources for US 1100. <http://www.txstate.edu/ucollege/universityseminar/>
  - The Positive Action with Students Early Warning System provides faculty and staff the opportunity to refer a student that may be in need of additional assistance for the following areas: academics, academic skill deficiencies, career, emotional, physical, social, and other personal issues. A cross-divisional group of responders provides assistance to the students.
  - The Emerging STARS Program provides a transition program for conditional admit students. The program requires students to attend Summer Session II and take two courses—typically freshman composition and another from the general education core. In addition to small class sizes and supplemental instruction, the students are also given a variety of co-curricular activities to encourage engagement with campus.
3. To provide academic counseling concerning timely graduation.
- Academic advisors in each of the colleges work with students each semester to review their progress and select courses for the upcoming semester.
  - Academic advisors and students use the Degree Audit Reporting System (DARS) to verify the student’s progress toward graduation. <http://www.txstate.edu/ucollege/DARS.pdf>
  - Current degree programs are outlined in the University catalog.
  - At Summer Orientation, new students are counseled about the importance of taking sufficient course loads to graduate in a timely fashion.
  - The Early Alert Academic System provides an opportunity for faculty to give feedback to freshmen about their performance during the first eight weeks of the semester. Academic advisors, US1100 instructors and residence life staff counsel with students who may not be reaching the standards established for the course work or attending courses.
  - Student athletes’ progress is monitored through the Academic Progress Report. This online system allows faculty to report to the Athletic Academic Advising Center 2-3 times per semester on the academic achievements of the students. Staff in the center follow up with the students who are in need of additional support and services.
4. To develop an online student degree progress report which compares the courses taken and credit received by a student to the courses completed and needed for degree and graduation requirements for each academic term.
- Academic advisors and students use the Degree Audit Reporting System (DARS) to verify the student’s progress toward graduation. <http://www.txstate.edu/ucollege/DARS.pdf>

5. To implement tuition policies that encourages timely graduation.

- The University catalog and the Schedule of Classes lists the State statute (TEC 54.068) that permits institutions to charge nonresident tuition to students who take excessive hours—30 hours or more over the minimum number of semester credit hours required for completion of the degree program in which the student is enrolled (45 hours or more for those who began college prior to fall 2006). The Texas State University System has elected to enforce this regulation.
- The University catalog and the Schedule of Classes lists the Tuition Rebate Program (TEC 54.0065) which offers resident students a rebate of up to \$1,000 if they have attempted no more than three hours in excess of the minimum number of semester hours required to complete the degree under which they graduated.
- The Schedule of Classes also lists the State policy that eliminates “funding to higher education for courses which are attempted three or more times . . . In order to compensate for this loss of state funding, Texas State students attempting a course for the third or more time may be charged a fee in addition to the tuition charged for the course.”



## Report of Efforts Concerning Timely Graduation

1. For each undergraduate degree program, the average number of semester credit hours attempted and the average number of fall and spring semesters attended by a student completing the program:

### Average Credits Attempted and Mean Semesters Toward Baccalaureate Degree in Program Areas\*

Degree Program	# Grads	Credits Attempted	Mean Semesters
Science and Math	204	159	11
Agriculture	43	154	11
Arts and Architecture	1,169	149	10
Business	746	146	10
Engineering	10	178	12
Health	161	154	10
Social Sciences and Service	865	153	11
Technology	33	172	11
Total Graduates	3,231		
Institutional Average		151	10

\* Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

2. The specific efforts implemented to ensure that undergraduate students graduate in a timely manner.
  - Hundreds of individual course equivalencies and numerous institutional articulation agreements are in place to ensure that the courses students take at other institutions will transfer to Texas State.  
[http://admission.txstate.edu/\\_undergrad/transfer\\_credit.htm](http://admission.txstate.edu/_undergrad/transfer_credit.htm)
  - The Office of Testing, Research-Support and Evaluation Center provides important information to students about the Texas Higher Education Assessment (THEA). This office also maintains and administers credit policies for the College Board's Advanced Placement Program (AP) and SAT-II Subject Examinations, the College Level Examination Program (CLEP), the International Baccalaureate Program (IB), and departmental examinations.  
<http://www.txstate.edu/trec/>
  - Academic advisors in each of the colleges work with students each semester to review progress and select courses for the upcoming semester.
  - Academic advisors and students use the Degree Audit Reporting System (DARS) to verify the student's progress toward graduation.  
<http://www.txstate.edu/ucollege/DARS.pdf>

- Current degree programs and requirements are outlined in the University catalog.
- At Summer Orientation, new students are counseled about the importance of taking sufficient course loads to graduate in a timely fashion.
- PAWS Preview is a mandatory program for all freshmen who have fewer than 30 semester hours of college credit. At PAWS Preview, students learn where to turn for help and answers, connect with a wide array of campus services, meet faculty, staff and Texas State students, get connected to campus technology resources and share in 100 years of Texas State traditions. <http://www.pawspreview.txstate.edu>
- Residential College is a highly successful and innovative program that offers students the opportunity to live in a residential setting with a faculty family. Students in this program have the unique opportunity to live in University housing, while having ready access to a faculty mentor. Retention and graduation rates for students living in the Residential College are significantly higher than in other housing settings.
- Freshmen Interest Groups (FIGs) are an interactive living arrangement which places 8-16 students with a similar major or interest (i.e. leadership) in the same residence hall. The students work with residence assistance, staff, and faculty to create connections between coursework and the interest group theme. Often the students will be enrolled in similar courses and develop study groups. Students participating in FIGs tend to have better grades and higher retention rates.
- Residence Housing Policy helps to establish a successful academic foundation for the students. The outcomes of the requirement have been better grades, higher persistence rates, and higher graduation rates for students living in the halls.
- Student Learning Assistance Center (SLAC) offers learning support resources to improve academic skills. Any student, from freshman to graduate level, can benefit from SLAC services. Programs offered by SLAC include Supplemental Instruction, subject-area tutorial services, subject content handouts, online support for writing and mathematics, standardized test preparation and the learning lab.
- Supplemental Instruction (SI) is a free academic support service offered to students in selected academic core courses that typically have a high incidence of D, F and W grades. Student instructors collaborate with faculty to provide weekly review and study sessions that are tailored to the individual faculty member's course. Students who participate actively in SI support sessions typically perform at a higher level than students in the same class who do not.
- Student Support Services, a TRiO grant program, offers tutoring, study skills and life skills development to first generation and low socio-economic status students. The program assists 200 students each year.
- Writing Center is an academic service coordinated by the Department of English. The Center provides assistance to students on developing writing and comprehension skills. Workshops such as writer's voice, punctuation and grammar are also provided throughout the year.
- Math Lab is an academic service coordinated by the Department of Mathematics. The Lab provides assistance to students for math courses using peer and online tutoring. Study groups are also formed to support courses and often meet in the Lab.

- Collaborative Learning Center is a grant funded assistance center for STEM majors. The program offers peer tutoring and study skill development to assist students in the STEM courses.
  - University Seminar (US 1100) is a course designed to help meet transitional needs of new Texas State University students. The course encourages reflection upon the value and nature of a university education, as well as helping students to develop strategies for life-long learning. Course content includes class discussion, student participation, and involvement in the university community. University departments, speakers, and events are commonly used resources for US 1100. <http://www.txstate.edu/ucollege/universityseminar/>
3. To provide academic counseling concerning timely graduation.
- Academic advisors in each of the colleges work with students each semester to review their progress and select courses for the upcoming semester.
  - Academic advisors and students use the Degree Audit Reporting System (DARS) to verify the student's progress toward graduation. <http://www.txstate.edu/ucollege/DARS.pdf>
  - Current degree programs are outlined in the University catalog.
  - At Summer Orientation, new students are counseled about the importance of taking sufficient course loads to graduate in a timely fashion.
4. To develop an online student degree progress report which compares the courses taken and credit received by a student to the courses completed and needed for degree and graduation requirements for each academic term.
- Academic advisors and students use the Degree Audit Reporting System (DARS) to verify the student's progress toward graduation. <http://www.txstate.edu/ucollege/DARS.pdf>
5. To implement tuition policies that encourages timely graduation.
- The University catalog and the Schedule of Classes lists the State statute (TEC 54.068) that permits institutions to charge nonresident tuition to students who take excessive hours—45 hours or more over the minimum number of semester credit hours required for completion of the degree program in which the student is enrolled (30 hours or more for those who begin college in fall 2006 or later). The Texas State University System has elected to enforce this regulation.
  - The University catalog and the Schedule of Classes lists the Tuition Rebate Program (TEC 54.0065) which offers resident students a rebate of up to \$1,000 if they have attempted no more than three hours in excess of the minimum number of semester hours required to complete the degree under which they graduated.
  - The Schedule of Classes also lists the State policy that eliminates “funding to higher education for courses which are attempted three or more times . . . In order to compensate for this loss of state funding, Texas State students attempting a course for the third or more time may be charged a fee in addition to the tuition charged for the course.”



## Report of Efforts Concerning Timely Graduation

1. For each undergraduate degree program, the average number of semester credit hours attempted and the average number of fall and spring semesters attended by a student completing the program:

**Average Credits Attempted and Mean Semesters  
Toward Baccalaureate Degree in Program Areas\***

Degree Program	# Grads	Credits Attempted	Mean Semesters
Science and Math	202	159	11
Agriculture	45	151	10
Arts and Architecture	1037	150	10
Business	823	148	10
Engineering	9	191	14
Health	139	156	11
Social Sciences and Service	765	154	11
 Total Graduates	 3020		
 Institutional Average		 151	 10

\* Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

2. The specific efforts implemented to ensure that undergraduate students graduate in a timely manner.
  - Hundreds of individual course equivalencies and numerous institutional articulation agreements are in place to ensure that the courses students take at other institutions will transfer to Texas State.  
[http://admission.txstate.edu/undergrad/transfer\\_credit.htm](http://admission.txstate.edu/undergrad/transfer_credit.htm)
  - The Office of Testing, Research-Support and Evaluation Center provides important information to students about the Texas Higher Education Assessment (THEA). This office also maintains and administers credit policies for the College Board's Advanced Placement Program (AP) and SAT-II Subject Examinations, the College Level Examination Program (CLEP), the International Baccalaureate Program (IB), and departmental examinations.  
<http://www.txstate.edu/trec/>

- Academic advisors in each of the colleges work with students each semester to review progress and select courses for the upcoming semester.
- Academic advisors and students use the Degree Audit Reporting System (DARS) to verify the student's progress toward graduation.  
<http://www.txstate.edu/ucollege/DARS.pdf>
- Current degree programs and requirements are outlined in the University catalog.
- At Summer Orientation, new students are counseled about the importance of taking sufficient course loads to graduate in a timely fashion.
- PAWS Preview is a mandatory program for all freshmen who have fewer than 30 semester hours of college credit. At PAWS Preview, students learn where to turn for help and answers, connect with a wide array of campus services, meet faculty, staff and Texas State students, get connected to campus technology resources and share in 100 years of Texas State traditions.  
<http://www.pawspreview.txstate.edu/about.asp>
- Residential College is a highly successful and innovative program that offers students the opportunity to live in a residential setting with a faculty family. Students in this program have the unique opportunity to live in University housing, while having ready access to a faculty mentor. Retention and graduation rates for students living in the Residential College are significantly higher than in other housing settings.
- Student Learning Assistance Center (SLAC) offers learning support resources to improve academic skills. Any student, from freshman to graduate level, can benefit from SLAC services. Programs offered by SLAC include Supplemental Instruction, subject-area tutorial services, subject content handouts, online support for writing and mathematics, standardized test preparation and the learning lab.
- Supplemental Instruction (SI) is a free academic support service offered to students in selected academic core courses that typically have a high incidence of D, F and W grades. Student instructors collaborate with faculty to provide weekly review and study sessions that are tailored to the individual faculty member's course. Students who participate actively in SI support sessions typically perform at a higher level than students in the same class who do not.
- University Seminar (US 1100) is a course designed to help meet transitional needs of new Texas State University students. The course encourages reflection upon the value and nature of a university education, as well as helping students to develop strategies for life-long learning. Course content includes class discussion, student participation, and involvement in the university community. University departments, speakers, and events are commonly used resources for US 1100.  
<http://www.txstate.edu/ucollege/universityseminar/>
- The Common Experience is a program that challenges students to think critically about an important topic or theme. The 2005-2006 Common Experience engages students in a campus-wide discussion of "Courage" as it is examined in the Summer Reading book *If I Die in a Combat Zone* by Tim O'Brien. O'Brien uses Vietnam not just as a setting, but as a metaphor for life.

The themes and emotions that O'Brien explores in the context of Vietnam are the themes and emotions of human life: friendship, patriotism, duty, sacrifice, leadership, innocence and experience, good and evil, humanity and inhumanity. Arguably the central theme in much of O'Brien's work - a theme he explores with passion and honesty - is Courage. Courage offers a relevant, challenging, and inspiring theme for the 2005-2006 Common Experience.  
<http://www.txstate.edu/commonexperience/>

3. To provide academic counseling concerning timely graduation.
  - Academic advisors in each of the colleges work with students each semester to review their progress and select courses for the upcoming semester.
  - Academic advisors and students use the Degree Audit Reporting System (DARS) to verify the student's progress toward graduation.  
<http://www.txstate.edu/ucollege/DARS.pdf>
  - Current degree programs are outlined in the University catalog.
  - At Summer Orientation, new students are counseled about the importance of taking sufficient course loads to graduate in a timely fashion.
4. To develop an online student degree progress report which compares the courses taken and credit received by a student to the courses completed and needed for degree and graduation requirements for each academic term.
  - Academic advisors and students use the Degree Audit Reporting System (DARS) to verify the student's progress toward graduation.  
<http://www.txstate.edu/ucollege/DARS.pdf>
5. To implement tuition policies that encourages timely graduation.
  - The University catalog and the Schedule of Classes lists the State statute (TEC 54.068) that permits institutions to charge nonresident tuition to students who take excessive hours—45 hours or more over the minimum number of semester credit hours required for completion of the degree program in which the student is enrolled. The Texas State University System has elected to enforce this regulation.
  - The University catalog and the Schedule of Classes lists the Tuition Rebate Program (TEC 54.0065) which offers resident students a rebate of up to \$1,000 if they have attempted no more than three hours in excess of the minimum number of semester hours required to complete the degree under which they were graduated.
  - The Schedule of Classes also lists the State policy that eliminates “funding to higher education for courses which are attempted three or more times . . . In order to compensate for this loss of state funding Texas State students who attempt a course more than more than twice will be charged the non-resident (i.e., out-of-state) tuition for the course . . .”