

Program Approval Lunch & Learn

May 16, 2023

- General Information
- Planning Notification
- Program Approval Key Changes
- Q & A

PowerPoint & recording will be posted for 3 weeks

New rules can be found in [TAC Chapter 2](#)

General Information

Rule Implementation Communication

- Online form for questions/feedback: [Form link](#)
- [Webpage for ongoing updates](#)
- Future Lunch & Learns (dates TBD)
- Regular email communications be sent directly to CAOs & proposal/request submitters
- Presentations/discussions at existing system or institutional meetings
- Development of FAQs and documentation

Degree & Cert. Requests Impacted by Rule Revisions

- Planning Notification
- Academic Associate
- Embedded Associate (new)
- Bachelor's & Master's
- Doctoral & Professional
- Academic Certificates
- Program Changes (for above degrees)
- Program Review (no immediate changes)

- Requests NOT impacted:

- Applied Associate
- Workforce Education Certificates
- Self-Supporting
- Off-campus

Future rule revisions will address these areas.

New Forms

- Online forms with attachments (where applicable)
 - $\geq 50\%$ new content, doctoral/professional, new bachelor's at a community college content will mostly be attachments
- Institutional CAO & board/regent approval can be done directly in the online form.
 - Program changes and planning notification will only require certification that CAO has approved.
- Feedback on 3 new forms will be collected ASAP
 - Single PDF with link to online feedback form

If you are interested in reviewing and providing feedback, please send your name and email to emma.gelsinger@higher.ed.texas.gov

Planning Notification

Planning Notification Changes

Effective June 1, 2023

Degrees Requiring Planning Notification

- Academic associate degrees*
- Bachelor's & master's degrees
- Doctoral & professional degrees (*must be submitted one year prior to submission of full degree program proposal*)

If a planning notification has already been submitted for a doctoral program prior to June 1st and the full proposal will be submitted after June 1st you do not need to wait the full year.

*Embedded and Multidisciplinary Studies associate degrees are exempt from the planning notification requirement.

Planning Notification: Form

Effective June 1, 2023

Institution Planning Notification

ID

2DX4C90R

Request Type

Planning Notification

Institution*

Proposed CIP Code*

You DO NOT need to enter the decimal "."

CIP Code Name

Degree Level*

Proposed Degree Designation (e.g. M.A.)*

Proposed Degree Program Title (e.g. Psychology)*

Select a title using the drop down menu or type in a unique degree title.

Anticipated Date of Full Proposal Submission*



Certification of Approval

Certification of Approval*

I certify that this planning notification has been approved by the Chief Academic Officer or designee.

Submitter Name*

Submitter Email*

Proposal Contact Name*

Proposal contact will receive labor market information when sent by THECB staff.

Proposal Contact Email*

Submit

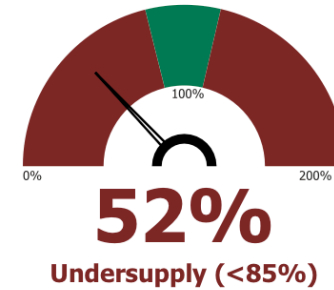
Save as Draft

Planning Notification: Labor Market Information

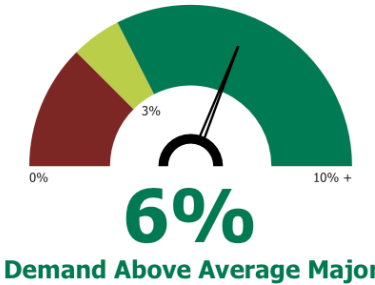
Effective June 1, 2023

Are we
supplying
enough
graduates
to meet
demand?

Supply/Demand for Graduates,
One Year of Experience



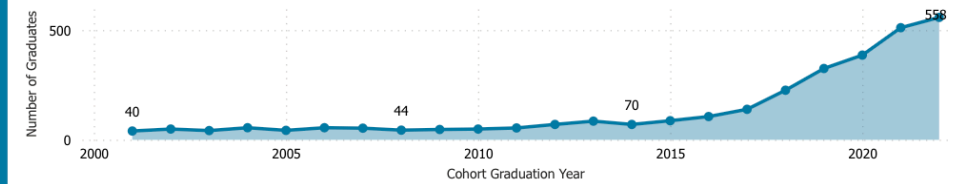
Open Jobs for Graduates of Selected
Major as a Percent of All Majors at
Selected Degree Level



Graduates in 2022

558

Graduates by Year (2001-2022)

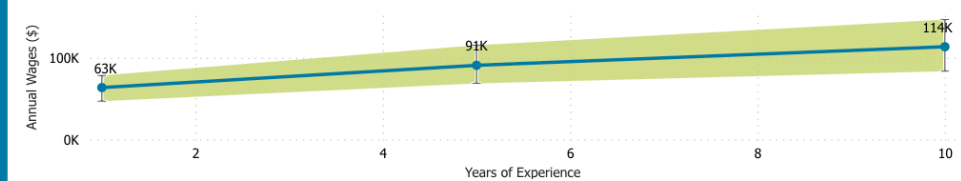


Median Wage of Full-Time
Employed Graduates
Following Graduation

63K

Median Wages of Graduates 1, 5, and 10 Years Post Graduation

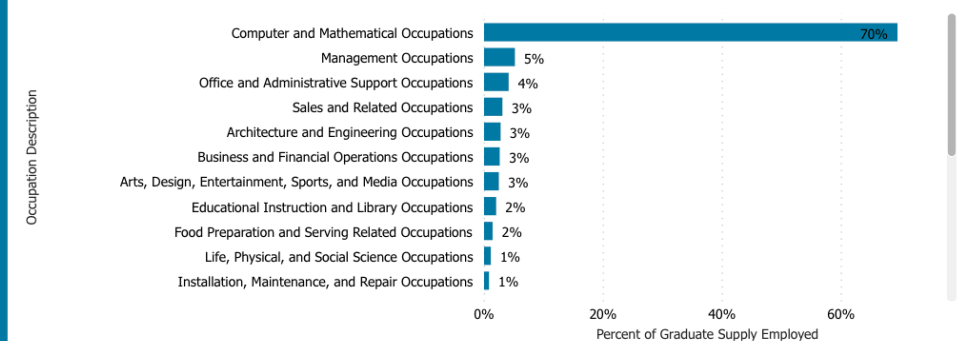
Upper Band = 75th Percentile, Lower Band = 25th Percentile



Number of Occupations
Employing Graduates

22

Top Occupations Employing Graduates



Program Approval Key Changes

Approval Levels

Request Type	Approval Level	Effective Date
Embedded Associate	Assistant Commissioner	Currently Effective
Digital modality requests/changes (all levels)	Notification Only	May 18, 2023
Planning Notification	Notification Only	June 1, 2023
New Acad Assoc, Bach, Master's less than 50% new content	Assistant Commissioner	September 1, 2023
New Acad Assoc, Bach, Master's 50% or more new content	Commissioner	September 1, 2023
Doctoral & Professional	Board	September 1, 2023
New degree programs equal to a level change for institution	Board	September 1, 2023
Substantive changes to doctoral, professional or programs approved by the Board after September 1, 2023	Board	September 1, 2023
Other substantive and non-substantive changes	Assistant Commissioner	September 1, 2023
Program Closure	Notification Only	Currently Effective
New Academic Certificate (any SCH or level)	Notification Only	September 1, 2023

50% Content Threshold

Effective September 1, 2023

- Designed to align with SACSCOC requirements.
- Institution will determine what constitutes 50% or more new content for submission purposes.
- Less than 50% content form will request number of *new* major-specific courses and *new* faculty FTE required.

Degree Program Changes

Effective September 1, 2023

Non-Substantive

SCH Change

CIP Code Change

Degree Name or Designation
Change

Program Consolidation

Off-Campus Requests

Other non-substantive revisions

Substantive

Location Change:

Closing the program in one location and moving it to a second location.

Funding Model Change:

Changing the funding model from self-supported to formula-funded or vice versa.

Other substantive revisions

Discontinuing 50-Mile Notification

Effective September 1, 2023

- No 50-mile notification required prior to submission to THECB.
- After submission, THECB will have a 30-day comment period during the proposal review process and will notify area institutions.

Distance Education

Effective May 18, 2023 (upon adoption)

- Digital modality requests for all degree programs will be notification only.
 - Institutions should submit through the Document Submission Portal the current [certification form for electronically delivered and off-campus education programs](#) with new degree program requests or for degree program changes.
- Doctoral programs delivered through distance education will no longer need to be reviewed by LTAC prior to approval.
 - Institutions will no longer need to submit the full Distance Education Doctoral Proposal Form for new or changes to doctoral programs related to distance education.

Distance Education

Effective December 1, 2023

- Definitions aligned to current practice
 - 100% and hybrid online courses
 - 100% and hybrid online programs
- More information about these changes will be made available over the summer from AHA and the Division of Digital Learning.

Distance Education

Effective December 1, 2023

Distance Education--The formal educational process that occurs when students and instructors are in separate physical locations for the majority (more than 50 percent) of instruction.

Distance Education Course--A course in which a majority (more than 50 percent) of the instruction occurs when the student(s) and instructor(s) are in separate physical locations. The definition of distance education course does not include courses with 50 percent or less instruction when the student(s) and instructor(s) are in separate physical locations. Two categories of distance education courses are defined:

100-Percent Online Course--A distance education course in which 100 percent of instructional activity takes place when the student(s) and instructor(s) are in separate physical locations. Requirements for on-campus or in-person orientation, testing, academic support services, internships/fieldwork, or other non-instructional activities do not exclude a course from this category.

Hybrid Course--A distance education course in which more than 50 percent but less than 100 percent of instructional activity takes place when the student(s) and instructor(s) are in separate physical locations.

Distance Education Degree or Certificate Program--A program in which a student may complete a majority (more than 50 percent) of the credit hours required for the program through distance education courses. The definition of a Distance Education Degree or Certificate Program does not include programs in which 50 percent or less of the required credit hours are offered through distance education. Two categories of distance education programs are defined:

100-Percent Online Program--A degree program in which students complete 100 percent of the credit hours required for the program through 100-Percent Online Courses. Requirements for on-campus or in-person orientation, testing, academic support services, internships/fieldwork, or other non-instructional activities do not exclude a program from this category.

Hybrid Program--A degree program in which students complete 50 percent or more and less than 100 percent of the credit hours required for the program through Distance Education Courses.

Definitions located in TAC Chapter 2, Subchapter J, Rule 2.202

IPDE - Updates

- Based on the Principles of Good Practice for Distance Education (PGP)
 - Board-approved standards/criteria for distance education delivered by Texas public institutions
 - mapped to SACSCOC, Council of Regional Accrediting Commissions (C-RAC), Quality Matters, Online Learning Scorecard, SUNY Online Course Quality Review Rubric (OSCQR)
- Aligned with Accrediting Agency Reaffirmation cycle
 - no later than one year after receiving final disposition of the institution's comprehensive renewal of accreditation report from their institutional accreditor or
 - no later than ten years after the approval of their last IPDE to the Coordinating Board
- LTAC is currently reviewing & updating the PGP and IPDE

Academic Certificates

Effective September 1, 2023

- No 50-mile notification or THECB approval required prior to delivery of academic certificates regardless of SCH or level.
- THECB will complete a bulk collection of all academic certificates (with option to provide periodic updates) and institutions will be able to report graduates of all reported certificates
 - Not required to be embedded in a degree program
- Process for this is TBD, and more information will be available in the coming months.

Program Review

(no immediate changes)

Current Processes

- Progress Reports
- Low Producing Programs
- Graduate Program Reviews

Future Goals

- More utilization of THECB data resources
- More targeted reviews

Questions?