

Student Financial Aid Programs (SFAP) Transform Thursday

Nursing Students Scholarship Program

September 26, 2024

Topics of Discussion



Exploring the Nursing
Students Scholarship
Program

Deadlines, Reminders, &
Notifications

Stay Connected

Nursing Students Scholarship

Purpose

The purpose of the Nursing Students Scholarship Program is to promote the health care and educational needs of this state by providing scholarships to eligible professional and vocational nursing students.



Understanding the Program

Program Fact Sheet

This resource serves as a quick reference and outlines some of the key components of the program.

Nursing Students Scholarship Program 2024-25 (FY 2025) FACT SHEET

**Texas Higher Education
COORDINATING BOARD**

This fact sheet highlights requirements that appear in the Texas Education Code (TEC) and Title 19 of the Texas Administrative Code (TAC). This document should be used solely as a resource and does not override the relevant statutes and rules for this program.

Purpose
The Nursing Students Scholarship Program promotes health care and educational needs by providing scholarships to eligible professional and vocational nursing students.

Eligible Institutions
Any public, private, or independent institution of higher education (see [TEC, Title 3, Section 61.003](#)), or a nonprofit, tax-exempt, regionally accredited college or university (see [TEC, Title 3, Section 61.651\(1\)\(C\)](#)) are eligible to participate in this program.

Institutions are invited annually to participate in the allocation process for this optional program.

Scholarship Amount
Maximum scholarship amounts per semester will vary depending on the type of institution the student attends. Institutions eligible to participate in the Toward Excellence, Access, and Success (TEXAS) Grant and Texas Educational Opportunity Grant (TEOG) programs may offer scholarships each semester up to the maximum grant amount for their respective program. Institutions eligible to participate in the Tuition Equalization Grant (TEG) program may offer scholarships each semester up to half the annual TEG exceptional need maximum.

2024-25 SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNTS		
Program	Institution Type	FY 2025 Sem Max
TEXAS Grant	Public Universities & Health-Related Institutions	\$5,394
	Public State Colleges	\$1,730
TEOG	Public Technical Institutes	\$4,285
	Public Community Colleges	\$2,886
TEG	Private/Independent Institutions	\$2,905

NOTE: This scholarship cannot be used as financial aid to fulfill the TEOG and TEXAS Grant matching requirement for students simultaneously receiving both the scholarship and a TEOG/TEXAS Grant.

CONTACT INFORMATION
For questions, please call 844-792-2640 or submit a [Help Desk ticket](#) through the Grant and Aid Processing Platform. Address: 1801 N. Congress Ave., Suite 12.200, Austin, TX 78701 • Mail: PO Box 12788, Austin, TX 78711-2788
Phone: 512-427-6101 • Fax: 512-427-6127

HIGHERED.TEXAS.GOV
as of 07/25/2024

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To qualify for a scholarship, a student must:

- ✓ be a resident of Texas;
- ✓ be registered with Selective Service, or be exempt; show financial need;
- ✓ be enrolled in a course of study leading to an undergraduate or graduate degree in professional nursing or one intending to prepare a student for licensure as a licensed vocational nurse;
- ✓ be enrolled at least half-time; and
- ✓ have made satisfactory academic progress (SAP) in accordance with their institution's financial aid academic progress requirements.

Discontinuation of Eligibility or Non-Eligibility
Unless an extension of eligibility (due to a hardship circumstance) is granted, a student's eligibility ends:

- when the student has attempted 15 credit hours, or the equivalent, beyond the amount required to complete the degree or certificate program in which the student is enrolled.

Please note, in determining eligibility, a student who has received this scholarship during a previous course of study is considered to have started the student's new course of study with zero credit hours, or the equivalent, attempted if the student:

- meets all other eligibility criteria; and
- completed the previous course of study by earning the intended degree or certificate.

Hardship Provisions
In the event of a hardship or for other compelling cause, a student who is ineligible to receive the Nursing Students Scholarship may be eligible to receive a scholarship:

- while failing to make SAP in accordance with the institution's financial aid academic progress requirements,
- while enrolled less than half-time, and
- while enrolled beyond the scholarship receipt limit (relating to Discontinuation of Eligibility or Non-Eligibility).

The institution will determine any acceptable reasons to grant a hardship decision. Each institution must adopt a hardship policy and have the policy available for public review. All hardship decisions must be documented in the student's record and be available for submission to the THECB, upon request.

[Nursing Students Scholarship Program 2024-25 \(FY 2025\) Fact Sheet \(texas.gov\)](#)

Program Rules

The rules for administering the Nursing Students Scholarship Program became effective Aug. 15, 2024, and are available in the [Texas Administrative Code \(TAC\), Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 22, Subchapter R.](#)



Eligibility Requirements

Eligible Institutions

- Any public, private, or independent institution of higher education¹, or a nonprofit, tax-exempt, regionally accredited college or university², are eligible to participate in this program.
- Each year institutions are invited to participate in the allocation process for this optional program.

¹[Texas Education Code, Title 3, Section 61.003](#)

² [Texas Education Code, Title 3, Section 61.651\(1\)\(C\)](#)



Eligibility Requirements

To qualify for a scholarship, a student must:

- ✓ be a resident of Texas;
- ✓ be registered with Selective Service, or be exempt;
- ✓ show financial need;
- ✓ be enrolled in a course of study leading to an undergraduate or graduate degree in professional nursing or one intending to prepare a student for licensure as a licensed vocational nurse;
- ✓ be enrolled at least half-time; and
- ✓ have made satisfactory academic progress in accordance with their institutions' financial aid academic progress requirements.



Discontinuation of Eligibility or Non-Eligibility

Unless an extension of eligibility (due to a hardship circumstance) is granted, a student's eligibility ends:

- when the student has attempted 15 credit hours, or the equivalent, beyond the amount required to complete the degree or certificate program in which the student is enrolled.

Please note, in determining eligibility, a student who has received this scholarship during a previous course of study is considered to have started the student's new course of study with zero credit hours, or the equivalent, attempted if the student:

- meets all other eligibility criteria; and
- completed the previous course of study by earning the intended degree or certificate.



“Can a recipient that has completed their LVN using the Nursing Students Scholarship receive the nursing scholarship again for their ADN?”



Discontinuation of Eligibility

Abby Lockhart has completed her LVN degree with 58 credit hours using the nursing scholarship to pay tuition. She wants to enroll in the ADN program at her school the following semester. Is Abby eligible to receive the nursing scholarship for the ADN program?



Discontinuation of Eligibility

Answer: Yes. A student who received the scholarship during a previous course of study is considered to have started the student's new course of study with zero credit hours, or the equivalent, attempted as long as the student:

- meets all other eligibility criteria; and
- completed the previous course of study by earning the intended degree or certificate.



Hardship Provisions

In the event of a hardship or for other compelling cause, a student who is ineligible to receive the Nursing Students Scholarship may be eligible to receive a scholarship:

- while failing to make SAP in accordance with the institution's financial aid academic progress requirements,
- while enrolled less than half-time, and
- while enrolled beyond the scholarship receipt limit (relating to Discontinuation of Eligibility or Non-Eligibility).



Scholarship Amounts

Nursing Students Scholarship Amounts

2024-25 SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNTS		
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	Public Community Colleges	\$2,886
TEG	Private/Independent Institutions	\$2,905
This scholarship cannot be used as financial aid to fulfill the TEOG and TEXAS Grant matching requirement for students simultaneously receiving both the scholarship and a TEOG/TEXAS Grant.		

Maximum scholarship amounts per semester will vary depending on the type of institution the student attends.

- Institutions eligible to participate in TEXAS Grant and TEOG may offer scholarships each semester up to the maximum grant amount for their respective program.
- Institutions eligible to participate in the Tuition Equalization Grant (TEG) program may offer scholarships each semester up to half the annual TEG exceptional need maximum.

Note: The amount of a scholarship plus any other gift aid may NOT exceed the student's financial need.

“Can institutions use the Nursing Students Scholarship to satisfy the TEXAS Grant matching requirement?”



Matching Requirement

Scenario: Poppy Pomfrey is a Financial Aid Specialist who has awarded her nursing student a renewal TEXAS Grant and the Nursing Students Scholarship. Poppy asked her co-worker, Jane, “can we use this new scholarship to satisfy the TEXAS Grant matching requirement?”

Jane was helping a student on the phone and in the middle of answering an email but quickly answered, “Yes, Poppy, we sure can”.

Q. Did Jane give Poppy the correct answer?



Matching Requirement

A. No, Jane's answer is incorrect. The Nursing Students Scholarship cannot be used as financial aid to fulfill the TEXAS Grant matching requirement for students simultaneously receiving both the scholarship and a TEXAS Grant.



Matching Requirement – Public University

Cost of Attendance = \$30,000

- Tuition & Fees = \$12,000
- Books = \$700
- Room and Board = \$12,500
- Personal/Misc = \$4,800

Student Aid Index (SAI) = 5,000

Financial Need = \$25,000

TEXAS Grant eligible = \$2,000

Pell = \$2,500

Total Gift Aid = \$4,500

Funding needed to cover tuition and fees = **\$7,500**

$$\$12,000 - \$4,500 = \$7,500$$

Nursing Students Scholarship cannot be used to cover tuition and fees.

“Can a student receive both
the Nursing Students
Scholarship and the TEXAS
Grant together?”



Simultaneous Awards



Scenario. Malik McGrath is a nursing student and has been receiving the TEXAS grant for the last two years. In his third year, Malik was awarded the Nursing Students Scholarship.

Q. Can Malik continue to receive the TEXAS Grant while using the scholarship?

Simultaneous Awards



A. Yes, Malik can continue receiving TEXAS Grant while receiving the Nursing Students Scholarship as long as tuition and fees have been covered and he meets all other eligibility criteria.

Simultaneous Awards – Public University

Cost of Attendance = \$30,000

- Tuition & Fees = \$12,000
- Books = \$700
- Room and Board = \$12,500
- Personal/Misc = \$4,800

Student Aid Index (SAI) = 0

Financial Need = \$30,000

TEXAS Grant eligible = \$5,000 (target award)

Pell = \$7,395

Total Gift Aid = \$12,395

Funding needed to cover tuition and fees = **\$0**

Student can receive a Nursing Students Scholarship up to \$5,394/semester* = \$10,788

*TEXAS Grant maximum for Public Universities

\$12,000 - \$12,395 = \$-395

Priority Awarding

If appropriated funds are insufficient to award all eligible students:

1. priority should be given to students who received a scholarship in the prior academic year (**Renewal Students**).
2. Priority must be given to students who demonstrate the **greatest financial need**.
3. In addition, priority must be given to students enrolled in professional or vocational nursing programs who are **not yet licensed as a registered nurse** in Texas or any other state.



Allocations

Allocations

- 2024-25 (FY 2025) Initial Allocations for the Nursing Students Scholarship program were distributed on August 19, 2024.
- Final allocations for the Nursing Students Scholarship program will be announced later this fall.
- The memo can be found on the SFAP webpage.

Memorandum

TO: Directors of Financial Aid, Public and Private/Independent Institutions of Higher Education

FROM: DeChà Reid
Director III, Student Financial Aid Programs (SFAP) Operations

DATE: August 19, 2024

SUBJECT: 2024-25 (FY 2025) Nursing Students Scholarship Initial Allocations

On July 29, 2024, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) issued a 10-day data review to Financial Aid Directors at public and private/independent institutions for the Nursing Students Scholarship program. This review period ended on August 12, 2024.

Alongside the 10-day data review, THECB has been working closely with eligible institutions that have not previously participated in state financial aid programs but have indicated their intent to participate in the Nursing Students Scholarship program through the opt-in/out process ([Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 1, Section 22.362](#)). We are collaborating with these institutions to collect and certify the necessary data for allocations. Once this data is certified, final allocations will be distributed to all eligible institutions.

Enclosed are the FY 2025 initial allocations for the Nursing Students Scholarship program, which exclude 4% of the appropriated funding. Final allocations, reflecting 100% of the appropriated funding for the 2024-2025 biennium (covering the 2023-24 and 2024-25 fiscal years), will be distributed later this fall after the additional certified data has been reviewed.

Institutions participating in the Nursing Students Scholarship program can start submitting online funds requests for FY 2025 through the Grant Payments Portal (GAPP) on August 20, 2024. Payments will be processed once the new fiscal year begins on September 1, 2024.

For questions, please call (844) 792-2640 or submit an online inquiry through [CONTACT US](#) (select "Financial Aid Question" as the Contact Reason).

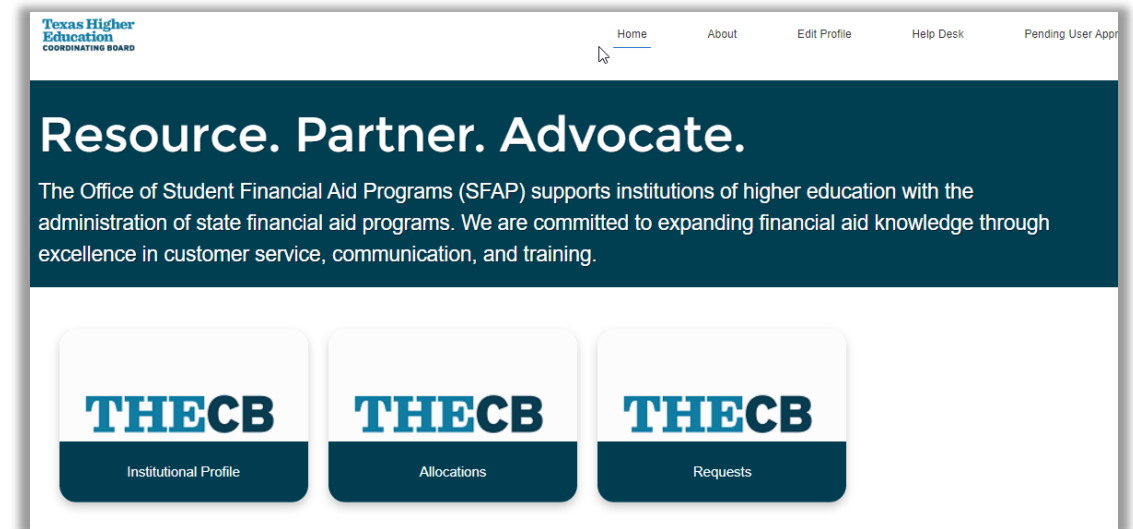
Enclosed: [FY 2025 Nursing Students Scholarship Initial Allocations](#)

Payment Requests

Payment Requests

Participating institutions can begin requesting funds in the [GAPP](#) portal before final allocations are available.

For instructions on how to make Payment Requests, please refer to the September 13, 2023, [webcast](#).



Deadlines, Reminders & Notifications

Deadlines, Reminders, & Notifications

Deadlines

- FY 2026 Draft TASFA Feedback - 9/30
- User Access Institutional Roles Review & Survey - 10/4
- Initial FAD file for Cycle 3 - 10/9
- State Campus-Based Report - 10/18

Reminders

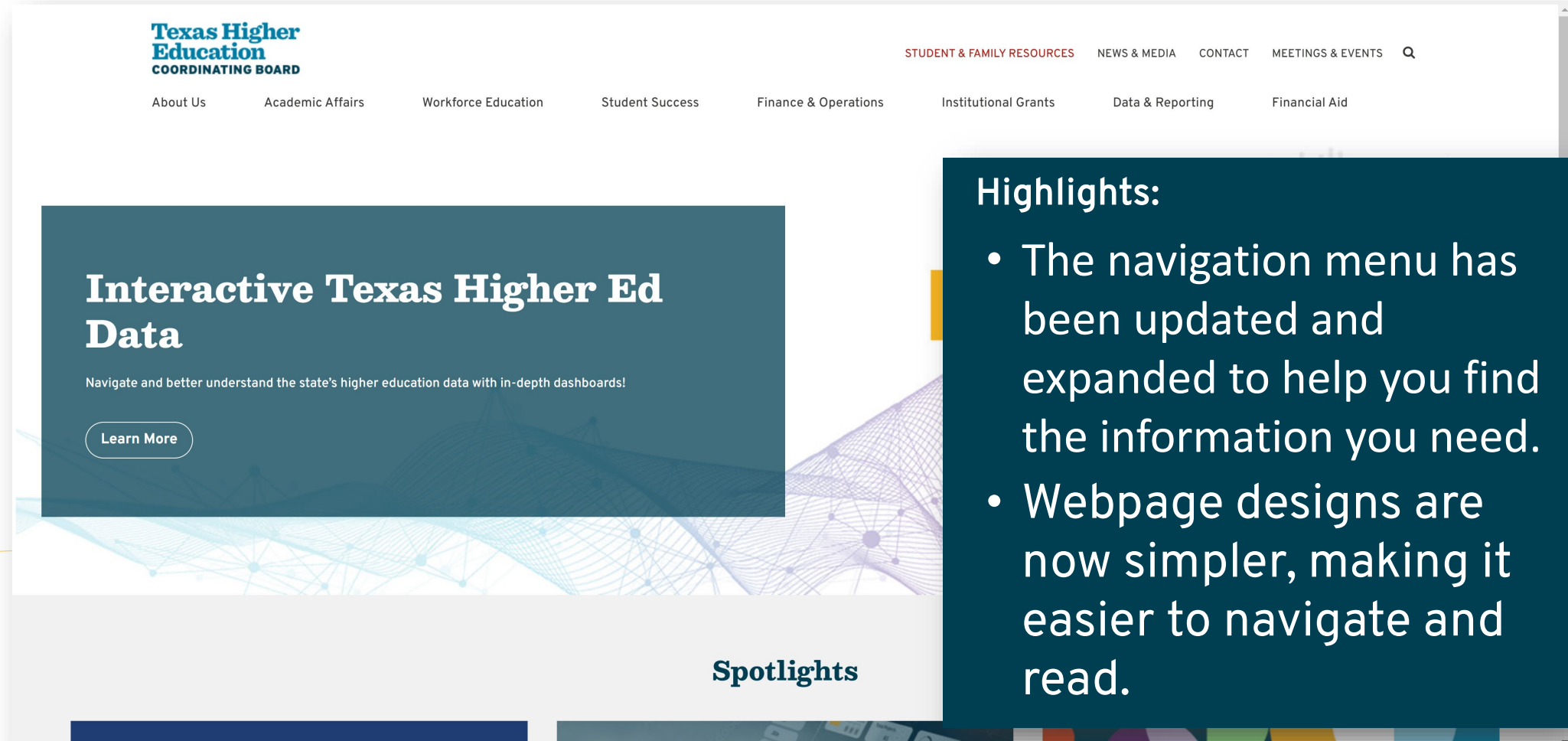
- THECB at 2024 TASFAA Conference
10/9 - 10/11
- Transform Thursday Webinar - Loan Processing - 11/7

Recent Notifications

- 09/24/2024 State Campus-Based Report 2023-24 (FY 2024)
- 09/19/2024 Financial Aid for Swift Transfer (FAST) Program Guidelines 2024-25 (FY2025)
- 09/18/2024 Financial Aid Database (FAD) 2023-24 (FY 2024) Reporting Cycle 3 - Now Open
- 09/12/2024 User Access Annual Review Process Memo
- 09/11/2024 2025-26 Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA) - DRAFT
- 08/27/2024 State Financial Aid Updates, Reminders, and Resources Memo

Stay Connected

UPDATE Agency Website



Student Financial Aid Programs Page

The screenshot shows the website's navigation menu with 'Financial Aid' highlighted in a red box. The main content area features a sidebar with a list of links and a central featured section for the 'Net Price Calculator'.

Texas Higher Education COORDINATING BOARD

STUDENT & FAMILY RESOURCES NEWS & MEDIA CONTACT MEETINGS & EVENTS

About Us Academic Affairs Workforce Education Student Success Finance & Operations Institutional Grants Data & Reporting **Financial Aid**

Financial Aid

- Overview
- Grant & Loan Programs
- Work-Study & Scholarships
- Exemptions & Waivers
- Tuition Set-Asides
- Net Price Calculator
- Financial Aid Database
- TASFA Information
- Financial Aid for Swift Transfer (FAST)
- FAST Frequently Asked Questions
- Webcast Archives

Net Price Calculator

Use this tool to estimate how much you'll pay for college, including tuition, fees, books, room and board, and other expenses.

[Learn More →](#)

Spotlights

Student Financial Aid Programs Page

Financial Aid

Overview

Grant & Loan Programs

Work-Study & Scholarships

Exemptions & Waivers

Tuition Set-Asides

Net Price Calculator

Financial Aid Database

TASFA Information

Financial Aid for Swift Transfer (FAST)

FAST Frequently Asked Questions

Webcast Archives

Overview – SFAP main page that contains notices, Institutional Calendars, SFAP listserv Subscription request, State Financial Aid Training request, Financial Aid Advisory Committee information, and SFAP published memos.

Dedicated program webpages have not changed but are now accessible through the navigation menu.

Resources for major programs, applications, and processes now have their own dedicated webpages and are linked in the navigation menu.

Contact Student Financial Aid Programs

For Borrowers and the Public:

Borrower Services

- Student Borrowers (Cosigners): (800) 242-3062

Texas Financial Aid Information Center (TFAIC)

- Public Line: (888) 311-8881

For Institutions:

FAS Institutional Phone Line

- Institutions Only: (844) 792-2640

For Everyone:

Email

- Submit inquiries online through the [CONTACT US](#) web form.

All Phone Lines
Hours of Operation:
Mon-Fri
8 AM to 5 PM
(Closed Daily from 12-1)



Submit a CONTACT US

To ensure inquiries are routed correctly, complete these steps:

- ✓ Select **Institution** in Received From box
- ✓ Enter the **Institution's Full Name**
- ✓ Always select **Financial Aid Question** as the Contact Reason
- ✓ Enter a detailed **Description** of your inquiry
- ✓ Provide the best **Direct Phone Number**

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Contact Us

An asterisk * by the field indicates a required field!

Received From*

Institution

Contact Reason*

Description* 4000 characters max

Please do NOT include your full Social Security Number inside the issue description. If you have a question about the status of a new loan application, accounts in repayment, or deferments, please use the last four digits of your SSN instead.

Is this a complaint No Yes

Contact Preference E-MAIL LETTER PHONE

Salutation*

First Name*

Last Name*

E-mail*

Phone (10-digit) Phone Ext

Mail Address

Mail Address2

Mail Address3

City

State Zip Code (5-digit)

| [Help](#)

GAPP Help Desk Ticket

For questions on GAPP transactions, submit a GAPP helpdesk ticket.

- ✓ Enter a **Subject**
- ✓ Select your **Request Type**
- ✓ Select the **Program Type**
- ✓ Enter **Description** of issue
- ✓ **Submit** ticket

The screenshot shows the 'Create a Ticket' form on the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board website. The form is titled 'Create a Ticket' and includes the following fields and options:

- Subject:** A text input field with a red asterisk indicating it is required.
- Request Type:** A dropdown menu with 'Select an Option' as the current selection.
- Program Type:** A dropdown menu with 'Select an Option' as the current selection.
- Initial Description of Issue:** A rich text editor with a toolbar containing icons for link, image, and text color.
- Upload:** A section with 'Upload Files' and 'Or drop files' options.
- Created By:** A field showing 'PJC Tester1'.
- Buttons:** 'Cancel', 'Save as Draft', and 'Submit' (highlighted with a red box).

A woman in a white lab coat is looking at a laptop screen in a laboratory setting. The image is overlaid with a dark teal background and a thin yellow circular line on the left and right sides.

Texas Higher Education

COORDINATING BOARD

Questions?

Thank you!

We appreciate your feedback.

Please take a moment to complete our survey.



<https://forms.office.com/r/adEtZY4HBG>