

**Our Education and Workforce policy efforts are divided into two main workstreams:**

(1) improving student outcomes in our PK-12 system, and (2) improving postsecondary achievement with better workforce outcomes. The combined goal of these efforts is to ensure Texans have the education and skills necessary to pursue a productive career and earn a family-sustaining wage.

Closing PK-12 Achievement Gaps with Data-Driven Policies

- Defend Annual Assessment, Accountability, and the A-F System
- Encourage High-Quality Curriculum
- Defend House Bill 3 Programs and Encourage Future Data-Driven Investments
- Improve Teacher Quality, Compensation, and Training
- Support High-Quality Public Charter Schools
- Increase Access to High-Quality Tutoring

Removing Barriers to PK-12 Student Outcomes

- Increase Access to Rigorous Coursework
- Increase High School Access to Workforce Training and Credentials
- Improve Student Access to Virtual Learning and Other Innovative Learning Models
- Improve Digital Literacy, Technology Planning, and Funding Stability

Postsecondary Workforce Alignment

- Prioritize Career Outcomes and Economic Mobility in Community College Finance
- Incentivize Attainment of Credentials of Value
- Promote Self-Sufficient and Family-Sustaining Wage Attainment as a Goal of State Education and Workforce Programs

Access to Economic Mobility

- Increase Access to Reskilling and Upskilling Opportunities
- Increase Employer-Led Education Opportunities
- Improve Recognition of Prior Learning and Competency-Based Education Models
- Expand Skills Attainment and Skills-Based Hiring
- Support Efforts to Improve Access to Quality Child Care

Efficient Postsecondary Pathways

- Improve Dual Credit Completion and Transfer
- Ensure Stackable Sequencing of Credentials
- Pursue Cross-Agency Programmatic Integration and Funding
- Improve Workforce Data Infrastructure



Our north star in health care policy is to ensure that Texans are able to obtain the high-quality care they need, when they need it, at a price they can afford. In order to achieve this, high-quality care for Texans must be both available and affordable. While these goals sound simple, the challenges we face in this area are complex. In many cases, incentives are misaligned, which has resulted in inefficient allocation of resources and a low return on investment. While the challenge is great, so is the opportunity. Because of the growing bipartisan recognition that our current healthcare system isn't working well, there is a chance for real, impactful reforms that can help ensure that all Texans are able to access and afford the care they need, when they need it.

Affordability and Transparency of Care

- Enforce and Expand Transparency
- Remove Barriers to Cost and Quality Data
- Reform State Employee Health Benefit Plans
- Protect Smart Shoppers Within Their Deductibles
- Reduce Inappropriate Facility Fees
- Improve Market Competition by Prohibiting Anti-Competitive Contracting Practices

Availability of Medical Care

- Enable Independent Practice for APRNs, Especially in Demand Shortage Areas
- Codify Federal Flexibilities for Vaccine Administration
- Improve Access to Children's Mental Health Services
- Support Innovation to Expand our Health Care Workforce Pipeline
- Ensure Continued Access to Telemedicine

Increasing Health Insurance Coverage

- Pursue an "All Options are on the Table" Approach to Increasing Covered Lives
- Authorize, Develop, and Enact 1115 (Medicaid) and 1332 (Affordable Care Act) Waivers
- Expand Medicaid Eligibility to Close the Coverage Gap
- Increase Postpartum Medicaid Eligibility from 6 Months to 12 Months



Texas' growth correlates with accelerating Infrastructure needs. The continuation of our economic miracle hinges on the expansion and modernization of our energy, water, transportation, broadband, and government infrastructure. Just as this infrastructure needs to grow, so, too, does the need to replace aging, depreciating infrastructure that presents greater liabilities with each passing year.

Energy Expansion

- Pursue an "All of the Above" Strategy for Energy Expansion
- Support Market-Based Investments in Clean Energy and Decarbonization
- Support Development of Hydrogen and Carbon Capture Hubs
- Support Regulatory Certainty for Oil and Gas Production
- Support Natural Gas Infrastructure Resilience
- Reduce and Mitigate Oil and Gas Waste Streams

Water Planning and Infrastructure

- Support Water Development Board Sunset Legislation
- Develop More Accurate Water Planning Data
- Fund Solutions that Address Growing Water Needs
- Establish Frameworks for the Development of Regional Water Markets that Encourage Voluntary Transfers of Water
- Support Water Workforce Development Programs

Resilient Electricity

- Leverage Federal Infrastructure Funds to Improve Grid Resilience
- Address Agency Staffing Challenges that Inhibit Grid Reforms
- Support Efforts to Improve Electricity Affordability for Texas Households

Future-Forward Transportation

- Align Funding and Revenue to Market Trends
- Embrace Technological Innovation

Digital Connectivity

- Optimize the State's Broadband Program to More Efficiently Close the Digital Divide. This involves:
 - Map Underserved Areas in Our State Program
 - Expand Personnel Capacity Within the Broadband Development Office
 - Update Speed Standards for Broadband Infrastructure Projects Funded with State Dollars
- Coordinate Federal and State Broadband Funds for Maximum Impact
- Expand Market Reforms and Incentives for Broadband Expansion
- Advance Digital Literacy Opportunities

State Parks

- Support Expansion and Improvement of State Park Infrastructure



Government Performance is a signature policy area for Texas 2036, with our team often the only voice on many critical issues. Our first session and special sessions featured impactful victories on state employee pension reform, information technology and cybersecurity modernization, education investment fund reforms, and smart use of federal funds to promote long-term growth. This session, our government performance efforts will be divided into two primary themes: (1) broadly addressing the long-term fiscal, workforce, and technological needs of our state government; and (2) leveraging data and IT to specifically target improvement in government services related to policing, the judiciary, and child welfare.

Fiscal Sustainability and Budget Performance

- Ensure Long-Term Priorities are Funded and Measured Accurately by:
 - Reducing the Risk Long-Term Liabilities Will Have on Future
 - Generations and Balance Sheets
 - Continuing Information Technology and Cybersecurity Modernization
 - Reforming State Budget Performance Measures
- Preserve a Broad-Based Tax Structure Aligned to a Modern Economy

Talent, Technology, and Data

- Modernize State Employment Practices, Pay, and Benefits. This Involves:
 - Increasing State Agency and Legislative Staff Salaries
 - Improving Access to Remote Work for Appropriate State Jobs
 - Encouraging Skills-Based Hiring for State Employees
- Address Rising Housing Costs for State Employees
- Ensure Data Quality and Privacy by:
 - Improving State Agency Data Infrastructure and Sharing
 - Ensuring State Held Personal Data is Protected and Private
 - Leveraging 2-1-1 Data to Improve State Customer Service

Justice Data and Accountability

- Address Court Backlogs with Resources, Rules, and Reporting Changes
- Improve Law Enforcement Regulation and Data

Improving Systems for the Vulnerable

- Ensure IT for Tracking Foster Children Best Serves the State and Texas Children
- Pursue an “All Options Are on The Table” Approach to Improving Child Welfare
- Improve Conditions in Correctional Facilities
- Reduce Recidivism by Improving Employment Outcomes for Justice-Involved Texans