

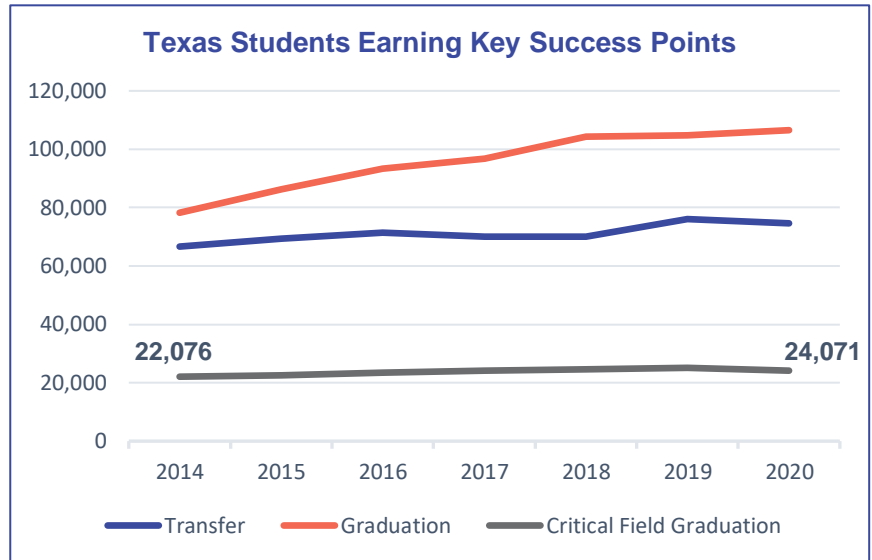
Support for Funding of Community College Reform

Key Takeaways:

- The Texas Commission on Community College Finance (TxCCCCF) offers transformative recommendations to reform the state’s community college finance system.
- Texas 2036 is supportive of S.B. 1’s inclusion of \$650 million over the FY 2024-2025 biennium to fully implement community college finance reform.

Background:

The TxCCCCF has proposed a new funding model for community colleges that primarily funds colleges based on outcomes leading to credentials of value, provides students with equitable access to higher education, and builds college capacity to meet workforce needs. The state’s community colleges provide education and training opportunities responsive to middle-skills occupations – those that require postsecondary education but not a four-year degree – that make up the majority of Texas jobs. Texans want workforce alignment with 87% of Texas voters wanting community colleges to focus on courses that match the needs of their local workforce.¹



Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Basis of Legislative Appropriations

However, meeting those needs will require improving key student outcomes that lead to credential of value attainment.

Proposed Action:

Maintain S.B. 1 (88-R) contingency investments for community college finance reform.

Budget Cost Estimate:

\$650 million over the biennium as currently detailed in Sec. 62 of the Special Provisions Relating Only to State Agencies of Higher Education will fully implement community college finance reform.

Public Policy Impact:

The TxCCCCF recommendations would resolve the underlying structural flaws of our current community college finance system while expanding access to educational opportunities. Specifically, they would prioritize community college programs that meet state and regional workforce needs and allow Texans equal opportunities to participate in our state’s prosperity through meaningful careers with family-sustaining wages.

¹ Texas 2036 Texas Voter Poll, N=1,001, margin of error = +3.1%, held between Aug. 24-29, 2021