

Key Takeaways:

1. Texas has a generational opportunity to overhaul its **Community College Finance** formulas to meet the state's workforce needs.
2. Texas also has the opportunity to significantly **increase the number of workforce credentials earned in high school**, particularly in rural schools, by adopting the recommendations of the Texas Commission on Virtual Education.
3. The state should continue its commitment to the **Tri-Agency Workforce Initiative**, which builds the data and cross-agency infrastructure toward long-term alignment of the state's education and workforce systems.

62%

of jobs in Texas will **require a postsecondary credential** by 2030

26%

of Texas high school graduates **earn a post-secondary credential within six years of graduation**

0.2%

of state Community College funding is aligned to **employers' workforce needs**

Bills To Monitor:

- ⇒ **HB 8 (VanDeaver)** – reforms the state community college finance system.
- ⇒ **HB 1703 (Ordaz)** – improves the Texas Workforce Commission's (TWC) data system tracking employment and wage outcomes for participants of state workforce development programs.
- ⇒ **HB 3141/SB 1861 (K. King/Bettencourt)** – implements the recommendations of the Texas Commission on Virtual Education.
- ⇒ **HB 3924/SB 2066 (Oliverson/Bettencourt)** – requires skills-based hiring for state classified positions.
- ⇒ **HB 4451 (Bhojani)** – establishes a joint study between TWC and local workforce boards to increase the availability of apprenticeships in emerging and high-demand industries.
- ⇒ **HB 4410 (Dutton)** – creates the Texas Commission on High School Outcomes.
- ⇒ **HB 4698 (Button)** – enhances the quality and availability of state data measuring the childcare needs of Texas families.

87%

of Texas voters agree that **"community colleges should focus on offering course programs that match the needs of the local workforce."**

90%

of Texas voters believe it is important **"for the state to focus on increasing the number of credentials earned while students are still in high school."**

81%

of Texas voters favor **"providing financial incentives to Texas community colleges to focus on courses in career fields where students can earn a self-sustaining wage."**