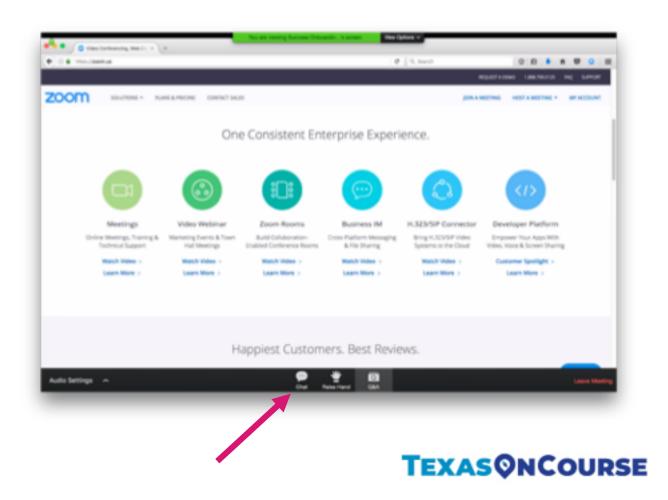
#### Welcome!

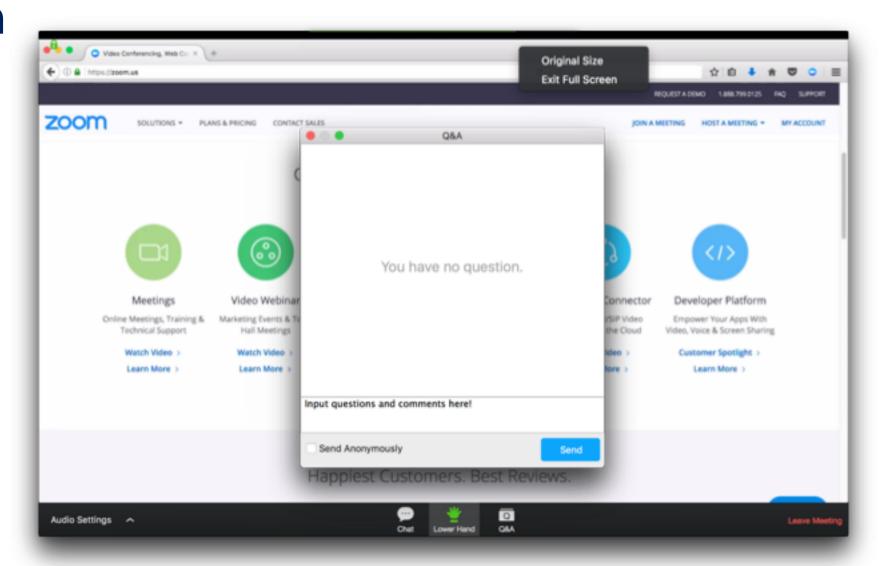
#### While we wait for everyone to get started...

- Use the chat box to say hello and introduce yourself. Thanks for joining!
- Next: What is your favorite taco spot in Texas? Please share!

We will start at 10:00 a.m.!



## Participation and Interaction



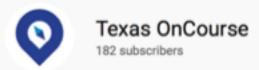


## K-12 Updates from the 87th Legislative Session

With Texas OnCourse, all Texas students, no matter where they come from or where they're headed, have a plan for success after high school.



## Don't forget to like and subscribe on YouTube!





### Agenda

- Welcome
- 87<sup>th</sup> Legislative Update on K-12
  - Priscilla Garza, Director of Policy
    - Ryan Franklin, Senior Director for Policy and Advocacy
- Resource Spotlight
  - Sam Kimmel, High School Program Coordinator
- Questions and Discussion

## Lara Gueguen

Director of Program Implementation
Texas OnCourse



## Priscilla Garza

**Director of Policy Educate Texas** 





## Ryan Franklin

Senior Director for Policy and Advocacy Educate Texas



## Sam Kimmel

Program Coordinator – High School Texas OnCourse

## 87th Legislative Regular Session Debrief

**Texas OnCourse Webinar** 

June 8, 2021



# What's one issue you'd like to learn more about from the 87th legislative session?

Let us know your responses in the chat box.

Trusted as a change agent in Texas education, Educate Texas has partnered with public and private entities for more than a decade to improve the public and higher education system in Texas so that every student is prepared for and achieves success in school, in the workforce and in life. As a strategic initiative of Communities Foundation of Texas, Educate Texas knows that thriving communities are built on education that empowers. Through our policy and advocacy initiatives, Educate Texas is a leading voice and resource for state leaders working to improve public education in Texas.

Influence policies affecting EDTX's impact areas in public education, higher education, and workforce Build awareness and dialogue about strengths and challenges in the field of education Identify and highlight best practices in policy and programs for legislative, state agency, and local efforts Serve as a trusted and credible resource to stakeholders in the policy and advocacy arena





140

DAYS OF SESSION
HELD EVERY ODD-NUMBERED YEAR



150

HOUSE MEMBERS ELECTED
TO 2-YEAR TERMS
WITH 34 STANDING COMMITTEES



SENATORS ELECTED
TO 2- OR 4-YEAR TERMS
WITH 16 STANDING COMMITTEES



BILLS FILED IN THE 87TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION WITH 1073 PASSED SO FAR



1 Veto deadline – June 20th

2 Lots left to agency and local policymaking

3 Not comprehensive





#### **BUDGET | SB 1 by Sen. Nelson**

- \$248.5B biennial budget
- Funds public education investments from HB 3, including enrollment growth
- Provides state and federal funding for targeted programs for students and schools affected by the pandemic



#### BROADBAND | HB 5 by Rep. Ashby

- Establishes a Broadband Development Office in the Comptroller's office
- Calls for a state broadband plan, mapping, and a grant program to award grants, low-interest loans, and other incentives to build out broadband access.



#### School Finance and Pandemic Response



#### SCHOOL FINANCE | HB 1525 (HB 3 "Clean Up") by Rep Huberty

- Establishes COVID-19 learning acceleration supports
- Reinstates the GT Allotment
- Adjusts CTE funding weights to encourage programs of study
- Associate Degrees earned in HS count for CCMR outcome bonus
- Expanded options for P-TECH, Regional Pathways Network, and JET Program
- Makes human sexuality instruction an opt-in instead of opt-out and requires additional transparency related to that instruction



#### MENTAL HEALTH

- Public School Task Force on Public School Mental Health Services | HB 2287 by Rep. Thompson
  - Gives the Task Force more ability to obtain data, including data from districts



#### LEARNING LOSS | HB 4545 Rep. Dutton

- Strengthens framework around local supports necessary for students who are not performing at grade level
- Creates a Strong Foundations Grant Program for instructional materials, aligned assessments, and parental engagement

#### Counselor Work Time and Continuing Education



#### School Counselor Work Time | SB 179 by Sen. Lucio

- Requires counselors to spend at least 80% of time performing counseling duties for comprehensive school counseling programs with an explicit exclusion of assessment administration
- Allows some flexibility for small districts



#### **Educator Continuing Education Requirements** | SB 1267 by Sen. West

- Establishes a clearinghouse of continuing education and training requirements
- Creates more local control over required continuing education for teachers and principals
  - Prohibits requiring a district employee to repeat training or calibration for TELPAS unless the exam has changed significantly



#### Testing, Graduation, and Attendance



#### **ELECTRONIC ADMINISTRATION OF ASSESSMENTS | HB 3261** by Rep. Huberty

- Establishes electronic assessments as the default beginning in 2022-23 school year
- Allows instructional materials and technology allotment to be used for internet connectivity and staff training in administering electronic assessments
- Caps SBOE instructional materials requests to 75% of total available funds under allotment
- Establishes a matching grant program to support schools in transitioning to electronic assessments
- Allows state assessment on Mondays
- <u>Limits</u> weighting of multiple-choice items to no more than 75% of total available points



#### INDIVIDUAL GRADUATION COMMITTEES FOR CLASS OF 2021 | HB 999 by Rep. Bernal

 Allows IGC to consider criteria other than end-of-course assessments to make graduation determinations for 2020-21 seniors



#### **INDIVIDUAL GRADUATION COMMITTEES | HB 1603** by Rep. Huberty

Removes the expiration date for individual graduation committees



#### ATTENDANCE FOR STUDENTS WITH SEVERE ILLNESSES | HB 699 by Rep. Rosenthal

Allows long-term or life-threatening illnesses to be a valid exemption from attendance-based promotion or graduation requirements



#### Dual Credit/CCMR Outcomes Bonus and Accountability



#### **DUAL CREDIT ADVISING** SB 1277 by Sen. West

 Requires future dual credit agreements to designate one employee as responsible for academic advising for a student who enrolls in a dual credit course before beginning the course



#### ACCOUNTABILITY AND CTE PROGRAMS OF STUDY | HB 773 by Rep. VanDeaver

 Adds successful completion of a CTE program of study as an additional indicator of achievement in the <u>public school</u> accountability system



#### MILITARY READINESS DEFINITION | HB 1147 by Rep. Hubert

 Includes enlistment in the Texas National Guard as an indicator of military readiness for determination of the college, career, and military readiness outcomes bonuses and in making accountability determinations





#### TEXAS APPLICATION FOR STATE FINANCIAL AID (TAFSA) | SB 1860 by Sen. Powell

• Delays implementation of the electronic TAFSA to applications submitted in 2023-24 school year



#### COMPLETION OF FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION FOR HS GRADUATION | SB 369 by Sen. Kolkhorst

- Requires districts to provide students or their parents with notice of the opportunity to decline to complete the financial aid application required for graduation
- Prohibits counselors from indicated that a student hasn't completed the application unless the district has provided the opt-out form to students or their parents





#### TRI-AGENCY EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE ALIGNMENT ACT | HB 3767 by Rep. Murphy

 Establishes the Tri-Agency initiative in statute and calls for shared goal-setting and improved evaluation of career education and training programs



#### MODEL DATA SHARING AGREEMENTS | SB 788 by Sen. Creighton

 Calls for TEA, THECB, and TWC to develop model FERPA-compliant data-sharing agreements to streamline local data sharing on a voluntary basis



#### TRI-AGENCY WORK-BASED LEARNING | HB 1247 by Rep. Lozano

 Calls for TEA, THECB, and TWC to develop a strategic framework to encourage work-based learning in Texas



#### Priorities Update – Higher Education & Workforce Continued



#### COMMUNITY COLLEGE FINANCE COMMISSION | SB 1230 by Sen. Taylor

- Focus is state appropriations for public community and junior colleges.
- Workforce demand and skills gap
- Dual credit programs and costs
- Student graduation, transfer, and success metrics



#### Other Legislation



#### SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM AND RACE TRAINING | HB 3979 by Rep. Toth

- Prevents teachers from being required to discuss current events
- Allows employees to op out of trainings about certain topics related to race and sex
- Prohibits districts from accepting private funding for curriculum and professional development in certain areas



- Remote Instruction
- Transfer Policy





### **Resource Spotlight**

Financial aid graduation requirement website

### **New Graduation Requirement**

#### **Introduced by House Bill 3 (2019)**

Beginning with the 2021–22 school year, all high school seniors must do one of the following to graduate:

- Complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Complete and submit the Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA)
- Submit a signed opt-out agreement



### **Our Response**

Texas OnCourse partnered with TEA to create a website that can support a variety of stakeholders in managing this new requirement

Counselors/Advisers

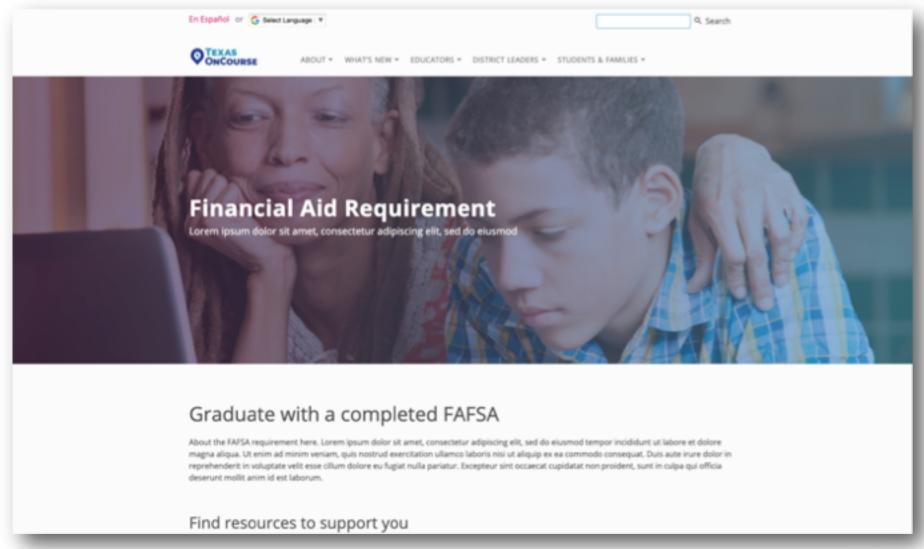
**Families** 

**Students** 

Community Partners

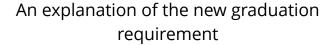


## Financial Aid Requirement



## Inside Each Web Page







Tools and resources that each audience can use



Tips and advice that pull in best practices and simplify the financial aid process



#### **Benefits**



**Transparent**: Everyone has access to all four webpages, making it easy to identify potential gaps in student supports and build collaborative solutions



**Streamlined**: Centralized information hub can save time and effort searching for appropriate tools and resources



**Convenient:** PDF handouts make it easier for counselors/advisers and their community partners to create a financial aid support plan for the school year

## The financial aid graduation requirement website is coming this summer.

Sign up for the Playbook, our monthly newsletter, to be notified when it launches.



## What is your district doing to prepare?

Please share in the chat box.

**TEXASONCOURSE** 

## Additional Questions

Feel free to type your questions in the chat box.



## Don't forget to like and subscribe on YouTube!

