

Regional Strategies to
increase the percentage of
Texas Public High School
graduates directly
enrolling in college

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College Readiness and Success



Texas Higher Education
Coordinating Board

Major Policy Discussion

This panel will share national, regional, and local strategies and initiatives to increase high school direct-to-college-going rates of public high school graduates.

Importance of Direct to College Enrollment

- *60x30TX* Completion goal - By 2030, at least 550,000 students in that year will complete a certificate, associate, bachelor's, or master's from an institution of higher education in Texas.
- To ensure the percentage of Texas public high school students enrolling directly into higher education the following fall improve, Texas set statewide benchmarks of 58 percent by 2020; 61 percent by 2025; and 65 percent by 2030.
- National research has shown that students who enroll immediately in higher education in the fall are more likely to be college ready and earn a certificate or degree.
- Just 52 percent of FY 2016 high school graduates enrolled directly in public or independent higher education in fall 2016, a decrease from 53 percent the previous year.
- Higher Education and K-12 must work together to prepare and support students if Texas is to reach the 65 percent target for direct high school to college enrollment by 2030.

THECB Initiatives Supporting High School Transition

Generation Texas (GenTX)

- Tools and resources to promote a college-going culture
- GenTX Decision Day – Friday, May 4, 2018 #GenTXDay

Advise Texas

- Near peer-to-peer advising model

Apply TX Counselor Suite

- Data available to track student applications/FAFSA completions

Texas Challenge to Reach Higher

- Regional alignment to increase applications and FAFSA completions

Panelists

- Neal Holly, Ph.D., Assistant Director, Postsecondary and Workforce Development Institute, Education Commission of the States (National Perspective)
- Eric J. Ban, Ed.D., Executive Director, Dallas County Promise (Regional Perspective)
- William Serrata, Ph.D., President, El Paso Community College (Texas Institution of Higher Education)
- Michael Bohensky, Superintendent, San Saba Independent School District (Local Independent School District)

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