

# STRAND 2:

## Exploring Texas Dual Credit Programs



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# RC Team Members

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# Research Questions



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# What characteristics of dual credit programs for academic and workforce education propel students into degrees or work?

- What *factors* influence students' *enrollment* in dual credit programs for academic and workforce education?
- How does access to and participation in dual credit programs for academic and workforce education *differ* among student groups, school types, and geographies?
- What are the *backgrounds* and *qualifications* of those who *teach* dual credit programs for academic and workforce education, and are they adequately qualified and distributed across different subjects, schools, and geographies?



# Study Background

- A limited body of research has examined the accessibility and equity dimensions of dual credit programs in Texas.
- Access to DC courses varies significantly across contexts, influenced by factors such as the availability of nearby higher education institutions (HEIs), the strength and scope of partnerships between school districts and HEIs, geographic proximity, instructional delivery modes, and the presence of qualified high school instructors.
- Dual credit participation should be understood in relation to early college credit options like AP and IB programs, which students choose to support their educational and career goals.



# Quantitative Analysis: Key Areas of Interest

We will utilize descriptive and advanced analytic methods to identify individual and contextual factors, influencing student participation in dual credit and/or other ECC programs.

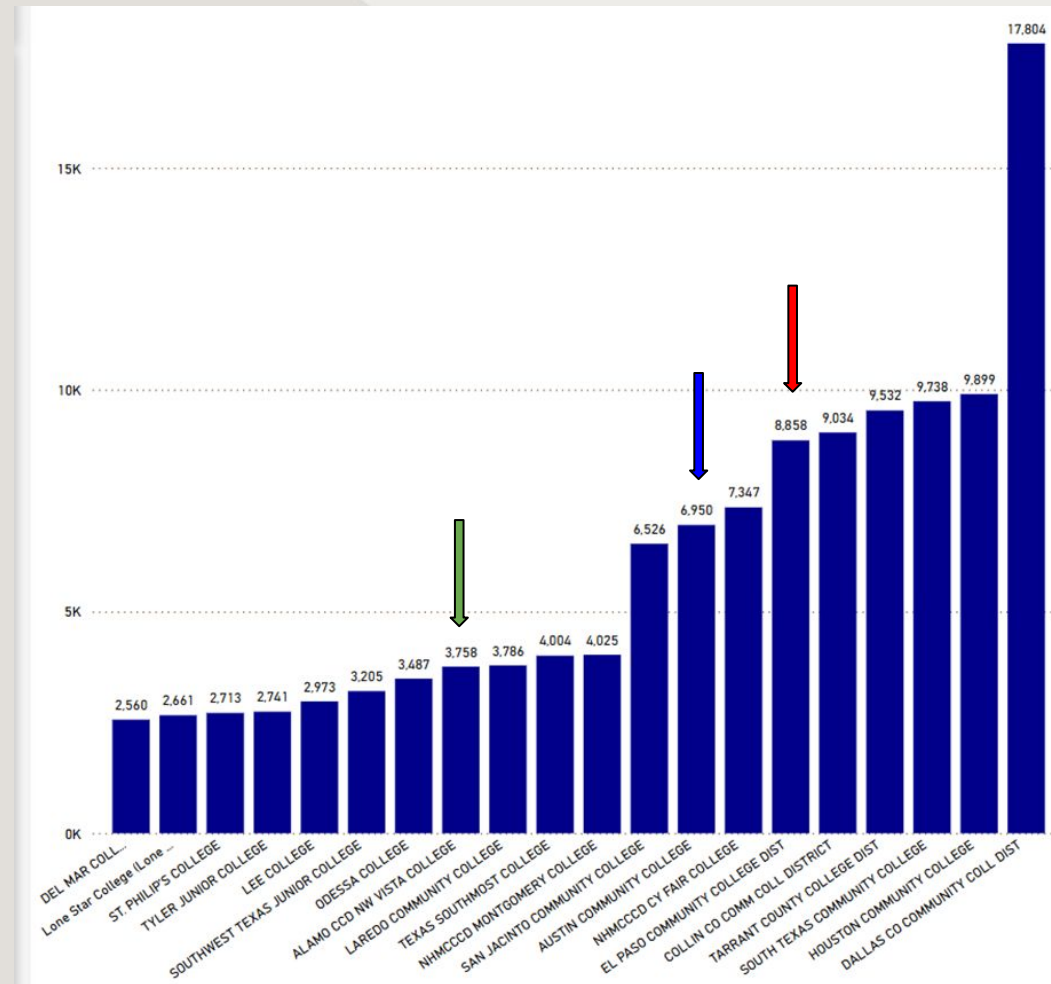
- (*Course Utilization*) Student participation and levels of engagement
- (*Course Accessibility*) Course offerings, modalities, and distance to instruction locations
- (*Student and School Characteristics*) Socio-demographics (e.g., free or reduced price lunch), test scores, school types (e.g., charter, ECHS, etc.)
- (*Teacher Effectiveness*) Qualifications and backgrounds of instructors/teachers
- (*Regional Variability*) Institutional and geographical variations

# AP Participation in Grades 9-12 (2023), TPEIR

	Austin ISD	El Paso ISD	Dallas ISD	Houston ISD	San Antonio ISD
Completing AP Course (%)	31	31	33	27	24
Passing AP Course (%)	96	92	93	92	92
Taking AP Exam (%)	24	26	26	26	21
Passing AP Exam (%)	73	42	34	44	26



# 2022 Top 22 Concurrent/Dual Credit Fall Enrollment by Public 2-Year College, TPEIR





# Quantitative Analysis: Data Resources

- **Education Research Center (ERC) – Approved!**
- **Student Surveys**
- **Publicly Available Data**



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# Qualitative Data: Key Areas of Interest

## Systems

- State Policy Analysis: Tracing history of DC overtime in Texas, current DC policy landscape.
- Community Colleges: Interviews with CC Dual Credit stakeholders (teachers, administrators) to understand what are the key practices surrounding Dual Credit pathway practices and outcomes?
- Districts: Interviews with DC stakeholders (CCM administrators)

## Advising

- Interviews with advisors at CC/Schools

## Students

- if possible, interviews/focus groups with students

## Analysis

- Inductive analysis of interview transcripts and documents using open coding, focused coding, and analytical memos (Saldaña 2021)



# Tentative Timeline of the Project

	2025												2026					
Year	Pre			Project Period														
Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	
IRB for ERC Proposal																		
ERC Proposal Preparation																		
AP/IB Course Data Collection																		
ERC Data Analysis																		
Survey Preparation																		
IRB Modification																		
Survey Collection																		
Survey Data Analysis																		
Interview Preparation																		
Interview Process																		
Interview Data Analysis																		
Report Production																		



# Discussion Points

- **Early successes**
  - Are there any strategies/activities that have helped accelerate or coalesce your collaborative studies?
- Leveraging resources
  - Are there resources you know of that you think would benefit this work?
- Meeting challenges
  - What challenges have you come across in similar projects that we should be aware of?



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Question?



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