

Welcome.

LONESTAR**P3**
CONNECT
VIRTUAL

May 21, 2026
2:00 – 3:00 PM



LONESTAR**P3**

Slides: <https://utexas.box.com/s/robramjfouf2w4xu2p9qfeaq355b8tsk>

AGENDA



ANNOUNCE: What's Happening

- LONESTAR^{P3} LinkedIn
- Credential to Career Crosswalk brief and access
- Looking back, looking ahead



DISCUSS: Breakout Sessions

- Academic and Career Advising
- Dual Credit and Academic Workforce Education
- Workforce Aligned-Instruction
- Postsecondary Pursuits



CLOSE: Wrap-up and Coming Soon



Growing our LinkedIn Community



Steady steps in the right direction.
Let's continue to make a difference
together!

Join us at
www.linkedin.com/company/lonestarp3/



LONESTAR**P3**

Texas Cradle to Career Crosswalk

LONESTAR³ DATA COUNCIL RESEARCH TOOL

Texas Credential to Career Crosswalk

A crosswalk connecting high school coursework, credentials, postsecondary programs, and regional workforce demand into a single, integrated resource.

► Texas publishes a wealth of data on career programs, credentials, and regional labor demand—but these datasets exist in silos. Without clear connections between them, it's hard to tell whether the courses students take actually lead to the jobs employers are trying to fill.

The Texas Credential to Career Crosswalk combines publicly available data from multiple state and federal agencies, providing a comprehensive view of how student coursework and credentials connect to real workforce opportunities. Spanning all 28 Workforce Development Areas plus a statewide summary, the Crosswalk links high school programs of study, college degrees, and labor market projections into one dataset.

Why it Matters

While existing crosswalks link education and workforce data, none fully connect high school coursework to postsecondary programs, and workforce demand. The Crosswalk shows how pathways lead to high-demand jobs and where misalignment persists. Open, replicable tools like the Crosswalk can simplify cross-agency data connections, improve analytic accuracy, and offer insights to accountability and workforce alignment efforts.

Who it's For

This tool is for anyone interested in seeing the intersections between labor market demand and credential production and understanding how education leads to opportunity. You can start with a program of study, credential, or job and see the full pathway that connects them across systems.

- ★ Educators planning programs
- ★ Workforce board members assessing regional needs
- ★ Researchers studying pathways
- ★ Policymakers reviewing credential lists

How to Access
A direct link to the Crosswalk is at the bottom of each page.

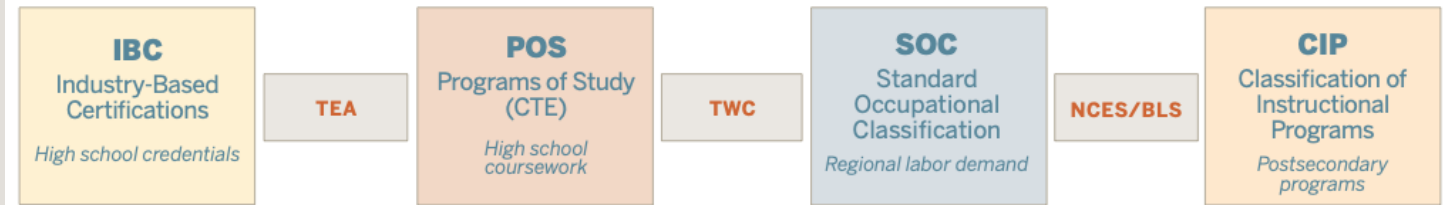
Researchers can also access the Crosswalk through the Texas Education Research Centers, which maintain it as part of their publicly available data holdings and can include it in any approved project request.

Go to the complete Texas Credential to Career Crosswalk
<https://lonestarp3.org/crosswalk>

LONESTAR³
Education research practice policy partnership

The Texas Credential to Career Crosswalk

Linking high school coursework and credentials to postsecondary programs



Jen Freeman
Texas Tech University



Jacob Kirksey
Texas Tech University

"When education and workforce data speak the same language, policymakers can see where pathways succeed—and where they break down."

—DR. JENNIFER FREEMAN, Texas Tech University

Access the Crosswalk
<https://lonestarp3.org/tools-and-resources/ccmr-credential-to-career-crosswalk/>



LONESTAR³

Year Three Milestones

Share your thoughts!

<https://forms.gle/ft631GdYaVf8QGh17>

Q4 2024: Launch Pathways Research Collaboratives

Research designs, timelines, and budgets submitted.

\$1M allocated for research!

Q1 2025: Launch Statewide Data Council

24-member council launched to improve Texas' education data systems, tools, and resources.

Q3 2025: Host Virtual Sessions and Livestreams

Averaging 120+ registrants for online events!

Q4 2025: Launch Strategy Teams

Invited small teams to help inform future research efforts in Teacher Workforce, Public Education Finance, and Early Childhood Education.

Q4 2025: Release Data Council Products

A comprehensive CCMR crosswalk and a prototype open source CCMR tool.

Q4 2025: Launch Governance Model

Initiate Co-Chairs, Exec Committee and expanded membership on Steering Committee

Q1 2026: Launch Membership Model

Defined new Membership Categories and began to invite new organizations to apply to join the network.

\$6+M in philanthropic support secured!


Breakout Sessions



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LONESTAR^{P3} In Action

Process

 **Create Shared
Priorities**




Structured
Protocols

 **Investigate Common
Challenges**



Research
Collaboratives

 **Deploy accessible
actionable tools**



Network
Mobilization

Product



Shared Research Agenda



Research Designs
and Findings



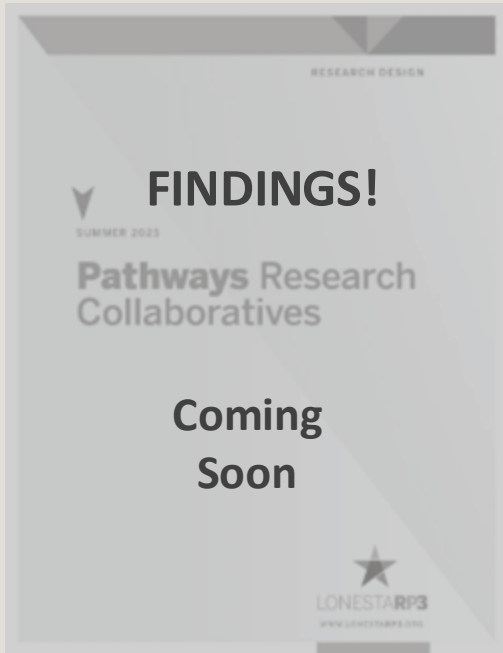
Tailored products and
experiences



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Network Mobilization



Identify interested stakeholders with ability to influence decisions

Policy Briefs

Practice Guides

Presentation-ready slides

Lunch and Learns

Social Media

Dashboards, visualizations

OpEds, Blogs

Determine how to prepare, package, or communicate findings to motivate action

Practice partner communications, events or activities in your constituency

Policy advocacy partner strategy, communications, materials or activities

Leaders, intermediaries, conveners of core constituencies across the state

Anticipate opportunities to engage stakeholders with findings and facilitate decision support



Timeline

RESEARCH COLLABORATIVES

Collaboratives
present initial
insights

Collaboratives
present updates

Collaboratives
research
complete

LONESTARP3 facilitated

LONESTARP3
supports translation and
engagement

LONESTARP3

SUCCESSUMMIT

Dec 9-10, 2026

POLICY MEMBERS

90th Texas
Legislative
Session

Feb	May	Sep	Dec	Jan
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Anticipate findings

Identify stakeholders

Determine how to present findings to
motivate action

Anticipate opportunities to engage
with findings

Begin engagement

Practice partners

Policy advocacy partners

Statewide constituencies

Showcase
initial
engagement
examples

Support
advocacy
partners

CORE MEMBERS



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Breakout Groups

Task

Explore implications of findings from the LONESTAR³ Research Collaboratives for the upcoming 90th Texas Legislative Session based on the interim charges.

Topics

Option 1

Academic and Career Advising

Option 2

Dual Credit Academic and Workforce Education

Option 3

Workforce-aligned Instruction

Option 4

Postsecondary Pursuits

Interim Charges

For details see

<https://philanthropyadvocates.org/house-and-senate-interim-charges-released-important-conversations-ahead-for-texas-students-and-teachers/>

Teacher Workforce

- Monitoring HB 2 implementation
- Recruitment and Retention
- Compensation Investments

Student Outcomes

- Improving Middle School Outcomes
- Investments in Special Education
- Student Enrollment and High-Quality Education
- School Choice

Postsecondary Education

- Postsecondary Affordability and Financial Barriers
- Increasing Credential Completion
- Community College Funding
- Aligning Advising Initiatives
- Workforce Alignment Across Systems

Early Childhood Education

- Monitoring the Quad-Agency Child Care Initiative and Commission (HB 4903)



House Interim Charges *(selected)*

- State of Higher Education
 - Study the current state of higher education in Texas. Examine enrollment trends, workforce demands, and postsecondary outcomes, as well as progress toward the state's Building a Talent Strong Texas strategic plan. Examine indicators of institutional competitiveness, including completion rates, faculty recruitment and retention, and research classification trends in comparison to other states.
- Postsecondary Education Affordability
 - Study strategies to improve postsecondary education affordability for Texas students and reduce financial barriers to enrollment, persistence, and completion. Evaluate whether state financial aid investments are effectively targeted and structured to promote student success and meet workforce needs. Review the impact of recent federal legislation on student aid and institutional affordability. Analyze unmet financial need among eligible students and make recommendations to ensure state investments deliver measurable returns for students, employers, and taxpayers
- Increasing Credential Completion
 - Evaluate methods to increase credential completion aligned with regional labor demands and national defense strategy in Texas public higher education institutions. Study accelerated postsecondary pathways such as credit for prior learning, prior learning assessments, reverse transfer, and competency-based education. Explore the impact of federal Workforce Pell Grants on short-term credentials. Identify 17 areas to provide better transfer supports, increase re-enrollment, and reduce time to credential completion.
- Aligning Advising Initiatives
 - Examine investments by the state in advising systems and tools that support high school and college course planning, credential attainment, and successful transitions to postsecondary education and the workforce. Evaluate partnership-based models that leverage postsecondary and labor market research and available data aligned to high-wage and high-demand careers and expand advising capacity. Assess opportunities for the Tri-Agency to better align resources and services to strengthen advising systems and improve student outcomes



House Interim Charges *(selected)*

- State of Education
 - Study the current state of public education in Texas. Examine academic outcomes, enrollment trends pertaining to the stability of the school finance system, school safety, and the role of technology and artificial intelligence. Identify emerging challenges, opportunities, and best practices to sustain and expand high-performing schools across Texas. Explore ways to streamline statutory and regulatory provisions to improve efficiency in district operations.
- Improve Middle School Outcomes
 - Examine strategies to improve outcomes in middle schools. Focus on preparing students for high school success, increasing engagement, and expanding opportunities for career exploration. Review the implementation and effectiveness of advanced coursework, academic supports, interventions, and innovative models, particularly in core subjects
- Teacher Recruitment and Retention
 - Study the impact of recent legislation, including the investment in educator preparation, increases in teacher compensation, additional classroom supports, and reformed student discipline policy. Review whether these significant changes are having an impact on school districts' ability to recruit and retain qualified educators in the classroom. Make recommendations to strengthen the teacher pipeline and ensure Texas is well positioned to sustain a thriving and stable educator workforce.
- Investment in Special Education
 - Examine state policies impacting students with special needs and special populations, including the implementation of recent legislation and the impact of increases in state funding. Review trends in special education enrollment over the past several years and evaluate factors contributing to those increases. Identify opportunities and make recommendations regarding ways to improve efficiencies for special education teachers, increase access to Pre-K, improve supports for students with low-incidence disabilities, and strengthen planning for the workforce and adulthood.



Senate Interim Charges *(selected)*

- **Improving School Transformation Talent**
 - Evaluate the existing access to and efficacy of experts in improving school academic performance. Develop suggestions to strengthen and expand the current leadership pipeline, including public school training, policies, and practices that accelerate academic progress.
- **Shifting Enrollment, Right-Sizing**
 - Despite the state's rapid overall population growth, school age enrollment is declining – from 5.54 million to 5.47 million students in the last two years. Examine the impact of student enrollment patterns in Texas public schools. Identify strategies to maximize the efficient use of tax dollars by school districts while maintaining access to high-quality learning programs and student outcomes.
- **Maximizing Instructional Time**
 - Review the 200+ districts who utilize a 4- day school week or other hybrid models and the related learning loss in reading and math. Study the effect of academic schedules, in particular the decline of school days, and its impact on students and families. Create guidelines to support public schools and maximize student achievement.
- **Reviewing Historic Pay Increases for Teachers**
 - Review teacher pay increases passed by the Legislature over the last decade, including the historic pay increase in House Bill 2, 89th Legislature. Monitor the implementation of pay increases for teachers and the impacts on teacher incomes, including closing the rural pay gap.
- **Celebrating the Successful Rollout of School Choice**
 - Monitor the nation's largest school choice launch in history and the ongoing implementation of Senate Bill 2, 89th Legislature, including: record-breaking demand with over 250,000 applications and enrollment by families giving greater flexibility to choose the best education for their child. Provide recommendations on how the Legislature can enhance and expand upon Texas' historic and successful school choice program for families.
- **Public Junior College State Finance Program (Higher Education Committee)**
 - Review the implementation of the community college funding model. Make recommendations for any structural changes to the model, while continuing to ensure a dynamic structure that aligns student outcomes with workforce preparation and demands.



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Thank you!
Have a great summer!



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