



AGENDA

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**February 4, 2026
2:30 PM**

3100 Main Street, 2nd Floor Auditorium, Houston, Texas 77002

**NOTICE OF A MEETING OF THE
Academic and Student Affairs Committee
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

HOUSTON CITY COLLEGE

February 4, 2026

Notice is hereby given that a Meeting of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees of Houston City College will be held on Wednesday, February 4, 2026 at 2:30 PM, or after, and from day to day as required, 3100 Main Street, 2nd Floor Auditorium, Houston, Texas 77002. The items listed in this Notice may be considered in any order at the discretion of the Committee Chair and items listed for closed session discussion may be discussed in open session and vice versa as permitted by law. Actions taken at this Meeting do not constitute final Board action and are only Committee recommendations to be considered by the Board at the next Regular Board meeting.

I. Call to Order

- A. Opportunity for Public Comments

II. Topics For Discussion and or Action

- A. Approved Honorary Degrees for 2026
- B. Strengthening Student Transfer Pathways to Success

III. Adjournment to closed or executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071; 551.072 and 551.074, the Open Meetings Act, for the following purposes:

A. Legal Matters

Consultation with legal counsel concerning pending or contemplated litigation, a settlement offer, or matters on which the attorney's duty to the System under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Laws.

B. Personnel Matters

Deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer, employee or board member to hear complaints or changes against an officer, employee or board member unless the officer, employee or board member who is the subject of the deliberation or hearing requests a public hearing.

C. Real Estate Matters

Deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property for Agenda items if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the System in negotiations with a third person.

IV. Additional Closed or Executive Session Authority

If, during the course of the meeting covered by this Notice, the Board should

determine that a closed or executive meeting or session of the Board should be held or is required in relation to any items included in this Notice, then such closed or executive meeting or session as authorized by Section 551.001 et seq. of the Texas Government Code (the Open Meetings Act) will be held by the Board at that date, hour and place given in this Notice or as soon after the commencement of the meeting covered by the Notice as the Board may conveniently meet in such closed or executive meeting or session concerning:

Section 551.071 - For the purpose of a private consultation with the Board's attorney about pending or contemplated litigation, a settlement offer, or matters on which the attorney's duty to the System under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Laws.

Section 551.072 - For the purpose of discussing the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person.

Section 551.073 - For the purpose of considering a negotiated contract for a prospective gift or donation to the System if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the System in negotiations with a third person.

Section 551.074 - For the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer, employee or board member to hear complaints or charges against an officer, employee or board member unless the officer, employee or board member who is the subject of the deliberation or hearing requests a public hearing.

Section 551.076 - To consider the deployment, or specific occasions for implementation of security personnel or devices, or a security audit.

Section 551.082 - For the purpose of considering discipline of a student or to hear a complaint by an employee against another employee if the complaint or charge directly results in a need for a hearing, unless an open hearing is requested in writing by a parent or guardian of the student or by the employee against whom the complaint is brought.

Section 551.084 - For the purpose of excluding a witness or witnesses in an investigation from a hearing during examination of another witness in the investigation. Should any final action, final decision, or final vote be required in the opinion of the Board with regard to any matter considered in such closed or executive meeting or session, then such final action, final decision, or final vote shall be at either:

A. The open meeting covered by this Notice upon the reconvening of the public meeting, or

B. At a subsequent public meeting of the Board upon notice thereof, as the Board shall determine.

V. Reconvene in Open Meeting

VI. Adjournment

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING OR GIVING NOTICE

On this **29th Day of January**, this Notice was posted at a place convenient to the public and readily accessible at all times to the general public at the following locations: (1) the HCC Administration Building of the Houston City College, 3100 Main, First Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 and (2) the Houston City College's website: www.hccs.edu.

Posted By:

Sharon R. Wright
Director, Board Services

ACTION ITEM

Meeting Date: February 4, 2026

Topics For Discussion and or Action

ITEM #	ITEM TITLE	PRESENTER
A.	Approved Honorary Degrees for 2026	Dr. Margaret Ford Fisher Dr. Norma Perez

RECOMMENDATION

Approved honorary degree recipients for the 2026 Spring commencement ceremony.

COMPELLING REASON AND BACKGROUND

- In March 2001, the Board began a policy of awarding honorary degrees. The policy stipulates that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chancellor, will bestow HCCS honorary degrees at the Commencement Ceremony.
- In February 2019, the Board modified the policy regarding nominations of honorary degree recipients. Each Board member from Districts I, II, IV and IX may nominate at most one honorary degree recipient in even-numbered years, and each Board member from Districts III, V, VI, VII, and VIII may nominate at most one honorary degree recipient in odd-numbered years.
- The Board will consider nominations for awarding honorary degrees according to the following criteria:
 1. Excellence in the fields of public affairs, the sciences, humanities and the arts, scholarship and education, business, philanthropy, or social services which exemplify the mission and scope of the institution;
 2. Meritorious and outstanding public service to the institution, the community, the state of Texas, the United States, or to humanity at large; and
 3. Individuals from business and industry who have achieved local, state, national or international distinction by significant contributions to the economy and society at large.

LEGAL REQUIREMENT

In accordance to Board policy EFBB (Local)

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

Strategic Priority: 4 - Community Investment

ATTACHMENTS:

Description	Upload Date	Type
Honorary Degree Nominees - 2026 Spring Commencement	1/28/2026	Attachment
HCC Honorary Degree Recipients Listing - Updated 2026	1/5/2026	Attachment

This item is applicable to the following: District

HCC Honorary Degree Nominees for 2026 Spring Commencement

1. Mario Figuerora, Jr. -- Nominated by Trustee Monica Flores Richart, District I

Mario Enrique Figueroa, Jr., artistically known as GONZO247, is a Houston native and a self-taught multidisciplinary artist with over 30 years of experience. GONZO's recognizable style of art, some in the form of large murals, adorn various neighborhoods around the city and state and in places around the world. GONZO247 participated as a leading figure and pioneered graffiti and street art culture as an energetic underground art movement in Houston. He produced *Aerosol Warfare*, the video series documenting graffiti culture through the 1990s and 2000s. He co-founded the *Houston Wall of Fame* (the first and most uniquely discovered art production of its kind) and has participated in projects working with top brand campaigns that speak to urban communities.

GONZO247 won the *Houston Press Best Art Curator in a Non-Museum Setting Award* in 2012, and one of his most famous works, *Houston Is...*, in downtown Houston was also voted the *Houston Press Best Public Art Project 2013* and gained a *Silver ADDY Award*. This mural was honored as the Public Art Project Mural for the Greater Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau in 2013. His work appears in published books, including *The History of American Graffiti 2011*. He received Congressional Recognition from member of Congress Sheila Jackson Lee for *Arts in Community* in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month 2018; received the Houston Metro Hispanic Heritage Month award for *Cultural and Historic Trail Blazers 2018*.

2. Ronda Prince-- Nominated by Trustee Renee Jefferson Patterson, District II

Ronda M. Prince is a Houston native with a multi-disciplinary professional background spanning corporate leadership, entrepreneurship, finance, and community service. Although she has lived in several states, Houston has always remained home. She pursued higher education at Xavier University of Louisiana, Lamar University, and Prairie View A&M University, building a strong academic foundation that supports more than a decade of corporate experience and over 20 years as an entrepreneur.

Ms. Prince's entrepreneurial portfolio spans multiple industries, including limousine service, bookkeeping, music distribution, life & holistic wellness coaching, angel investing & real estate, and women's empowerment. She is also a sought-after speaker and mentor. In addition to her entrepreneurial work, Ms. Prince serves as Comptroller for several family-owned enterprises, including Rap-A-Lot Records, Inc., Prince Boxing Enterprise, Prince Complex Recreational Centers, Prince Estate Ranch, and multiple family-owned restaurants.

Ms. Prince's commitment to service and leadership includes years as a mentor at Rice University, former Board Member for the City of Houston TIRZ 18, former Board Member of the HCC Women Entrepreneurs Program, Advisory Board Member for the Navigation Center (homeless transition services), and member of the Buffalo Bayou East Standards Committee. She has been recognized as one of Houston's Most Influential Women and has received numerous awards for her leadership, business impact, and community contributions. Ms. Prince's motto: *"I'm a student of life—and class is always in session."*

3. K. Scott Braddock -- Nominated by Trustee Laolu Davies-Yemitan, District IV

Scott Braddock is a journalist and political analyst based in Austin, Texas. He covers the Texas Legislature and politics in the Lone Star State by working with Austin legend Harvey Kronberg to produce the most successful political newsletter in Texas: The Quorum Report. In January of 2015, Scott became Quorum Report Editor as Mr. Kronberg assumed the role of Publisher and CEO. Scott is also the host of the state's number one politics podcast, the Texas Take, a joint project with the Houston Chronicle.

Scott served as the chief political reporter for the two biggest radio news operations in Texas: Newsradio 1080 KRLD in Dallas and Newsradio 740 KTRH in Houston. He has been honored with Edward R. Murrow and AP awards for investigative journalism and received recognition for excellence and fairness in political reporting from members of Texas' Congressional delegation. In honor of his many years of service to the Houston community, Houston Mayor Bill White declared April 11, 2008, as "Scott Braddock Day." In 2013, Scott was named a "Rising Star" by the League of Women Voters of Houston Education Fund.

4. Bryant Bond -- Nominated by Dr. Pretta VanDible Stallworth, District IX

Bio is forthcoming and will be provided under separate cover.

5. Dr. Rod Paige (Posthumous Recognition) – Nominated by Chancellor Margaret Ford Fisher

On January 21, 2001, the United States Senate confirmed Dr. Rod Paige as the 7th U.S. Secretary of Education. For Paige, the son of a principal and a librarian in public schools, that day was the crowning achievement of a long career in education. Born in 1933 in segregated Monticello, Mississippi, Paige's accomplishments speak of his commitment to education. He earned a bachelor's degree from Jackson State University in his home state. He then earned both a master's and a doctoral degree from Indiana University.

Paige began working with students early in his career as a teacher and a coach. He then served for a decade as dean of the College of Education at Texas Southern University (TSU). In this position, Paige worked to ensure that future educators would receive the training and expertise necessary to succeed in the classroom. He also established the university's Center for Excellence in Urban Education, a research facility that concentrates on issues related to instruction and management in urban school systems.

Elected in 1989, Paige was sworn in as a trustee and an officer of the Board of Education of the Houston Independent School District (HISD) in January 1990, in which capacities he served until 1994. In 1994, Paige left TSU to become superintendent of HISD, the nation's seventh largest school district. Inside Houston Magazine named Paige one of "Houston's 25 most powerful people" in guiding the city's growth and prosperity. In 2001, he was named National Superintendent of the Year by the American Association of School Administrators.

Paige is the first school superintendent ever to serve as Secretary of Education. His vast experience as a practitioner -- from the blackboard to the boardroom -- paid off during the long hours of work needed to pass President Bush's No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB).

HCC Honorary Degree Recipient Listing

Commencement Year	Honorary Degree Recipient	Nominating Trustee
2025	Lauren Anderson	Margaret Ford Fisher, Chancellor
2025	Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia	Eva Loreda, District VIII
2025	Birdie Kelley	Cynthia Lenton-Gary, District VII
2025	Mary Grace Landrum	Dave Wilson, District VI
2025	Honorable Ed Emmett	Sean Cheben, District V
2025	Dr. Vicki Cruz	Adriana Tamez, District III
2024	Beverly Mitchell Jackson	Pretta VanDible Stallworth – District IX
2024	Brad “Scarface” Jordan	Laolu Davies, District IV
2024	Janice Weaver	Charlene Johnson – District II
2024	Sheriff Ed Gonzalez	Monica Flores Richart, District I
2023	Juan Hernandez	Eva Laredo – District VIII
2023	Stephanie Brown	Cynthia Lenton-Gary – District VII
2023	William A. Callegari	David Wilson – District VI
2023	Roopa Gir	Robert Glaser – District V
2023	Gloria Alvarez Rodriguez	Adriana Tamez – District III
2023	Senfronia Thompson	Charlene Johnson – District II
2022	Marlys “Marcy” Williams	Pretta VanDible Stallworth – District IX
2022	Lucy J. Bremond	Reagan Flowers – District IV
2022	Emily Cole	Monica Richart – District I
2021	Council Member Robert Gallegos	Adriana Tamez – District III
2021	Lawrence Matthews	Robert Glaser – District V

HCC Honorary Degree Recipient Listing

2021	Raj Salhotra	John Hansen – District VI
2021	Cynthia Ginyard	Cynthia Lenton-Gary – District VII
2021	Robert Moreno and Vina Moreno	Eva Loreda – District VIII
2020	Jessica Farrar	Monica Richart - District I
2020	Carol Mims Galloway	Rhonda Skillern-Jones - District II
2020	James Matthew Douglas	Reagan Flowers - District IV
2020	Clara Caldwell	Pretta VanDible Stallworth - District IX
2019	HD Chambers	John P. Hansen – District VI
2019	Adrian Garcia	Adriana Tamez – District III
2019	Scott Hochberg	Robert Glaser – District V
2019	Hugo J. Mojica	Eva Laredo – District VIII
2018	Anthony Scott	Pretta VanDible Stallworth – District IX
2018	Judge Zinetta Burney	Carolyn Evans-Shabazz – District IV
2017	Christina Morales	Eva Loreda – District VIII
2017	Representative Mary Ann Perez	Adriana Tamez – District III
2017	Commissioner Grady Prestage	Neeta Sane – District VII
2017	Michael Segal	Robert Glaser – District V
2017	Sarah Winkler	John Hansen – District VI
2016	Ponnu Pillai	Neeta Sane – District VII
2016	Jesse Rodriguez	Eva Loreda – District VIII
2016	Gracie Saenz	Adriana Tamez – District III
2016	Linda Toyota	Zeph Capo – District I

HCC Honorary Degree Recipient Listing

2015	Yolanda Black Navarro	Eva Loredó – District VIII
2015	Barry Morris (Posthumously)	Zeph Capó – District I
2015	Carmen Nuncio	Zeph Capó – District I
2015	Max Miller	Christopher Oliver – District IX
2015	James Dixon II	Carroll Robinson – District IV
2014	Eliza Contreras DeLeon	Eva Loredó – District VIII
2014	Dr. Lee P. Brown	Carroll G. Robinson – District IV
2014	Rev. William A. Lawson	Carroll G. Robinson – District IV Adriana Tamez – District III
2013	Johnny Mata	Herlinda Garcia – District III
2013	Lupe Salinas	Yolanda Navarro Flores – District II
2013	Linda Scurlock	Christopher W. Oliver – District IX
2013	Munir Ibrahim	Neeta Sane – District VII
2012	Becky Edmondson	Christopher W. Oliver – District IX
2012	Dr. Thomas F. Freeman	Bruce Austin – District II
2012	Koshy Thomas	Neeta Sane – District VII
2011	Rogene Gee Calvert	Neeta Sane – District VII
2011	Olga Ramirez Gallegos	Eva Loredó – District VIII
2011	Pat Rosenberg	Richard Schechter – District V
2010	Diane Johnson	Richard Schechter – District V
2010	Bangar Reddy Aaloori	Neeta Sane – District VII
2009	Bruce Austin	Christopher Oliver – District IX
2009	Leonel Castillo	Yolanda Navarro Flores – District I

HCC Honorary Degree Recipient Listing

2009	Jessica Castillo-Hulsey	Able Davila – District VIII
2009	Crystle Stewart	Dr. Williams – District IV
2009	Martha Countee Whiting	Bruce Austin – District II
2008	Victor Trevino	Yolanda Navarro Flores – District I
2008	Edna McGowan Grovey Walker	Bruce Austin – District II
2008	Rita Woodward	Richard Schechter – District V
2008	Danny Nguyen	Neeta Sane – District VII
2007	Nellie Joyce Punch	Bruce Austin – District II
2007	Alfredo Blanco	Diane Olmos Guzman – District III
2007	Nancy Lomax	Richard Schechter – District V
2005	Alan Helfman	
2005	Jodie Lee Jiles	
2005	Gordon Quan	
2005	U. S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales	
2003	Michael Dell	
2002	Jim Box	
2002	Johnny Mata	
1999	Robert "Steve" Hall	
1994	Felix (Janie) Tijerina	
1992	George Foreman	

REPORT ITEM

Meeting Date: February 4, 2026

Topics For Discussion and or Action

ITEM #	ITEM TITLE	PRESENTER
B.	Strengthening Student Transfer Pathways to Success	Dr. Margaret Ford Fisher Dr. Norma Perez

DISCUSSION

The report will provide an update on Round 4 of Texas Pathways, which reflects the state's emphasis on measurable student success outcomes, such as dual credit completion, workforce credential attainment, and transfer success. Round 4 shifts from broad implementation to goal-driven, outcome-oriented action to help colleges scale their work in alignment with these priorities.

COMPELLING REASON AND BACKGROUND

- Transfer Success & Structured Co-Enrollment: HCC's area of focus involves strengthening structured transfer pathways and increasing the number of students who transfer successfully to a four-year university, refine strategies, and increase the number of students successfully transferring and earning a bachelor's degree.
- HCC is well prepared to advance to the next phase as an Impact College focusing on a bold and measurable goal focused on Transfer Success and Structured Co-Enrollment, which aligns with the State's student success priority of increasing the number of students earning credentials of value.
- Participation in Round 4 of Texas Pathways will support the College in building greater capacity to use data-informed insights to strengthen student transfer pathways that support institutional pipelines, local community engagement, and improve students' social and economic mobility.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

Strategic Priority: 1- Student Success, Strategic Priority: 2 - Personalized Learning , Strategic Priority: 3 - Academic Rigor , Strategic Priority: 4 - Community Investment

ATTACHMENTS:

Description	Upload Date	Type
Strengthening Student Transfer Pathways to Success	1/5/2026	Presentation

This item is applicable to the following: District



Strengthening Student Transfer Pathways to Success

Margaret Ford Fisher, Ed.D.
Chancellor

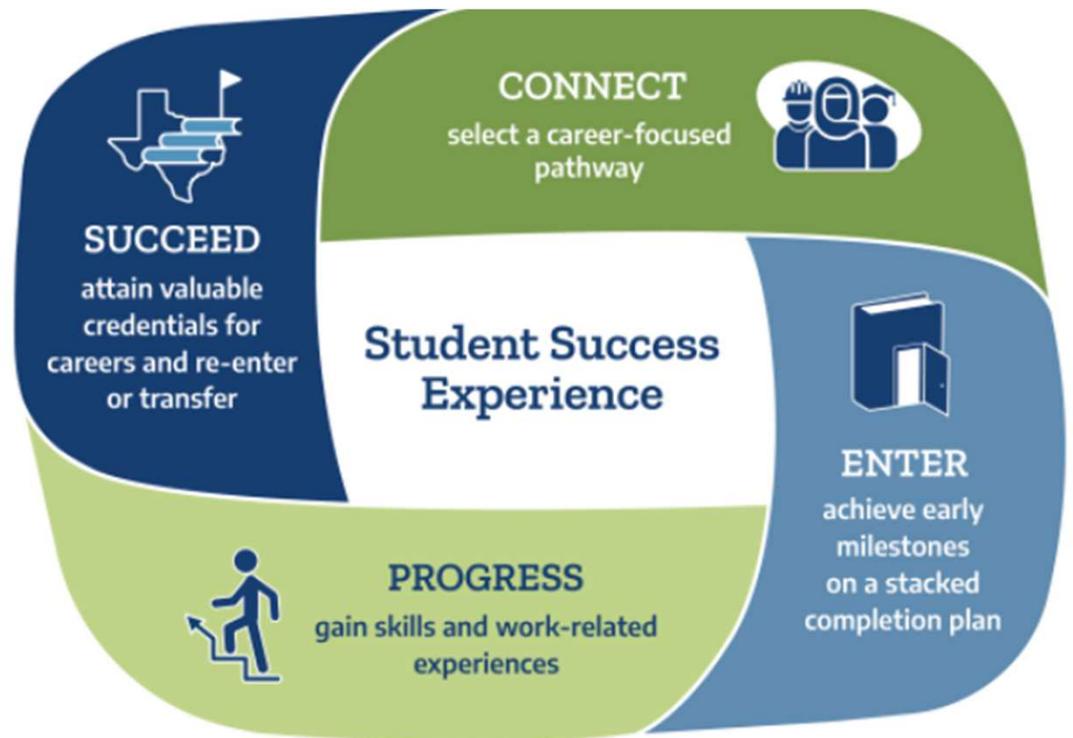
Norma Perez, Ph.D.
Senior Vice Chancellor, Instruction & Student Services and CAO

February 7, 2026

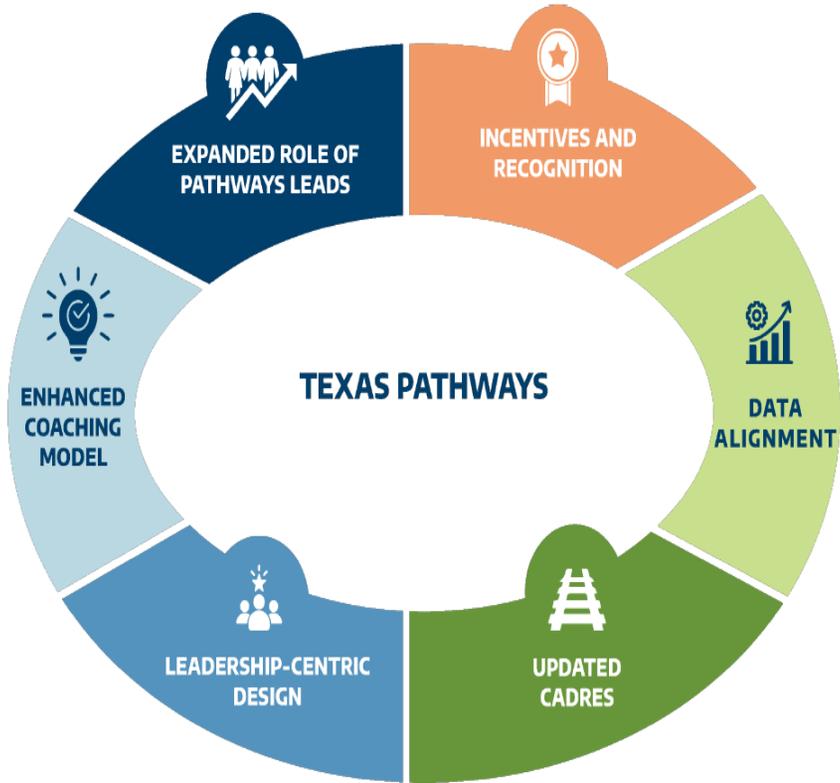


Talent Strong Texas Pathways

- Capacity Building
- Workforce Integration
- Data Utilization
- Leadership & Faculty Development
- Institutional Transformation



Texas Pathways Round 4



Impact College:

Set and pursue a bold, measurable goal aligned with the state's priorities (e.g., dual credit, workforce attainment, transfer).

Round 4: Supporting Institutional Accountability

-  **Support** HCC in measurable, data-informed goals tied to state-wide success metrics.
-  **Engage** and empower the Chancellor and leadership teams to strategically align institutional goals with state priorities.
-  **Create** a structured process for continuous improvement, supporting HCC to remain focus and results oriented.
-  **Address** HCC's different needs by tailoring support to our stage of pathways implementation.



**Texas Association of
Community Colleges**

Summer Catalyst - June 2025

- Marked the official launch of Round 4 of Texas Pathways
- Convened College leaders for a strategic planning session
- Represented a critical inflection point—shifting colleges from goal exploration to goal commitment
- Identified the Transfer Success Goal - COMPASS Report/Section 1

HOUSTON CITY COLLEGE

Area of Focus

Transfer Success & Structured Co-Enrollment

Strengthen structured transfer pathways and increase the number of students who transfer to a four-year university

GOAL: Increase the number of students who successfully transfer to a 4-year university by 5% by Spring 2027



Pathways Round 4 Core Team

- Regular Team Meetings
- Pathways Institute #1
COMPASS Report Strategy
Map development
- Convening cross-functional
teams
- Communication Strategy

Dr. Norma Perez

Senior Vice Chancellor, Instruction & Student
Services and CAO

Dr. Lisa Alcorta

Vice Chancellor, Student Services

Dr. Miguel Ramos

Vice Chancellor, Instructional Services

James Mable

Director, Alumni Affairs & Transfer Services

Dr. Nathan Smith

Faculty Senate President

Dr. Misha Turner

Pathways Lead

TEXAS PATHWAYS
ROUND 4

JULY 2025 | Summer Catalyst
Identifying the Goal

NOVEMBER 2025 | INSTITUTE #1
Designing the Plan

APRIL 2026 | INSTITUTE #2
Implementing the Plan

JULY 2026 | Summer Catalyst
Progress on the Goal

NOVEMBER 2026 | INSTITUTE #3
Assessing the Plan

APRIL 2027 | INSTITUTE #4
Analyzing the Results

Thank You