



## **AGENDA**

### **EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**September 2, 2026  
11:00 AM**

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

**NOTICE OF A MEETING OF THE  
*External Relations Committee*  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**HOUSTON CITY COLLEGE**

**September 2, 2026**

Notice is hereby given that a Meeting of the External Relations Committee of the Board of Trustees of Houston City College will be held on Wednesday, September 2, 2026 at 11:00 AM, or after, and from day today 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.    Building a Legislative Agenda for Houston City College

**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 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.

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 **27th day of August 2026**, 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 Community College, 3100 Main, First Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 and (2) the Houston Community College's website: [www.hccs.edu](http://www.hccs.edu).

Posted By:

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Sharon R. Wright  
Director, Board Services

# REPORT ITEM

**Meeting Date:** September 2, 2026

**Topics For Discussion and/or Action:**

| ITEM # | ITEM TITLE                                             | PRESENTER                                          |
|--------|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| A.     | Building a Legislative Agenda for Houston City College | Dr. Margaret Ford Fisher<br>Remmele J. Young, J.D. |

## DISCUSSION

Relating to consideration of Houston City College (HCC) *proposed policy priorities* to establish a clear and unified legislative agenda for the institution, positioning it to proactively educate on the resources, policies, and partnerships necessary to advance student success and fulfill the mission of the College.

## COMPELLING REASON AND BACKGROUND

The Texas 90th legislative session will convene Tuesday, January 12, 2027, and extend 140 days. This significant occurrence prudently warrants building a legislative agenda that identifies key policy priorities, provides clarity, and serves as a strategic roadmap, helping HCC intentionally navigate the legislative process with the intent of securing desired outcomes.

By conducting a comprehensive environmental scan of anticipated, emerging, and desired legislation, institutional leadership can better respond to proposed policy changes and help inform them. Moreover, a formal policy agenda ensures priority awareness, alignment, and positions HCC to effectively educate relevant stakeholders, including policy makers.

As an immediate next step, this report item principally positions the HCC Board of Trustees to examine proposed policy priorities and adjust the same, as deemed appropriate. As a culminating future next step, the desire is to seek and secure adoption of a final legislative agenda, which will guide HCC's work in the 90th legislative session.

The above-identified discussion serves the purpose of engaging the HCC Board of Trustees in developing state legislative priorities deemed important to the institution for subsequent favorable action.

## FISCAL IMPACT

Under development

## STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

1. *Student Success*

### ATTACHMENTS:

| Description                        | Upload Date | Type         |
|------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Proposed Legislative Policy Agenda | 8/26/2026   | Presentation |

**This item is applicable to the following:**

Central, Coleman, Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, Southwest, District, Online



# HCC Proposed Policy Priorities

## 90<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session

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Margaret Ford Fisher, Ed.D. Chancellor

Remmele J. Young, J.D. Vice Chancellor

September 2, 2026

## Executive Summary

As HCC prepares for the 90th Texas Legislative Session, the administration is evaluating state policy developments, stakeholder priorities, and emerging workforce and higher education trends to develop proposed legislative priorities for consideration by the Board of Trustees.

This process is informed by insights from relevant parties (*e.g.*, community college associations, legislative interim charges and hearings, industry partners).

**The goal:** to position the institution to advance policies that strengthen student success, workforce development, and institutional sustainability.

### Relevant Key Dates

- **General Election:** November 3, 2026
- **Bill pre-filing:** November 9, 2026
- **Opening Day of 90<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session:** January 12, 2027
- **Community College Day:** January 28, 2027

# Policy Priority Tiers

Classify and strategically rank policy priorities based on importance.

## TIER 1

High-impact, time-sensitive legislative issue that directly affects mission, students, workforce outcomes, and/or financial sustainability.

## TIER 2

Important legislative issue that is either less urgent or less likely to yield immediate impact.

## TIER 3

Monitor or support legislative issue, as appropriate; lowest strategic priority.

# Informed Insight Partners

## Legislators & Staff

Interim Charges  
Interim Hearings

## Associations & Related Stakeholders\*

TACC  
CCATT  
TAB  
THECB  
LBB

## Subject Matter Experts

CEC\*\*  
THECB  
LBB

\*Texas Association of Community Colleges, Community College Association of Texas Trustees, Texas Association of Business, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and Legislative Budget Board

\*\*Chancellor Executive Council

# Proposed Policy Priorities – TIER 1

Adopt a **robust biennial appropriation** for FY 2028 and FY 2029 that factors the THECB's updated forecast of performance by community colleges.

Support full funding in the **supplemental appropriations bill**, inclusive of withheld dynamic outcomes payments and pro-rated decreases for FY 2026 and 2027.

Support **structural improvements to the formula** that promote its predictability and sustainability.

Seek appropriation that supports **HB 20 (89R)**, *relating to the Applied Sciences Pathways Program*.

# Proposed Policy Priorities – Tier 1, Cont.

Support the continuation and coordination of the state's **workforce education grant programs** (*e.g.*, TRUE, JET, and Skills Development Funds).

Maintain the authority of locally elected community college **governing boards to determine tuition and revenue policies** responsive to regional economic and educational priorities.

Make **statutory name change** from “Houston Community College System District” to “**Houston City College District.**”

Support expanding the current cap of five **community college baccalaureate degrees**; alternatively, exempt nursing and teacher education from the cap, to enable colleges to respond more effectively to critical workforce shortages in high-demand fields

# Proposed Policy Priorities – TIER 2

**Strengthen alignment** among Career College and Military Readiness credentials of value, dual credit, CTE, and community college funding, so credentials students earn in high school carry real value into postsecondary education and the workforce.

Support more detailed and timely **wage and occupation data**.

# Proposed Policy Priorities – TIER 3

Allow community colleges to serve as **licensure exam sites**.

# Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR)

Exceptional Items – *amounts above the baseline request*

## Regional Industry Training Center

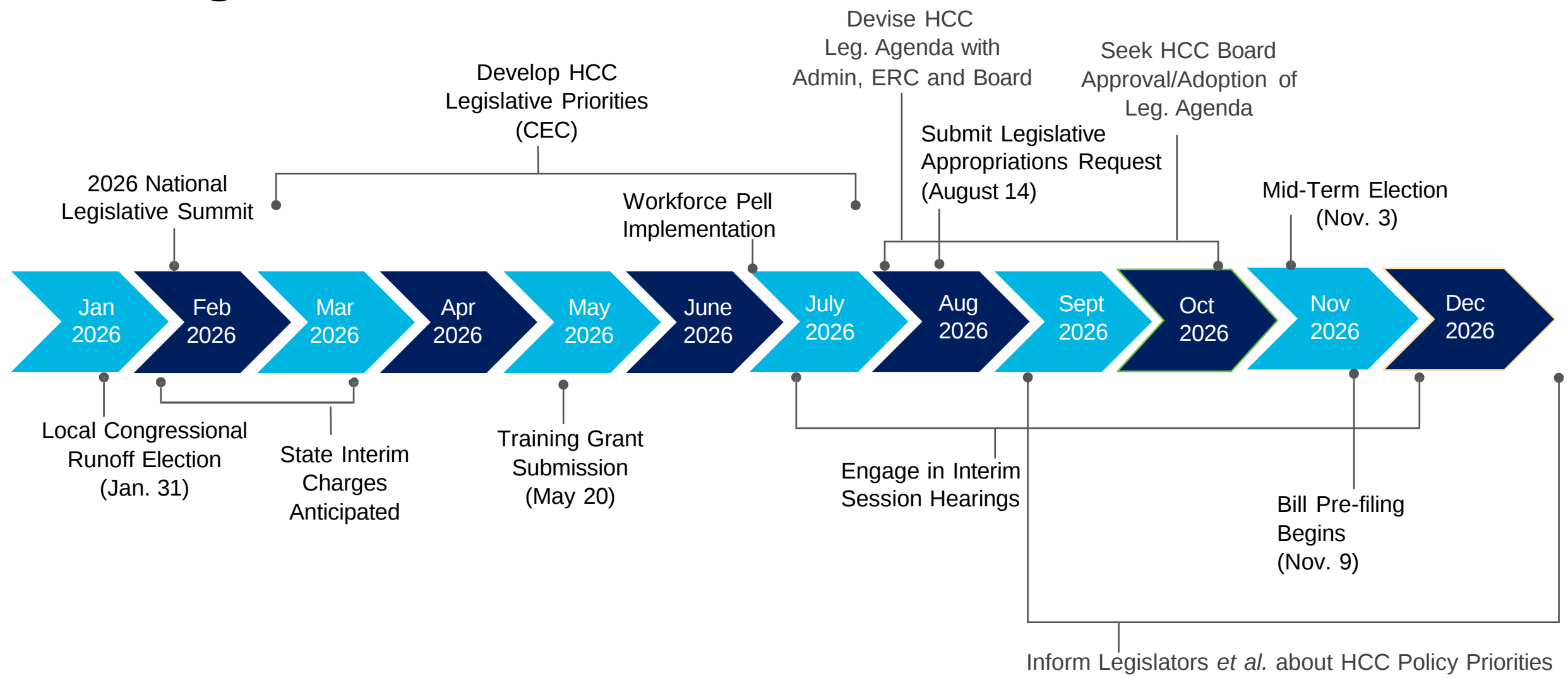
- Workforce education & training facility
- **Health** Systems Center + **Industrial** Systems Center + Industry Commons
- 55,000 sq. ft.
- NW-Katy location
- **Request: \$50 million**

## Solar Installer Technician Training Facility

- Workforce education & training facility
- Hands-on **solar & electrical** labs + **battery** energy storage training + outdoor array
- 5,500 to 6,500 sq. ft.
- HCC Missouri City location
- **Request: \$15 million**

**Status of HCC LAR:** Timely submitted to the Legislative Budget Board on August 14, 2026.

# HCC Legislative Timeline 2026





# Thank You