HOUSTON
CITY COLLEGE

AGENDA

EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

October 7, 2026
10:30 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

October 7, 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, October 7, 2026 at 10:30 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. Proposed Legislative Initiatives – 90th Legislative Session

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. <u>Legal Matters</u>

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. <u>Personnel Matters</u>

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. <u>Real Estate Matters</u>

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 **1st day of October 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.

Posted By:

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Sharon R. Wright
Director, Board Services

ACTION ITEM

Meeting Date: October 7, 2026

Topics For Discussion and/or Action:

ITEM #	ITEM TITLE	PRESENTER
A.	**Proposed Legislative Initiatives – 90th Legislative Session**	**Dr. Margaret Ford Fisher** **Remmele Young, J.D.**

RECOMMENDATION

Approve proposed legislative initiatives for the 90th Texas legislative session.

COMPELLING REASON AND BACKGROUND

The Texas Legislature biennially convenes (in odd years) for a legislative session to consider policy matters that impact the state of Texas. The session provides the forum to deliver legislative initiatives that impact various sectors, including the higher education sector, which comprises Houston City College (HCC).

In light of the aforementioned observation, it is imperative for HCC to identify and adopt legislative initiatives deemed important to the institution and share the same with policymakers, allowing them an opportunity to make informed decisions during the course of their policy-making deliberations. Accordingly, the HCC administration offers for the governing board's consideration proposed legislative initiatives for the 90th legislative session intended to guide our work with policymakers.

As HCC prepares for the 90th Texas Legislative Session, the administration has evaluated 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 emerging from legislative interim charges and hearings. It also includes input from subject matter experts.

The goal: to position the institution to advance policies that strengthen student success and workforce development that help Build a Talent Strong Texas.

FISCAL IMPACT

Presently unknown.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

1. Student Success

ATTACHMENTS:

Description	Upload Date	Type
ERC_Oct 07_26 Proposed Policy Agenda	9/23/2026	Presentation

This item is applicable to the following:

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

HOUSTON CITY COLLEGE

External Relations Committee

HCC Proposed Policy Priorities 90th Legislative Session

Margaret Ford Fisher, Ed.D., Chancellor

Remmele J. Young, J.D., Vice Chancellor

October 7, 2026

Introduction

Executive Summary

As HCC prepares for the 90th Texas Legislative Session, the administration has evaluated 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 emerging from legislative interim charges and hearings. It also includes input from subject matter experts.

The goal: to position the institution to advance policies that strengthen student success and workforce development that help *Build a Talent Strong Texas*..

Relevant Key Dates

- **General Election:** November 3, 2026
- **Bill pre-filing:** November 9, 2026
- **Opening Day of 90th Legislative Session:** January 12, 2027
- **Revenue Estimate Published:** January 2027*
- **Community College Day:** January 28, 2027

*Sets what the 90th Legislature can spend.

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 and favorably considers economically and disadvantaged students.

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 appropriations that support **HB 20 (89R)**, *relating to the Applied Sciences Pathways Program*.

Proposed Policy Priorities – Tier 1, Cont.

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.

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

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

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

Proposed Policy Priorities – TIER 2

Align College, Career, and Military Readiness, dual credit, CTE, Credentials of Value, and community college funding to ensure high school credentials provide meaningful pathways to college completion and workforce success.

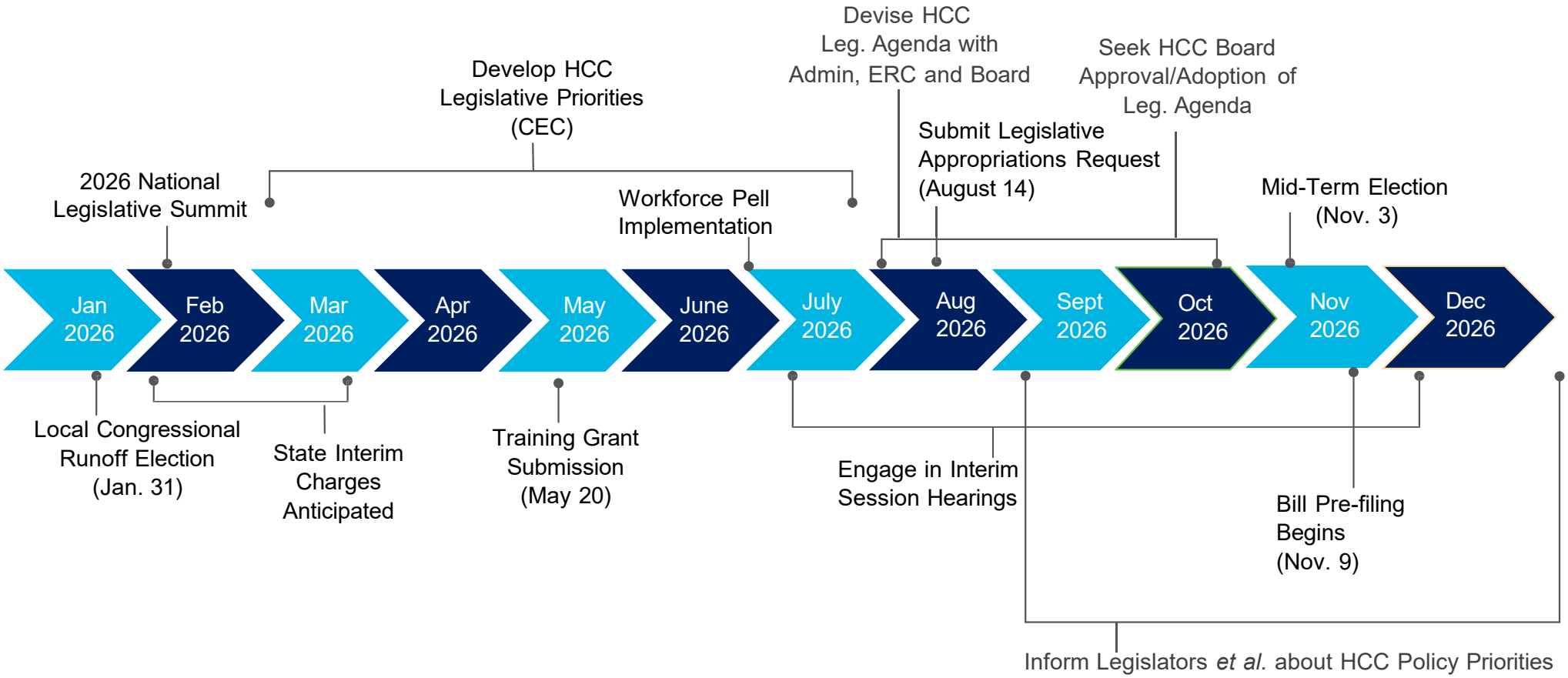
Support timely, detailed wage and occupational data for community colleges to inform workforce program development, strengthen accountability, and advance successful Workforce Pell implementation for students pursuing high-demand careers.

Improve access to nursing and clinical nursing clinical rotation slots.

Proposed Policy Priorities – TIER 3

Allow community colleges to serve as licensure exam sites and freeze the cost of certification or licensure exams.

HCC Legislative Timeline 2026



Revised August 20, 2026


Thank You