Texas Higher Education COORDINATING BOARD

New Program Approval ATGS

September 28, 2023

- General Information
- Planning Notification
- Program Approval Key Changes
- Q & A

New rules can be found in TAC Chapter 2

General Information

Degree & Cert. Requests Impacted by Rule Revisions

- Planning Notification

- Academic Associate

- Embedded Associate (new)

- Bachelor's & Master's

- Doctoral & Professional

- Academic Certificates

- Program Changes (for above degrees)

- Program Review (no immediate changes)

- Requests NOT impacted:
  - Applied Associate
  - Workforce Education Certificates
  - Self-Supporting
  - Off-campus

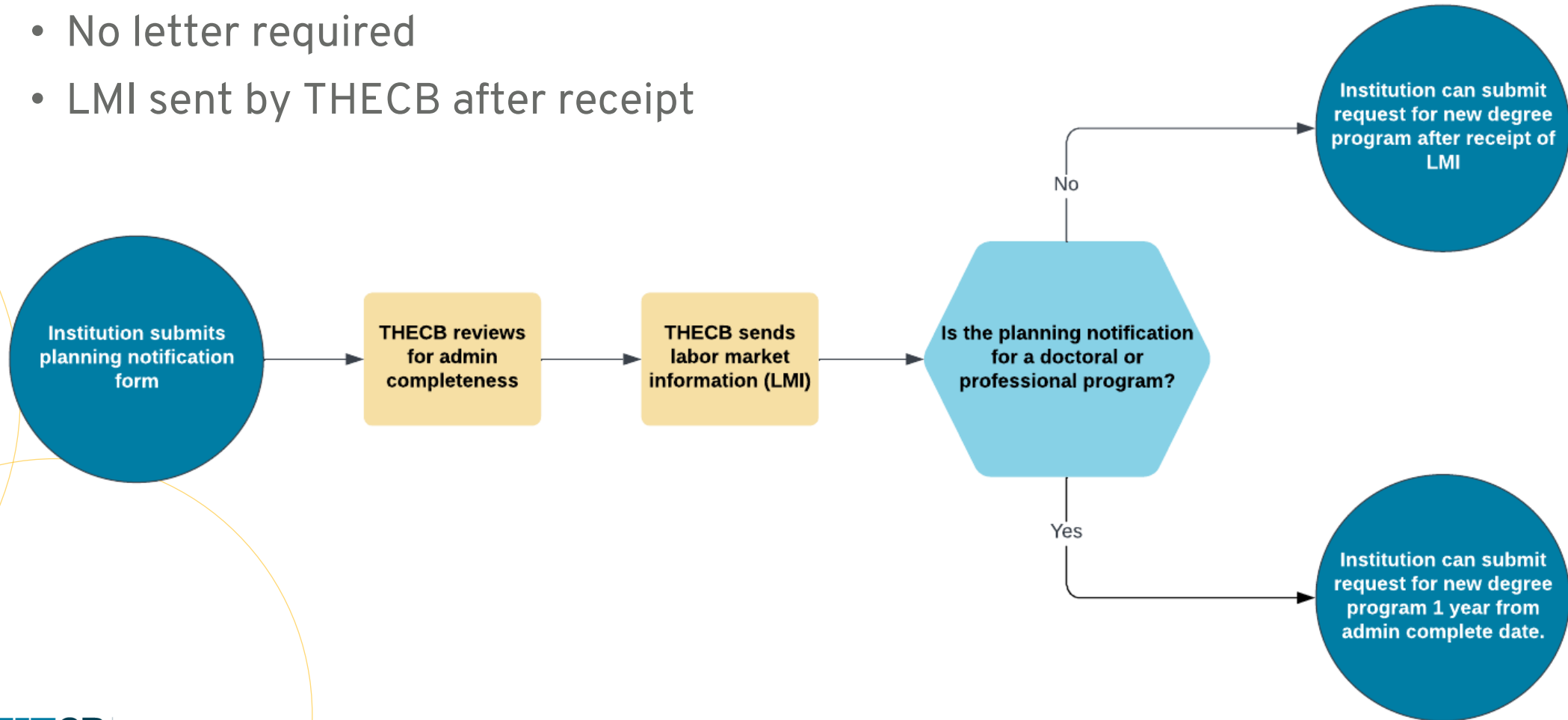 Future rule revisions will address these areas.

New Forms

- Online forms with attachments (where applicable)
  - ≥50% new content, doctoral/professional, new bachelor's at a community college content will mostly be attachments

- Institutional CAO & board/regent approval can be done directly in the online form.
  - Program changes and planning notification will only require certification that CAO has approved.

Planning Notification

Planning Notification

- Notable changes
  - No letter required
  - LMI sent by THECB after receipt

Institution submits planning notification form → THECB reviews for admin completeness → THECB sends labor market information (LMI) → Is the planning notification for a doctoral or professional program?

No → Institution can submit request for new degree program after receipt of LMI

Yes → Institution can submit request for new degree program 1 year from admin complete date.

Planning Notification Changes
Effective June 1, 2023

Degrees Requiring Planning Notification

- Academic associate degrees*
- Bachelor's & master's degrees
- Doctoral & professional degrees *(must be submitted one year prior to submission of full degree program proposal)*

If a planning notification has already been submitted for a doctoral program prior to June 1st and the full proposal will be submitted after June 1st you do not need to wait the full year.

*Embedded and Multidisciplinary Studies associate degrees are exempt from the planning notification requirement.

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Planning Notification: Form

Effective June 1, 2023

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Planning Notification - Institution Submission

Institution Planning Notification

ID

2DX4C90R

Request Type

Planning Notification

Institution *

Proposed CIP Code *

You DO NOT need to enter the decimal ".".

CIP Code Name

Degree Level *

Proposed Degree Designation (e.g. M.A.) *

Proposed Degree Program Title (e.g. Psychology) *

Select a title using the drop down menu or type in a unique degree title.

Anticipated Date of Full Proposal Submission *

Certification of Approval

Certification of Approval *

☐ I certify that this planning notification has been approved by the Chief Academic Officer or designee.

Submitter Name *

Submitter Email *

Proposal Contact Name *

Proposal contact will receive labor market information when sent by THECB staff.
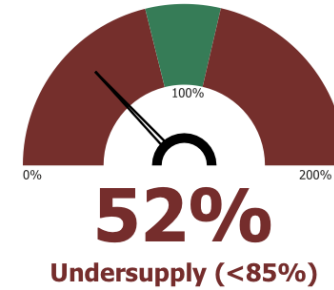
Proposal Contact Email *

Submit   Save as Draft

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Planning Notification: Labor Market Information
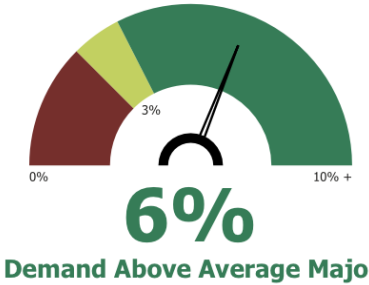## Effective June 1, 2023

Are we supplying enough graduates to meet demand?

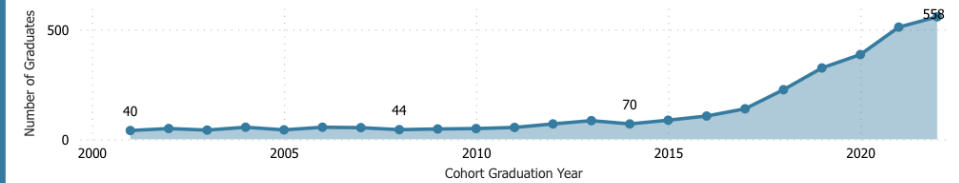**Supply/Demand for Graduates, One Year of Experience**

0%   100%   200% +

52%
Undersupply (<85%)

Open Jobs for Graduates of Selected Major as a Percent of All Majors at Selected Degree Level

0%   3%   10% +

6%
Demand Above Average Major

Graduates in 2022

558

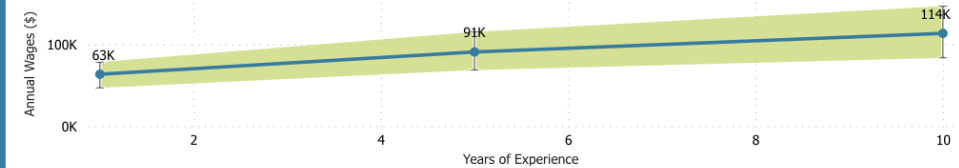**Graduates by Year (2001-2022)**

Median Wage of Full-Time Employed Graduates Following Graduation

63K

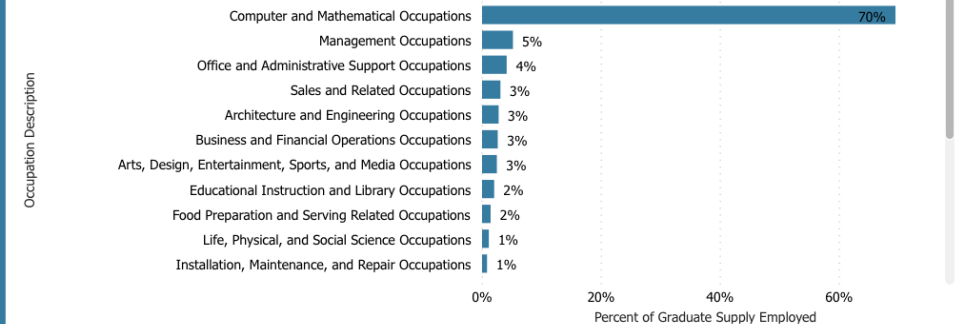**Median Wages of Graduates 1, 5, and 10 Years Post Graduation**
Upper Band = 75th Percentile, Lower Band = 25th Percentile

Number of Occupations Employing Graduates

22

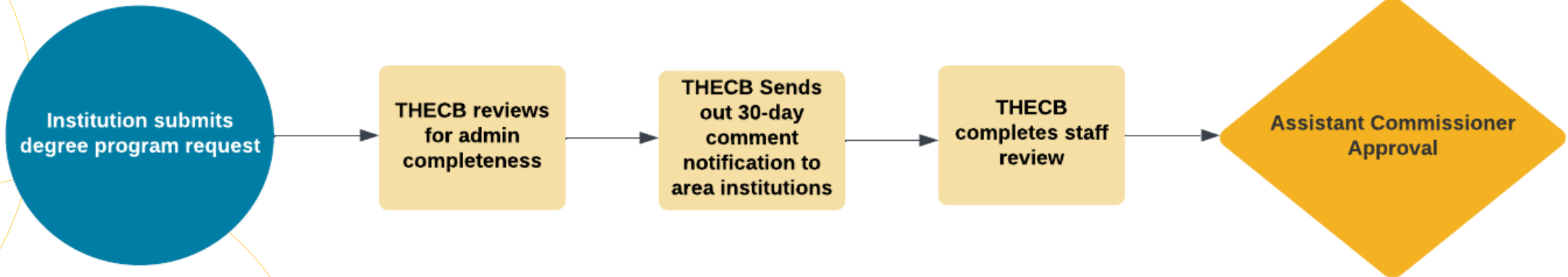**Top Occupations Employing Graduates**

Occupation Description	Percent of Graduate Supply Employed
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	70%
Management Occupations	5%
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	4%
Sales and Related Occupations	3%
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	3%
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	3%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	3%
Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	2%
Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	2%
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	1%
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	1%

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Program Approval Key Changes

Approval Levels

Request Type	Approval Level	Effective Date
Embedded Associate	Assistant Commissioner	Currently Effective
Digital modality requests/changes (all levels)	Notification Only	May 18, 2023
Planning Notification	Notification Only	June 1, 2023
New Acad Assoc, Bach, Master's less than 50% new content	Assistant Commissioner	September 1, 2023
New Acad Assoc, Bach, Master's 50% or more new content	Commissioner	September 1, 2023
Doctoral & Professional	Board	September 1, 2023
New degree programs equal to a level change for institution	Board	September 1, 2023
Substantive changes to doctoral, professional or programs approved by the Board after September 1, 2023	Board	September 1, 2023
Other substantive and non-substantive changes	Assistant Commissioner	September 1, 2023
Program Closure	Notification Only	Currently Effective
New Academic Certificate (any SCH or level)	Notification Only	September 1, 2023

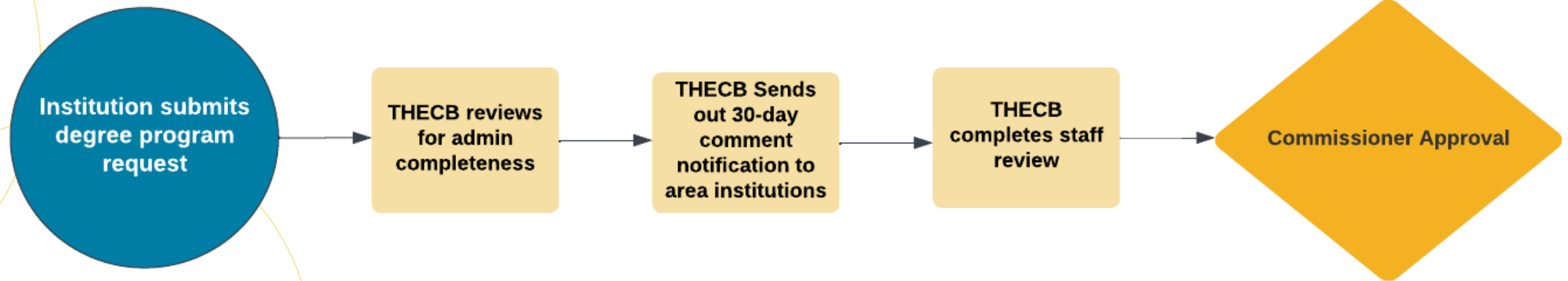THECB | Texas Higher Education COORDINATING BOARD

Bachelor's and master's less than 50% new content

- Notable changes
  - No 50-mile notification required prior to submission
  - Alignment with SACSCOC new content threshold to determine how much information needs to be submitted

Institution submits degree program request → THECB reviews for admin completeness → THECB Sends out 30-day comment notification to area institutions → THECB completes staff review → Assistant Commissioner Approval
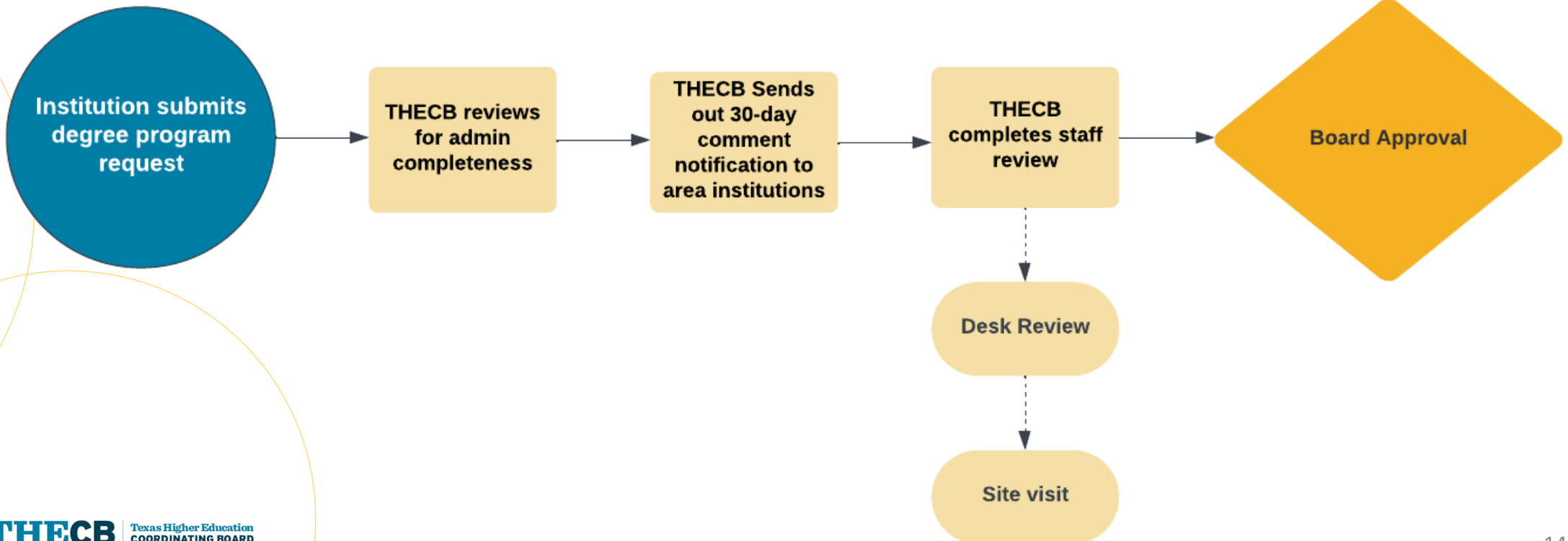
Bachelor's and master's 50% or more new content

- Notable changes
  - No 50-mile notification required prior to submission
  - Alignment with SACSCOC new content threshold to determine how much information needs to be submitted
  - Elevated to new approval level (Commissioner)

Institution submits degree program request → THECB reviews for admin completeness → THECB Sends out 30-day comment notification to area institutions → THECB completes staff review → Commissioner Approval

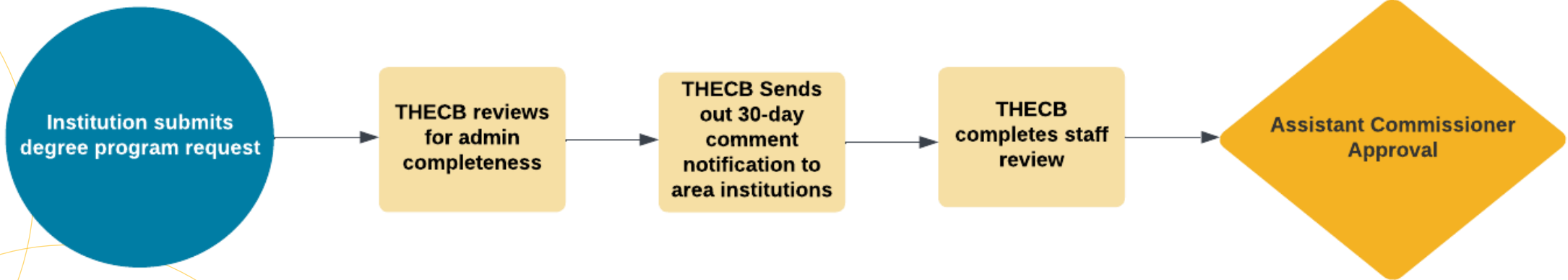THECB | Texas Higher Education COORDINATING BOARD

Doctoral & Professional

- Notable changes
  - No 50-mile notification required prior to submission
  - 1-year waiting period after planning notification admin complete date for doctoral degrees

Institution submits degree program request → THECB reviews for admin completeness → THECB Sends out 30-day comment notification to area institutions → THECB completes staff review → Board Approval

THECB completes staff review → Desk Review → Site visit

Embedded Associate

- New degree program option
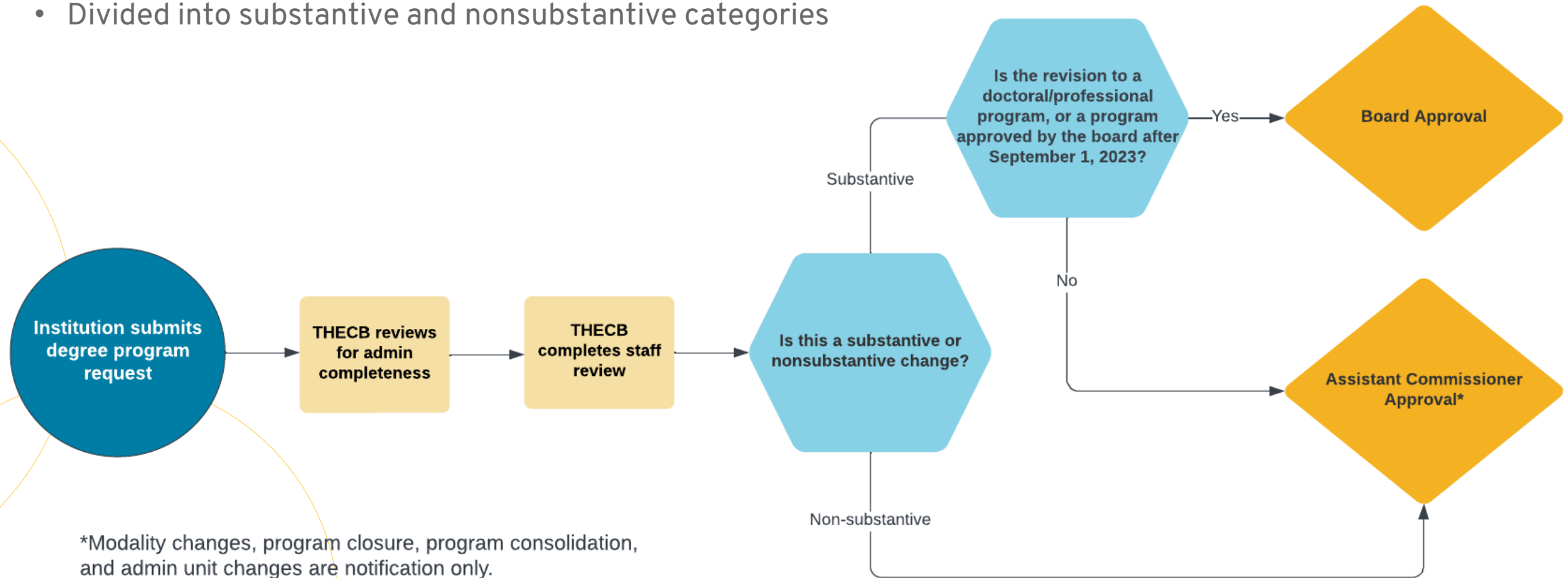- Exempt from planning notification requirement

50% Content Threshold
Effective September 1, 2023

- Designed to align with SACSCOC requirements.

- Institution will determine what constitutes 50% or more new content for submission purposes.

- Less than 50% content form will request number of *new* major-specific courses and *new* faculty FTE required.

Degree Program Changes

- Notable changes
    - Modality changes are now notification only for all degree levels
    - Divided into substantive and nonsubstantive categories

Institution submits degree program request → THECB reviews for admin completeness → THECB completes staff review → Is this a substantive or nonsubstantive change?

Substantive → Is the revision to a doctoral/professional program, or a program approved by the board after September 1, 2023? — Yes → Board Approval; No → Assistant Commissioner Approval*

Non-substantive → Assistant Commissioner Approval*

*Modality changes, program closure, program consolidation, and admin unit changes are notification only.

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Degree Program Changes
Effective September 1, 2023

Non-Substantive
SCH Change
CIP Code Change
Degree Name or Designation Change
Program Consolidation
Off-Campus Requests
Other non-substantive revisions

Substantive
Location Change: Closing the program in one location and moving it to a second location.
Funding Model Change: Changing the funding model from self-supported to formula-funded or vice versa.
Other substantive revisions

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Degree Program Changes Form

- Currently designed for public universities & HRIs; we are working to determine if it can also be used for CTCs.

- Requests included in the form:
  - CIP Code Change - *additional fields in new form*
  - SCH Change
  - Degree Title/Designation Change
  - Modality Change/Addition
  - Off-campus Change/Addition (*no rule changes*)
  - Funding Model Change – *additional fields in new form*
  - Admin Unit Change
  - Program Consolidation
  - Program Closure
  - "Other"

Discontinuing 50-Mile Notification
Effective September 1, 2023

- No 50-mile notification required prior to submission to THECB.

- After submission, THECB will have a 30-day comment period during the proposal review process and will notify area institutions.

Distance Education
Effective May 18, 2023 (upon adoption)

- Digital modality requests for all degree programs will be notification only.

  - Institutions should submit through the Document Submission Portal the current [certification form for electronically delivered and off-campus education programs](#) with new degree program requests or for degree program changes.

- Doctoral programs delivered through distance education will no longer need to be reviewed by LTAC prior to approval.

  - Institutions will no longer need to submit the full Distance Education Doctoral Proposal Form for new or changes to doctoral programs related to distance education.

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Distance Education
Effective December 1, 2023

Distance Education--The formal educational process that occurs when students and instructors are in separate physical locations for the majority (more than 50 percent) of instruction.

Distance Education Course--A course in which a majority (more than 50 percent) of the instruction occurs when the student(s) and instructor(s) are in separate physical locations. The definition of distance education course does not include courses with 50 percent or less instruction when the student(s) and instructor(s) are in separate physical locations. Two categories of distance education courses are defined:

100-Percent Online Course--A distance education course in which 100 percent of instructional activity takes place when the student(s) and instructor(s) are in separate physical locations. Requirements for on-campus or in-person orientation, testing, academic support services, internships/fieldwork, or other non-instructional activities do not exclude a course from this category.

Hybrid Course--A distance education course in which more than 50 percent but less than 100 percent of instructional activity takes place when the student(s) and instructor(s) are in separate physical locations.

Distance Education Degree or Certificate Program--A program in which a student may complete a majority (more than 50 percent) of the credit hours required for the program through distance education courses. The definition of a Distance Education Degree or Certificate Program does not include programs in which 50 percent or less of the required credit hours are offered through distance education. Two categories of distance education programs are defined:

100-Percent Online Program--A degree program in which students complete 100 percent of the credit hours required for the program through 100-Percent Online Courses. Requirements for on-campus or in-person orientation, testing, academic support services, internships/fieldwork, or other non-instructional activities do not exclude a program from this category.

Hybrid Program--A degree program in which students complete 50 percent or more and less than 100 percent of the credit hours required for the program through Distance Education Courses.

Definitions located in TAC Chapter 2, Subchapter J, Rule 2.202

IPDE - Updates

- Based on the Principles of Good Practice for Distance Education (PGP)

  - Board-approved standards/criteria for distance education delivered by Texas public institutions

  - mapped to SACSCOC, Council of Regional Accrediting Commissions (C-RAC), Quality Matters, Online Learning Scorecard, SUNY Online Course Quality Review Rubric (OSCQR)

- Aligned with Accrediting Agency Reaffirmation cycle

  - no later than one year after receiving final disposition of the institution's comprehensive renewal of accreditation report from their institutional accreditor or

  - no later than ten years after the approval of their last IPDE to the Coordinating Board

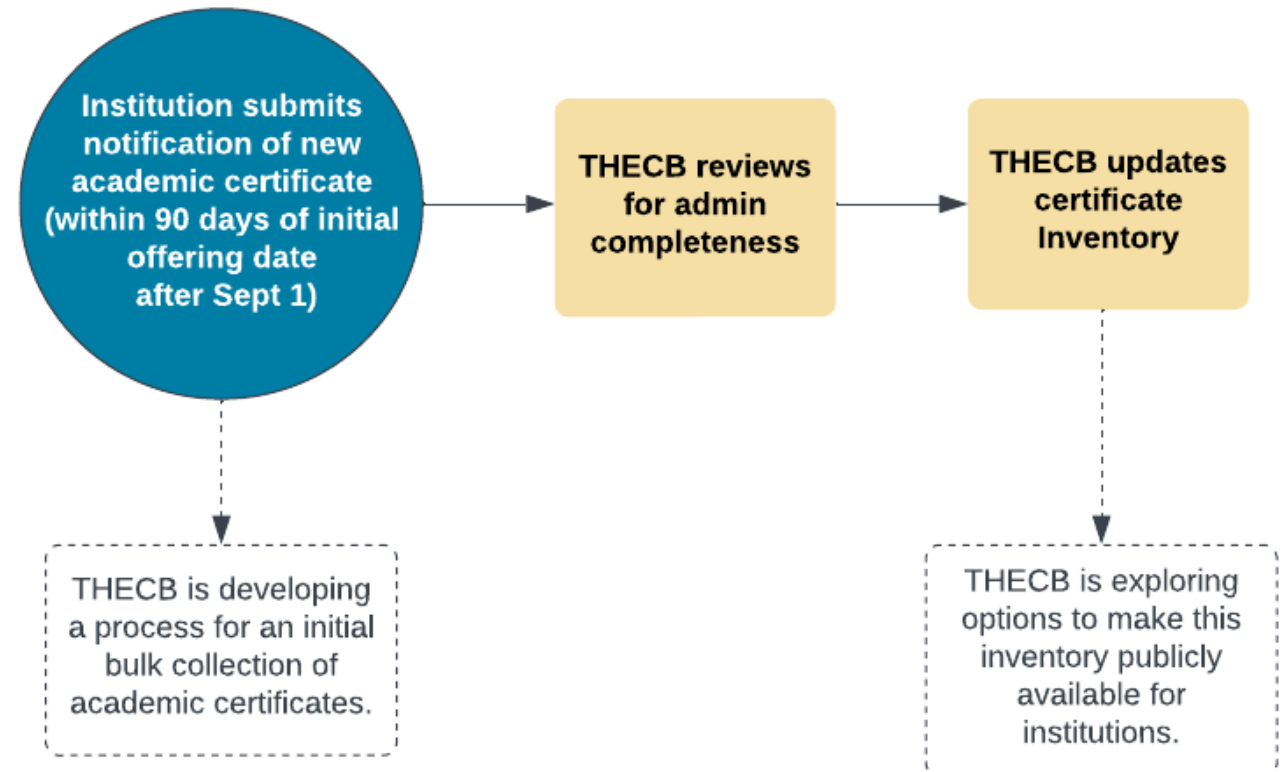- LTAC is currently reviewing & updating the PGP and IPDE

Academic Certificates
Effective September 1, 2023

- No 50-mile notification or THECB approval required prior to delivery of academic certificates regardless of SCH or level.

- THECB will complete a bulk collection of all academic certificates (with option to provide periodic updates) and institutions will be able to report graduates of all reported certificates

  - Not required to be embedded in a degree program

- Process for this is TBD, and more information will be available in the coming months.

New Academic Certificates

- Notable changes
  - No 50-mile notification required prior to submission
  - No approval required before offering of certificates
  - No SCH or level threshold

Institution submits notification of new academic certificate (within 90 days of initial offering date after Sept 1) → THECB reviews for admin completeness → THECB updates certificate Inventory

THECB is developing a process for an initial bulk collection of academic certificates.

THECB is exploring options to make this inventory publicly available for institutions.

Program Review
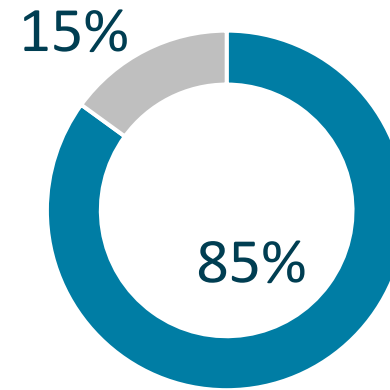## (no immediate changes)

Current Processes

- Progress Reports
- Low Producing Programs
- Graduate Program Reviews

Future Goals

- More utilization of THECB data resources
- More targeted reviews

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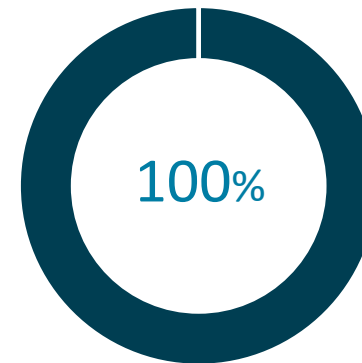# Significant legislative changes to research funding

HB 1595 and House Joint Resolution 3 redesignated the National Research University Fund as the **Texas University Fund (TUF),** redesignated the Core Research Support Fund as the **National Research Support Fund (NRSF),** and aligned the allocation of both funds and the **Comprehensive Research Fund (CRF)** with the goals of *Talent Strong Texas (contingent on passage of the constitutional amendment)*

15%

85%

NRSF and TUF RESEARCH PERFORMANCE FUNDING

Funding distributed based on performance metrics:

- 85%: federal and private research expenditures
- 15%: research doctorates

100%

CRF RESEARCH PERFORMANCE FUNDING

Funding distributed based on federal and private research expenditures

Texas Research University Fund for UT and Texas A&M University did not change and remains allocated based on total research expenditures.

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Questions?

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