

Graduate Education: Current Landscape and Horizon

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October 1, 2019

60x30TX



Texas Higher Education
Coordinating Board

COVID-19

Existing Landscape for Graduate Education

Considering Developing a New Program

COVID-19

Coronavirus webpage and FAQs



Coronavirus Update for Higher Education

Notice: Effective Tuesday, March 17th the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has shifted to a mandatory tele-work policy for agency employees. All current external meetings have been postponed until further notice.

Frequently Asked Questions

Institutions of Higher Education

- [Reopening of Campus Operations](#) *(Updated 9/4/2020)*
- [GEER State Grant and Emergency Educational Grant FAQ's](#) *(Added 9/2/2020)*
- [Career and Technical Education \(CTE\) FAQs](#) *(Updated 8/6/2020)*
- [Courses, Calendars, and Reporting FAQs](#) *(Updated 9/23/2020)*
- [General FAQs](#) *(Updated 9/23/2020)*
- [Perkins Grants FAQs](#) *(Updated 6/1/2020)*
- [Teacher Preparation FAQs](#) *(Updated 8/6/2020)*
- [Tuition, Refunds, and Financial Aid FAQs](#) *(Updated 9/8/2020)*
- [VA Benefits and CARES Act FAQs](#) *(Updated 4/27/2020)*

Students, Parents and General Public

- [Guidance for Students During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) *(Updated 4/14/2020)*

Online Resources

Information and Resources for Higher Education Institutions.

Reopening of Campus Operations

Reopening of Campus Operations

The information on this page is intended to provide general guidance for Texas institutions of higher education (IHE) from the THECB as it pertains to reopening various campus operations during this health emergency. THECB staff will update this guidance as we receive additional inquiries and information. Questions related to the reopening of various campus operations can be directed to Ray Martinez, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Workforce Education, at ray.martinez@highered.texas.gov.

Recommended Health Protocols for Institutions of Higher Education

The following health protocols are recommended for IHE for reopening various campus operations. The practices specified are recommended to assure a safe and measured reopening of campuses as they transition back to in-person instruction and operations while putting measures in place to protect their campus communities. The virus that causes COVID-19 is still circulating in our communities. We need to continue to observe practices that protect everyone, including those who are most vulnerable. IHE leaders may consider adopting additional protocols for their specific needs and circumstances to protect the health and safety of students, faculty, staff, and campus visitors.

- [White House Coronavirus Taskforce Recommendations for College Students](#) *(Added 9/4/2020)*
- [Fall 2020 Checklist](#) *(Revised 8/17/2020)*
- [Summer 2020 Checklist](#) *(Added 5/21/2020)*
- [Career and Technical Education Checklist](#) *(Added 5/4/2020)*

Reopening Plan WebLinks for Texas Institutions of Higher Education

The URLs included within the following spreadsheets are designed to provide links to IHEs' COVID-19 updates and their reopening plans for fall 2020.

- [Public Community, State, and Technical Colleges](#) *(Added 7/20/2020)*
- [Public Universities and Health-Related Institutions](#) *(Added 7/20/2020)*
- [Independent Colleges and Universities](#) *(Added 7/20/2020)*

Fall 2020 Reopening Plans

This spreadsheet is designed to provide links to information about the reopening plans of Texas institutions of higher education for the Fall 2020 Semester. It was produced by Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board staff on June 25, 2020, and updated on July 23, with information available on higher education institutions' websites. If a specific URL was not available for an institution's Fall 2020 reopening plans, the URL for the "Institutional COVID-19 Updates" also was used as the URL for the "Institutional Fall 2020 Reopening Plans."

Institution Type	System Name	Institution Name	City	Institution Main Website	URL for Institutional COVID-19 Updates	URL for Institutional Fall 2020 Reopening Plans
Public Univ	Texas Tech University System	Angelo State University	San Angelo	www.angelo.edu	https://www.angelo.edu/emergency-notifications/coronavirus-updates.php	https://www.angelo.edu/covid-19/returning-to-campus/
Public Univ	Texas State University System	Lamar University	Beaumont	www.lamar.edu	https://www.lamar.edu/coronavirus/index.html	https://www.lamar.edu/coronavirus/campus-announcements/letter-from-president-evans-coronavirus-update-5-22-20.html
Public Univ		Midwestern State University	Wichita Falls	www.mwsu.edu	https://msutexas.edu/coronavirus/index.php	https://msutexas.edu/return-to-campus/msu-texas-commitment.php
Public Univ	Texas A&M University System	Prairie View A&M University	Prairie View	www.pvamu.edu	https://www.pvamu.edu/coronavirus/	http://www.pvamu.edu/coronavirus/wp-content/uploads/sites/191/2020/05/PVAMU-Campus-Reopening-Procedures.pdf
Public Univ	Texas State University System	Sam Houston State University	Huntsville	www.shsu.edu	https://www.shsu.edu/katsafe/coronavirus	https://www.shsu.edu/katsafe/coronavirus
Public Health-R	Texas State University System	Sam Houston State University College of Osteopathic Medicine	Conroe	https://www.shsu.edu/academics/osteopathic-medicine/	https://www.shsu.edu/katsafe/coronavirus	https://www.shsu.edu/katsafe/coronavirus
Public Univ		Stephen F. Austin State University	Nacogdoches	www.sfasu.edu	http://sfasu.edu/life-at-sfa/health-safety/health-clinic/coronavirus	http://sfasu.edu/fall2020
Public Univ	Texas State University System	Sul Ross State University	Alpine	www.sulross.edu	https://srinfo.sulross.edu/covid-19/	https://srinfo.sulross.edu/covid-19/
Public Univ	Texas State University System	Sul Ross State University Rio Grande College	Eagle Pass	www.sulross.edu	https://srinfo.sulross.edu/covid-19/	https://srinfo.sulross.edu/covid-19/
Public Univ	Texas A&M University System	Tarleton State University	Stephenville	www.tarleton.edu	https://www.tarleton.edu/coronavirus/index.html	https://www.tarleton.edu/scripts/press/display.asp?id=6366
Public Health-R	Texas A&M University System	Texas A&M Health Science Center	Bryan	tamhsc.edu	https://www.tamu.edu/coronavirus/index.html	https://provost.tamu.edu/Campus-Messages?_ga=2.235937921.1422092587.1592431017-302453544.1584019311#4e5a1vktwyk0
Public Univ	Texas A&M University System	Texas A&M International University	Laredo	www.tamui.edu	https://www.tamui.edu/coronavirus/index.shtml	https://www.tamui.edu/coronavirus/index.shtml
Public Univ	Texas A&M University System	Texas A&M University	College Station	www.tamu.edu	https://www.tamu.edu/coronavirus/index.html	https://provost.tamu.edu/Campus-Messages?_ga=2.261431437.1422092587.1592431017-302453544.1584019311
Public Univ	Texas A&M University System	Texas A&M University at Galveston	Galveston	www.tamug.edu	https://www.tamug.edu/covid-19/	https://www.tamug.edu/covid-19/
Public Univ	Texas A&M University System	Texas A&M University System	College Station	www.tamus.edu	https://www.tamus.edu/pdf/Reopening-Plan-REVISED-FINAL.pdf	https://www.tamus.edu/pdf/Reopening-Plan-REVISED-FINAL.pdf
Public Univ	Texas A&M University System	Texas A&M University-Central Texas	Killeen	www.tamuct.edu	http://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/	http://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/
Public Univ	Texas A&M University System	Texas A&M University-Commerce	Commerce	www.tamuc.edu	https://new.tamuc.edu/coronavirus/	https://new.tamuc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/TAMUC-Return-to-Work-Plan-May-15-2020.pdf
Public Univ	Texas A&M University System	Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi	Corpus Christi	www.tamucc.edu	https://www.tamucc.edu/campus-announcements/coronavirus.html	https://www.tamucc.edu/coronavirus/return-to-the-work-place-plan.pdf
Public Univ	Texas A&M University System	Texas A&M University-Kingsville	Kingsville	www.tamuk.edu	https://www.tamuk.edu/coronavirus/	https://www.tamuk.edu/coronavirus/
Public Univ	Texas A&M University System	Texas A&M University-San Antonio	San Antonio	www.tamusa.tamus.edu	https://www.tamusa.edu/coronavirus/	https://www.tamusa.edu/fall2020/index.html
Public Univ	Texas A&M University System	Texas A&M University-Texarkana	Texarkana	www.tamut.edu	https://tamut.edu/About/Administration/COVID_19/index.html	https://tamut.edu/About/Administration/COVID_19/index.html
Public Univ		Texas Southern University	Houston	www.tsu.edu	http://www.tsu.edu/about/administration/marketing-and-communications/coronavirus/index.html	http://www.tsu.edu/about/administration/marketing-and-communications/coronavirus/index.html
Public Univ	Texas State University System	Texas State University	San Marcos	www.txstate.edu	https://www.txstate.edu/coronavirus	https://www.txstate.edu/coronavirus/frequently-asked-questions.html
Public Univ	Texas State University System	Texas State University System	Austin	www.tsus.edu	https://www.tsus.edu/newsroom/coronavirus.html	https://www.tsus.edu/newsroom/news-releases/release-050120-a.html
Public Univ	Texas Tech University System	Texas Tech University	Lubbock	www.ttu.edu	https://www.depts.ttu.edu/communications/e	https://www.ttu.edu/commitment/

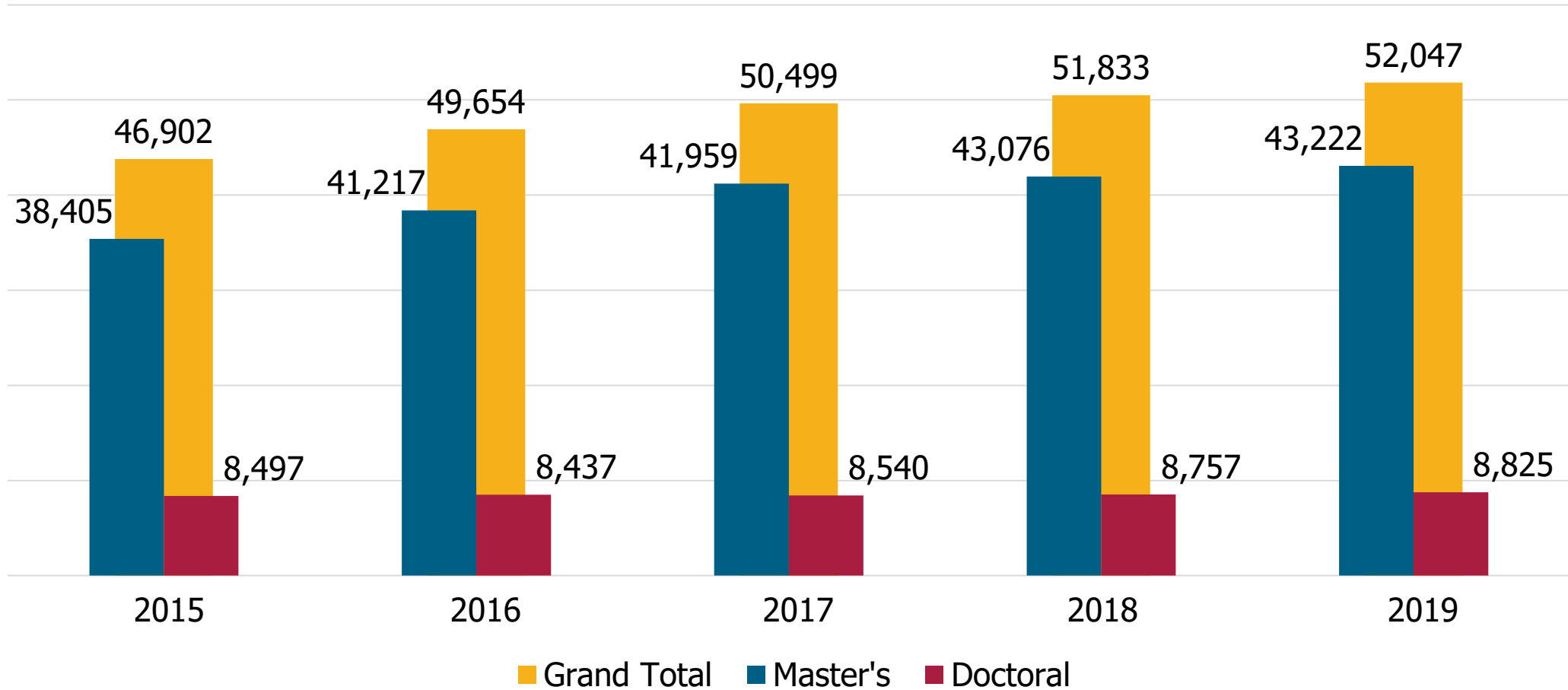
Existing Landscape for Graduate Education

The number of degree programs and graduate student enrollment are not always proportional

Some disciplines may have few programs but high enrollments, for example Law. These are considerations for the capacity of existing programs and the creation of new programs without causing unnecessary duplication.

	Enrollment Fall 2018	Number of Programs Academic Year 2019-20
Master's	97,299	1,663
Doctoral	42,716	575
Total	140,015	2,238

The number of master's and doctoral degrees awarded increased 11% from 2015 to 2019



Disciplines with the most degrees awarded are different at the master's and doctoral levels

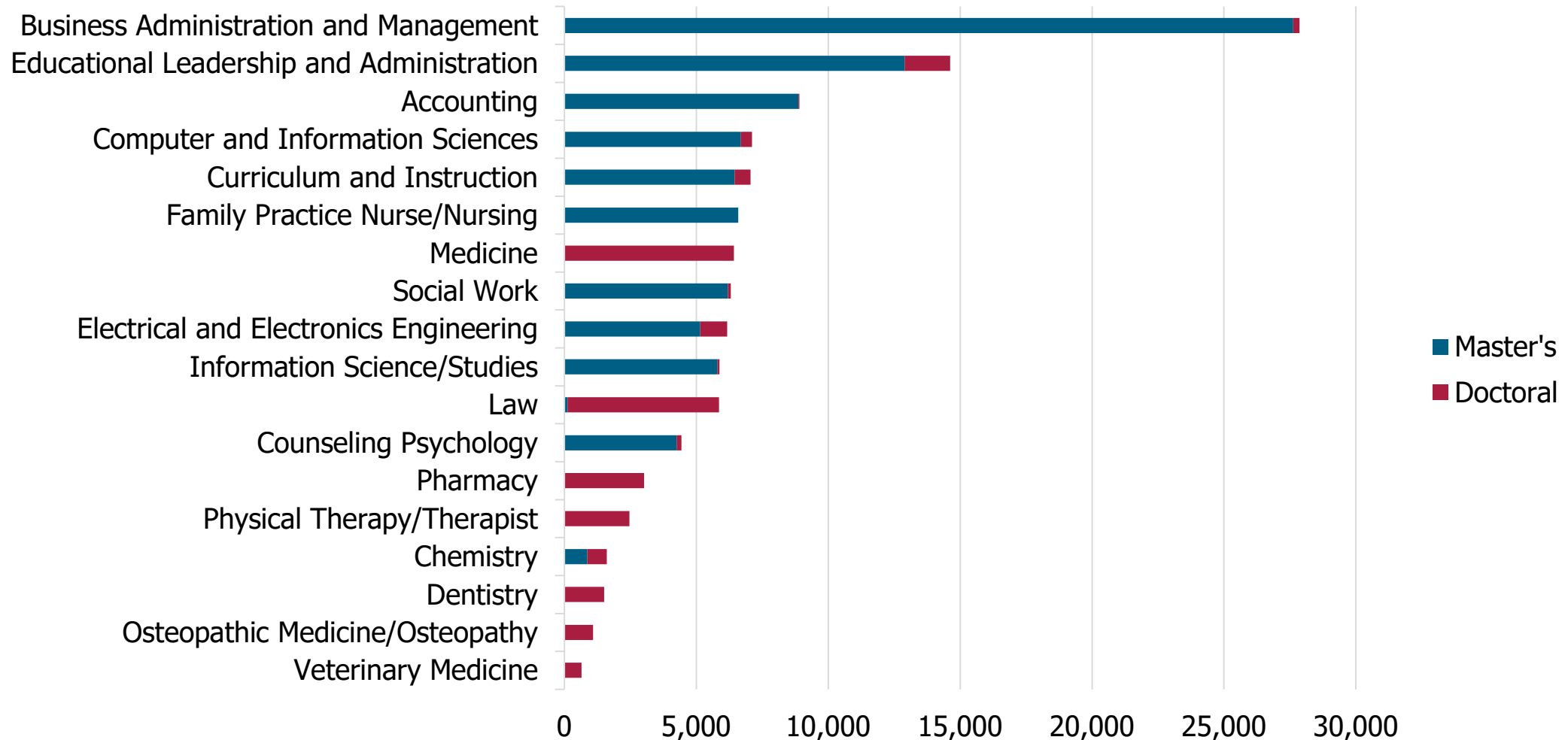
Top 10 Master's Degrees Awarded

1. Business Administration and Management
2. Educational Leadership and Administration
3. Accounting
4. Family Practice Nurse/Nursing
5. Computer and Information Sciences
6. Curriculum and Instruction
7. Information Science/Studies
8. Electrical and Electronics Engineering
9. Special Education and Teaching
10. Counselor Education/School Counseling

Top 10 Doctoral Degrees Awarded

1. Medicine
2. Law
3. Pharmacy
4. Physical Therapy/Therapist
5. Educational Leadership and Administration
6. Dentistry
7. Osteopathic Medicine/Osteopathy
8. Electrical and Electronics Engineering
9. Chemistry
10. Nursing Practice

Nearly twice as many graduate degrees were awarded in Business than any other curriculum area in Texas from 2014 to 2018



Considering Developing a New Program

Guidelines are provided in *Texas Administrative Code* to ensure that institutions establish programs based on need, quality, costs and funding, and program review.

- Design of the proposed program
- Freedom of inquiry and expression
- Programs at the master's and bachelor's level
- Need for program
- Faculty resources
- Critical mass of students
- On-campus residency expectations
- Adequate financial assistance
- External learning experiences
- Support staff
- Physical facilities
- Library
- Costs and funding
- Program evaluation standards
- Strategic plan, and
- First doctoral program

Considerations when developing a new degree program include:

Review existing institutional offerings and resources

- How many existing faculty are in place with appropriate expertise in the proposed program?
- How much support within the school/department is available for the proposed program?
- Is there existing space available to accommodate the proposed program?

Review existing programs at other institutions

- Are existing programs at capacity?
- Are existing programs turning away qualified students?
- Is there unmet student demand?
- Is there unmet workforce demand?
- Are employers in the region searching for graduates of such a program?

Considerations when developing a new degree program include: (continued)

Program Development

- Where is the proposed program going to be offered?
- Is it a face-to-face program offered on an institution's main campus or is it a distance education program?
- Would the program rely on current students to populate the new program?
- Would the program provide paid internships or assistantships?

Curriculum Development

- What courses are required for the new program?
- Would the program utilize competency-based methods, including credit for prior knowledge?
- How would the program promote an efficient time to degree?
- Would the program use open resources?
- What marketable skills will students be able to identify upon completion?

To anticipate future needs for graduate programs:

- Obtain workforce projections at the national, state, regional, and local levels
- Examine current enrollment and degree production data to determine if needs are unmet
- Consider how and where the institution's resources should be applied

Resources

Coordinating Board Resources

- Accountability System www.txhigheredaccountability.org/acctpublic/
- Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) www.txhighereddata.org/Interactive/CIP/ (Texas)
- Degree Program Search www.highered.texas.gov/apps/programinventory
- Institutional Program Inventory www.highered.texas.gov/apps/programinventory

Other Resources

- Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/>
- Burning Glass www.burning-glass.com
- Department of State Health Services, Health Professions Fact Sheets <http://www.dshs.texas.gov/chs/hprc/health.shtm>
- Economic Development and Employer Planning System www.edeps.org
- Emsi www.economicmodeling.com
- National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Post-Secondary Education Data System (IPEDS) <https://nces.ed.gov/> and <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/>
- National Science Foundation, WebCASPAR: Integrated Science and Engineering Resources Data System <https://ncesdata.nsf.gov/webcaspar/>
- Texas Administrative Code [https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\\$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=4&ti=19&pt=1&ch=5](https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=4&ti=19&pt=1&ch=5)
- Texas Health Professions Regulatory Boards www.hpc.texas.gov/agencies/ (Health Professions)
- Texas Labor Market Information <https://texaslmi.com/>
- Texas Workforce Commission www.twc.state.tx.us

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