2014 REPORT

SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE

EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS & SERVICES

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE
TABLE OF CONTENTS

High School Programs & Services
- Description
- Department Information

Early College High School
- Background
- Design
- Enrollment & graduates
- Collaborations
- Summer and fall bridge activities
- Partnerships & models
HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Description

South Texas College (STC) has one of the largest Dual Enrollment Programs in the State of Texas. The program was established in 1997 to provide dual credit/dual enrollment opportunities to high school students. The program has grown from serving 8 dual enrollment students in 1997 to serving over 12,500 students in 2014. South Texas College has partnerships with 23 school districts at over 70 high school sites.

The High School Programs & Services Department promotes a “college-going” culture through the following programs and initiatives:

- **Dual Enrollment Courses**
  - Grown from 61 sections in 1999, to offering over 1,500 sections in 2014

- **Dual Enrollment Academies**
  - Includes six Academies:
    - Academic: Medical Science, Computer Science, Engineering, and Criminal Justice
    - School to Career: Electronic Health Records Specialist and Welding

- **Early College High Schools**
  - South Texas College leads the nation in the number of Early College High Schools (ECHS) partnerships that it has developed with area Independent School Districts, which includes 26 Early College High Schools with two of them in the area of Career & Technology.

- **9th Grade Initiatives**
  - This is a drop-out prevention program developed for “at-risk” repeating 9th grade students. South Texas College has one ISD partner and served over 100 students during the 2013-2014 academic year.

- **High School Recovery Program**
  - This program is designed to assist 5th year high school students to graduate from high school and transition to college. Since 2007, this initiative has produced over 4,000 high school graduates in partnership with 9 high schools.
DEPARTMENT INFORMATION
High School Programs & Services Department


HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS & SERVICES
Nick Gonzalez
Administrator for HSPS
Pecan Campus Building D-107-B
Office: (956) 872-2133 • Mobile: (956) 225-4342
ngon@southtexascollege.edu

Lupita Reyes
Administrative Assistant for HSPS
Pecan Campus Building D-107-A
Office: (956) 872-6443 • Fax: (956) 872-3500
mgrayes@southtexascollege.edu

DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM
Alejandra Cantu
Dual Enrollment Planning and Scheduling Manager
Pecan Campus Building D-101-G
Office: (956) 872-3568 • Fax: (956) 872-3500
acantu@southtexascollege.edu

Clarissa Torres
Dual Enrollment Program Specialist
Pecan Campus Building D-101-F
Office: (956) 872-6455 • Fax: (956) 872-3500
torres5@southtexascollege.edu

DUAL ENROLLMENT FACULTY LIAISON
Carol T. Woods
Dual Enrollment Faculty Liaison
Pecan Campus PB 3B-C
Office: (956) 872-2087 • Fax: (956) 872-3500
cwoods@southtexascollege.edu
DUAL ENROLLMENT ACADEMY PROGRAMS

Kimberly P. Crawford
Director of Academies & Special Projects
Pecan Campus Building A-104
Office: (956) 872-3499 • Fax: (956) 872-2655
kcrawford@southtexascollege.edu

Rebecca De Leon
Coordinator for Academies & Special Projects
Pecan Campus Building A-105
Office: (956) 872-2607 • Fax: (956) 872-2655
rdeleon_8106@southtexascollege.edu

Bianca Peralez
Secretary for HSPS
Pecan Campus Building A-105
Office: (956) 872-2619 • Fax: (956) 872-2655
bperalez1@southtexascollege.edu

Javier Gonzalez
Academy Specialist
Pecan Campus Building A-105
Office: (956) 872-2613 • Fax: (956) 872-2655
jcgonzalez@southtexascollege.edu

Rickey Lee Banda
Academy Specialist
Mid-Valley Campus Building F-125
Office: (956) 447-1236 • Fax: (956) 447-1259
rbanda@southtexascollege.edu

Alejandra Lopez
Academy Specialist
Starr County Campus Building G-1.402-B
Office: (956) 488-5881
glopez10@southtexascollege.edu

EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

Sofía Peña
Director for Early College High Schools
Pecan Campus Building A-137
Office: (956) 872-2303 • Fax: (956) 872-2600
sofia21@southtexascollege.edu

Juan J. Delgado
Secretary for ECHS
Pecan Campus Building A-131
Office: (956) 872-6442 • Fax: (956) 872-2600
jdelgado_0770@southtexascollege.edu

Melinda Zuñiga
Coordinator for Early College High Schools
Pecan Campus Building A-134
Office: (956) 872-2302 • Fax: (956) 872-2600
mzuniga@southtexascollege.edu

Maria E. De Leon
Coordinator for Early College High Schools
Pecan Campus Building A-135
Office: (956) 872-4451 • Fax: (956) 872-2600
medeleon@southtexascollege.edu

Diana Llamas
CTE ECHS Coordinator
Pecan Campus Building A-133
Office: (956) 872-6442 • Fax: (956) 872-3500
dlamas_9096@southtexascollege.edu

Antonio De La Cruz
Coordinator for Early College High Schools
Pecan Campus Building A-139
Office: (956) 872-2148 • Fax: (956) 872-2600
adelacruz_4846@southtexascollege.edu

MCCCTI PROGRAM

Priscilla Hinojosa
Director of MCCCTI Program
Technology Campus W-159
Office: (956) 872-2741
phinojos@southtexascollege.edu

Alejandro Garcia
Training Manager
Technology Campus W-154
Office: (956) 872-6118
aagarcia@southtexascollege.edu

Department Webpage: http://academicaffairs.southtexascollege.edu/highschool/index.html
EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

- BACKGROUND
- DESIGN
- ENROLLMENT & GRADUATES
- COLLABORATIONS
- SUMMER AND FALL BRIDGE ACTIVITIES
- PARTNERSHIPS & MODELS
EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOLS

BACKGROUND

Over the past decade, Jobs for the Future, with the partner organizations of the Early College High School Initiative launched by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in 2002 have started or redesigned over 280 schools serving more than 80,000 students in 30 states (Jobs for the Future, 2014, http://www.jff.org/initiatives/early-college-designs/schools). The chart below shows states that have adopted the ECHS model.

As of 2014, Texas has 108 ECHS. The chart below indicates the growth of Texas ECHS since 2005. ECHS are located across 25 counties in Texas, with the largest concentration being in Hidalgo County (Educate Texas, ECHS in Texas 2004-2014, published in March 24, 2014).
South Texas College ECHS Partnerships

In 2006, South Texas College established its first Early College High School (ECHS) partnership with Progreso ISD. As of today, the number of partnerships has grown to 26. As of the Fall 2014 semester, there are over 10,000 students enrolled in ECHS that have partnered with STC. These students will have the opportunity to become college ready and earn college credits leading to an Associate Degree.
**DESIGN**

Early College High Schools are designed to provide high school students with the opportunity to earn up to 60 hours of college credit and/or an Associate degree as they also earn their high school diploma.

Each ECHS is designed to create a seamless transition between high school and college. By design, ECHS’s are small, innovative high schools that allow students an opportunity to earn a high school diploma and two years of college credit. More importantly, the transition from high school to college is eased by blending high school and college curriculum into a cohesive unit. The success pathway for ECHS is depicted below.

The first success point for ECHS is the students’ graduation rate from high school. National data indicates that 90% of students from ECHS earn a high school diploma, and only 78% from traditional high schools. Students have the opportunity to earn up to 60 credit hours and an associate degree. The trend show that 30% earn associate degree or other credential while still in high school (Jobs for the Future, 2014).

### ECHS Pathway to Success

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>High School Diploma</strong></td>
<td><strong>High School Diploma</strong></td>
<td><strong>High School Diploma</strong></td>
<td><strong>High School Diploma</strong></td>
<td><strong>High School Diploma</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ 12 College Hours</td>
<td>+ 30 College Hours</td>
<td>+ 45 College Hours Core Complete</td>
<td>+ 60 College Hours Associate Degree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Enrollment/Graduates

The following chart represents the enrollment and graduation numbers for 2011 to 2014 Academic Year for Early College High Schools that partner with South Texas College. The first group of students (28) who graduated from ECHS and also earned an associate degree from STC were from Progreso ISD in 2011. The number of ECHS with senior class and number of students who have earned Associate Degree from South Texas College upon graduating from ECHS has increased every year.

College Credit Hours Earned

There were eight ECHS with senior classes during the 2013-2014 academic year. The following chart indicates the number of college credit hours that high school seniors earned while still in high school. For example, 45% of students who received high school diplomas also earned 45 credit hours (core complete). In addition, 97% of all high school graduates from the eight ECHS earned 12 college credit hours.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High School Diploma</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>362</td>
<td>508</td>
<td>755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Degree</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>334</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013-2014 ACADEMIC YEAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12 credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Seniors</td>
<td>764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Diploma</td>
<td>755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Associate Degrees Earned as of August 2014

The most significant success point is when a high school senior can graduate from high school and earn an Associate degree at the same time. Below are the success data of ECHS students who earned a high school diploma and the percentage of them who earned an Associate degree from South Texas College.

During 2013-2014 Academic Year, eight of the ECHS had a senior class. Out of eight ECHS only seven had begun their partnership with STC since 9th grade. The table below indicates that out of 755 students who earned their high school diploma 344 of them also earned an Associate Degree from South Texas College. On average, 44% of the high school students who earned their high school diplomas also earned an Associate degree from STC. The national average for ECHS students earning an Associate degree is 30% (Jobs for the Future, 2013).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Independent School Districts partnership starting with 9th graders</th>
<th>2014 High School Graduates</th>
<th>2014 Associate Degrees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of students who earned High School Diploma</td>
<td>Associate Degrees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Achieve</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jimmy Carter</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hidalgo*</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercedes</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progreso</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSJA North</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSJA T-STEM</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valley View</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>755</strong></td>
<td>**334 **</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*STC became Hidalgo Higher Education Partner in 2011
**Associate Degree Count as of August 2014
COLLABORATIONS

As an institution of higher education (IHE) partner, STC is committed to assisting school districts interested in the early college high school concept with the planning, application process, and other steps essential to building the organizational infrastructure to effectively establish an ECHS. The following are the type of assistance that STC provides its partners:

- Assists with test preparation for college readiness placement
- Increases the awareness of higher education
- Assists with career assessment and planning
- Provides degree plan preparation and course scheduling
- Facilitates college campus access through Summer and Fall Bridge activities
- Assists with the Professional Development of ECHS faculty and staff
- Leads with the implementation of the ECHS learning frameworks model
- Regularly schedules meetings with the ECHS leadership for information exchange, data exchange and problem solving
- Assists with data collection and monitoring of student progress
- Facilitates communication with the relevant regulatory entities and funding support organizations for public education (THECB, TEA, THSP, CFT, JFF)

SUMMER AND FALL BRIDGE ACTIVITIES

In preparation for the rigorous nature of the Early College High School program, incoming 9th grade cohorts participate in Summer and Fall Bridge activities that are structured to get them on the road to being college ready. Summer Bridge programs are one to three weeks in length. The students are introduced to activities that will help them with stress and time management, campus etiquette, study skills, note-taking and test preparation. At the end of the Summer Bridge, program students will take the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) exam and complete a college admissions application to South Texas College. Once the Fall semester begins, students are welcomed to the South Texas College campus where they participate in a traditional Student Orientation complete with a campus tour and presentations from the various organizations and academic departments at the college.
PARTNERSHIPS AND MODELS

As of 2014, STC has 26 Early College High Schools. This chart indicates the year that different models of ECHS were adopted.

South Texas College is proud to partner with fifteen (15) school districts in support of twenty-six (26) Early College High Schools.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>ECHS – MODEL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>School within School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>On a College Campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>T- STEM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Stand Alone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Entire School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>CTE Early College High School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
La Joya ISD (3) ECHS Campuses
- Jimmy Carter Early College High School – Stand Alone Model
- La Joya High Early College High School – Stand Alone Model
- Thelma Salinas STEM Early College High School – Stand Alone Model

McAllen ISD (1) ECHS Campus
- Achieve Early College High School- On a College Campus Model

Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD (6) ECHS Campuses
- PSJA High Early College High School – School within a School Model
- PSJA Memorial Early College High School – School within a School Model
- PSJA North Early College High School – School within School Model
- PSJA Southwest Early College High School – Whole School Model
- Sonia Sotomayor Early College High School- Stand Alone Model
- Thomas Jefferson T-STEM Early College High School – Stand Alone Model

Hidalgo ISD (1) ECHS Campus
- Hidalgo Early College High School – Whole School Model

Valley View ISD (1) ECHS Campus
- Valley View T-STEM Early College High School – School within a School Model

Edinburg CISD (4) ECHS Campuses
- Edinburg Collegiate Preparatory Academy – School within a School Model
- Edinburg Economedes Early College High School – School within a School Model
- Edinburg North Early College High School-School within a School Model
- Robert Vela Early College High School-School within a School Model

Rio Grande City CISD (1) ECHS Campus
- Rio Grande City Early College High School – Stand Alone Model

Sharyland ISD (1) ECHS Campus
- Sharyland Advanced Academic Academy (A3) – Stand Alone Model

La Villa ISD (1) ECHS Campus
- La Villa Early College High School – Whole School Model

Edcouch-Elsa ISD (1) ECHS Campus
- Edcouch-Elsa Early College High School – School within a School Model

Mercedes ISD (1) ECHS Campus
- Mercedes Early College Academy – Stand Alone Model

Progreso ISD (1) ECHS Campus
- Progreso Early College High School – School within a School Model

Mission CISD (2) ECHS Campuses
- Mission Collegiate Early College High School – Stand Alone Model
- Mission CTE Early College High School – Stand Alone Model

Monte Alto ISD (1) ECHS Campus
- Monte Alto Early College High School – Whole School Model

Weslaco ISD (1) ECHS Campus
- Weslaco CTE Early College High School – Stand Alone Model
## ECHS Enrollments 2011-2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ECHS</th>
<th>Created</th>
<th>*Model</th>
<th>9th</th>
<th>10th</th>
<th>11th</th>
<th>12th</th>
<th>Enrollments</th>
<th>Graduates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Progreso</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Mercedes</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Valley View</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. PSJA - North</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>669</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. La Joya - Jimmy Carter</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>498</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. PSJA - Southwest</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>497</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>1867</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Edinburg</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>445</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Economedes</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. PSJA - Memorial</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>525</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Mission Collegiate</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>510</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. La Joya - STEM</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>495</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. La Villa</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>595</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Rio Grande City ECHS</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Sharyland A3 ECHS</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Monte Alto ECHS</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Edcouch-Elsa ECHS</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>127</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Edinburg North ECHS</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Robert Vela ECHS</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. PSJA High ECHS</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. La Joya High ECHS</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. Sonia Sotomayor ECHS</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. Mission CTE ECHS</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26. Weslaco CTE ECHS</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>130</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total 3,745 2,238 2,152 2,097 10,232 28 201 242 334

* Models: 1=School within a School  2=On a College Campus  3=Stand Alone  4=Whole School

## ECHS Graduates with Associate Degrees 2011-2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>ECHS Partnership</th>
<th>High School Graduates</th>
<th>Associate Degree</th>
<th>Percentage HS Graduates with Associate Degrees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>362</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013*</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>508</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014*</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>755</td>
<td>334</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Beginning 2013-2014, the percentage of High School graduates who earn Associate Degree was impacted by addition of several whole-school ECHS.