

Board of Trustees

Education and Workforce Development Committee Meeting

Tuesday, November 11, 2025 3:00 p.m.

Ann Richards Administration Building
Board Room
Pecan Campus
McAllen, Texas

South Texas College Board of Trustees

Education and Workforce Development Committee Ann Richards Administration Building Board Room Pecan Campus, McAllen, Texas Tuesday, November 11, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m.

AGENDA

"At anytime during the course of this meeting, the Board of Trustees may retire to Executive Session under Texas Government Code 551.071(2) to confer with its legal counsel on any subject matter on this agenda in which the duty of the attorney to the Board of Trustees under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code. Further, at anytime during the course of this meeting, the Board of Trustees may retire to Executive Session to deliberate on any subject slated for discussion at this meeting, as may be permitted under one or more of the exceptions to the Open Meetings Act set forth in Title 5, Subtitle A, Chapter 551, Subchapter D of the Texas Government Code."

I.	Approval of Minutes for the Tuesday, October 14, 2025 Committee Meeting 2 - 8
II.	Presentation on the South Texas College Child Development Center9
III.	Presentation on the South Texas College and Edcouch-Elsa ISD Partnership for Non-Credit Programming
V.	Presentation on Adult Learner Enrollment Efforts and JagReconnect Program 11 - 17
V.	Review and Recommend Action as Necessary to Offer the Proposed Artificial Intelligence Associate of Applied Science Degree and Certificate Credentials in Fall 2026

Education and Workforce Development Motions November 11, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m. Page 1, Revised 11/06/2025 @ 8:58 AM

Approval of Minutes for the Tuesday, October 14, 2025 Committee Meeting

The Minutes for the Education and Workforce Development Committee meeting of Tuesday, October 14, 2025 are presented for Committee approval.

Education and Workforce Development Minutes October 14, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m. Page 1, Revised 11/04/2025 @ 11:21 AM

South Texas College Board of Trustees

Education and Workforce Development Committee Ann Richards Administration Building A-142 Conference Room Pecan Campus, McAllen, Texas October 14, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m.

Minutes

The Education and Workforce Development Committee Meeting was held on Tuesday, October 14, 2025 in the Ann Richards Administration Building Board Room at the Pecan Campus in McAllen, Texas. The meeting commenced at 3:01 p.m. with Ms. Victoria Cantu presiding.

Members present: Ms. Dalinda Gonzalez-Alcantar via teleconference.

Other Trustees Present: Dr. Alejo Salinas, Jr. Mr. Paul Rodriguez, and Mr. Danny Guzman.

Members absent: Mr. David De Los Rios

Also present: Dr. Ricardo J. Solis, Dr. Jesus Camos, Dr. Anahid Petrosian, Dr. Brett Millan, Mr. Javier Villalobos, Ms. Lisa Aleman, Dr. Margo Vargas Ayala, Ms. Gardenia Perez, Mr. Andrew Fish, Dr. Rebecca De Leon, Mr. Tony Matamoros, Dr. Matt Hebbard, Ms. Melissa Pena, Mr. Jose Vela, Ms. Christina Cavazos, Ms. Lynda Lopez, Ms. Shannon Perales, Ms. Monica Benitez, Ms. Alejandra Cantu, Dr. Ali Esmaeilli, Mr. Nick Hinojosa, Ms. Janice Lopez, Ms. Angelita Teniente, Mr. Robert Barrera, Ms. Cristina Santos, and Ms. Venisa Earhart.

Approval of April 8, 2025 and June 10, 2025 Education and Workforce Development Committee Minutes

The Minutes for the Education and Workforce Development Committee Meetings of April 8, 2025 and June 10, 2025 were presented for Committee approval.

Ms. Victoria Cantu called for any corrections to the Minutes as written. Hearing no corrections, Ms. Victoria Cantu adopted the Minutes for the April 8, 2025 and June 10, 2025 Committee Meetings as presented.

Education and Workforce Development Minutes
October 14, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m.

Page 2, Revised 11/04/2025 @ 11:21 AM

Presentation on Valley Promise Update

Purpose

Dr. Matthew Hebbard, Vice President for Student Affairs & Enrollment Management and Melissa Peña-Montes, Director of Promise & Enrollment Management will present an update on Valley Promise.

Justification

The Valley Promise initiative continues to advance regional efforts to expand college access and strengthen student pathways from high school to higher education. The Fall 2025 cohort includes over **2,800 student pledges**, representing strong participation from partner school districts across Hidalgo and Starr counties.

Through enhanced outreach, coordinated advising, and financial support, the Valley Promise is helping students transition more smoothly into college and persist toward completion. The recently launched **Promise Dashboard** now provides schools and college staff with real-time data to monitor student progress and improve collaboration across the region.

Enclosed Documents

PowerPoint presentation.

Funding

No funds are required.

Staff Resource

Dr. Matthew Hebbard, Vice President for Student Affairs & Enrollment Management and Melissa Peña-Montes, Director of Promise & Enrollment Management

Recommendation

No action was necessary on this item.

Presentation on The Power of Partnerships: Expanding Opportunities through Dual Credit Programs

Purpose

Dr. Rebecca De Leon. Associate Vice President for Dual Credit Programs and School District Partnerships, will present a strategic update on the College's Dual Credit Programs. The presentation will highlight program growth, and the ongoing efforts to strengthen partnerships with school districts, enhance instructional quality, and support student success.

Justification

South Texas College continues to lead in expanding college access through its Dual Credit Programs, which has served 150,000 students across Hidalgo and Starr counties. Our tuition waived courses provide early pathways to higher education and over the past twenty-six years have opened doors for students to earn a college credential while in high school.

Dr. Rebecca De Leon will present an overview of the program's growth, student success, and ongoing quality improvement. The College's dual credit efforts have earned state and national recognition, reinforcing its role as a model for educational partnerships.

Funding

The College is not expected to incur unrecouped costs.

Staff Resources

Dr. Rebecca De Leon. Associate Vice President for Dual Credit

Programs & School District Partnerships

Recommendation No action was necessary on this item.

Review and Recommend Action as Necessary to Offer the Proposed Dental Hygiene Associate of Applied Science Degree Program in Fall 2026

Purpose Administration seeks a committee recommendation for Board

approval to finalize and offer the Dental Hygiene Associate of

Applied Science program in Fall 2026.

Justification Administration has undertaken an extensive review of the

proposed new program, including determination of occupational need, student demand, and a survey of competing programs in

our service area.

This high-demand program will prepare graduates for licensure and a career as a dental hygienist. This will be a competitive-entry

program, following a point-based process for each cohort.

The Credential Development Proposal outlining the program need, enrollment management plan, curriculum & course descriptions, program learning outcomes, and budget projections

are available upon request.

Enclosed Documents

The Credential Development Proposal is available upon request.

Funding Given the initial and ongoing operating expenses associated with

this type of program, the College does not expect this program to generate net positive revenue for the first five years; however, its operating costs will be sustained through revenues from other

programs.

Start-up equipment costs have been supported through a

\$1,000,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Labor.

Staff Resources Ms. Christina Cavazos, Associate Dean for Curriculum, Planning

& Compliance

Ms. Janis Lopez, Dental Hygiene Faculty

Upon a motion by Ms. Victoria Cantu and a second by Ms. Dalinda Gonzalez-Alcantar the Committee recommended Board approval to finalize and offer the Dental Hygiene Associate of Applied Science program in Fall 2026 as presented.

The motion carried.

Review and Recommend Action as Necessary to Offer the Proposed Information Systems Associate of Applied Science Degree in Spring 2026

Purpose

Administration seeks a committee recommendation for Board approval to finalize and offer the Information Systems Associate of Applied Science degree in Spring 2026.

Justification

Administration has undertaken an extensive review of the proposed new degree, including determination of occupational need, student demand, and a survey of competing programs in our service area.

This program will provide students with a robust foundation in the principles and practices of modern information technology, opening career and educational pathways including:

- Web and Digital Interface Designer
- Computer User Support Specialist
- Computer Systems Analyst
- Matriculation into the Bachelors of Applied Technology in Computer Information Technologies Program

The Credential Development Proposal outlining the program need, enrollment management plan, curriculum & course descriptions, program learning outcomes, and budget projections are available upon request.

Enclosed Documents

The Credential Development Proposal is available upon request.

Funding

The College anticipates that this degree will begin generating positive net revenue by its second year of operation.

Staff Resources

Ms. Christina Cavazos, Associate Dean for Curriculum, Planning & Compliance

Ms. Angelita Teniente, Chair – Information Technology

Recommendation

The Committee recommends Board approval to finalize and offer the Information Systems Associate of Applied Science degree in Spring 2026.

Upon a motion by Ms. Victoria Cantu and a second by Ms. Dalinda Gonzalez-Alcantar the Committee recommended Board approval to finalize and offer the Information Systems Associate of Applied Science degree in Spring 2026 as presented.

The motion carried.

Education and Workforce Development Minutes October 14, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m. Page 6, Revised 11/04/2025 @ 11:21 AM

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the Education and Workforce Development Committee Meeting of the South Texas College Board of Trustees adjourned at 4:26 p.m.

I certify that the foregoing are the true and correct Minutes of the October 14, 2025 Education and Workforce Development Committee Meeting of the South Texas College Board of Trustees.

Mrs. Victoria Cantu, Presiding

Presentation on the South Texas College Child Development Center

Purpose

At the October 28, 2025 Regular Board Meeting, Trustee Victoria Cantu had a number of questions about the operation of the South Texas College Mid-Valley Campus Child Development Center (CDC).

This presentation is provided to address those questions and foster further discussion.

Justification

The Child Development Center (CDC) was established in 2007 through federal CCAMPIS grant funding to serve as a teaching laboratory for students in the Child Development and Early Childhood programs and provide child care services to eligible student parents. Since 2008, the CDC has maintained a 4-star quality rating from Workforce Solutions and, since 2010, National Accreditation through the National Accreditation Commission for Early Care and Education Programs.

Ms. Veronica Rodriguez, Program Chair for Child Development and Early Childhood, will provide an overview of the CDC's current capacity and enrollment, its historical reliance on federal and state grant support, and its established tuition and fee structure. She will also discuss considerations and recommendations for future operations.

Staff Resources

Ms. Veronica Rodriguez, Program Chair for Child Development and Early Childhood

Recommendation

This item is presented for the Trustees' information, and no formal action is requested.

Presentation on the South Texas College and Edcouch-Elsa ISD Partnership for Non-Credit Programming

Purpose

At the October 28, 2025 Regular Board Meeting, the Board of Trustees approved an interlocal agreement supporting educational programming in Edcouch-Elsa ISD (EEISD).

This presentation will provide an update on the activities related to that partnership.

Justification

On November 4, 2025, STC administration gathered to discuss the partnership opportunities supported by the interlocal agreement with EEISD.

With EEISD Board President Juan Jose Ybarra joining by teleconference, administration outlined the steps to properly prepare for, promote, and operate programming that would benefit the communities of EEISD.

Mr. Ybarra identified a leadership team from EEISD who will be point of contact to help ensure the facilities are prepared as needed for the courses to be offered. He also suggested reviewing the proposed timeline of activities to support proper planning.

STC will meet with EEISD's leadership team to identify space needs and support required from EEISD to promote these noncredit programs to the communities.

STC will work to launch grant-funded courses, including ESL, ESL/Bus Driving, ESL/Forklift, and CPR programs by Spring 2026 as long as facilities and equipment are available.

Longer-term goals include offering Construction Technician, Certified Customs Specialist, OSHA 10 and 30, Phlebotomy, and EKG certificate programs. These may be offered by Fall 2026 if facilities and equipment are ready.

Staff Resources

Ms. Olivia De La Rosa, Dean for Continuing Education and Workforce Development

Recommendation

This item is presented for the Trustees' information, and no formal action is requested.

Education and Workforce Development Motions November 11, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m. Page 4, Revised 11/06/2025 @ 8:58 AM

Presentation on Adult Learner Enrollment Efforts and JagReconnect Program

Purpose Mr. Matamoros, Dean of Enrollment Services, will provide an update

on strategic enrollment initiatives focused on adult learners who have completed some college coursework but have not earned a credential (stop-outs). The presentation will also include an

overview of the JagReconnect Program.

Justification This presentation will outline current strategies aimed at re-engaging

adult learners and increasing enrollment among students with prior college experience but no degree. Mr. Matamoros will highlight the successful launch and first-year outcomes of the JagReconnect Program in Fall 2025, along with ongoing efforts to support this

population.

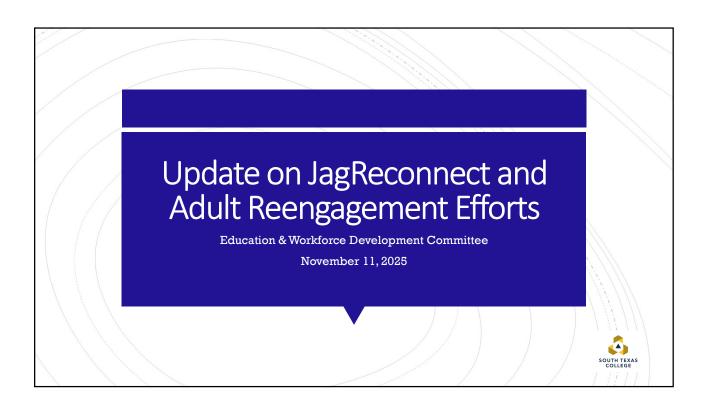
Enclosed Documents

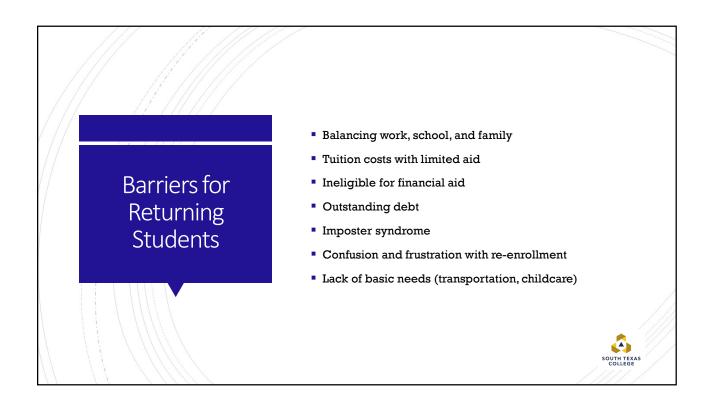
PowerPoint presentation.

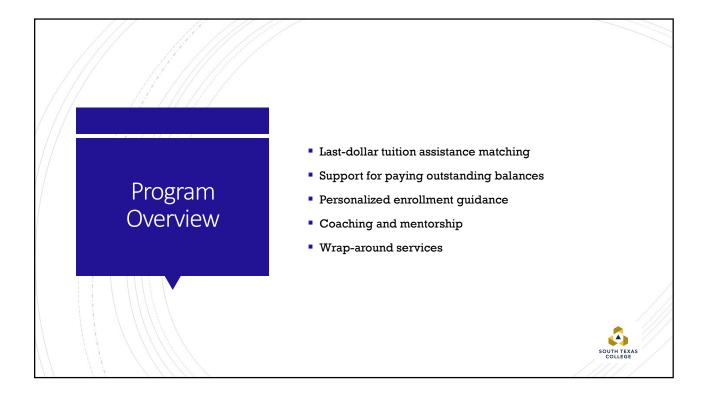
Funding No funds are required.

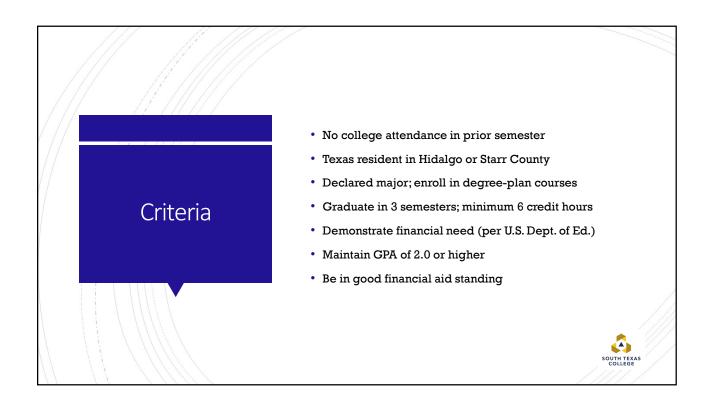
Staff Resource Tony Matamoros, Dean of Enrollment Services.

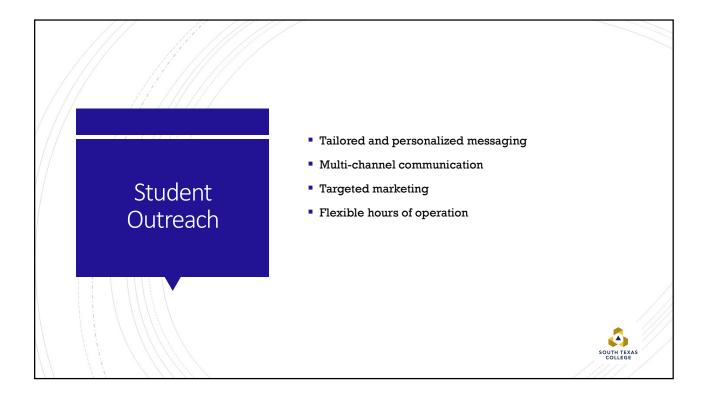
Recommendation No action is necessary on this item.

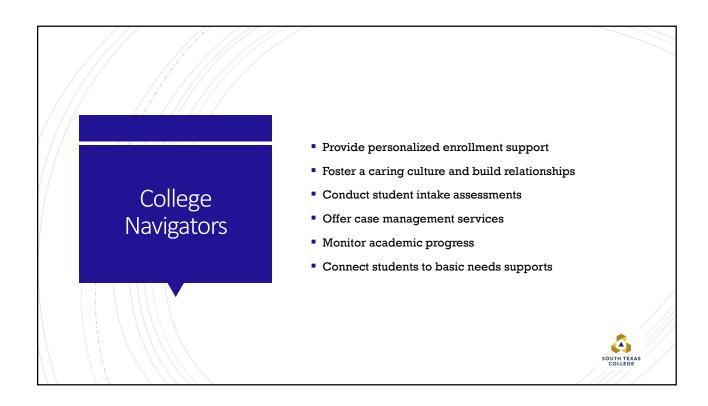


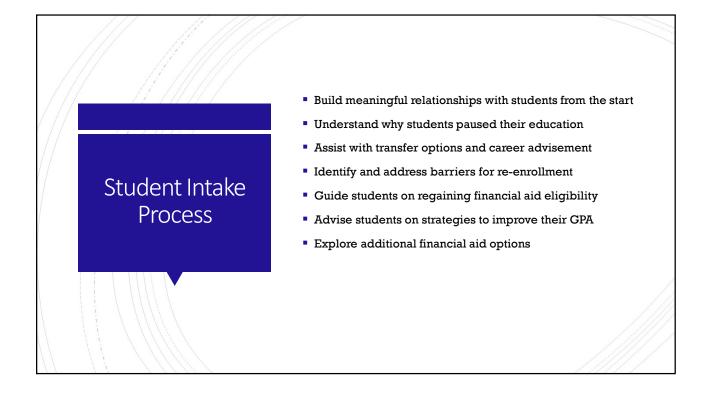


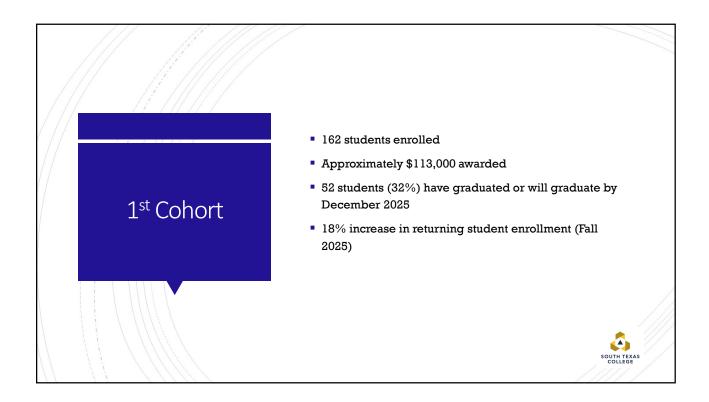


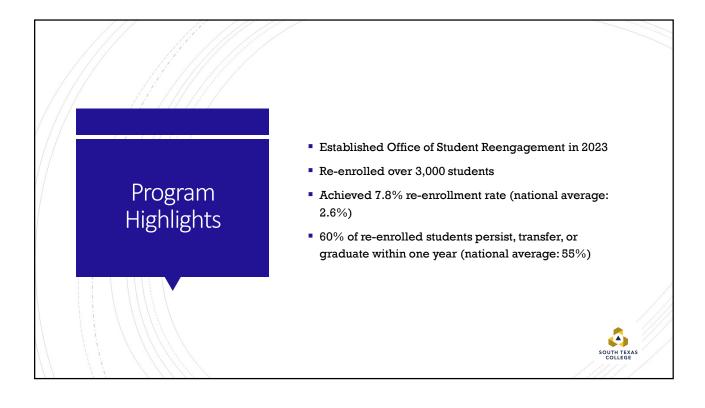
















Review and Recommend Action as Necessary to Offer the Proposed Artificial Intelligence Associate of Applied Science Degree and Certificate Credentials in Fall 2026

Purpose Administration seeks a committee recommendation for Board

approval to finalize and offer the Artificial Intelligence Associate of

Applied Science and Certificate credentials in Fall 2026.

Justification Administration has undertaken an extensive review of the

proposed new programs, including determination of occupational need, student demand, and a survey of competing programs in

our service area.

The Artificial Intelligence pathway at South Texas College consists of a 32 semester credit hour certificate that builds into a 60 semester credit hour Associate of Applied Science degree. This pathway will prepare students for employment in fields such as Junior Data Analyst, Al Research Assistant, Junior Software

Engineer or Al Customer Support Specialist.

Market data shows increasing demand and job opportunities in

this field, at competitive salaries.

Enclosed Documents

The Credential Development Proposal is available upon request.

FundingBudget projections anticipate the program reaching positive net

revenue by year three, as our students begin earning the two-year degree and the associated performance-based funding

mechanisms take effect.

Staff Resources Dr. Brett Millan, Associate Vice President for Academic Success

and Advancement

Mr. Francisco Salinas, Assistant Professor of Cybersecurity

Recommendation The Committee recommends Board approval to finalize and offer

the Artificial Intelligence Associate of Applied Science and

Certificate credentials in Fall 2026.



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE & CERTIFICATE

Presenters:

Dr. Brett Millan, Associate Vice President for Academic Success and Advancement Francisco Salinas, Department Chair, Cybersecurity







Outline



- Program Objective
- Approval Process
- Occupational Need
- Educational Pathways
- Projected Outcomes & Funding
- Advisory Committee Membership
- Proposed Curriculum

1

Program Objective



The Artificial Intelligence program will:

- Provides students with foundational knowledge and skills in the field of AI.
- Offers a comprehensive introduction to the principles, concepts, and techniques of artificial intelligence; Understanding the history, development, and current applications of Al.
- Students will have the opportunity to earn various industry certifications related to AI while enrolled in the program.
 Students will engage in practical projects, which can include developing AI models, working with real-world data sets, and building AI applications.



APPROVAL/REVIEW PROCESS - THECB Planning Notification (if applicable) - Advisory Committee - Division Curriculum Committee - College-Wide Curriculum Committee - SACSCOC Liaison Review - Academic Council - Institutional Leadership Council - Education and Workforce Development Committee - STC Board of Trustees (Certification Form) - Texas Higher Education - Department of Education - Specific Program Accreditation or Licensing Agencies (if applicable) - Southern Association of Colleges and Schools – Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)

Program Development Checklist



Program Demand and Projected Outcomes must be documented prior to the development of any new workforce or academic program.

The following categories serve as an **initial guide** for program developers to start the development process.

Program Demand

- Occupational Need
- Student Demand
- Existing Programs
- Educational Pathways

Projected Outcomes

- Declared Majors
- Number of Graduates

Occupational Need



Occupational Growth	region** is projected to be 52.3 % between 2025 to 2035. Occupational growth for the state of Texas is projected to be 41.65 %.
Number of New Jobs	In Texas , approximately 73,712 new jobs in this field * are expected between 2025 to 2035. In the region , approximately 610 jobs are expected.
Pay Level	In the South Texas region, the projected median pay level for professionals in this field* is \$45.69 an hour. The U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics reports a median hourly wage of \$54.13 for Data Scientists, a median hourly wage of \$63.91 for Software Developers, a median hourly wage of \$67.74 for Computer and Information Research Scientists, and a median hourly wage of \$60.05 for Information Security Analysts.

* Lightcast™ and Bureau of Labor Statistics reports reference the following groups: Data Scientists, Software Developers, Computer and Information Research Scientists, and Information Security Analysts.

21

Occupational growth in this field* for the South Texas

(

Student Demand



Student demand exists and is documented through student survey data collected by the South Texas College Research & Analytical Services department.

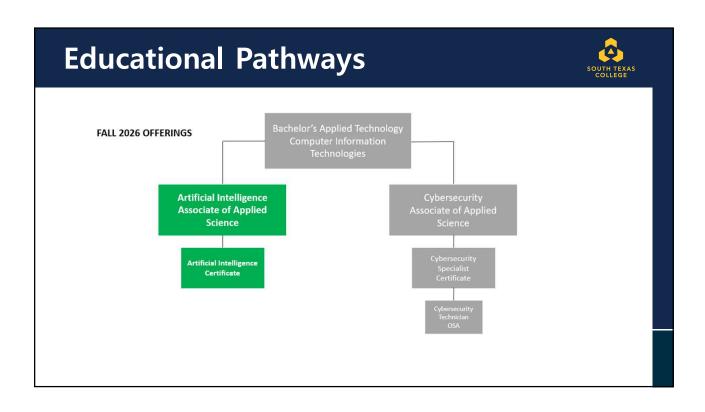
Student survey administered to 10,000 students:

- 33% preferred this program to their current major
- 75% felt it sounded like a good-paying job
- 54% felt it sounded like a job that would make their family proud
- 35% felt it sounded like the kind of job that employers are hiring for in the Rio Grande Valley

Existing Programs



- Houston City College: approximately 348 miles from McAllen
 - Associate of Applied Science in Artificial Intelligence
- Alamo Colleges-Northeast Lakeview/San Antonio College: approximately 239 miles from McAllen
 - Associate of Applied Science in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence
- Lone Star College: approximately 340 miles from McAllen
 - Associate of Applied Science and a level-two certificate in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning.





Projected Enrollment



Projected Declared New Majors Associate of Applied Science and Certificate— Artificial Intelligence

Years	AY2027	AY2028	AY2029	AY2030	AY2031
	10	12	14	16	20

Projected Number of Graduates

Years	AY2027	AY2028	AY2029	AY2030	AY2031
Certificate	3	7	9	10	12
AAS	0	4	6	6	6

Performance-Based Funding (HB8)



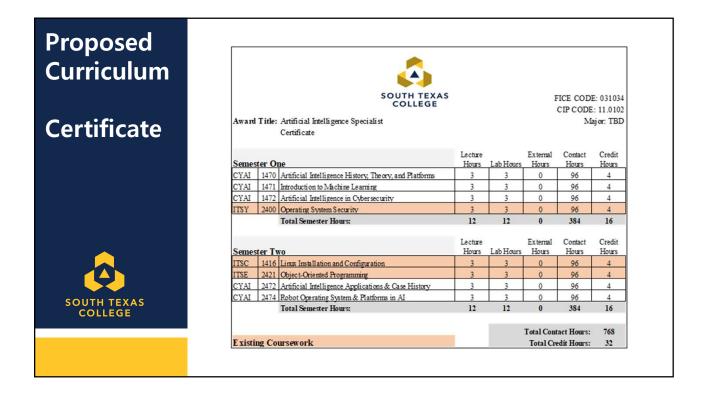
The projected funding for the **Artificial Intelligence AAS and Artificial Intelligence Specialist Certificate** based on projected number of graduates:

State Appropriations	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
No. of Unduplicated Certificate Graduates per year	3	7	9	10	12	
No. of Unduplicated Associate Graduates per year	0	4	6	6	6	
Level 1 Certificate @ \$1,750 per student	\$5,250	\$12,250	\$15,750	\$17,500	\$21,000	
Associate @ \$3,500 per student	-	\$14,000	\$21,000	\$21,000	\$21,000	
Total Funding Reimbursement	\$5,250	\$5,250	\$26,250	\$36,750	\$38,500	\$112,000

24

6





Proposed Curriculum
Associate of Applied Science
SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE

		A.					
		SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE			1	FICE CODE	E: 031034
		COLLEGE				CIP CODE	: 11.0102
Awan	Title	: Artificial Intelligence Specialist Associate of Applied Science				Ma	ajor: TBD
		****	Lecture		External	Contact	Credit
	ster C			Lab Hours		Hours	Hours
CYAI		Artificial Intelligence History, Theory, and Platforms	3	3	0	96	4
CYAI		Introduction to Machine Learning	3	3	0	96	4
CYAI		Artificial Intelligence in Cyber security	3	3	0	96	4
ITSY	2400	Operating System Security	3	3	0	96	4
		Total Semester Hours:	12	12	0	384	16
			Lecture		External	Contact	Credit
	ster T		_	Lab Hours		Hours	Hours
ITSC		Limx Installation and Configuration	3	3	0	96	4
TSE		Object-Oriented Programming	3	3	0	96	4
CYAI		Artificial Intelligence Applications & Case History	3	3	0	96	4
CYAI	2474	Robot Operating System & Platforms in AI	3	3	0	96	4
		Total Semester Hours:	12	12	0	384	16
			Lective		External	Contact	Credit
Seme	ster T	hree		Lab Hours		Hours	Hours
PHIL	2306	Introduction to Ethics	3	0	0	48	3
SPCH		Interpersonal Communications	3	0	0	48	3
		Social and Behavioral Sciences Elective	3	0	0	48	3
CYAI	2477	Data Science in Artificial Intelligence	3	3	0	96	4
CYAI		Deep Learning in Artificial Intelligence	3	3	0	96	4
	-	Total Semester Hours:	15	6	0	336	17
					525 95	120	727 0
Seme	ster F	our	Lecture	Lab Hours	External Hours	Contact Hours	Credit
		Composition	3	0	0	48	3
		Contemporary Mathematics or MATH 1414	3	i	0	64	3
		Natural Language Processing	3	3	0	96	4
		Practicum-Artificial Intelligence	0	0	10	160	1
CIM	1.41/	Total Semester Hours:	9	4	10	368	11
vist	ing Ci				Total Con	tact Hours:	1472
Existing Coursework					And the second second	(C) (C) (C)	

