



## 2025 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Philanthropy Advocates brings together almost 60 private, community and corporate foundations working across Texas to improve outcomes for Texas students by amplifying and engaging the philanthropic sector in complex policy and advocacy efforts.

We believe every Texas student should have effective educational opportunities from early learning to career and that grantmakers have a role to play in advancing education policy.

**In 2025, we recommend that the Texas Legislature ensure every student has access to the following:**

### **Early childhood education settings that lead to foundational early reading and math success**

1. Increase access to high-quality Pre-K classrooms across multiple settings. To achieve this:
  - a. Adjust the Early Education Allotment (EEA) so Pre-K 3 & 4 students generate the funding weight.
  - b. Innovate with regional coordination and technical assistance strategies for Pre-K Partnerships.
  - c. Pilot competitive childcare grant program to target regional supply needs.
2. Codify the Early Childhood Integrated Data System to empower leaders to make systems-wide data-driven decisions where insights are currently siloed across 4+ state agencies.

### **Effective educators who are prepared, supported and fairly compensated**

1. Increase access to high-quality educator preparation options for aspiring teachers, and expand training/support for teacher mentorship of novice teachers.
2. Prioritize strategies to address short-term staffing challenges without sacrificing strong educator preparation and certification standards.
3. Support teachers through multiple opportunities to improve preparation, compensation and benefits packages, and additional efforts aimed to recruit and retain effective educators.

### **Capacity to pursue and complete postsecondary opportunities that lead to family-sustaining wages and economic mobility**

1. Expand access to strategies that increase student attainment of postsecondary credentials of value.
2. Support conditions for student credential completion (access to services in childcare, transportation, mental health, etc.).
3. Strengthen data infrastructure and transparency for improved alignment and efficiency across education and workforce systems.
4. Ensure education accountability and financial incentives reward rigorous high school preparation that ensure students can achieve credit-bearing coursework in any postsecondary option they choose.

### **Equitably resourced, effective education systems (from early childhood through postsecondary)**

1. Invest in students and teachers through increases in the Basic Allotment and strategic weights in current law. Reach targeted populations and expand impact by: increasing the Teacher Incentive Allotment (TIA), Teacher Mentor Allotment and Compensatory Education Allotment, adjusting the Early Education Allotment to Pre-K 3 & 4 students, and creating the Teacher Residency Allotment.
2. Continue progress made possible by HB 8 (community college finance, 88R), invest in programs such as FAST, R-PEP, P-TECH, etc., and increase incentives for completion of postsecondary credentials tied to family-sustaining wage outcomes.