



Philanthropy
ADVOCATES



90TH TEXAS LEGISLATURE

2027 Policy Priorities



Early Childhood
Education



Postsecondary
Education



Effective Educators



Education Finance

Early Childhood Education.



We aim to ensure our youngest learners have a strong start through early childhood education that builds core reading and math skills by third grade. That success is driven by a strong ecosystem of childcare, Pre-K, and the early grades working together, not a single program.

- 1.1 Create coherent governance for Texas's early childhood education system. Ensure Texas has clear goals, effective data infrastructure, and consistent quality standards where public dollars are deployed for our youngest Texans.
- 1.2 Increase access to high-quality Pre-K classrooms across multiple settings.
- 1.3 Build on the Early Childhood Integrated Data System (ECIDS) to better track participation, quality, and child outcomes across early childhood education settings.
- 1.4 Support early literacy and numeracy policy efforts, including investments, interventions, and supports, to increase the number of students reading and doing math on grade level by 3rd grade.

Postsecondary



We aim to ensure every student has the opportunity to pursue and complete college and career training that leads to a good job and economic mobility. That opportunity is built across a connected system that starts well before high school graduation and runs through postsecondary credential completion.

- 2.1 Support efforts to expand access to high-value credentials, work-based learning, and career-connected education in high school and community college settings.
- 2.2 Reduce barriers that prevent students from enrolling, persisting, and completing postsecondary programs, including through financial aid, transfer supports, and advising.
- 2.3 Strengthen alignment between secondary, postsecondary, and workforce systems, and continue improving longitudinal data, to ensure credentials lead to family-sustaining wages and provide clear evidence of student outcomes and return on investments.
- 2.4 Support efforts to increase readiness of Texas middle school students to access advanced coursework in high school and participate in high-quality career exploration opportunities.

Effective Educators



We aim to ensure every student is taught by effective educators who are well-prepared, supported, and compensated. Years of Texas-based data illustrate that students learn better and educators stay in the classroom when these three levers are prioritized.

3.1 Maintain investments made in HB 2 (89R) that expanded high-quality educator preparation pathways, strengthened supports for current teachers, and increased teacher compensation.

3.2 Accelerate efforts to retain effective and experienced teachers.

3.3 Support efforts to increase support, training, and compensation for principals.

Education Finance



We aim to ensure every student has access to effective, well-resourced schools from early childhood through college. Texas maximizes student and educator potential at every stage, with strong school finance as the foundation and evidence-driven investments built on top.

4.1 Support efforts to shift four-year university funding toward outcome-based models that strengthen accountability for student persistence and credential attainment.

4.2 Defend and sustain investments made in community college performance-based funding, FAST, R-PEP, P-TECH, and ECHS, and increase incentives for attainment of postsecondary credentials of value.

4.3 Maintain and build on investments in students and teachers through increases in the Basic Allotment, Allotment for Basic Costs, and other strategic weights in current law, including the investments established in HB 2 (89R).

Who we are

Philanthropy Advocates is a membership organization of nearly 60 Texas foundations that are deeply invested in student success in rural, urban, and suburban communities across the state. We work with diverse communities and policymakers to grow innovative, evidence-based practices that improve learning and economic mobility. Together we advocate for policies that give all Texas students a high-quality education, equipping them to pursue their dreams and **enjoy lifelong economic mobility**.

What We Believe

We believe that every Texas student should have a great education, from their earliest years to their dream job. Grantmakers are essential to getting there – using their resources and expertise to help shape education systems that live up to that belief.

We aim to ensure every student has:



A strong start through **early childhood education** that builds core reading and math skills.



The opportunity to pursue and complete **college and career training** that leads to a good job and economic mobility



Effective educators who are well-prepared, supported, and compensated.



Access to effective, **well-resourced schools** from early childhood through college.

Our Team



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