



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING
APRIL 16, 2026

ITEMS OF INTEREST

- Rule/Statutory Implementation & Focus
- High Points Of The Last THECB Quarterly Meeting
- Higher Education & Current Political Environment
- Legislative Appropriations Request
- Houston Navy Fleet Week

RULE/STATUTORY IMPLEMENTATION

Topic	Rule Language (Hyperlinked)
Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 2, Subchapter A, §2.3 and §2.5: Requires institutions of higher education to develop competency-based baccalaureate degree programs: defines competency-based baccalaureate degree program and establishes general criteria for program approval	<u>Title 19, Part 1, Ch. 2, Subchapter A</u>
§2.41. Planning Notification: Notice of Intent to Plan: Establishes planning process for new degree programs	<u>2.41 Planning Notification</u>
§2.118. Criteria for New Competency-Based Baccalaureate Degrees.: Establishes criteria for new competency-based programs and directs each system, i.e., Texas Southern University as well, to have at least one campus offer a competency-based baccalaureate degree program. Tx Education Code 61.003(10): “University system” means the association of one or more public senior colleges or universities, medical or dental units, or other agencies of higher education under the policy direction of a single governing board. Definition of System: TEC 60.003(10); This rule applies to each system beginning with the 2026 - 2027 academic year. A system that does not currently offer a competency-based degree in a high-demand field as set out in this section shall submit a planning notification for approval of a program not later than July 1, 2026.	<u>§2.118. Criteria for New Competency-Based Baccalaureate Degrees; Tx Education Code 61.003(10)</u>
§2.119. Post-Approval Program Reviews.	<u>§2.119. Post-Approval Program Reviews.</u>
§2.120: Revisions to Approved Baccalaureate or Master’s Degree Programs.	<u>2.120: Revisions to Approved Baccalaureate or Master’s Degree Programs.</u>

RULE/STATUTORY IMPLEMENTATION

Topic	Rule Language (Hyperlinked)
<p>§2.121: Phasing Out a Master’s or Baccalaureate Degree Program.</p>	<p><u>§2.121. Phasing Out a Master’s or Baccalaureate Degree Program; Subchapter H</u></p>
<p>Approval Process and Criteria for Off-Campus Education at Public Universities and Health-Related Institutions. Sections 2.380, 2.381, 2.384, and 2.387</p>	<p><u>Subchapter P</u></p>
<p>The THECB adopts new rules in Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 2, Subchapter Q, §§2.411 - 2.413, Requirements for Study Abroad Foreign Language Credit. §2.411.</p>	<p><u>Subchapter Q</u></p>
<p>Subchapter b. Vaccination against bacterial meningitis for entering students 19 tac §§3.40 - 3.43 3.40.</p>	<p><u>Subchapter B</u></p>
<p>Section 4.25, Requirements and Limitations, outlines how institutions transfer: adds a requirement that each institution of higher education include on the institution’s website the minimum requirements to be accepted as a transfer student to the institution; Section 4.28, Core Curriculum, adds new Subsection (4) setting out the requirements of the Board-recommended core curriculum and requiring each institution’s governing board to ensure compliance; Section 4.30, Institutional Assessment and Reporting, title is amended to Core Curriculum Review. This section outlines the responsibilities of institutional governing boards to complete the review of general education courses as required by Texas Education Code Section 51.315, enacted by <u>SB 37, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session</u>. The section requires that each governing board complete the initial review in 2026 and provide initial certification to the Coordinating Board no later than January 1, 2027.</p>	<p><u>Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter B</u></p>

RULE/STATUTORY IMPLEMENTATION

Topic	Rule Language (Hyperlinked)
19 TAC §4.40: The THECB adopts new rules in Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter B, §4.40: Transfer Liaison Requirements and Duties.	<u>19 TAC §4.40</u>
New rules in Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter J, Section 4.193, concerning Accreditation Status Notification Requirements. This new section requires an institution to notify the Coordinating Board of changes in its accreditation status.	<u>Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter J, Section 4.193</u>
The Texas Historical Commission proposes amendments to §13.1 and §13.2 of Title 13, Part 2, Chapter 13 of the Texas Administrative Code (relating to the Texas Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program). These changes address the addition of public institutions of higher education as eligible recipients under certain circumstances.	<u>§13.1</u> ; and <u>§13.2</u>
The adopted rules implement Senate Bill (SB) 2371, 89th Legislature, Regular Session (2025), which requires merchants to report skimmers on electronic terminals to law enforcement and the Financial Crimes Intelligence Center (FCIC). This legislation and adopted rules are applicable to institutions of higher education [Sec.A607A.001.DEFINITIONS. (5)].	<u>Title 16, Part 4 Chapter 63, 63.1; 63.2; 63.3; 63.4; 63.5</u>

HIGH POINTS OF THE LAST THECB QUARTERLY MEETING (HyperLinked)

BUILDING A TALENT STRONG TEXAS

Texas Talent Trajectory (T3) – Leveraging data to gain insights for educational pathways from 8th grade to higher education in Texas

Transfer Initiatives – Statewide transfer students lag behind their non-transfer peers in the percentage graduating in 4 years after achieving junior status

HIGHER EDUCATION & CURRENT FISCAL/POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

- Current year: Feb 26 vs. Last year Feb '25 (Hyperlinked)

- Overall General Revenue State Tax Collections: +3.15%
- Sales Tax is our largest revenue stream: +4.5%
- Oil Production (-14.23%)
- Cigarette and Tobacco (-11.03%)
- Natural Gas (+1.21%)
- Franchise Tax (76.84%) revenues are down – BIG TIME!!!

“Texas continues to show steady economic momentum,” Hancock said.

“Sales tax remains the backbone of our state budget, and these numbers reflect a resilient Texas economy that continues to outpace inflation and support responsible, conservative budgeting.”

– Acting Comptroller Hancock

HIGHER EDUCATION & CURRENT FISCAL/POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

UT-Tyler Poll (Pre-Primary Feb '26)

Top 3 Issues

Economy (inflation) -28%

Securing the border – 12%

K-12 Education – 11%

Higher Education – 3% (2nd Lowest)

UT-Austin/(Pre-Primary Feb '26)

Top 3 Problems Facing the Country/State

Political corruption –19%

Leadership –14%

Inflation – 14%/

Higher prices – 13%

The economy – 12%/Immigration – 10%

Education – 1%/ 3%

207 days until first day of pre-filing: Nov. 9, 2026

271 days until first Day of Session: Jan. 12, 2027

Takeaway: Although higher education is not a “top” issue among voters, the Legislature still has a responsibility to govern these public institutions. Therefore, it is likely that discussions about higher education will occur in the prism of issues such as affordability, e.g.

LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Capital Request: Law School rebuild
- Similar to the increase in the pharmacy non-formula support item, there are a few other non-formula items that need increases:
 - College of Education
 - School of Business
 - Law School
 - Summer of Success
- Repurpose the community redevelopment non-formula support item for coset and seek an increase

HOUSTON NAVY FLEET WEEK

- **Texas Southern Naval Leadership Reception Southern**
 - Sunday, April 19th
 - 1600-1800 Reception Hosted By Admiral Crawford For Visiting Senior Leadership And Local Retired Senior Leadership.
- **U.S. Navy Day At Texas Southern University**
 - Tentative: Wednesday, April 22nd
 - Noon -1:30 P.M.
 - Feature A Navy Band's Pop Music Contingent And The Ocean Of Soul
- **Admiral Karl Thomas Commander of U.S. Fleet Forces Command Visits Aviation Program at Ellington Tentative**
 - Monday, April 15th Mid-day