

# 2017-2018 ECHS Designation Application

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TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WEBINAR



# Presenters

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- Texas Education Agency

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- Education Service Center, Region 13

# Webinar Agenda

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- Logistics
- Designation Purpose
- Overview of ECHS
- ECHS Designation Application
- Timeline
- Reminders
- Questions



# Housekeeping

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A recording of this webinar will be posted at [www.txechs.org](http://www.txechs.org) and on the ECHS designation website [www.thetrc.org/echs](http://www.thetrc.org/echs).

After the webinar, questions should be sent to the ECHS inbox at [ECHS@tea.texas.gov](mailto:ECHS@tea.texas.gov).

# Please.....

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While you are muted for the webinar, that doesn't mean we want you to be silent....

- Type questions in the questions window

# Early College High School Designation Purpose

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# ECHS Laws and Rules

Texas Education Code, [Section 29.908](#), Early College Education Program

and

Texas Administrative Code, [Section 102.1091](#), Early College High Schools



# Purpose of Designation

Designation is the process by which the TEA determines whether a school can fully and appropriately implement the requirements of the ECHS program.

Designation is a required annual process for both existing and new schools.

Please note that designation is not a grant program.





# Benefits of Designation

1. Recognition as an approved ECHS campus
2. Eligibility for state programs
  - a) Optional Flexible School Day
  - b) ECHS Convenings
3. Membership in the ECHS Network
4. Access to professional development and technical assistance
5. Recognition for fidelity to the ECHS Model



# Unofficial Benefits of Designation

## Opportunities for

- students,
- families, and
- your community.



# What are Early College High Schools?

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Early College High Schools—

- are innovative high schools that allow students least likely to attend college an opportunity to earn a high school diploma and up to 60 college credit hours;
- provide dual credit at no cost to students;
- offer rigorous instruction and accelerated courses;
- provide academic and social support services to help students succeed;
- increase college readiness; and
- reduce barriers to college access.

# What are the requirements of an ECHS program?

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- Serve students who are at risk of dropping out of school
- Provide an associate degree or up to 60 hours toward a baccalaureate degree
- Do not require students to pay for tuition, fees, or required textbooks
- Comply with all assurances in the program application
- Adhere to the ECHS Blueprint



## Funding

The ECHS shall pay for

- tuition (for all dual credit courses, including retakes),
- fees (including TSI administration fees), and
- required textbooks

to the extent those charges are not waived/discounted by the partner IHE.



ECHS  
Designation

Find an ECHS  
in Texas

Demonstration  
Sites

Resources

News &  
Updates

## Supporting the Early College High School model in Texas public schools



Learn about the designation process



Find an ECHS in Texas



TXECHS News and Updates

### Welcome

The Texas Early College High School (TXECHS) website provides information and resources to support the Early College High School (ECHS) model in Texas public school districts. An initiative of the Texas Education Agency (TEA), ECHSs are innovative high schools that allow students least likely to attend college an opportunity to earn a high school diploma and up to 60 college credit hours. ECHS students are provided dual credit at no cost to students.

### News and Updates

Save the Date: Early College High School Best Practices Summit—August 4–5, 2016.

# The Early College High School Blueprint

<b>Initiating</b>	<b>Implementing</b>	<b>Exemplar</b>
Initiating campuses are interested in applying for designation and are working towards fully implementing the ECHS model. They are generally already offering dual credit to their students, working with an IHE partner, and offering student supports.	Implementing campuses have received designation because they have demonstrated that they can implement all of the Benchmarks.	Exemplar campuses have been designated for at least four years, and have reached the “exemplar level” in three of the categories, including Benchmark 4.

- Benchmark 1-Target Population
- Benchmark 2-Partnership Agreement
- Benchmark 3-P-16 Leadership Initiative
- Benchmark 4-Curriculum and Support
- Benchmark 5-Academic Rigor and Readiness
- Benchmark 6-School Design

# Designation Timeline

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# 2016-2017 Timeline

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Tuesday October 26, 2016	ECHS online designation application available at <a href="http://thetrc.org/ECHS">http://thetrc.org/ECHS</a>	
Thursday November 10, 2016 1:30-3:00 p.m.	ECHS Informational Webinar	Register at <a href="https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8663148150973246980">https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8663148150973246980</a>
<b>Friday, December 16, 2016</b>	<b>APPLICATIONS DUE</b>	Applications must be submitted to <u>TEA (via the online application)</u> no later than 5:00 p.m. on December 16, 2016, in order to be eligible for designation as an Early College High School for the 2017-2018 school year.
Spring 2017	Notification of designation	Districts or charters submitting applications will be notified of their designation status for the 2017-2018 school year.

# ECHS Designation Application

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# ECHS Designation Application

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- Completely online
- All documents to be uploaded must be .pdf
- Each ECHS must submit an application
- Must be submitted yearly to keep designation

# Application types

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- Full Application
  - New schools seeking ECHS designation for the 2017-2018 school year
  - Currently operating ECHS campuses that were designated beginning with the 2015-2016 or 2016-2017 school years (designated for less than three years).
- Abbreviated Application
  - Campuses designated for three or more years

# Designation Outcomes

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- Fully Designated
- Provisionally Designated
- Denied

Additionally, based on performance in prior school year and information contained in the application, both fully designated and provisionally designated ECHS may be placed on a program improvement plan.

# Full ECHS Designation Application

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# Full Designation Application

## Sections of the Application

- Provisions and Assurances
- Contacts
- Benchmark 1: Target Population
- Benchmark 2: P-16 Partnership Agreement
- Benchmark 3: P-16 Leadership Initiative
- Benchmark 4: Curriculum and Support
- Benchmark 5: Academic Rigor and Readiness
- Benchmark 6: School Design, Staffing
- Supporting Documents

# Full Designation Application

## Documents

All required fields on this page are complete.

**FINAL SUBMISSION**

Generate PDF of Application



# Abbreviated ECHS Designation Application

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# Abbreviated Designation Application

## Sections of the Application

- Contacts
- Provisions and Assurances
- Benchmark 1: Target Population
- Benchmark 4: Curriculum and Support
- Documents
- Summary

# Reminders

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# Benchmark 1

## Target Population

- At-risk indicators (TEC 29.081, PEIMS)
  - English Language Learners
  - Students who failed a state assessment
- Students who are historically underrepresented in college.
- Must consider applications from all students
  - Can't have limiting factors for admission
    - TSI/state assessment scores
    - Discipline history
    - Minimum grade point etc.
- Should reflect the district demographics



# Benchmark 2

## Partnership Agreements

- MOU or Interlocal agreement
  - Review it annually
  - Make changes as needed
- The ECHS shall pay for:
  - Tuition (for all dual credit courses including retakes)
  - Fees (including TSI administrative fees)
  - Required textbooks
  - To the extent those charges are not waived by the IHE partner

A strong MOU will obviate a number of problems



# Benchmark 3

## P-16 Leadership Initiative

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### DUAL CREDIT SERVICE PROVIDER

- IHE registers students for courses and sends the ISD a bill
- The ISD doesn't work closely with or communicate frequently with the IHE

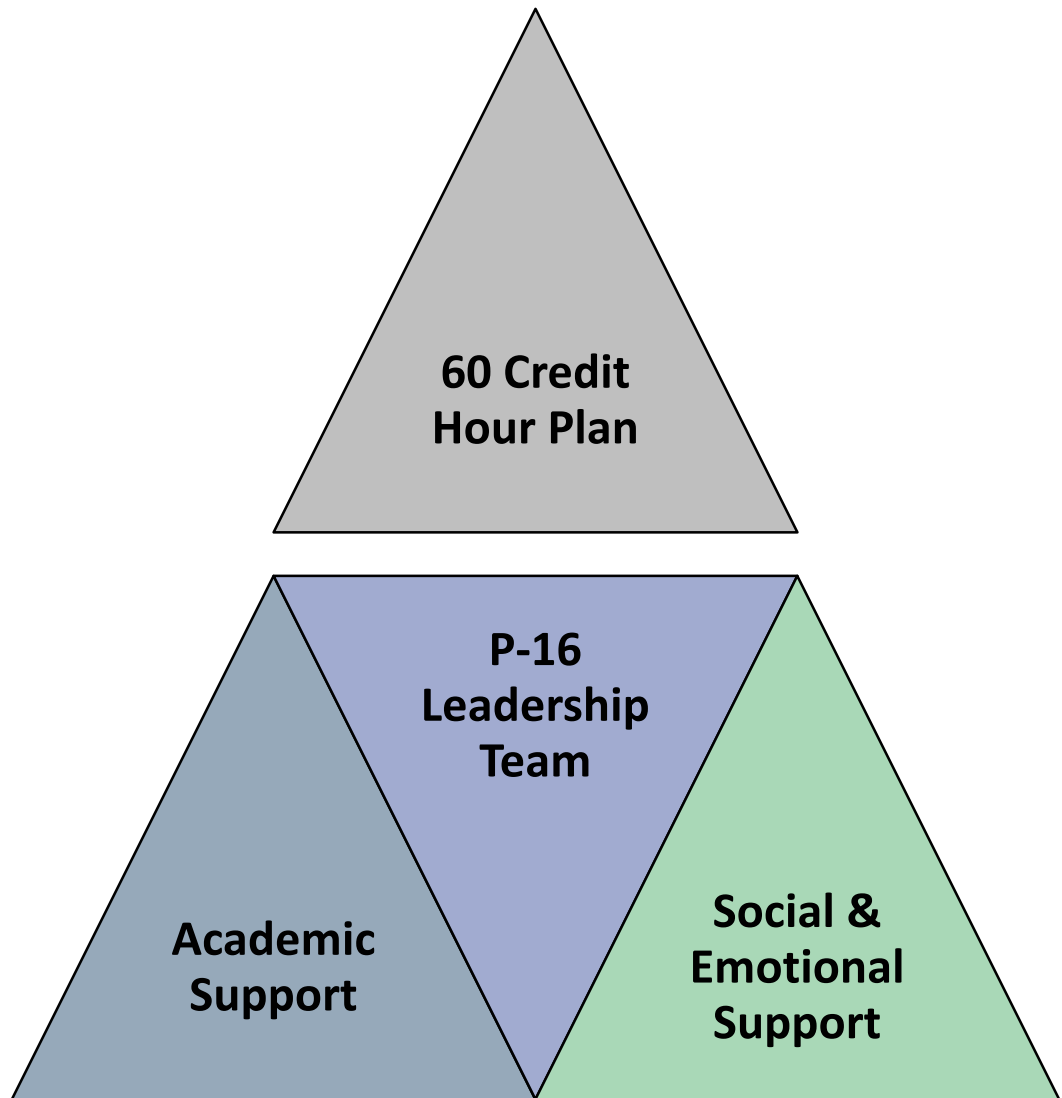
### P-16 LEADERSHIP TEAM

- The IHE is jointly invested in the students' success
- The ISD and the IHE plan together, train staff together, and set goals together



# Benchmark 4

## Curriculum and Support



# Benchmark 4

## Curriculum and Support

### ACADEMIC

#### Prevention

- Study Skills
- Note Taking

#### Progress Monitoring

- In a class
  - Attendance
  - Grades
- In a degree plan
  - Grades
  - On Track

#### Intervention

- Tutoring
- Saturday School

### SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL

#### Prevention

- Recognition
- Engagement
- Coping strategies
- Connections

#### Progress Monitoring

- Involvement
- Advisory

#### Intervention

- Outreach
- Counseling





# Benchmark 5

## Academic Rigor and Readiness

- TSI readiness
- TSI administration
- TSI intervention, as necessary



# Benchmark 6

## School Design

- **Autonomous School**
  - Principal/Director has budget and hiring authority
- **Highly qualified teachers**
- **Liaison with decision making authority**
- **An ECHS can be**
  - Be on a college campus
  - Be hundreds of miles from a college campus
  - Serve a dozen kids
  - Serve a thousand kids
  - Be a stand-alone school
  - Be a school-within-a school
  - Provide virtual dual credit courses
  - Provide dual credit courses on the high school campus
  - Provide dual credit courses on the college campus
  - Have one IHE partner
  - Have multiple IHE partners



# Questions?

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## FAQs

Q: We plan to open a new, stand-alone ECHS and do not yet have a CDC number. What do we enter in the CDCN line?

A: Applicants will simply leave the CDC field blank for now. Please note that your school will be assigned the CDC number “11111111” in the ECHS application system. After receiving your official CDCN, you can later update this number in the application.

## FAQs

Q: Is the deadline for new ECHSs the same as for renewals?

A: The deadline for all ECHS designation applications--new or renewal--is December 16, 2016 @ 5:00 pm.

## FAQs

Q: Can a designated ECHS identify as "initiating" after Year 1?

A: Yes; however, existing campus's goal should be to be "implementing" after the first year of designation.

## FAQs

Q: Can we submit our own crosswalk or do we need to use the template in the application?

A: Applicants are encouraged to use the template provided in the application.

## FAQs

Q: Can a school/district pursue designation as a CTE Early College High School?

A: Yes. Any district or school may seek designation for a school that a specific focus such as CTE. The applicant must meet all of the regular requirements for designation and must indicate in the crosswalk the courses and/or programs it proposes to offer.



## FAQs

Q: Our ECHS has both a director and a principal. Who should we list in the application?

A: Identify the individual responsible for decisions related to the schools scheduling, hiring, and budget authority.

# Contacts

## **TEA Early College High School Program:**

Email: [ECHS@tea.texas.gov](mailto:ECHS@tea.texas.gov)

Website:

<http://tea.texas.gov/interiorpage.aspx?id=4464>

## **Online Application:**

Website: [www.thetrc.org/ECHS](http://www.thetrc.org/ECHS)

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