

**International Leadership of Texas
Dual Credit Program
College Terms**

- **A.A.**
Associate of Arts degree
- **A.S.**
Associate of Science degree
- **A.A.S. Degree**
Associate of Applied Science degree
- **Academic Advisors**
Help you define and develop realistic educational and career plans
Help monitor your progress toward educational and career goals
Provide you with up-to-date academic information about college and departmental graduation requirements
Help resolve academic difficulties
- **Academic Standards**
Benchmarks that every student needs to be able to achieve in each grade.
- **Admissions and Registrar Office**
Helps you with enrollment and related processes.
- **Articulation Agreements**
Define state-specific policies related to transferring credits and coursework between schools. Articulation Agreements are designed to make the transfer process easy and smooth.
- **Associate Degree**
Requires 2 years of full-time study at a community college.
- **Bachelor's Degree**
Requires 4 years of full-time study beyond high school at a 4-year college or university.
- **Basics / Core Curriculum**
Each state-supported institution of higher education in Texas has adopted a core curriculum to provide a solid foundation for your education and to make transfer between colleges and universities as smooth and seamless as possible. Components of the core curriculum can be transferred in a block from community college to another Texas public college or university.

- **Career Clusters**
This structure of 16 career clusters organizes programs of study in relation to a large range of career options. The framework helps you discover your interests and plan your education, so you'll be prepared to pursue a career in your chosen field. Developed by the U.S. Department of Education.
- **College Level Examination program (CLEP)**
If you want to earn college credit by exhibiting mastery of a college subject, you can participate with the [College Level Examination Program](#).
- **Community College**
Colleges that provide the first 2 years of a 4-year college education or prepare you for specific jobs.
- **Credit**
A measure of the worth of a course, expressed in semester hours. College credit courses apply toward high school and college degrees. You need to earn a certain number of credits to graduate from high school and college.
- **Credit Courses**
Courses that apply toward college and university degrees.
- **Degree**
What you earn upon graduating from college, such as an associate or bachelor's degree.
- **eLearning**
Refers to the use of electronic technology in teaching and learning. Courses are offered via the Internet and are distance learning courses where you receive more than one half of the instruction at a different location from that of your instructor.
- **Electives**
Optional "fun" classes you take in high school and college to learn more about topics that interest you. Specific electives are not generally degree or certificate requirements.
- **FAFSA**
Free Application for Federal Student Aid, which is the form used to apply for federal financial funding for college costs and expenses.
- **FERPA**
Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, the federal law that protects the privacy of student records.
- **Fields of Study**

A **field of study** is a set of courses that fulfills lower-division (freshman and sophomore) requirements for bachelor's degrees in majors that correspond to the Field of Study. Fields of Study are designed to make it easy to transfer courses among **Texas colleges and universities**.

- **Financial Aid**

A general term referring to various types of money used to help pay for college, such as grants, scholarships and loans.

- **Financial Need**

The difference between the cost of attending a college or university and your family's ability to pay for those costs.

- **General Education Development (GED) Test**

The General Educational Development (GED) is equivalent to a high school diploma.

The GED covers:

Reasoning through Language Arts

Mathematical Reasoning

Science

Social Studies

- **Grade Point Average (GPA)**

The average of your grades, typically based on a 4-point scale.

- **Grant**

Money for college from the government that does not have to be repaid.

- **Loan**

Money, you or your parents borrow to help pay for college. It must be repaid with interest, even if you don't graduate.

- **Meningitis Vaccinations – MCV4**

The Texas [Senate Bill 1107](#), as amended by [Senate Bill 62](#), requires all **new TCC students** who are **under the age of 22** and who enroll **after January 1, 2014**, to submit evidence of being immunized against [meningococcal meningitis](#).

- **Non-credit Courses**

Do not apply toward college and university degrees. In many cases, non-credit courses award continuing education units (CEUs). In other cases, non-credit courses are for pleasure and personal enrichment. Explore [Community & Industry Education](#), our continuing education division.

- **Prerequisite**

Coursework, grades or experience you must have before enrolling in a course.

- **Registration**
Period when you can register for courses for the next semester.
- **Syllabus**
An outline of the policies, topics, assignments, exams and other elements of a course.
- **TASFA**
Texas Application for State Financial Aid. You use this form if you are categorized under HB 1403/SB 1528 and may be eligible for state financial aid.
- **Transcript**
A record of your academic progress.
- **TSI Assessment (Texas Success Initiative Assessment)**
A state-approved test that measures college readiness in reading, writing and mathematics. Results are used to place you in the appropriate courses.
- **Tuition**
The cost of courses and fees at college or university.
- **Undergraduate student**
A college student taking courses at college or university to earn an associate or bachelor's degree.
- **Undocumented Student**
Non-Citizen Without Visa
- **Work-Study**
On-campus jobs offered and paid for by government grants to help you pay for college.