

Hidalgo Early College District Toolkit

University of Texas, Pan American

1201 W. University Drive
Edinburg, TX 78539
(866) 441-UTPA
www.utpa.edu



History

Originally founded in 1927 as Edinburg College, The University of Texas-Pan American has a rich tradition of educational service and community engagement. In the past eight decades it has undergone six name changes, all reflecting growth, achievement and success.

From 1927 to 1933, Edinburg College was a two-year community college governed by the Edinburg School District. The original building housed 200 students and today is listed as a historical site in the city of Edinburg, the county seat for Hidalgo County. From 1933 to 1948, the college, now Edinburg Junior College, was the only institution of higher learning in South Texas. In the early 1950's, Pan American College made its transformation from a junior college to a four-year university. The name Pan American was selected to reflect the institution's desire to bridge the cultures of North and South America and to reflect the cultural and ethnic diversity of the university. Pan American University saw the student population diversify during the 1970's reflecting a predominantly Mexican-American population. **The University of Texas-Pan American** was established in 1989 after the successful and historic merger of Pan American University with the University of Texas System.

Today UTPA is one of the fastest growing universities in the UT System, providing program specific classes in Rio Grande City, McAllen and South Padre Island in addition to those offered through the online learning center. UTPA provides an affordable education and global opportunities with a choice of 57 bachelor's, 57 master's, three doctoral, and two cooperative doctoral programs within six colleges. Total enrollment in the fall of 2009 was 18,337, including 15,947 undergraduates and 2,390 graduate students. There were 856 faculty members and 1,238 staff members. Since its inception in 1927, The University of Texas-Pan American has conferred over 2,600 associate's, 50,400 bachelor's, 10,800 master's and 100 doctoral degrees.

Source: University of Texas Pan American Web site, www.utpa.edu

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Texas State Technical College

1902 North Loop 499
Harlingen, TX 78550
1(800) 852-8784
<http://harlingen.tstc.edu>



TSTC Harlingen is part of the Texas State Technical College System, a public coeducational institution of higher education offering courses of study in technical education leading to the award of Certificates and Associate of Applied Science degrees.

Texas State Technical College (TSTC) was established in 1965 in Waco as the James Connally Technical Institute (JCTI) of Texas A & M University to meet the state's evolving workforce needs. In 1967, JCTI expanded to include a South Texas campus in Harlingen. In 1969, the Colleges separated from Texas A&M University and became an independent state system, with the name Texas State Technical Institute (TSTI) and its own Board of Regents. In 1991, TSTI was renamed Texas State Technical College (TSTC).

Today, the Texas State Technical College System includes four colleges: TSTC Harlingen, TSTC Marshall, TSTC Waco, and TSTC West Texas, which has campuses in Abilene, Breckenridge, Brownwood, and Sweetwater. More than 10,000 students attend TSTC in credit programs alone. TSTC is the only state-supported technical college system in Texas. With a statewide role and mission, TSTC is efficiently and effectively helping Texas meet the high-tech challenges of today's global economy in partnership with business and industry, government agencies, and other educational institutions. TSTC has high graduation rates, exceptional graduate success rates, and an outstanding record in graduating individuals from diverse cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds.

Among TSTC's strengths are its emphasis on "learning by thinking and doing," strong relationships with business and industry, state-of-the-art laboratories, residential campuses, and a student-centered philosophy.

Source: Texas State Technical College Web site, <http://harlingen.tstc.edu/>