

**NISTS 2023**

# BE A CONNECTOR FOR TRANSFER STUDENT SUCCESS

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The following presentation was given at the 21st Annual Conference for the National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students. Please cite responsibly and direct questions to the original presenter(s).

*Educational Poster*

## **2787 - Stay Local, Save Money: An Innovative Engineering Education Pathway**

Partnerships and Collaboration, Transition Programs and Supports

The Engineering Academy program at Texas A&M University is the first engineering transition program of its kind in the United States. Unlike traditional transfer programs, students admitted into an Academy are admitted to the university and begin earning university transcribed credit from semester one. Students enroll in math, science and core curriculum courses through the partner college and have the unique opportunity to enroll in university engineering courses taught by the university faculty face-to-face on the community college campus.

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## Introduction

The Texas A&M Engineering Academy program is the **first engineering transition program** of its kind in the United States. Unlike traditional transfer programs, students admitted into an Academy are admitted to Texas A&M Engineering and begin earning Texas A&M transcribed credit from semester one. A large percentage of these students begin their Aggie engineering degree close to home, maximize the benefits of the community college including lower tuition and fees, take advantage of smaller class sizes and make progress towards their engineering bachelor's degree. This co-enrollment partnership increases our reach to students from populations underrepresented in engineering.

## Implications / Need

Office of Science and Technology Policy

President's Council on Science and Technology Report to the President:  
**1 million more STEM degrees needed in the next decade**

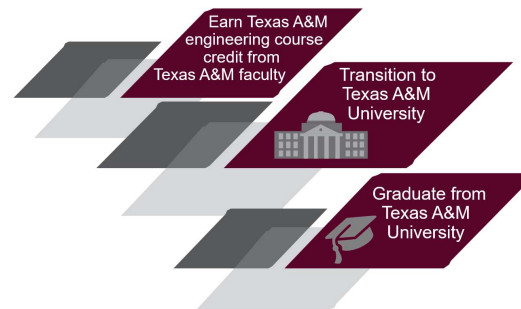
President's Council on Jobs and Competitiveness  
"...goal to graduate **10,000 more engineering students** from U.S. colleges and universities each year..."

Projected need for engineers entering the workforce in Texas:  
**53,000 more by 2024**

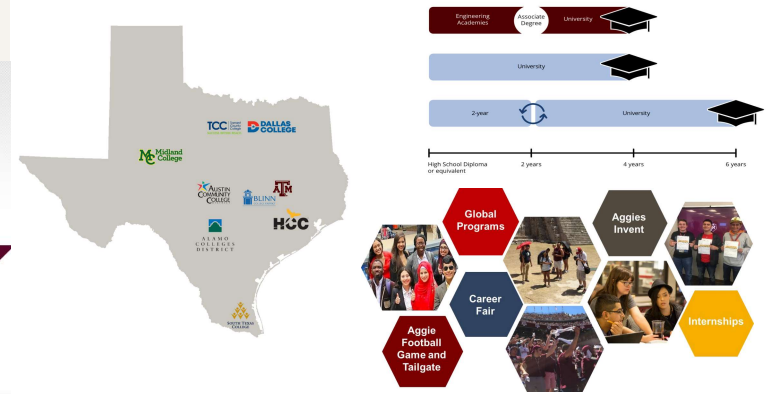
## Application and Enrollment Process



Engineering students in the Academies enroll in math, science and core curriculum courses through the partner community college and have the unique opportunity to enroll in Texas A&M engineering courses taught by Texas A&M faculty on the community college campus. Students spend one to two years co-enrolled before **transitioning** full time to Texas A&M University to finish their bachelor's degree.



## Impact / Conclusion



## Goals

**ACCESS**  
Partnering with community colleges enabling students to progress

**AFFORDABILITY**  
Maximizing student services to make education more equitable

**COMPLETION**  
Integrating student success programs to increase completion rates

Contributing to the Technically Trained Workforce

22 majors

AEROSPACE	ARCHITECTURAL	BIOLOGICAL & AGRICULTURAL
BIOMEDICAL	CHEMICAL	CIVIL
COMPUTER ENGINEERING	COMPUTER SCIENCE	ENVIRONMENTAL
ELECTRICAL	ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS ENGINEERING TECH	INDUSTRIAL DISTRIBUTION
INTERDISCIPLINARY	MANUFACTURING & MECHANICAL ENGINEERING TECH	MATERIALS SCIENCE & ENGINEERING
MULTIDISCIPLINARY ENGINEERING TECH	NUCLEAR	OCEAN
		PETROLEUM

The Academies were originally established to increase the access and affordability of Texas A&M engineering degrees. This pathway allow students to start their education close to home and save up to \$40,000 on their Aggie engineering degree. In 2015, with funding from industry, it permitted the program to grow partnerships to metropolitan areas and form academies throughout the state.