

High School Exit Survey: Travis

Austin Independent School District

Class of 2015

Purpose

The 13th annual Austin Independent School District (AISD) High School Exit Survey (HSES) was administered online to seniors in every AISD high school during Spring 2015. In total, 210 Travis High School seniors completed the survey, for a response rate of 79%.

On each campus, Project ADVANCE facilitators primarily were responsible for ensuring all seniors were given the opportunity to complete the survey. Special education chairs at each campus may have provided eligible special education students with guidance and assistance in completing the survey.

The purpose of the HSES was to monitor high school students' perceptions of their high school experience. Results are used to improve the campus environment and program supports for students. Survey results also are used in the monitoring of the district's strategic plan *Goal 3: All students will graduate ready for college, career, and life in a globally competitive economy.*

Postsecondary Aspirations, Parental Engagement, & Support

Table 1.

Almost 60% of Travis seniors planned to work part time while attending college.

| Postsecondary plans | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|---|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| Continue my education | 97% | 90% | 86% |
| Attend college or technical school <u>without working</u> | 11% | 11% | 20% |
| Attend college or technical school while <u>working full time</u> | 19% | 12% | 11% |
| Attend college or technical school while <u>working part time</u> | 69% | 59% | 56% |
| Work full time only | 8% | 4% | 4% |
| Work part time only | 4% | 1% | 1% |
| Enlist in the military | 4% | 3% | 3% |
| No plans/ not sure yet | 5% | 6% | 4% |
| Other | 1% | 3% | 2% |

Table 2.

Most Travis seniors who planned to enroll in college planned to enroll **Fall 2015.**

| Semester enrollment | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| This summer | 8% | 9% | 8% |
| This fall | 77% | 82% | 85% |
| Next spring | 15% | 9% | 7% |

Table 3.

Almost half of Travis seniors planned to enroll in a **4-year institution. Nearly 4 in 10 seniors planned to enroll in a **2-year college and then transfer to a 4-year college**.**

| Type of institution | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|---|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| A 4-year college or university | 47% | 48% | 57% |
| A 2-year college or university | 19% | 11% | 10% |
| A 2-year community college and then transfer to a 4-year college | 33% | 39% | 30% |
| A private career or trade school | 6% | 2% | 2% |

Table 4.

Almost half of Travis seniors planned to attend **Austin Community College.**

| Postsecondary institutions | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| Austin Community College (ACC) | 43% | 46% | 35% |
| Texas State University | 22% | 14% | 8% |
| University of Texas-Travis | 10% | 9% | 9% |
| University of Texas-San Antonio | 8% | 6% | 4% |
| Texas A&M University | 2% | 6% | 4% |
| St. Edward's University | 1% | 0% | 2% |
| Blinn College | 2% | 1% | 2% |
| University of North Texas | 0% | 1% | 2% |
| Texas Tech University | 2% | 0% | 3% |
| Stephen F. Travis University | 2% | 0% | 1% |
| Other | 23% | 17% | 31% |

Table 5.

Health sciences, business, and engineering were top areas Travis seniors planned to study in college. Five percent of Travis seniors were interested in studying computer and information sciences in 2014 and 2015.

| Jobs/careers | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|---|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Health sciences | 23% | 24% | 17% |
| Business | 10% | 11% | 13% |
| Engineering | 13% | 12% | 13% |
| Law, public safety, corrections, and security | 5% | 9% | 6% |
| Computer and information sciences | 5% | 5% | 5% |
| Human services | 4% | 4% | 3% |
| I do not know | 8% | 7% | 9% |
| Visual and performing arts | 7% | 4% | 7% |
| Agricultural sciences and technologies | 1% | 1% | 3% |
| Natural sciences and mathematics | 4% | 5% | 7% |
| Education | 4% | 9% | 5% |
| Communication | 4% | 4% | 4% |
| Architecture | 2% | 1% | 2% |
| Social sciences | 1% | 1% | 3% |
| Hospitality and tourism | 6% | 1% | 1% |
| Humanities | 1% | 2% | 1% |
| Office skills | 1% | 0% | 0% |
| Trade and industrial | 4% | 2% | 1% |

Table 6.

Almost 40% of Travis seniors did not take a high school course in the area they planned to study in college.

| | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|-----|----------------|------------------|
| Yes | 63% | 65% |
| No | 37% | 35% |

Table 7.

Forty-six percent of Travis seniors who did not take a course in the area they planned to study in college did not do so because **there were no such courses offered at Travis.**

| Reasons | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|--|-------------|---------------|
| I wanted to, but there were no such courses offered at my school. | 46% | 27% |
| My parents did not want me to take a course in that area. | 0% | 1% |
| I wanted to, but my schedule would not allow it. | 32% | 51% |
| I was not interested in taking a course in this area in high school. | 16% | 18% |
| A counselor steered me away from those courses. | 0% | 1% |
| Other | 13% | 11% |

Table 8.

Almost 20% of Travis seniors who did not plan to enroll in college immediately after high school, planned to **take a year off from school to pursue other things.**

| Reason | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| Financial | 35% | 17% | 18% |
| Academic | 6% | 8% | 7% |
| Personal obligation | 0% | 11% | 7% |
| Personal preference | 24% | 19% | 20% |
| Gap year | 29% | 19% | 35% |
| Other | 6% | 25% | 14% |

Table 9.

Almost 3 in 4 Travis seniors' mother's education level was a **high school diploma or below.**

| School status | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|--|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| Doctorate degree (e.g., PhD, EdD, etc.) | 0% | 2% | 3% |
| Professional degree (e.g., MD, JD, etc.) | 1% | 0% | 20% |
| Master's degree | 1% | 2% | 9% |
| Bachelor's degree (4-year) | 2% | 4% | 20% |
| Associate degree (2-year) | 4% | 5% | 5% |
| Some college | 6% | 11% | 13% |
| High school diploma or earned a GED | 27% | 27% | 19% |
| Less than high school | 52% | 47% | 24% |
| Don't know or does not apply | 7% | 5% | 4% |

Table 10.

Sixty-seven percent of Travis seniors' parents expected them to **earn a college degree or industry license/certification**.

| Level of education | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|---|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| Doctorate degree (e.g., PhD, EdD, etc.) | 6% | 11% | 12% |
| Master's degree | 12% | 12% | 16% |
| Bachelor's degree (4-year) | 32% | 36% | 37% |
| Associate degree (2-year) | 12% | 5% | 5% |
| Industry license or certification | -- | 3% | 3% |
| Some college | 8% | 9% | 7% |
| High school or earned a GED | 14% | 12% | 8% |
| I am not sure | 13% | 13% | 12% |

Table 11.

Almost all Travis seniors expected to earn a **college degree or certification** in their lifetime.

| Level of education | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|--|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| Doctoral or professional degree | -- | 15% | 20% |
| Master's degree | -- | 23% | 28% |
| Bachelor's degree (4-yr college or university) | 40% | 42% | 35% |
| Associate degree (2-year community college) | 20% | 9% | 8% |
| Industry license or certification (e.g., trade/technical school) | 5% | 5% | 4% |
| High school diploma | 4% | 6% | 5% |

Table 12.

Travis seniors have been told mostly by their **parents** and **teachers** they should go to college.

| Level of education | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Parents | 88% | 89% |
| Teachers | 85% | 78% |
| College and career advisor | 58% | 55% |
| School counselor | 50% | 55% |
| Coach(es) | 46% | 38% |
| Sibling(s) or other family member(s) | 59% | 63% |
| Friend(s) | 71% | 75% |
| Other adult in my life | 43% | 47% |
| No one | 2% | 3% |

Table 13.

Travis seniors' parents were involved with their schooling mostly by **talking to them about how their doing in their classes** and **asking about what they were learning in school**.

| Seniors who responded either <i>sometimes</i> or <i>often</i> | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|---|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Talking to you about homework | 65% | 66% | 68% |
| Making sure you completed your homework | 69% | 65% | 65% |
| Asking you about what you're learning in school | 64% | 69% | 65% |
| Helping you decide what classes to take | 47% | 55% | 54% |
| Talking to you about how you're doing in your classes | 73% | 77% | 79% |
| Rewarding you when you do well in school | 54% | 59% | 56% |
| Communicating with your teachers | 48% | 52% | 46% |
| Attending school meetings | 39% | 50% | 47% |
| Attending school events | 53% | 53% | 58% |
| Volunteering at your school | 26% | 28% | 28% |
| Joining and participating in the PTA | 16% | 18% | 18% |
| Use Parent Cloud to monitor your grades | 48% | 47% | 51% |

Table 14.

Most Travis seniors know at least one teacher who supported their personal lives, high school academics, and postsecondary aspirations.

| Teacher help | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|--|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Would be willing to give you extra help with your school work if you needed it | 89% | 85% | 88% |
| Would be willing to help you with a personal problem | 78% | 73% | 74% |
| Cares about how you're doing in school | 82% | 79% | 79% |
| Would be willing to write you a letter of recommendation for a job or college | 85% | 75% | 81% |
| Knows what you will be doing next year | 66% | 54% | 65% |
| Would be willing to help you even after you graduate | 70% | 65% | 64% |
| I do not know a teacher who fits any of the items above. | -- | 5% | 4% |

Persistence and Motivation

Table 15.

Travis seniors indicated their feelings about their persistence, motivation, and interactions with teachers.

| Percentage who responded either <i>sometimes</i> or <i>always</i> | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|---|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| I can do even the hardest schoolwork if I try. | 92% | 93% | 92% |
| I enjoy doing my schoolwork. | 75% | 70% | 59% |
| I feel/felt well prepared for STAAR/EOC. | 77% | 82% | 84% |
| I try hard to do my best work. | 96% | 95% | 91% |
| I feel successful in my schoolwork. | 93% | 90% | 89% |
| My teachers push us to think hard about the things we read. | 92% | 90% | 87% |
| My teachers push everyone to work hard. | 96% | 90% | 90% |
| I can reach the goals I set for myself. | 98% | 97% | 96% |
| My homework helps me learn things I need to know. | 87% | 84% | 78% |
| My schoolwork makes me think about things in new ways. | 82% | 79% | 73% |
| My teachers connect what I am learning to life outside of class. | 75% | 76% | 70% |
| I have fun learning in my classes. | 86% | 82% | 77% |
| I like to come to school. | 90% | 80% | 71% |

Extracurricular Activities

Table 16.

The school-affiliated activities Travis seniors were mostly involved in were **sports** and **speech/debate**.

| In school | Did not participate | 1-2 years | 3-4 years |
|--|------------------------|------------|------------|
| Music | 73% | 17% | 11% |
| Theater/drama | 78% | 16% | 3% |
| Dance | 73% | 19% | 8% |
| Sports | 39% | 28% | 34% |
| Academic clubs/UII competitions | 65% | 20% | 15% |
| Speech/debate | 56% | 44% | 1% |
| Student government | 70% | 28% | 3% |
| Career and technical student organizations | 77% | 17% | 6% |

Table 17.

Travis seniors were mostly involved in **community service** and **sports** outside of school.

| Outside of school | Did not participate | 1-2 years | 3-4 years |
|---|---------------------|------------|------------|
| Music | 76% | 11% | 14% |
| Theater/drama | 85% | 14% | 2% |
| Dance | 79% | 14% | 7% |
| Sports | 46% | 20% | 35% |
| Providing routine care for family members | 69% | 16% | 16% |
| Community service | 42% | 33% | 26% |
| Environmental projects/activities | 68% | 21% | 11% |
| Boy/Girl Scouts | 95% | 5% | 1% |

Work and Study Time

Table 18.

Six in 10 Travis seniors **worked** during their senior year.

| Work time | Percentage who worked <i>during</i> senior year | | |
|---------------------------|---|-------------|---------------|
| | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
| Did not work | 47% | 43% | 39% |
| Less than 20 hours | 19% | 23% | 28% |
| 20 hours or more | 35% | 34% | 33% |

Table 19.

Most Travis seniors who worked during their senior year worked **to help their family with bills/expenses** and because they **liked the freedom of having their own money**.

| Reason | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|--|-------------|---------------|
| To save money for college | 13% | 19% |
| To help my family with bills/expenses | 39% | 20% |
| I like the freedom of having my own money | 35% | 52% |
| Other | 13% | 9% |

Table 20.

On average, Travis seniors studied **1 to 5 hours** each week.

| Study time | Percentage who studied each week | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
| None | 10% | 10% | 9% |
| 1 to 5 hours | 41% | 47% | 40% |
| 6 to 10 hours | 31% | 17% | 22% |
| 11 to 15 hours | 7% | 7% | 12% |
| 16 to 20 hours | 5% | 8% | 9% |
| More than 20 hours | 7% | 12% | 9% |

Instructional Quality

Table 21.

Travis High School helped seniors to actively develop [Twenty-first Century Skills](#).

| Percentage who responded <i>somewhat well</i> or <i>very well</i> | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|---|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| Teamwork | 94% | 95% | 91% |
| Creative thinking | 94% | 89% | 90% |
| Problem solving | 95% | 95% | 93% |
| Conflict resolution | 92% | 90% | 87% |
| Personal health/fitness | 93% | 88% | 81% |
| Time management | 90% | 88% | 84% |
| Technology | 92% | 91% | 84% |

Table 22.

Travis seniors rated the quality of their **science**, **English language arts**, and **performing/fine arts** instruction most favorably.

| Percentage who responded <i>good</i> or <i>excellent</i> | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|--|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| English language arts | 85% | 76% | 81% |
| Social studies | 77% | 72% | 75% |
| Performing/Fine arts | 73% | 75% | 73% |
| Career and technical (CTE) | 87% | 74% | 71% |
| Science | 78% | 77% | 70% |
| Mathematics | 75% | 72% | 73% |
| Computer/Technology | 75% | 67% | 64% |
| Foreign language | 69% | 65% | 64% |

Technology Access and Use

Table 23.

Almost 60% of Travis seniors have a **computer with Internet access at home**.

| Access | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| No computer | 11% | 10% | 5% |
| No computer, but Internet access | 20% | 26% | 12% |
| Computer, no Internet | 9% | 8% | 4% |
| Computer with Internet access | 60% | 56% | 79% |

Table 24.

Travis seniors used Naviance mostly to check their **class rank and grade point average (GPA)**.

| Percentage answering <i>yes</i> | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Class rank and GPA inquiry | 80% | 75% | 82% |
| College search | 64% | 68% | 70% |
| Counselor-directed activities | 53% | 54% | 63% |
| College visit sign up | 46% | 40% | 55% |
| Career exploration | 56% | 53% | 48% |
| Resume building | 36% | 34% | 36% |

Postsecondary Preparation and Advising

Table 25.

Forty-four percent of Travis seniors did not start thinking about college until they were in **high school**.

| Time frame | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| As long as I can remember | 21% | 16% | 37% |
| In elementary school | 8% | 1% | 9% |
| In middle/junior high school | 21% | 23% | 21% |
| In high school | 46% | 44% | 31% |
| I've never thought about college | 4% | 6% | 3% |

Table 26.

Over 50% of Travis seniors who did not think about college until high school did not think about it until their **junior and senior years**.

| Grade | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| 9 th Grade | 24% | 19% | 20% |
| 10 th Grade | 26% | 31% | 25% |
| 11th Grade | 38% | 33% | 37% |
| 12th Grade | 12% | 18% | 18% |

Table 27.

Travis seniors prepared for postsecondary education mostly by **meeting with the school counselor/Project ADVANCE advisor to discuss college plans** and by **taking college entrance exams**.

| Type of preparation | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|---|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Took college entrance tests (e.g., SAT, ACT, THEA, COMPASS, ASSET) | 51% | 46% | 60% |
| Took one or more Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate classes | 50% | 43% | 51% |
| Took test prep class for the PSAT, SAT, ACT, etc. | 35% | 37% | 45% |
| Completed or are currently enrolled in ACC courses | 27% | 27% | 32% |
| Took other college level courses (e.g., Texas State, Texas Tech, TSTC) | 4% | 6% | 9% |
| Visited one or more colleges or technical schools | 56% | 44% | 58% |
| Met with the school counselor/ADVANCE staff to discuss college plans/processes | 47% | 51% | 50% |
| Attended one or more college fairs | 58% | 44% | 43% |
| Met with a college representative or recruiter at my high school | 34% | 37% | 41% |
| Participated in ACC College Connections | 43% | 29% | 24% |
| Attended Financial Aid Saturday event(s) | -- | 16% | 10% |
| Completed and submitted the FAFSA | 76% | 78% | 68% |
| Completed and submitted a scholarship application | 51% | 41% | 47% |
| Ordered and submitted a transcript to a college or trade/ technical school. | 50% | 45% | 56% |
| I have not completed any activities to prepare for continuing my education | 15% | 21% | 17% |
| I have done nothing to academically prepare for continuing my education | 4% | 23% | 19% |
| I have not completed any forms to prepare for continuing my education | 11% | 15% | 19% |

Table 28.

Travis seniors' family members helped them prepare for life after high school mostly by **talking to them about their career and/or college options** and **talking to them about their responsibilities as an adult**.

| Form of help | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|--|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Talked to you about career and/or college options | 67% | 72% | 79% |
| Talked to you about finances | 57% | 55% | 65% |
| Talked to you about your responsibilities as an adult | 70% | 68% | 75% |
| Talked to you about what a career and/or college would be like | 43% | 56% | 62% |
| Helped you with financial aid (FAFSA and/or scholarships) | 37% | 46% | 55% |
| Helped you complete applications for colleges or trade/technical schools | 15% | 27% | 40% |
| Encouraged you to apply to several different colleges | 40% | 40% | 53% |
| No one in my family talked to me about or helped me with these things. | 6% | 6% | 6% |

Table 29.

Travis seniors' teachers helped them most by **pushing their academic abilities**. School counselors helped them **select courses needed for work or college**. Project ADVANCE staff helped by encouraging them to **apply to multiple schools** and **complete college applications**.

| Activity | None of these people | School counselor | Teacher | College & career advisor |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------|---------|--------------------------------|
| Select courses needed for work or admission to college | 27% | 26% | 23% | 49% |
| Push your academic abilities further | 20% | 23% | 55% | 30% |
| Take AP / honors courses | 37% | 22% | 47% | 13% |
| Take dual credit or articulated credit courses | 48% | 21% | 33% | 13% |
| Get information about careers/occupations | 23% | 25% | 38% | 45% |
| Continue your education after high school | 17% | 30% | 53% | 50% |
| Apply to multiple schools | 25% | 20% | 31% | 54% |
| Decide what school to attend | 39% | 14% | 25% | 41% |
| Fill out applications for postsecondary education | 27% | 12% | 20% | 55% |
| Write college application essays or personal statements | 24% | 10% | 41% | 51% |

Table 30.

Most Travis seniors were **able to meet with** their school counselor and Project ADVANCE advisor.

| Availability | School Counselor | College & Career Advisor |
|--|------------------|--------------------------|
| Yes, this person was available and I talked to him/her. | 61% | 74% |
| I tried to talk to this person and wasn't able to meet with him/her. | 15% | 9% |
| I never tried to meet with this person. | 24% | 16% |

Applications to Postsecondary Institutions

Table 31.

Travis seniors who applied to 2-year and 4-year institutions submitted **1 to 3 applications**, on average.

| Institution type | 0 applications | 1-3 applications | 4 or more applications |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------------|
| 2-year | 15% | 75% | 10% |
| 4-year | 22% | 44% | 34% |
| Business/technical/vocational school | 79% | 16% | 5% |

Table 32.

Travis seniors who applied to 2-year institutions received **1 to 3 acceptances**, on average.

| Institution type | 0 acceptances | 1-3 acceptances | 4 or more acceptances |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 2-year | 29% | 64% | 7% |
| 4-year | 42% | 39% | 19% |
| Business/technical/vocational school | 84% | 11% | 5% |

Postsecondary Financial Literacy

Table 33.

Almost 80% of Travis seniors planned to pay for college with **scholarships and/or grants**.

| Source | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Scholarships and/or grants | 75% | 77% | 68% |
| Loans | 44% | 42% | 42% |
| Family or personal savings | 35% | 42% | 63% |
| Tuition and fees exemption | 10% | 17% | 10% |
| Working during the school year | 65% | 69% | 59% |
| Working during the summer | 67% | 62% | 61% |
| I don't know | 5% | 6% | 4% |

Table 34.

Travis seniors learned about financial aid for college mostly from their **school counselor or Project ADVANCE advisor** and their **parents or other adults**.

| Source of information | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|--|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Senior economics class | 22% | 24% | 21% |
| Financial Aid Saturday events | 42% | 38% | 16% |
| Talked to school counselor/college and career advisor/Project ADVANCE staff | 63% | 57% | 48% |
| Information from a college or university (e.g., website, brochures) | 40% | 36% | 35% |
| College recruiter | 31% | 28% | 18% |
| U.S. Department of Education or FAFSA websites | 27% | 26% | 23% |
| Parents or other adults | 45% | 53% | 63% |
| Social media (e.g., Twitter, Facebook, etc.) | 13% | 10% | 12% |
| None of these | 8% | 13% | 10% |

Table 35.

Almost 50% of Akins seniors who submitted the FAFSA indicated it was **“some parts easy, some parts difficult”** for their parents to complete.

| Degree of ease | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|--|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Easy | 29% | 29% | 24% |
| Some parts easy, some parts difficult | 51% | 48% | 47% |
| Difficult | 14% | 13% | 12% |
| I did not apply for financial aid | 7% | 10% | 16% |

Table 36.

Almost half of the Travis seniors who did not submit the FAFSA did not do so because **they did not know about the financial aid process**.

| Reason | Travis 2014 | Travis 2015 | District 2015 |
|---|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| I did not need financial aid to attend college | 17% | 5% | 18% |
| My parents were not willing to submit private financial information | 25% | 15% | 6% |
| My family did not think we would qualify or be eligible for financial aid | 0% | 10% | 19% |
| I did not plan to go to college | 17% | 25% | 18% |
| I did not know about the financial aid process | 42% | 45% | 38% |

Acronym Key

The following acronyms are used in the High School Exit Survey summary reports. Where relevant, acronyms have a link to an external URL.

| Acronym | Definition |
|-------------------------|--|
| ACC | Austin Community College |
| ACT | American College Testing |
| AP | Advanced Placement |
| ASSET | American College Testing (ACT) placement exam for students in community/technical colleges |
| COMPASS | American College Testing (ACT) Computer-adapted Placement Assessment and Support Services |
| EOC | End of Course exam |
| FAFSA | Free Application for Federal Student Aid |
| GPA | grade point average |
| MSA | Metropolitan Statistical Area |
| PSAT | Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) |
| SAT | Scholastic Aptitude Test |
| STAAR | State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness |
| TAKS | Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills |
| THEA | Texas Higher Education Assessment |
| TSTC | Texas State Technical College |
| UIL | University Interscholastic League |