



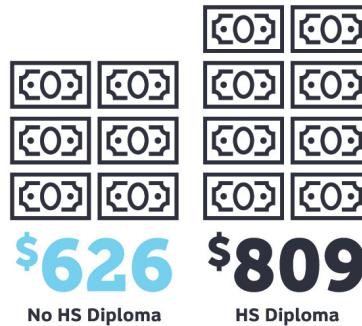
Advancing Child Wellbeing

89th Legislature Priorities for Texas's Future

Lifelong Impact of State Care Extends Beyond Childhood: SB 569/HB 2196 Changes Lives



TEA's Education & Students in Foster Care Resource Guide
high school or equivalent degree graduation rates



Individuals with a high school diploma earn \$200 more per week than those who lack one.



of youth who exit foster care as legal adults are arrested at least once by age 26

SB 569/HB 2196

Senate Bill 569 is based upon the recommendations of the Texas Commission on Virtual Education. We are asking you to support this piece of legislation. Senate Bill 569 would allow Charters like Trinity Charter Schools (TCS) which operate under Alternative Education Accountability, through continued online education services to young adults who have elected to leave the state foster care system and drop out of high school upon turning 18. Under Senate Bill 569, TCS would be allowed to serve this critical population without a mandated enrollment cap and with consistent Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding.

This bill does the following

- Gives districts and public charter schools the ability to offer new, innovative education options for families.
- Enables flexible learning models that promote work-based learning and apprenticeships.
- Ensures access to advanced courses.
- Includes strong quality controls and accountability.
- Includes important teacher protections.
- Allows current district programs serving families to continue operating.

TCS Model

TCS serves around 30% of students in Texas Residential Treatment Centers (RTCs), which serve Texas Foster Care children who are battling with mental health or emotional struggles. TCS offers full-day classes approved by the Texas Education Agency which are customized to meet each student's needs. The student plays an active role in planning and guiding their academic careers through student credit acceleration and recovery.



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Ongoing Support

- Over 98% of TCS students are considered at-risk.
- 75% have been in Texas Foster Care.

Remote Learning for Recovery and Skills

- Follows Alternative Education Accountability (AEA) standards.
- Uses the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills curriculum, with performance assessed every 9 weeks.
- Integration of Edgenuity for frequent assessment of student learning and outcomes

Flexible Scheduling

- Students can balance full-time education with vocational trainingⁱ.
- Offers career exploration and internships.
- Serving those in need
 - Texas Department of Family & Protective Services (specifically CWOP, RTCs, and others)
 - Women in Crisis Shelters
 - Texas Juvenile Justice System

Serving Those in Need -

- Supports foster care programs, crisis shelters, and the juvenile justice system.

TCS FY23/24 School Year Impact

- Graduates FY23/24: 38
- Students Served FY23/24: 244
- Courses Completed FY23/24: 209
- Courses Currently in Progress: 101

TCS FY24/25 Current School Year Impact

- Projected Graduates FY24/25: 19
- Students Served FY24/25: 122
- Courses Completed FY24/25: 150
- Courses Currently in Progress: 308

Citations:

Accounts, T. C. of P. (n.d.). *Data by category*.

<https://comptroller.texas.gov/economy/texindex/texindex.php?metric=shareofPopulationwithHighSchoolDiplomaorHigher2018>

Baron, J. (2022, June 12). *The foster care-to-prison pipeline*. CEPR. [https://cepr.org/voxeu/columns/foster-care-prisonpipeline#:~:text=For%20example%2C%20close%20to%20one,age%2026%20\(Courtney%20et%20al](https://cepr.org/voxeu/columns/foster-care-prisonpipeline#:~:text=For%20example%2C%20close%20to%20one,age%2026%20(Courtney%20et%20al)

Texas Education Agency (2022, February 22). *Unemployment rampant among former Foster Youth*. Children's Rights. Retrieved March 13, 2023, from <https://www.childrensrights.org/unemployment-rampant-among-former-foster-youth/>

ⁱ Vocational exploration via Focus2Careers



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