

December 3, 2025

BOARD OF REGENTS' WORKSHOP

The **Workshop** of the Board of Regents of the Del Mar College District will convene at **11:00 a.m., Tuesday, December 9, 2025**, at the Center for Economic Development, 3209 S. Staples, Room 106, Corpus Christi, Texas.

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

QUORUM CALL

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

DMC VISION STATEMENT: *Del Mar College empowers our communities to achieve their dreams.*

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS (Non-Agenda Items) – 3-minute time limit

- Specific Public Comments will be allowed on agenda items prior to action by the Board.
- General Public Comments may be moved on the agenda at the discretion of the Board Chair and as an accommodation to those in attendance.
- Pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act, the College is limited in responding to public comments or inquiries as follows:
  1. Provide a statement of specific factual information in response to an inquiry.
  2. Recite existing policy in response to an inquiry.
  3. Propose placing the subject of the inquiry on the agenda for a subsequent meeting.

(Tex. Govt. Code Section § 551.042)

ITEM OF BUSINESS:

1. Discussion and feedback on the Student Tuition and Fee Waiver Program (Freedom to Dream 2.0 – Building the Next Cohort)  
.....Dr. Patricia Benavides-Dominguez and Mr. Raul Garcia  
(II: Elevate, Goal 2: Maximize resources entrusted to the College)

Public comments for this agenda item

2. CLOSED SESSION pursuant to:

- a. **TEX. GOV'T CODE § 551.071:** (Consultation with legal counsel), regarding pending or contemplated litigation, or a settlement offer, including, but not limited to Tax Exemption Settlement Agreements (2) with CPS Energy (Barney Davis Power Plant and Nueces Bay Power Plant), with possible discussion and action in open session; and the seeking of legal advice from counsel on pending legal or contemplated matters or claims, with possible discussion and action in open session;
- b. **TEX. GOV'T CODE § 551.087:** (Deliberation Regarding Economic Development), regarding discussion or deliberation of information received from a business prospect with which the College is conducting economic development negotiations and/or the deliberation of an offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect, with possible discussion and action in open session; and,
- c. **TEX. GOV'T CODE § 551.074(a)(1):** (Personnel matters), regarding the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee.

CALENDAR: Discussion and possible action related to calendaring dates.

ADJOURNMENT

PUBLIC NOTICE is given that the Board may elect to go into executive session at any time during the meeting in order to discuss matters listed on the agenda, when authorized by the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, of the Texas Government Code.

Item 1

# **FREEDOM TO DREAM 2.0**

## **Building the Next Cohort**

**December 09, 2025**

**Dr. Patricia Benavides-Dominguez**  
**Vice President for Student Affairs**

**Dr. Leonard Rivera**  
**Vice President for Dual Enrollment and Continuing Education**

**Raul Garcia**  
**Vice President and Chief Financial Officer**



**DEL MAR COLLEGE**



# Freedom to Dream Introduction

Four areas for discussion

- College Readiness Defined
- Continuing Education Pilot
- Dual Enrollment Pipeline
- Financial Model

# Freedom to Dream Waiver Program – What is the same?

Who qualifies?

- Graduating High School Seniors
- Adult Learners / GED
- Students living in the taxing district
- Maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA
- Must be enrolled in 12 semester credit hours
- Students commit to a formal agreement or “contract”

# Freedom to Dream Waiver Program – What is new?

Who qualifies?

- Class of 2026 Dual Credit seniors eligible with a minimum 2.0 GPA
- Students with previous college credits
  - 12 semester credit hours or less with a minimum 2.0 GPA
  - No more than 18 attempted credit hours
- Students enrolling in a Continuing Education Program
  - Continuing Education Program, must be enrolled in all required course(s) needed to earn an Institutional Credential leading to a Licensure (ICLC) or Workforce Skills Award (WSA)

# College Ready vs Readiness

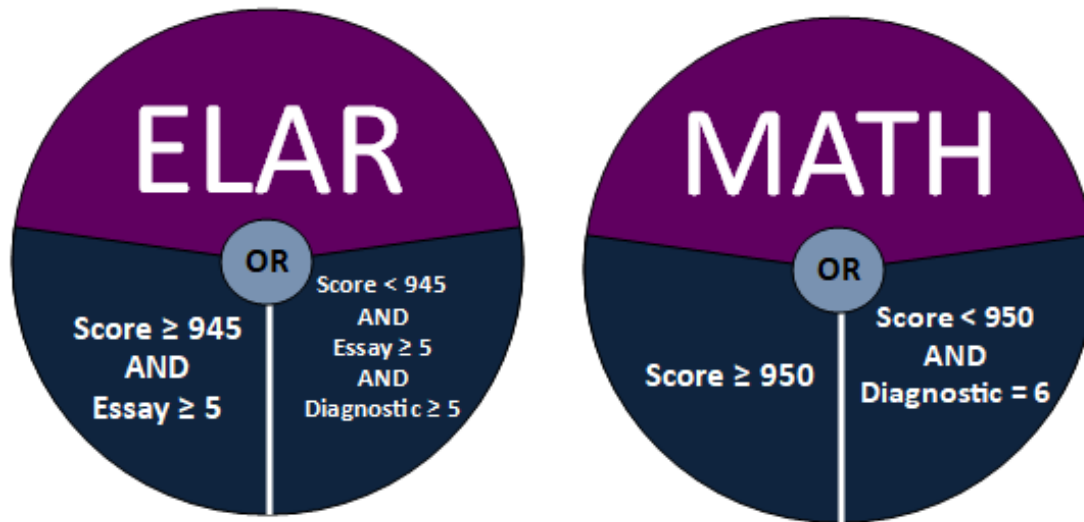
- 1st Cohort – Freedom to Dream 2025
  - Approximately 725 students were college-ready (R3 E3 M3).
  - Approximately 180 students were college-ready for OSA/Cert 1 programs.
  - Approximately 975 students were not TSI complete, students needing to take developmental coursework in Reading, English, and/or Math.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 2.0 Cohort - Freedom to Dream 2026
  - Must be college-ready to start the program (major).
  - We want to serve all students. If you're not college-ready, we have other options.
  - College Preparatory Pathways.
  - Continuing Education Programs.
    - Institutional Credential Leading to Licensure or Certification (ICLC) / Workforce Skills Awards (WSA).
  - Dual Enrollment Pipeline.



# Freedom to Dream

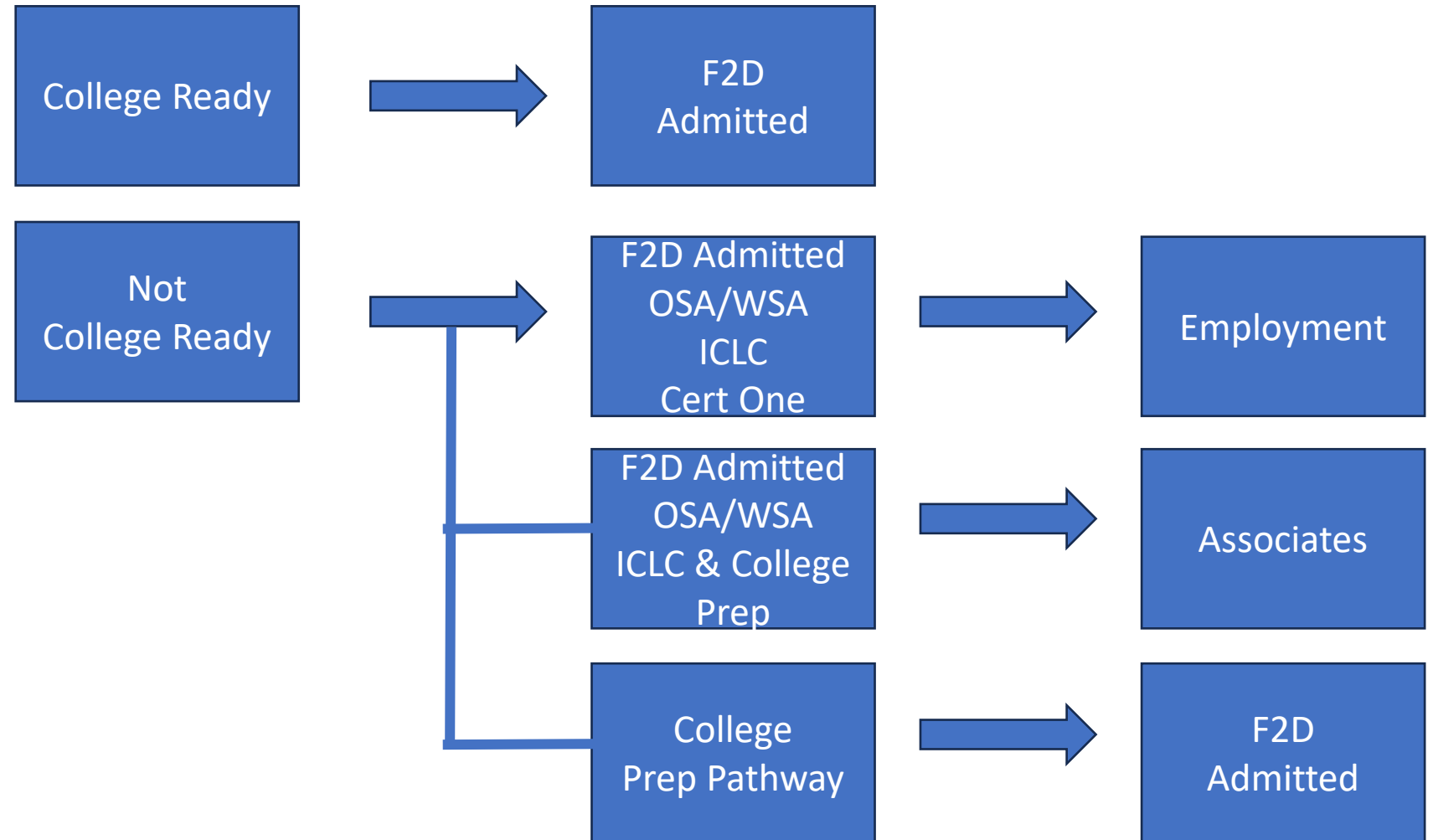
## College Readiness – Meeting Students Where They Are

### MINIMUM PASSING COLLEGE READINESS STANDARDS ON THE TSIA2



# Freedom to Dream

## College Readiness – Meeting Students Where They Are



# Freedom to Dream Enhancements for Next Cohort

- Success coaching and peer mentoring in development.
- Contract requiring students to seek help before dropping.
- Program will cover up to 60 semester credit hours, not 3 years.



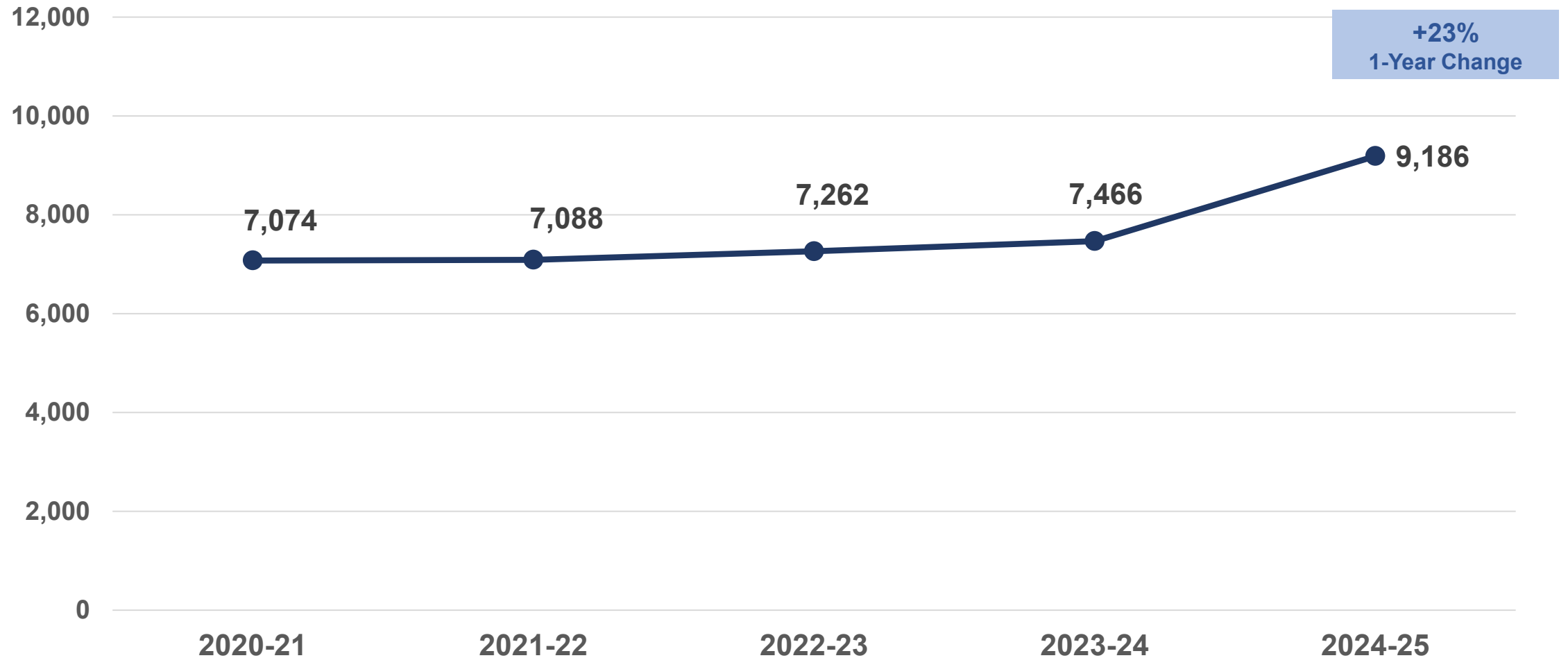


# Freedom to Dream

## Enhancements for Next Cohort

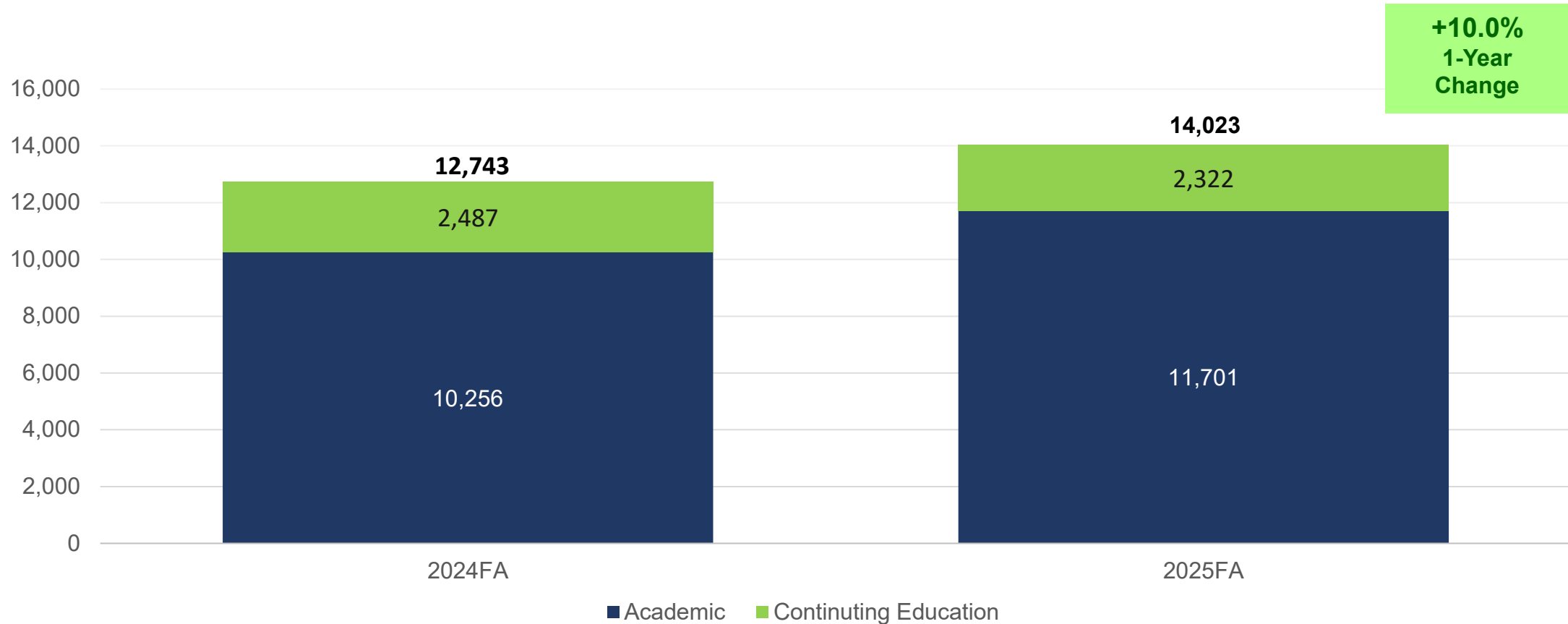
- Students must be college-ready for their program of interest or pursue continuing education options.
  - Texas Success Initiative Exam
    - Reading, English, and Math
- New college prep pathway being created for those who are not ready.

# Continuing Education Annual Headcount



*Note: A student is counted only once regardless of the number of classes enrolled in. Data Source: Colleague Database.*

# Transition to House Bill 8 Credit and Continuing Education Combined Headcount (Preliminary) Comparison



*Note: This data is a comparison of the preliminary data for both terms drawn from approximately the same date in each year for both Credit and Continuing Education terms (2023/4FA and 2023/4 Q1).*

# Continuing Education Options

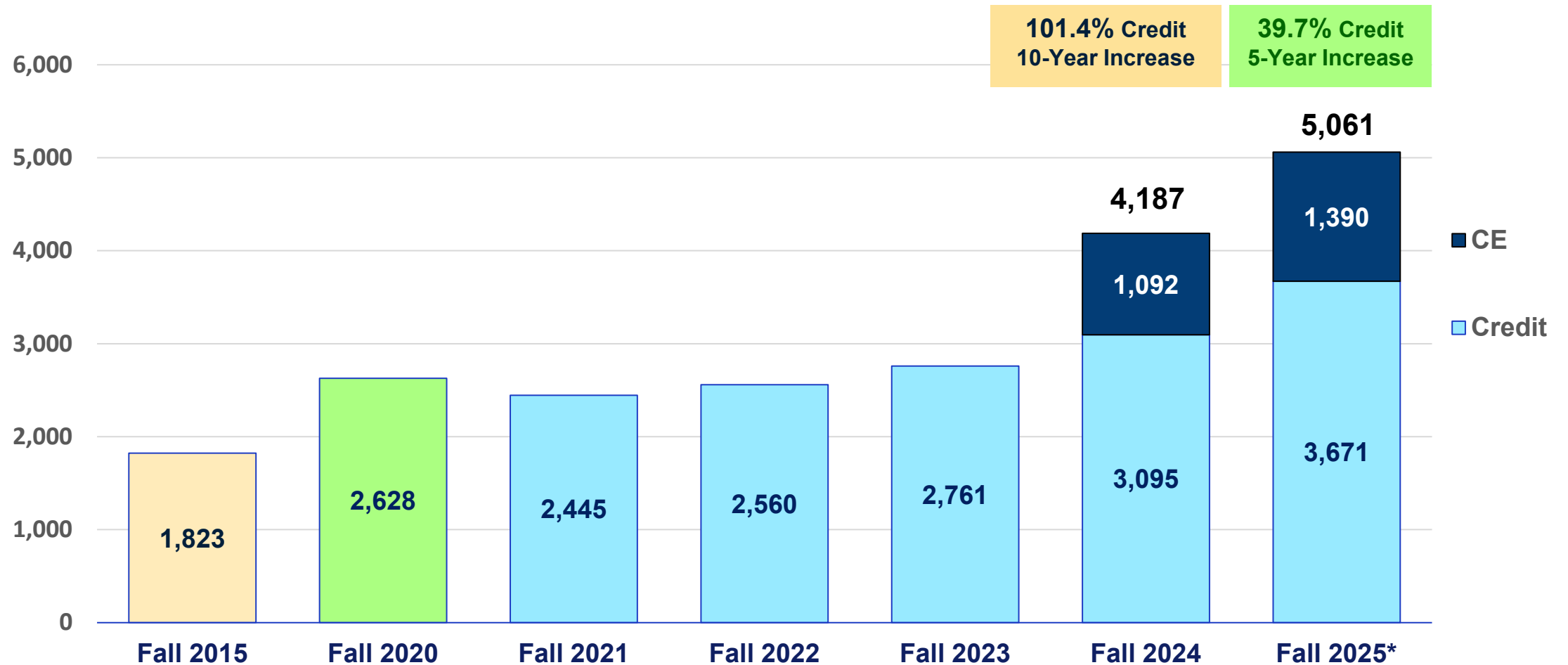
## **Institutional Credential Leading to a License or Certification (ICLC):**

- Administrative Assistant
- Certified Nurse Aide (CNA)
- Dispatcher
- EKG Tech
- Legal Secretary
- Phlebotomy
- Wastewater Technician

## **Workforce Skill Award (WSA):**

- Accounting
- Air Conditioning
- Management
- Millwright
- Plumbing
- Welding

# Fall Dual Enrollment Headcount



\*Fall 2025 figures are preliminary.

Note: A student is counted only once regardless of the number of classes enrolled in. Data Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.



# Dual Enrollment F2D Promotional Strategies

- Inform High School Principals, Counselors, and Staff.
- Provide Spring 2026 Senior/Parent Presentations.
- Work with High School Seniors.
- Collaborate with Communities in Schools.
- Communication plan for parents.

# Freedom to Dream

## Next Steps

- Board consideration to approve parameters of new recommendations and authorize administration to move forward.
- College will finalize and operationalize the revised plan.
- New Freedom to Dream campaign will launch in January 2026.

# Freedom to Dream

## Consolidated Financial Plan

		2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2027-28	Total
<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Performance Funding</b>					
	Associate Degrees	\$ 176,175	\$ 2,802,850	\$ 4,427,575	\$ 1,049,800	\$ 8,456,400
	Credentials of Value	934,805	1,005,938	217,138	-	2,157,881
	GAI Transfer w/ 15 SCH	-	689,850	656,950	117,250	1,464,050
	Dual Credit Transfers w/15 SCH	578,550	832,300	-	-	1,410,850
	<b>Total Performance Funding</b>	<b>\$ 1,689,530</b>	<b>\$ 5,330,938</b>	<b>\$ 5,301,663</b>	<b>\$ 1,167,050</b>	<b>\$ 13,489,181</b>
	DMC Foundation	500,000	500,000	-	-	1,000,000
	<b>Total Funding Source</b>	<b>\$ 2,189,530</b>	<b>\$ 5,830,938</b>	<b>\$ 5,301,663</b>	<b>\$ 1,167,050</b>	<b>\$ 14,489,181</b>
<b>Costs</b>	Associate Degrees Waivers	\$ (4,727,830)	\$ (5,971,332)	\$ (2,079,031)	\$ (225,911)	\$ (13,004,104)
	Credentials of Value Waivers	(403,400)	(415,660)	(47,122)	-	(866,182)
	Dual Credit Transfers w/15 SCH Waivers	(132,726)	(170,676)	-	-	(303,402)
	Salary Expense	(25,676)				(25,676)
	<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$ (5,289,632)</b>	<b>\$ (6,557,668)</b>	<b>(2,126,153)</b>	<b>(225,911)</b>	<b>\$ (14,199,364)</b>
	<b>NET SURPLUS</b>	<b>\$ (3,100,102)</b>	<b>\$ (726,730)</b>	<b>\$ 3,175,510</b>	<b>\$ 941,139</b>	<b>\$ 289,817</b>

INCLUDES: F2D 1.0 Student (1,715)  
F2D 2.0 Students (1,000)  
C.E. Student (200)

# Freedom to Dream

## Consolidated Financial Plan

		2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2027-28	Total
<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Performance Funding</b>					
	Associate Degrees	\$ 176,175	\$ 3,092,850	\$ 5,594,100	\$ 1,089,675	\$ 9,952,800
	Credentials of Value	934,805	1,345,963	378,088	-	2,658,856
	GAI Transfer w/ 15 SCH	-	689,850	825,300	225,750	1,740,900
	Dual Credit Transfers w/15 SCH	578,550	1,339,800	-	-	1,918,350
	<b>Total Performance Funding</b>	<b>\$ 1,689,530</b>	<b>\$ 6,468,463</b>	<b>\$ 6,797,488</b>	<b>\$ 1,315,425</b>	<b>\$ 16,270,906</b>
	DMC Foundation	500,000	500,000	-	-	1,000,000
	<b>Total Funding Source</b>	<b>\$ 2,189,530</b>	<b>\$ 6,968,463</b>	<b>\$ 6,797,488</b>	<b>\$ 1,315,425</b>	<b>\$ 17,270,906</b>
<b>Costs</b>	Associate Degrees Waivers	\$ (4,727,830)	\$ (7,035,749)	\$ (2,857,715)	\$ (226,328)	\$ (14,847,622)
	Credentials of Value Waivers	(403,400)	(580,365)	(55,612)	-	(1,039,377)
	Dual Credit Transfers w/15 SCH Waivers	(132,726)	(202,752)	-	-	(335,478)
	Salary Expense	(25,676)				(25,676)
	<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$ (5,289,632)</b>	<b>\$ (7,818,866)</b>	<b>(2,913,327)</b>	<b>(226,328)</b>	<b>\$ (16,248,153)</b>
	<b>NET SURPLUS</b>	<b>\$ (3,100,102)</b>	<b>\$ (850,403)</b>	<b>\$ 3,884,161</b>	<b>\$ 1,089,097</b>	<b>\$ 1,022,753</b>

INCLUDES: F2D 1.0 Student (1,715)  
F2D 2.0 Students (1,500)  
C.E. Student (200)

THANK YOU

