

Career, College and Military Readiness

House Bill 120

Texas State Rep. Keith Bell

Lawmakers support new pathway for college, career and military readiness programs in Texas schools

THE BIG PICTURE: HB 120 aims to better prepare Texas students for college, careers, and the military by expanding access to career and technical education (CTE), boosting school accountability, and enhancing post-graduation tracking and support.



Boosting Career Readiness in Schools:

- Expands access to programs like P-TECH (Pathways in Technology Early College High Schools) and R-PEP (Rural Pathway Excellence Partnership).
- Schools get more money (\$150 per student, up from \$50) for enrolling students in these programs.
- Students can earn industry-recognized credentials or college credit while still in high school.



Providing Support After Graduation

- Schools can now use state funding to provide post-graduation advising for students up to two years after high school.
- High schools must inform students and parents about job training, college credit programs, and wage outcomes for different pathways.



Expanding Funding and Local Access

- Raises the funding cap for certain programs like new school facilities and rural career partnerships.
- Provides subsidies for up to two certification exams per student (previously only one).



Improving Data and Accountability:

- The Texas Education Agency must post long-term student outcomes—such as college enrollment, job placement, wages—on its website.
- School districts must set measurable goals for how their graduates perform in college and the workforce.



Supporting Military-Connected Students

- JROTC programs now count as career and technology education.
- Families must be informed about scholarships and early college programs tied to military pathways.

THE BOTTOM LINE: HB 120 is about giving students more tools to succeed after high school—whether that's college, a career, or the military. **It invests in technical training, tracks real-world results, and holds schools more accountable for student outcomes.**