

# Why Support the ACC District?

## ***ACC is the Primary Gateway to Higher Education and Training***

---

- In Central Texas, more high school graduates and adults entering higher education choose ACC than any other institution.
- ACC is the largest provider of transfer students to area four-year institutions.
- ACC's transfer students perform as well as or better than students who begin at four-year institutions.
- ACC's state-mandated mission also includes important foundation skills programs (Adult Basic Education, ESL, GED, and Developmental Education) to prepare students for success in college.
- ACC offers workforce programs and training responsive to the needs of business and industry.

## ***ACC is Critical to Economic Development***

---

- ACC is the primary trainer and retrainer of the local workforce.
- ACC's diverse mission aligns with the Texas *Closing the Gaps* challenge to increase participation in higher education through:
  - Academic transfer for those pursuing bachelor's degrees
  - Workforce education in high demand career fields
  - Adult & Developmental Education for the not-yet-college-ready
  - Continuing Education and noncredit lifelong learning opportunities
  - Early College Start, *College Connection*, and other partnerships that strengthen the region's school districts

## ***Return on Investment***

---

- ACC saves the community more than \$15 million per year in reduced social services\* and contributes more than \$650 million annually to the local economy.\*\* The unemployment rate is up to 30 percent lower for associate degree holders compared with high school graduates.\*\*\*

\* CCbenefits, Inc.

\*\* Texas State Comptroller Report

\*\*\* U.S. Department of Labor

## ***Closing the Gaps Matters to Everyone***

---

- *Closing the Gaps* in higher education is critical to the state's economic development and workforce competitiveness.
- ACC is the best resource for *Closing the Gaps* in Central Texas. More than 60 percent of all people who enter higher education do so through the community college. (THECB)
- For Texas to meet *Closing the Gaps* goals it must enroll an additional 630,000 students in higher education by the year 2015.
- ACC emphasizes enrollment of traditionally underserved groups – first-generation to attend college, Hispanics, and African-Americans – the fastest growing segments of the Texas population.
- *Closing the Gaps* targets require additional resources to address access and equity issues and to provide the additional classrooms and programs.
- ACC's ISD partnerships (Early College Start, *College Connection*, etc.) need to be expanded in order to increase the numbers of ISD graduates who are college-ready and who transition into higher education.
- The ACC Foundation is critical to ACC maintaining affordable access and increasing opportunities for all.



[www.austincc.edu](http://www.austincc.edu)

[www.austincc.edu/foundation](http://www.austincc.edu/foundation)