

**Role and Mission**

Texas public junior colleges shall be two-year institutions primarily serving their local taxing districts and service areas in Texas and offering vocational, technical, and academic courses for certification or associate degrees. Continuing education, remedial and compensatory education consistent with open-admission policies, and programs of counseling and guidance shall be provided. Each institution shall insist on excellence in all academic areas—instruction, research, and public service. Faculty research, using the facilities provided for and consistent with the primary function of each institution is encouraged. Funding for research should be from private sources, competitively acquired sources, local taxes, and other local revenue. *Education Code 130.0011*

**Purpose**

The purpose of each public community college shall be to provide:

1. Technical programs up to two years in length leading to associate degrees or certificates.
2. Vocational programs leading directly to employment in semi-skilled and skilled occupations.
3. Freshman and sophomore courses in arts and sciences.
4. Continuing adult education programs for occupational or cultural upgrading.
5. Compensatory education programs designed to fulfill the commitment of an admissions policy allowing the enrollment of disadvantaged students.
6. A continuing program of counseling and guidance designed to assist students in achieving their individual educational goals.
7. Work force development programs designed to meet local and statewide needs.
8. Adult literacy and other basic skills programs for adults.
9. Such other purposes as may be prescribed by the Coordinating Board or local governing boards in the best interest of post-secondary education in Texas.

*Education Code 130.003(e)*

Each public two-year college must develop a statement regarding the purpose, role, and mission of the institution reflecting the three missions of higher education: teaching, research, and public service.

Each public community college shall include in its role and mission statement the purpose of the community college as prescribed under Education Code 130.003(e), that it shall primarily serve its local

taxing district and service area, offering career technical/workforce, and academic courses for certificates or associate degrees. Continuing education, remedial and compensatory education consistent with open admission policies, and a program of counseling and guidance shall also be provided.

Each public two-year college must publish its purpose, role, and mission statement in its official publication for students, generally the college district catalog.

*19 TAC 9.53–.54*

**Institutional  
Responsibility**

In addition to specific responsibilities imposed by the Education Code or other law, each institution of higher education, including each college district, has the general responsibility to serve the public and, within the institution's role and mission, to:

1. Transmit culture through general education.
2. Extend knowledge.
3. Teach and train students for professions.
4. Provide for scientific, engineering, medical, and other academic research.
5. Protect intellectual exploration and academic freedom.
6. Strive for intellectual excellence.
7. Provide educational opportunity for all who can benefit from postsecondary education and training.
8. Provide continuing education opportunities.

*Education Code 51.354*