

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 16, 2019

MEDIA CONTACT

Autumn A. Arnett aarnett@txcharterschools.org 512-647-6201

New Report Reveals Texas Charter Schools Are Getting More Students To and Through College

AUSTIN, TX — Today, the Texas Charter Schools Association (TCSA) released a report highlighting new data about the post-secondary outcomes of public charter schools throughout the state. The report titled "Texas Public Charters Are Getting Their Students to and through College," shows that charters are both sending a higher proportion of students to college and equipping them with higher levels of college-readiness than traditional public schools.

Examining the Texas Education Agency's most up-to-date data on student demographics and college readiness, enrollment, and completion, the report found that Texas charters send 4% more students to college than traditional public schools. Charter schools were especially effective at sending students from underserved communities into college. For example, special education students in public charters were found to be almost two times more likely to attend college than their counterparts in traditional public schools (43% vs. 23%).

"This data further cements the fact that charter schools are an integral part of closing the gaps in Texas' public education system and providing families with more choices for high quality schools," said **Starlee Coleman, CEO of Texas Charter Schools Association**. "With an emphasis on innovation and putting students first, charters across the state are working to help students reach their fullest potential while innovating on best practices in public education that will shape Texas' future leaders and thinkers."

The report further exemplified how public charters are putting the state closer to the 60x30 goal established by the state legislature in 2015, which aims to have 60% of all Texans between the ages of 25 and 34 in possession of a post-secondary certificate or college degree by 2030. Additional key statistics detailed in the report include:

 9% more public charter school students are college, career, and military ready than those in traditional ISD schools

- Public charter graduates are completing college at a 3% higher rate statewide than graduates from traditional public schools
- Higher rates of college completion in charter graduates occurred in the most populous metropolitan areas of the state, which have traditionally had some of the lowest average rates of educational attainment
- 32% of charter school students graduate with AP/IB credit compared to 13% of traditional public school graduates

To arrange interviews with TCSA CEO Starlee Coleman or a charter school leader, teacher, or parent in your region, please contact Autumn A. Arnett at aarnett@txcharterschools.org

Click <u>here</u> to read the full report: Texas Public Charters Are Getting Their Students to and through College.

For more information about charter schools in Texas, click <u>here</u>.

###

About the Texas Charter Schools Association

The Texas Charter Schools Association (TCSA) was created in 2008 to unify, support, and grow the charter movement. TCSA represents 90 percent of the 675 public charter schools in Texas, serving more than 272,000 students. For more about the TCSA, visit txcharterschools.org.