

89th Legislative Session Priorities



Teach Plus Texas works to bridge the gap between classroom expertise and policymaking, equipping highly qualified teachers in the state to lead on issues that affect opportunities and outcomes for students. As part of our year-long Policy Fellowship, teachers uplift their unique experiences with their students, research pressing issues that impact their classrooms, and identify solutions that advance teaching and learning.



The priorities below reflect the Policy Fellows' work and stance on key issues that impact the profession, classrooms, students, and communities in Texas.

INCREASE SCHOOL FUNDING



- **Increase the basic allotment** to account for rising costs to ensure the state's education system remains adequately funded and effective.
- **Strategically invest** and expand funding for statewide initiatives that support student achievement and outcomes such as the **Teacher Incentive Allotment**, **Early Education Allotment** and the **State Compensatory Education Allotment**.
- **Transition to Enrollment Based Funding** to ensure stable and predictable funding allocations for school districts. Addressing absenteeism is critically important but should instead be measured in the state's A-F accountability system.

SUPPORT THE TEACHER WORKFORCE



- **Invest in multiple teacher pathways** including the **Teacher Residency Allotment** and **Grow Your Own Programs** addressing critical issues in the teacher workforce such as recruitment, preparation, and retention.
- **Expand the Teacher Incentive Allotment** to help Texas recruit and retain top-tier educators.
- **Expand the Mentor Program Allotment** to foster stronger educators, reduce turnover, and improve the quality of education across Texas.
- Improve and prioritize teacher mental health and wellbeing by **funding comprehensive teacher mental health initiatives**.
- **Waive certification fees** for high-need or hard-to-staff areas.

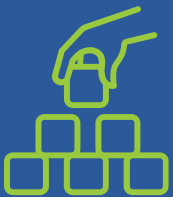


INVEST IN STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND OUTCOMES



- **Increase access to rigorous curricula** through high quality instructional materials which is essential for improving student outcomes and supporting teachers in delivering effective instruction.
- **Expand access to advanced coursework, career and technical education programs** that prepare students for life beyond high school and invests in the economic and social well being of our communities.
- **Maintain** a high-quality and transparent education system via an **outcomes-based accountability system by administering A-F ratings.**

BUILD AND SUPPORT EARLY FOUNDATIONS



- **Improve** school readiness by **expanding the Early Education Allotment** to increase access to high-quality early learning opportunities.
- Enhance Early Literacy Policy by **requiring regular screening and early intervention** initiatives that support students' early literacy development and skills.
- **Support strong foundational math development** through the utilization of **evidence-based progress monitoring** and **professional development supports for educators.**

The mission of Teach Plus is to empower excellent, experienced, and diverse teachers to take leadership over key policy and practice issues that advance equity, opportunity, and student success.