



THE
Blueprint
for EDUCATIONAL CHANGE™

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**High School Students Now Earn College Credit
for Engineering Courses –
1st NSF Grant Fund Collaborative Effort**

In 2008, a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) helped launch the Central Texas Engineering Education Collaborative, comprising 10 Central Texas school districts, E3 Alliance, Skillpoint Alliance TEEC, Austin Community College, The University of Texas and Texas State University. The Collaborative reached a significant milestone by defining a process for students to earn college academic credit for Project Lead the Way engineering courses taken in high school. This represents the first opportunity in the history of the state for students to get academic credit to college for high school engineering courses. Providing articulated credit is particularly important given the regional shortage of trained systems engineers – the #2 highest paid, highest-in-demand Central Texas occupation over time.

"This accomplishment is proof positive of the power of regionalism and the need to focus on the educational pipeline as a continuum" said Dr. Denise Trauth, President of Texas State University–San Marcos, "without these types of collaborations and incentives, our ability to attract students to STEM careers would suffer and not meet the increasing needs of our workforce in Central Texas."

Funding for building a stronger engineering pipeline was initiated by the KDK Harman Foundation, with a subsequent award from NSF that was a first of its kind issued to a regional collaboration of education and community partners.