



ALAMO
COLLEGES
DISTRICT

AlamoINSTITUTES

ABOUT

AlamoINSTITUTES is a system of educational pathways designed to help students achieve their career goals. It organizes the diverse offerings of the five Alamo Colleges into six specialized institutes: Creative and Communication Arts, Business and Entrepreneurship, Health and Biosciences, Advanced Manufacturing and Logistics, Public Service, and Science and Technology. The initiative also aligns educational pathways with local and national workforce needs, preparing students for successful careers in their chosen fields.

2020 Seamless Transfer Pathways-estimated Savings

\$374 Million



Time to Degree
2018 - 2023
ACD: 4.2 to 3.6 years



SCH to Obtain Degree
2018 - 2023
ACD: 85 to 74

WHY

AlamoINSTITUTES was created to address the challenges students faced in their educational journey, such as taking unnecessary courses, prolonged graduation times, and uncertainty about credit transfer to four-year institutions. By organizing the diverse offerings of the five Alamo Colleges into six specialized institutes, students are provided clear, structured pathways that save time and money, ensuring they only take necessary courses that align with their academic and career goals.

Excessive Credit Hours: In 2015 students nationally took an average of 92 semester credit hours to complete a 60-hour associate degree.

INNOVATIONS

Transfer Advising Guides (TAGS)

Transfer Advising Guides (TAGs) facilitate seamless transfers from one of the Alamo Colleges to four-year universities by providing the most transferable and degree-applicable credit hours. They are updated annually to reflect changes in university degree requirements.

Stackable Credentials

Courses build upon each other to help students progress efficiently toward their career goals. These credentials include Occupational Skills Awards, Enhanced Skills Certificates, Level 1 and Level 2 Certificates, and associate degrees.

South & Central Texas Transfer Compact

The Alamo Colleges District has established transfer agreements with colleges and universities within the South & Central Texas Transfer Compact. The Compact, which began with seven university partners in 2016, now has grown to 21 university partners, with a continued waiting list.

INITIATIVE IMPACT

Academic Impact (*Objective III)

- **Time to Degree:** AlamoINSTITUTES reduced the average credit hours taken and time to degree completion from **4.2 in 2018 to 3.6 years in 2023**, leading to improved student completion, retention, and graduation rates.

Economic Impact (*Objective II)

- **Significant Cost Savings:** Students receive substantial financial savings when transferring to both public and private universities. The estimated savings for students who transferred and followed TAGs were estimated at **\$374 million**.

Student Success (*Objective I)

- **Savings and Seamless Transfers:** Students save time and money by avoiding unnecessary courses and minimizing credit loss during transfers. TAGs ensure smooth transitions to four-year institutions with minimal credit loss.

*ACD STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

I: Student Success

II: Principle-Centered Leadership

III: Performance Excellence

