



TEXAS ONCOURSE

Professional Learning SERIES

FALL 2026

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AND ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS

Stay up to date on the latest tools, policies, and best practices to support student success.

The [Texas OnCourse Professional Learning Series](#) provides free, high-quality digital learning opportunities focused on college and career planning. Connect with colleagues and learn from expert guest speakers on counseling and advising topics. Whether you're a seasoned professional or new to the field, this series offers valuable insights and resources that can enhance your impact.

Tiny Takes

These concise, 30-minute sessions provide you with essential insights and resources for college and career advising. Each of these sessions can fit seamlessly into your busy schedule while delivering practical, ready-to-use information.

Who should attend?

Middle and high school educators, advisors, counselors, administrators, and higher education staff administrators, and higher education staff are encouraged to attend.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING SERIES DATES:

TUESDAY WEBINARS:	AUG. 11 (CST)	SEPT. 8 (CST)	SEPT. 15 (CST)	OCT. 13 (CST)	NOV. 10 (CST)
THURSDAY TINY TAKES:	OCT. 20 (CST)	NOV. 17 (CST)			

REGISTRATION DETAILS:

The sessions will take place on Zoom at 10 a.m.

Reimagining College and Career Exploration with My Texas Future and Direct Admissions

📅 August 11 | 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. ⌚ 1-hour webinar

Discover how My Texas Future and Direct Admissions can empower students to explore college and career opportunities, develop personalized postsecondary plans, and learn about admission pathways. Get updates on the new graduation requirement and recent platform enhancements, and learn about practical implementation strategies and resources to support student engagement.

Navigating ApplyTexas: Tools for Students and Counselors

📅 September 8 | 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. ⌚ 1-hour webinar

Join us for a guided overview of the ApplyTexas system. Explore how students complete and track applications through the Applicant Portal and how counselors can use new Counselor Suite tools to enhance student record management, monitor financial aid filing status, track admission application progress, and support students along the way. During the session, you will also collaborate with colleagues on best practices for promoting Free College Application Week on your campus.

Get Ready for Free College Application Week 2026!

📅 September 15 | 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. ⌚ 1-hour webinar

Prepare your campus for a successful Free College Application Week by exploring proven strategies, ready-to-use resources, and practical guidance to support student participation. During this session, you'll learn how to maximize the impact of Free College Application Week (October 12 to 18), when public colleges and universities across Texas waive application fees for first-time college students and transfer students applying through the ApplyTexas platform. Discover best practices for promoting participation, hear student success stories, address frequently asked questions, and leave with resources to help ensure Free College Application Week is a meaningful and successful experience for your students.

Financial Aid Essentials for Educators and Advisors

📅 October 13 | 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

⌚ 1-hour webinar

Help students turn college dreams into reality by strengthening your understanding of the financial aid process. In this session, educators and advisors like you will explore the fundamentals of FAFSA and TASFA completion, review current financial aid updates, and discover practical strategies for supporting students and families as they apply. You'll also explore how financial aid advising can complement Free College Application Week efforts to reduce barriers to college enrollment.

New Features, Better Support: Exploring ApplyTexas Updates

📅 October 20 | 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

⌚ 30-minute webinar

Get an overview of the improvements we made to the ApplyTexas system, including new features within the Applicant Portal and the Counselor Suite. Learn how these updates are designed to streamline counselors' workflows and enhance their ability to guide students through the application process.

Aligning Purpose with Practice: Strategies to Foster a College and Career Readiness Culture

📅 November 10 | 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

⌚ 1-hour webinar

Getting students ready for life beyond graduation involves establishing a strong culture of college and career readiness across your school and district. Designed for school counselors and educators, this session highlights collaborative strategies for integrating the Texas OnCourse Academy, ApplyTexas, My Texas Future, and ADVi into your daily work with students. Explore ways to strengthen advising, support informed postsecondary planning, and build a sustainable, schoolwide approach that promotes college and career success for all students.

Understanding the Texas First Program

📅 November 17 | 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

⌚ 30-minute webinar

Join us for an overview of the Texas First Program, including eligibility requirements and the award process. Whether you are new to the Texas First Program or looking for a refresher, this webinar will help you confidently identify eligible students and understand how the Texas First Program can support their postsecondary plans.