

Together We Educate Manor



Letter to the Community

Central Texas is at a critical juncture. Despite our booming economy, a wide gap exists between available jobs and local workforce talent. Approximately 50% of our current job openings require a Bachelor's degree, 12% require an Associate's Degree and 85% of our unemployed lack either.¹ Over the last decade, nearly 100,000 Central Texas students, a majority of our high school graduates, directly enrolled in college. Our direct-to-college enrollment rate increased by ten percentage points between 2003 and 2008, but leveled off at 60% over the last five years and now sits below the national average.²

When Central Texans lack the skills and education to participate in the economy, the health and prosperity of our community is threatened.

As Chair of the Chamber's 2015 Education Progress Report Taskforce, I believe we can work together as a community to close this opportunity gap. Our progress reports now unite 11 school districts, 11 regional chambers, and dozens of business leaders to track regional challenges, successes, and identify ways to improve student educational and

¹ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, College Enrollment and Work Activity of 2013 High School Graduates, April 2014

career opportunities. These school districts and partners have worked to improve college readiness rates from 47% in 2007, to 64% in 2013.³ In partnership with Central Texas school districts, the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce has also set a 70% regional direct-to-college enrollment goal for 2015, to ensure our students are prepared for college or 21st century careers.

So, to all of you who are engaged in this collective work—whether as educators, business and non-profit leaders, or activists, thank you. Educating a child takes a community and I am so proud to live in a community that comes together to put kids first.

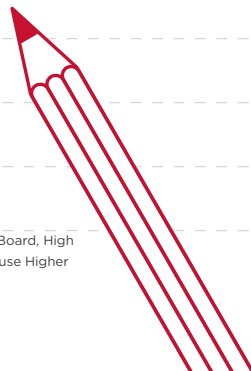
Thank you,



Dawn Jones

External Affairs Manager, Intel

Education Progress Report Taskforce Chair



² The Conference Board Help Wanted OnLine* (HWOL) and Travis County Workforce Board. Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, High School to College Linkages 2002-2013, and The University of Texas at Austin, Ray Marshall Center and National Student Clearinghouse Higher Education Enrollment Outcomes for Central Texas High School Graduates 2009-2014.

³ Academic Excellence Indicator System 2007 and Texas Academic Performance Reports 2013

A Snapshot of Manor ISD

Manor Independent School District (Manor ISD) is a rapid growth district experiencing a 125 percent increase in enrollment over the last decade. The district is a unique blend of urban east Austin and rural Travis County, with high-tech businesses such as Samsung and Applied Materials and miles of undeveloped farmland within its service area.

8,619

Students

78.2%

Economically
Disadvantaged

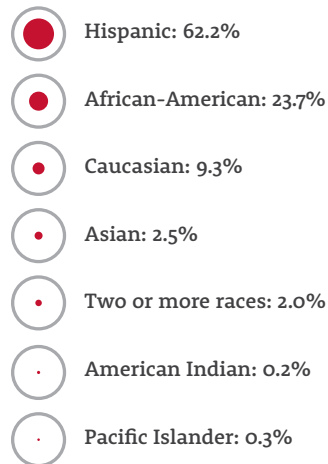


32%

English Language
Learners



Demographic summary





1,035

Employees



\$1.52

2013–2014 Tax Rate
(\$ per \$100 valuation)

\$46.5K

Average Teacher Annual
Salary

\$89M

Operations Budget

7.1

Average Teacher Years of
Experience

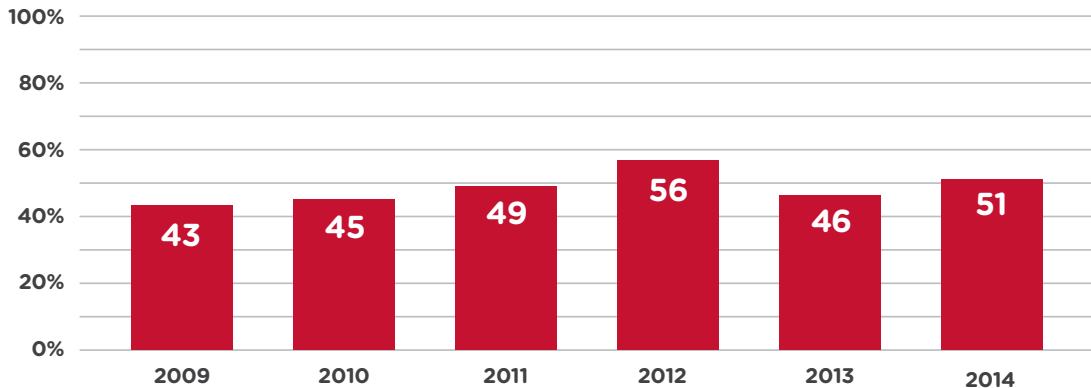
Manor ISD is a fiscally sound district with a budget surplus and healthy fund balance. In 2014, voters approved a \$124.9 million bond package, with no change to the tax rate, to address growth, instructional program needs, safety and security, and facility repairs and improvements throughout the district.

What Share of Manor ISD Students Directly Enroll in Higher Education?

The rapid growth experienced by Manor ISD has been far reaching. Since 2009, student enrollment increased by 40% and the district is proud to have supported 8% growth in its direct-to-college enrollment rate over the last five years. This continuous improvement is greatly attributed to strong partnerships and programs dedicated to supporting every student on their unique path to college. Programs such as Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) begin serving students at the elementary school level, while Breakthrough Austin and GEAR Up begin serving middle school students. At the high school level, students receive college preparation guidance and mentoring through programs such as College Forward, Education Talent Search and the district's own Each One Reach One (EORO) program.

Percentage of Graduates Who Directly Enroll in Higher Education

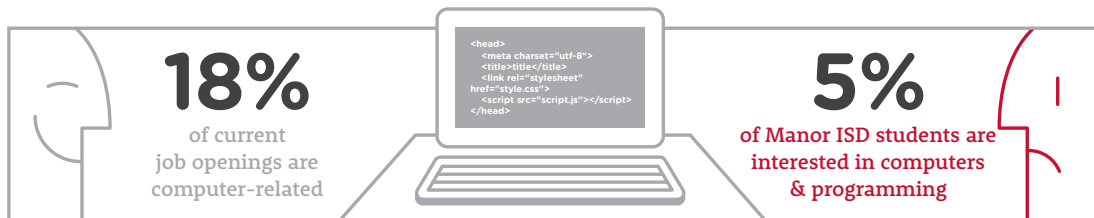
Percentage of high school graduates who enrolled in community college or four-year, degree-granting institutions, in Texas or outside of the state, for the first time no later than the fall following graduation.



 College enrollment rates have remained largely flat since 2009.

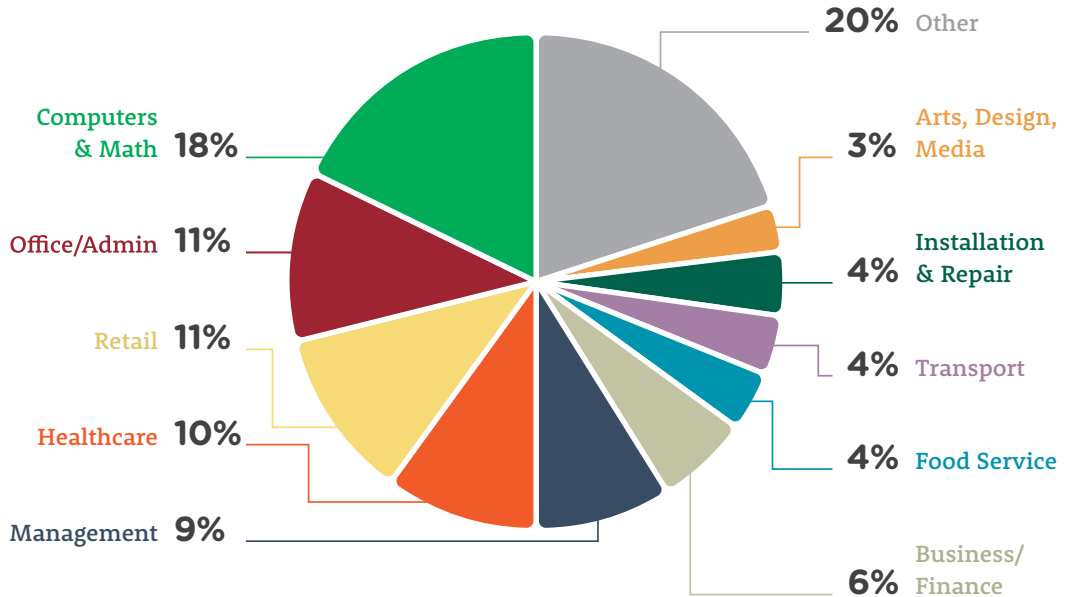
How Do Manor ISD Student Career Interests Align with Job Market Demand?


Manor ISD prides itself on providing students with the opportunity to be career ready, whether that means going directly to college or entering the workforce with a certification after graduation. The district is proud to announce that it is partnering with the Austin Community College Continuing Education Division to open the Manor ISD Career and Technology Certification Center, opening in the fall of 2015. The first of its kind in the area, the certification center will offer district juniors and seniors the opportunity to develop skills and earn certifications in competitive and growing industries in need of highly skilled employees.



Source: The Conference Board Help Wanted Online® (HWOL), November 2014; University of Texas Ray Marshall Center, Student Futures Project 2014 Student Survey

Top 10 Current Job Openings in Central Texas



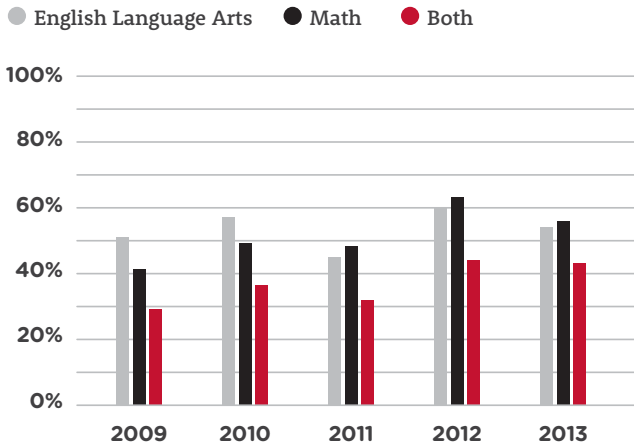
A grayscale background image of a chemistry laboratory. In the foreground, a student's profile is visible on the right. In the center, a male student wearing safety goggles looks towards the camera. To his left, a female student also wearing safety goggles is looking down at a piece of equipment. In the background, another female student is looking at a document. The lab bench is cluttered with various glassware, including flasks, beakers, and a Bunsen burner. The overall scene depicts a focused learning environment in a science classroom.

In order to reach Manor ISD's goal of enrolling 70% of our students in higher education, we are focusing on

3 primary goals.

Bolster Student College and Career Readiness

Percentage of high school graduates who met the state college and career readiness standard in:



- Manor ISD students have access to various strong college readiness programs, such as AVID, Breakthrough Austin, GEAR Up, College Forward, and Educational Talent Search, as early as 4th grade.
- Through these programs and partnerships, ACT and SAT test preparation, support, and opportunities are available for 7th through 12th graders.

Increase Student Participation in College Prep Activities

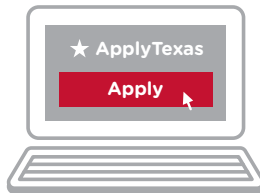
- Manor ISD hosts annual district-wide college fairs, FAFSA/TAFSA Financial Aid Saturdays (over 900 families served & \$5 million in aid awarded since 2008), financial planning sessions, and “Family University” seminars offering attendees education and support on the college preparation process.¹
- All seniors are matched with college preparation support through the “Each One Reach One” program.



81%

Aspire to Attend College

64% of those enrolled.



99%

Applied via ApplyTexas

61% of those enrolled.

¹ U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (2009-2010) and 2011-2012 Postsecondary Student Aid Study

Source: University of Texas Ray Marshall Center, Student Futures Project 2014 Student Survey, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (ApplyTexas) In-State Filing Data

The University of Texas Ray Marshall Center Has Identified Six Activities That Increase the Likelihood That a Student Will Directly Enroll in Higher Education.



75%

Attended a College Fair

73% of those enrolled.



35%

Took SAT/ACT Prep Course(s)

74% of those enrolled.



66%

Met with a Counselor

64% of those enrolled.



27%

Thought Financial Aid Process was Easy

62% of those enrolled.



26%

Plan to Use Loans

66% of those enrolled.



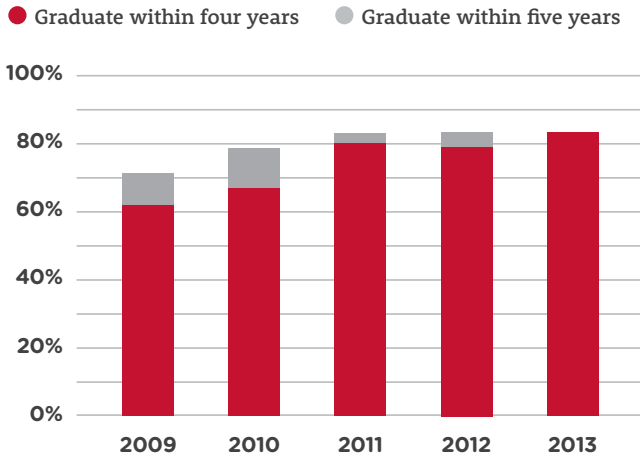
61%

Completed FAFSA

72% of those enrolled.

Continue to Improve High School Graduation Rates

Percentage of students who graduate within four or five years:



- Manor ISD is closing the opportunity gap through increased dual credit course offerings and programs such as the Manor Early College High School and the Manor ISD Career and Technology Certification Center.
- Manor ISD provides a dynamic, technology rich learning environment through the integration of Project Based Learning and the district's iPad initiative.

Visit austinchamber.com/misdprpt to view more detailed breakdowns of the four- and five-year graduation rate chart shown above

Federal graduation rate (without exclusions) AEIS & TAPR Reports from the Texas Education Agency 2009-2013

A grayscale background image of a graduation ceremony. Numerous graduates in black gowns and mortarboards are visible, with many mortarboards tossed into the air. The graduates are looking upwards with expressions of joy and excitement. The overall scene is celebratory and bright.

**If we accomplish these goals,
Manor ISD will prepare students
for higher education and**

**21st-century
careers.**

Recommendations

Direct to College Enrollment

- Extend senior counselor contracts to target college transition support to low-income and first-generation college intending students throughout the summer.

Job Market/Career Aspirations

- Expose students to high-demand careers like computer science.
- Praise Manor ISD for working closely with TSTC, ACC, and local businesses such as Samsung and Applied Materials to provide students with summer internships and access to certifications in

high-tech fields.

- Assess non-college and career ready juniors/seniors and enroll them in a course which prepares them to graduate college and career ready.

College or Career Ready

- Expand on-site testing within ISD to improve access to SAT, ACT and TSI college readiness tests.
- Congratulate MISD for providing ACT/SAT test prep workshops for all 9th–12th graders, to provide students the opportunity to demonstrate higher education readiness.

College Prep Activities

- Make it an administrative priority to ensure half of seniors submit the FAFSA before the end of March to maximize student chances of receiving aid.
- Use technology resources to target FAFSA, ApplyTexas and College Career Readiness support to improve timely resolution of college financial aid and enrollment requirements.
- Tie college enrollment activity outcomes to relevant staff evaluations so they are recognized, rewarded and accountable to meet student college enrollment goals.
- Actively promote participation in influential college prep activities (see pg

10, 11) and achieve an 80% participation rate on the UT Ray Marshall student survey.

4/5 Year Graduation

- Maintain focus on outcomes during assessment transitions
- Focus on outcomes during the transition from TAKS to STARR exit level assessments by closely monitoring student performance on EOC tests.

Acknowledgments

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How Can You Give Back to Manor ISD?

Get to Know Manor ISD

Connect with Manor ISD
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or Facebook

[Facebook.com/ManorISD](https://www.facebook.com/ManorISD)

for more information and
engagement opportunities.

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