

LEGISLATIVE BRIEF

PREFRESHMAN ENGINEERING PROGRAM



**NON-FORMULA SUPPORT ITEM REQUEST
SUPPORTING UTSA'S ACADEMIC & RESEARCH
ENTERPRISES**

ANNUAL FUNDING REQUEST

\$285,729 per year | \$571,458 over biennium

THE CHALLENGE

TexPREP addresses a critical need to develop Texas students' potential for careers in STEM fields – especially among women and members of underrepresented groups. The program is largely supported through legislative special item funding, receiving limited additional funds from individual, local, state and private foundation sources. During the last legislative session TexPREP funds were cut 31%, requiring the program's central office to eliminate critical programmatic and operational staff. In the absence of state funding services will need to be reduced by over 92%, compromising the stability and future of the program. Continued state support is vital to ensuring TexPREP's ability to fulfill its historic mission of serving underrepresented students throughout San Antonio.

THE IMPACT

With programs based in major metropolitan areas around the state, over 45,000 Texas students have completed at least one summer of TexPREP since its inception in 1979. The program has seen significant growth over the years, with demand for increased capacity each summer. Approximately 80% of TexPREP students go on to attend college, with 66% selecting a STEM major. Not only does TexPREP provide critical bridges for Texas STEM students between middle school, high school and college, it ultimately positions them to fulfill critical workforce needs in our state.

OVERVIEW

The Texas Prefreshman Engineering Program (TexPREP) is a rigorous summer program preparing middle and high school students for advanced studies and careers in STEM fields. Each year the program serves over 4,000 students from more than 125 school districts across the state. Over 80% of these participants are minority, and 53% women.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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