



**TECH PREP**

*of the Rio Grande Valley, Inc.*

# INTRODUCTION TO TECH PREP

# Tech Prep's Mission

- Tech Prep's mission is to form working regional and state partnerships that leverage regional resources to facilitate college-and-career-focused learning opportunities for students stressing practical problem-solving and critical thinking to achieve a higher level of competence in the workforce.

# What Is Tech Prep of the Rio Grande Valley, Inc.?

- Tech Prep is a nonprofit corporation originally created to work with school districts, colleges, and other organizations to set up College Tech Prep programs in public schools.
- Tech Prep programs give students the opportunity to begin planning and preparing for both college and career while in high school.
- In Tech Prep programs, students earn college credits in high school by blending college-level academic courses with college-level career and technical education courses.

# Stakeholders Working Together with Tech Prep

## **Tech Prep RGV works in collaboration with:**

- 32 independent school districts
- 5 colleges and universities
- Region One Education Service Center
- Workforce/economic development boards
- Other private and public partners

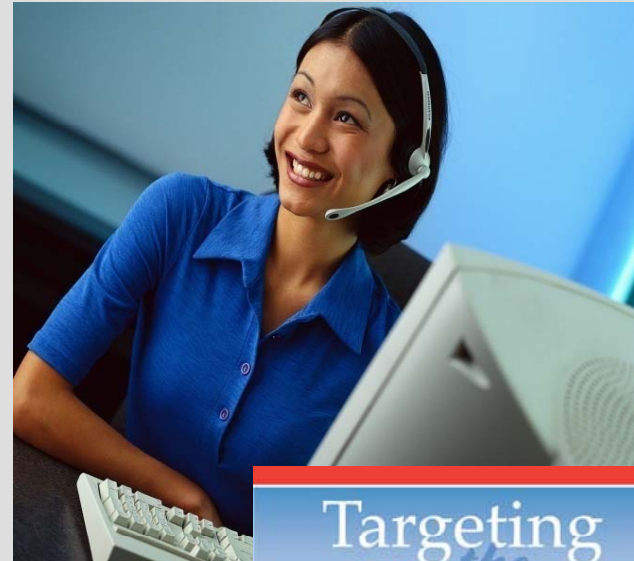
**Working together, Tech Prep and its partners are working to prepare young people for today's highly skilled workforce!**

# College Tech Prep Programs Prepare Students for Good Jobs



**Health Fields**

**Computer  
Technology**



**Engineering, Science, and  
Mathematics Fields**



See 2010 Labor Market Report at  
<http://www.techpreprgv.com/lmi.html>

# College Tech Prep Programs

## Prepare Students for Good Jobs (cont.)

- Table 3.4, Section 3, *Targeting the Future: Tech Prep 2011 Labor Market Report*  
*Tech Prep's Targeted Occupations by Career Cluster, Education/Training and Hourly Wage*

Targeted Occupations by Career Cluster	Education/ Training Required	Average Hourly Wage	
		Cameron	Hidalgo
HEALTH SCIENCES			
Biomedical Engineering Technician	2 years	\$17.00	\$17.00
Physician Assistant	Bachelor's	\$59.00	\$43.00
Radiologic Technologists/ Technicians	3 years	\$21.00	\$27.00

NOTE: Wages shown in Table 3.4 are average wages, not entry-level. Notes included with the table provide additional information.

For additional information, see 2011 Labor Market Report at <http://www.techpreprgv.com/lmi.html>

# College Tech Prep Programs Prepare Students for Good Jobs (cont.)

- Table 3.5, Section 3, *Targeting the Future: Tech Prep 2011 Labor Market Report*

## *Education and Training Opportunities for Tech Prep's Targeted Occupations*

Occupation	Education & Training Programs Available	Tech Prep Option Available?
HEALTH SCIENCES		
Biomedical Engineering Technician	TSTC	Yes
Physician Assistant	UTPA	N/A
Radiologic Technologists / Technicians	STC	No
	UTB/TSC	Yes

For additional information, see 2011 Labor Market Report at  
<http://www.techpreprgv.com/lmi.html>

# Overview of College Tech Prep Program of Study (POS) Plans

- Based on Recommended or Distinguished Achievement program and aligned with Achieve Texas Clusters(<http://www.achievetexas.org>)
- POS Plans blend multiple types of courses
  - Academic Dual Credit/AP courses
  - Career & Technical Education (CTE) dual credit courses
  - Statewide-Articulated (Advanced Technical Credit) courses ([www.atctexas.org](http://www.atctexas.org))
- POS Plans lead to Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degrees and Associate of Science (AS) degrees (some with certificate exit points) at TSTC, STC, and UTB/TSC; associate degrees offer baccalaureate-transfer opportunities.

# Dual Credit and Articulated Credit Courses

- Dual Credit
  - Student receives a grade (and credit) for both high school and college course
  - Student receives a grade on a college transcript at the time the course is taken
- Articulated Credit
  - Student receives a grade for high school course
  - College credit is “banked” until the student enrolls at the college

# Program of Study Graduation Plans

Tech Prep of the Rio Grande Valley, Inc. - Windows Internet Explorer

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**BUSINESS** **GOVERNMENT**  
**TECH T PREP**  
**EDUCATION**

**Parents**

**P16**  
Lower Rio Grande P-16 Council

**CATEMA**



### Starting point for Educators

- [Programs of Study](#)
- [Benefits of Tech Prep](#)
- [Calendar of Events](#)
- [Careers in Action](#) (with lesson plans)
- [Counselor's Network](#)
- [Curriculum](#)
- [Featured Educator](#)
- [Helpful Resources](#)
- [CATEMA](#) (with Tech Prep Declaration of Intent)
- [Scholarship Information](#)
- [Shared Advisors](#)
- [S-TEAMs](#)
- [Work-Based Learning](#)

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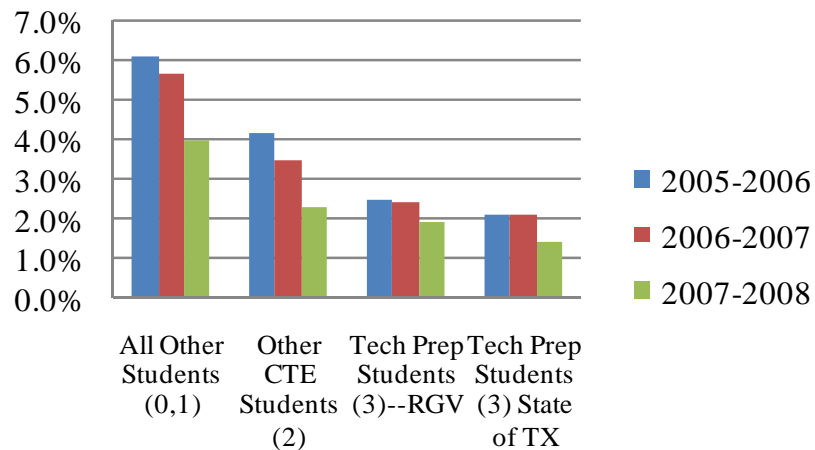
# Sample College Tech Prep Program of Study Computer Drafting & Design Technology at TSTC

Name: _____		Date Of Birth: ##/##/####		Student ID# _____		TSTC ID #: _____			
		<b>Texas State Technical College</b>							
College: Texas State Technical College		Associate of Applied Science Degree in Computer Drafting & Design Technology				ISD/CISD: Harlingen			
Program/CIP: 15.1300.00		High School _____		Harlingen High School		Career Cluster: Information Technology			
Plan: Computer Drafting & Design Technology		Career Pathway: _____							
<b>High School 4 Year Program</b>					<b>College Five-Semester Program</b>				
<b>Subject</b>	<b>9th Grade</b>	<b>10th Grade</b>	<b>11th Grade</b>	<b>12th Grade</b>	<b>1st Sem</b>	<b>2nd Sem</b>	<b>3rd Sem</b>	<b>4th Sem</b>	<b>5th Sem</b>
English	English 1	English 2	English 3	English 4	ENGL 1301 COMP I				
Math	Algebra 1 or Geometry/ MMA	Geometry & MMA or Algebra 2	Algebra 2 or Pre-Cal. or AP Stats	Pre-Calculus or AP Stats or AP Cal.		MATH 1314 College Algebra	MATH 1316 Plane Trigonometry		
Science	Biology	Chemistry	Physics	4th Science (See your counselor for available courses)					
Humanities	World Geography	World History	US History	US Government and Economics	HRPO 1311 Human Relations	PSYC 2301 General Psychology			Humanities/Fine Arts Elective
Foreign Language/ Fine Arts	Span 1 or Span 2 or French 1	Span 2 or Span 3 or French 2	Spanish 3 or French 3						
Communications/ Speech		Communication Applications	Fine Arts					SPCH 1311 INTRO to Speech COMM	
PE/Health	PE	Health	PE						
Electives	Principles or Architecture			Advanced Architectural Design					
Technical Applications	BIM 1 or BIM 1-TA	BIM 2			DFTG 1305 Technical Drafting	DFTG 2312 Technical Illustration & Presentation	DFTG 1317 Architectural Drafting- Residential	DFTG 2328 Architectural Drafting- Commercial	DFTG 2331 Advanced Technologies in Architectural
Dual Enrollment			Architectural Design		DFTG 1309 Basic Computer-Aided Drafting	DFTG 1333 Mechanical Drafting	DFTG 2340 Solid Modeling/ Design SRVV 2348 Plane Surveying	DFTG 2332 Advanced Computer-Aided Drafting	DFTG 2306 Machine Design DFTG 2321 Topographical Drafting
ATC		Psychology			DFTG 2330 Civil Drafting	DFTG 2350 Geometric Dimensioning & Tolerancing	GISC 1311 Introduction to Geographic Info. Systems	GISC 2320 Intermediate Geographic Info. Systems	GISC 1301 Cartography and Geography in GIS & GPS
Related Activities	SkillsUSA, National Technical Honor Society (NTHS), Business Professionals of America, Job Shadowing, Part-Time Employment and UIL			Computer Drafting and Design Technology Club, and Skills USA					
<p>Courses that are highlighted indicate articulation credits with Texas State Technical College.</p> <p>TSTC has upward- articulation agreements with universities that give students who complete programs at TSTC the option to continue into a baccalaureate program.</p> <p>Please see your high school counselor for high school graduation requirements which are the first four years.</p> <p>Degree plans are contingent upon availability of the program at the time of college admissions.</p> <p>Achieve Texas plans reflect the current career pathway selected by the student. Student may change career pathways upon annual review with an advisor or counselor.</p> <p>The Achieve Texas College Plan serves as a guide for students; it is not an official college degree plan</p>						<p>Approvals:</p> <p>Student signature _____ Date _____</p> <p>Advisor _____ Date _____</p>			
Total Possible college credits completed in high school = 12						Expected Graduation Date= ##/##/####			

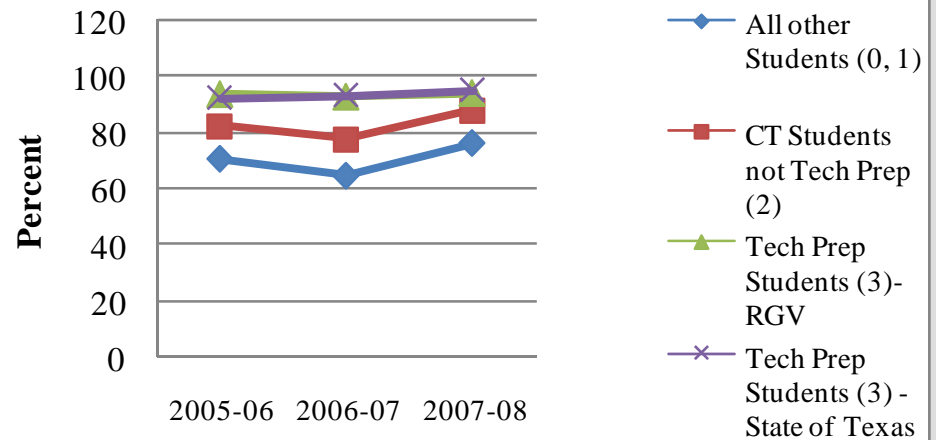
# Tech Prep Works!

- Studies have shown that Tech Prep students are more likely to stay in school and gain the skills that make them eligible for employment in well-paying jobs with a future.
- The graphs below illustrate that students who participate in Tech Prep programs have better attendance rates and lower dropout rates than those who do not participate.

**Regional Dropout Rates Grades 9-12**



**Regional Graduation Rates**



# College Tech Prep Programs Contribute to Student Success!

2006-2007 High School Student Graduation Rates:

LRGV Tech Prep Students 93.0%

LRGV Non Tech Prep Students 65.1%

2005-2006 Percent of Graduates Completing College-Preparatory Plans:

LRGV Tech Prep Students 94.9%

LRGV Non Tech Prep Students 87.3

Source: <http://www.techpreptexas.org/consortia/state.shtml>

# Benefits to Students and Parents

## **With Tech Prep, students and their families save time and money. Tech Prep students:**

- Get a head start on college by earning college credits in high school without paying college tuition.
- Gain hands-on experience in their career pathway classes and through Tech Prep's job shadowing, mentoring, and internship programs.
- Have lower dropout rates and absenteeism.
- Have better high school graduation rates.
- Acquire the technical and academic skills required for 21<sup>st</sup> century careers: College and Career Readiness!

# What Tech Prep Has to Offer

## **Tech Prep offers students, educators, and partners:**

- Student Recognition: Tech Prep Texas Scholars and the Dr. Lauro F. Cavazos Scholarships
- Tech Prep Support Teams (S-TEAMs)
- Educator Professional Development: ATC Training, CATEMA and Annual Regional Conference
- Planning to have future Lower Rio Grande Counselor's Network joint with P-16 Council meetings
- Lower Rio Grande P-16 Early College High Schools Subcommittee
- Annual Employers & Education Forum
- Tech Prep Career Center Project/Harlingen EDC Collaborative Projects Groups
- Regional Labor Market Report  
(<http://www.techpreprgv.com/lmi.html>)

# What Tech Prep Has to Offer

## **Tech Prep offers students, educators, and partners:**

- Career Preparation (Tech Prep Programs of Study)
- Career Awareness: Education & Career EXPO and Careers in Construction opportunities
- Career Exploration: Job Shadow Days and (sometimes) Internships
- Summer Educator Externships for Teachers and Counselors (Academic Leadership Alliance)
- RGV Mentors

# Tech Prep Texas Scholars and the Dr. Lauro F. Cavazos Scholarship

- Tech Prep Texas Scholars
  - Recognition program organized by the Tech Prep Board in collaboration with the Texas Scholars program of the Texas Business and Education Coalition, to encourage students to enroll in, and complete Tech Prep programs
- Cavazos Tech Prep Scholarships require
  - Graduation as Tech Prep Texas Scholar.
  - Application that includes an essay explaining the Tech Prep program and how participation helped the student.

# Tech Prep's Scholarship Program

Dr. Lauro F. Cavazos Scholarships sponsored by Tech Prep Board and others; for example (2011):

\$5,000 Any College or University

\$4,000 Texas State Technical College

\$3,000 University of Texas–Pan American

\$3,000 University of Texas at Brownsville  
and Texas Southmost College

# Education & Career EXPO



The EXPO enabled participating students to gather the information that would help them decide on their educational or career goals as well as lead them closer to achieving satisfying futures

**October 13, 2011**

# Job Shadow Days

- Structured, short visits to worksites in students' areas of career interest
- Opportunity to learn as much as possible about a career in an area of interest to each student by participating, observing, listening, and asking good questions



**LA VILLA MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS  
'SHADOWING' AT ALTAS PALMAS  
ANIMAL CLINIC IN HARLINGEN--JOB  
SHADOW DAYS 2011**

**(The Rio Grande Valley Partnership hosted  
Tech Prep's Job Shadow Days Kickoff on  
Groundhog Day, February 2011)**

# Careers in Construction Events

- Events organized by SpawGlass Contractors and Tech Prep in collaboration with Associated General Contractors and American Institute of Architects, introduce the students to professionals in architecture, engineering, and construction industries.
- Teens learn about the range of jobs and the education and experience necessary to work in these challenging, well-paid positions.
- Planning underway now for activities in Harlingen and Brownsville



**CAREERS IN CONSTRUCTION EVENT IN HARLINGEN, SPRING 2011**  
**Harlingen South High School pre-engineering, architectural drawing, and welding students tour TSTC's University Center construction site to learn about the management and technical skills used in the industry**

# Academic Leadership Alliance Summer Educator Externships

ALA is a partnership of McAllen Economic Development Corporation, Region One ESC, and Tech Prep, with Brownsville Chamber of Commerce, Harlingen Area Chamber of Commerce, Harlingen Economic Development Corporation, school districts, and employers

- “ALA gives employers a meaningful opportunity to help prepare the workforce of tomorrow!” –Richard Vaughan, Burton Companies, Tech Prep Board Chair
- “Extern was willing to learn all areas of aspects of company; being able to participate in helping educate your students”—Employer, ALA 2011
- “. . . Since I have only worked in the education field, it was a great experience to see the workplace skills from a different perspective”—Educator, ALA 2011



**Cruz Casiano, McAllen High School teacher, spent her externship at Mission Regional Medical Center in Mission. She states, “... I was amazed at the great interpersonal communication between departments this organization has .”**

# RGV MENTORS

- RGV Mentors aims to match successful community professionals with aspiring high school students.
- Mentoring can help students better prepare for careers in fields that capture their interest.
- The school-based mentoring began with a pilot project at Harlingen High School Spring 2011 semester.
- Twice-monthly sessions paired a college student (Mentor) with a Harlingen High School student (Protégé).
- Building on Tech Prep's existing programs that include job shadowing, internships, and visits to colleges and universities
- Continuation of school-based and community-based mentoring Spring 2012.



**RGV Mentors Pilot Project Closing Ceremony  
at Regional Academic Health Center, Harlingen**

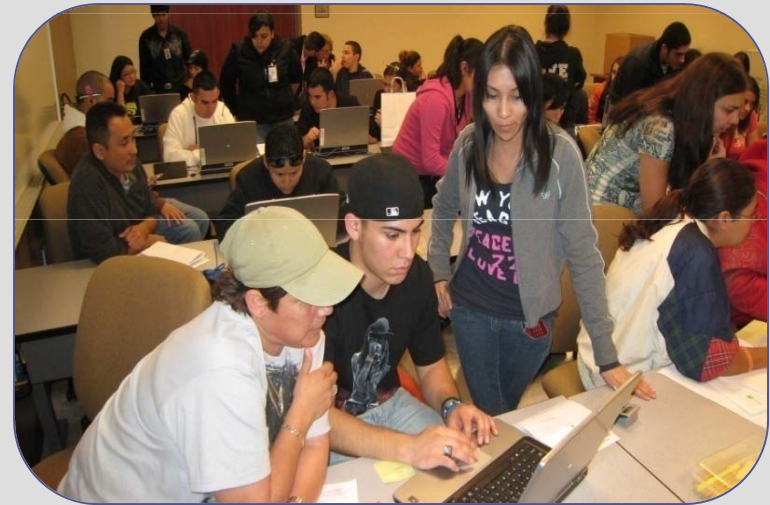
**Pictured (L-R): Mentor Rebecca Atkinson, RGV  
Mentors Chair Nolan E. Perez, M.D. (Tech Prep  
Executive Board) and Protégé, Danielle M. Hernandez  
(May 19, 2011)**

# Partnerships and Activities through Tech Prep

**Various activities underway for these collaborative projects funded by contracts from school districts:**

- Los Fresnos CISD: College, Career & Technology Academy
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century (FACES) Project at PSJA ISD
  - Staff are coordinating planning for an event with RGV Vipers
- Collaborative Dropout Recovery Project at PSJA ISD
- Harlingen EDC/Tech Prep Career Center Project/  
Collaborative Projects Groups

# College: My Future



# Conclusion

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# Conclusion

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