

NEXT GENERATION TEXAS

# HOW WELL ARE TEXAS PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES SERVING THEIR STUDENTS?

Ranking Free Speech, Academic Quality, ROI, and “Wokeness”  
at Texas Public Universities



WRITTEN BY

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Ranking Free Speech, Academic Quality, ROI, and “Wokeness” at Texas Public Universities

WRITTEN BY Thomas K. Lindsay, Greyson Gee, Jorge Borrego (*Andrew Gillen also contributed to this report*)

## KEY POINTS

- **On January 1st** of this year, SB 17 took effect. It bans all Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion programs and staff at all Texas public universities. Are universities complying with SB 17? To find out, this paper composes the first installment of an ongoing study of Texas public universities. The current study is a review of three leading, existing ranking protocols.
- **These three sets** of rankings measure: (1) Free speech protections on campus, or the lack thereof; (2) Academic quality, as measured by core curriculum requirements, or the lack thereof; and (3) Texas colleges’ return on investment (ROI) which compares the financial costs and benefits (e.g., higher earnings) of acquiring a college education.
- **If you find** any violations of SB 17 at your public university, you can report by visiting [NODEITX.com](http://NODEITX.com) or by calling 855-NO-DEI-TX.

## INTRODUCTION: MAKING SENSE OF THE EXISTING RANKINGS

American higher education is suffering from a crisis of confidence. Recent studies testify that a growing number of Americans no longer believe that our colleges and universities are delivering on their promises. To be sure, this American decline in consumer confidence has been taking place for some time. This is largely due to on-campus censorship, lackluster learning outcomes, and tuition hyperinflation. But recent events have served to sharpen the public’s ire, specifically, at the recent Congressional testimony offered by the presidents of both Harvard and Penn. These two Ivy League CEOs somehow found themselves unable to condemn the antisemitic harassment taking place on their campuses in the wake of the October 7, 2023, Hamas massacre of Israeli men, women, and children.

This paper represents the first installment of what will be an ongoing study of Texas public universities. This first phase, released in March 2024, is a review of three leading, existing ranking protocols.

These three sets of rankings measure:

1. **Free speech** protections on campus, or the lack thereof.
2. **Academic quality**, as measured by core curriculum requirements, or the lack thereof.
3. **Texas colleges’ return on investment (ROI)** which compares the financial costs and benefits (e.g., higher earnings) of acquiring a college education.

Metrics for the above criteria are derived from the following sources:

- a. Free speech:** FIRE's (Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression) national rankings.
- b. Academic quality:** ACTA's (American Council of Trustees and Alumni) national rankings.
- c. Texas colleges' workforce ROI:** The Foundation for Research on Equal Opportunity's (FREOPP) study of college return on investment.

Each of these three sets of rankings is extremely helpful in determining the merits of a given college or university, though incomplete. To provide a more comprehensive evaluation, we will add a crucial, Texas-based criterion: adherence to SB 17. During the 88th Texas Legislature (2023), Texas secured a historic victory for intellectual liberty and color-blind equality in higher education with the passage of SB 17. SB 17 bans all Texas four-year, public colleges and universities from launching or maintaining "Diversity, Equity, Inclusion" (DEI) offices, staff, programs, or contractors that perform the duties of a DEI department or office.

With the bill's passage, the task now is to ensure that the new law is being enforced, in both spirit and letter, by all Texas public universities. SB 17 took effect on January 1, 2024; information concerning each university's compliance with the law began to become publicly available after this date.

To monitor compliance, the Texas Public Policy Foundation submitted PIRs (Public Information Requests) to all the universities covered by SB 17. These universities are all individually listed and graded in the pages that follow. At the time of this writing, we have yet to receive full responses from all the schools to which the law applies. Once we receive all responses, we will then be able to provide comparative metrics for this category. Hence, we will be updating and reissuing a second installment of this study (a report on SB 17-compliance) in the coming months.

In addition to the information we hope to receive from the PIRs, we will also be using data collected from campus whistleblowers, mission statements, home pages, admissions, survey responses, and reports submitted through TPPF's DEI hotline: 855-NO-DEI-TX (663-3489) and its website, [www.nodeitx.com](http://www.nodeitx.com).

This process of monitoring, measuring, and reassessing will continue as we strive to inform students, their parents, taxpayers, and legislators of how well Texas public universities are serving their students.

## LIMITATIONS OF THIS STUDY (AND ALL ATTEMPTS AT COLLEGE RANKINGS)

Certainly, there is a plethora of organizations and publications that have produced rankings of universities. Some of the most notable include *U.S. News & World Report* (likely the most well-known), *QS World University Rankings* (international), *Times Higher Education World University Rankings* (also international), *Forbes America's Top Colleges*, *Money's Best Colleges*, *Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education College Rankings*, *Niche Rankings*, *Princeton Review's Best Colleges*, and *Washington Monthly College Guide and Rankings*, among others.

In the face of so many preexisting lists of college rankings, why publish another?

We have two primary reasons for our report. First (and most importantly), this study is Texas-specific and, as such, adds a new criterion by which to measure and evaluate Texas public higher education institutions—their fidelity (or lack thereof) to SB 17's ban on DEI training, staff, and programs. This criterion, in common parlance, measures "wokeness," or the Marxist-derived worldview according to which America's core principles of individual liberty, equality of opportunity, limited government, and free markets are deemed tyrannical. The FIRE rankings on free speech also are indicators of wokeness, or the lack thereof.

Secondly, all studies—including this one—that attempt to rank universities suffer ineluctably from several flaws. Among these are methodological deficiencies

that skew their findings; specifically, such studies (*U.S. News* is a prime example) focus heavily on certain “inputs”—size of endowments, selectivity in admissions, alumni-giving participation rates—on the assumption that these directly correlate with educational quality. These ranking systems’ faulty assumption skews the results in favor of wealthy institutions that can attract high-achieving students, without actually telling us about the quality of teaching and learning that goes on in these institutions. Moreover, a methodological focus on inputs alone can encourage universities to “game the system” with a view to enhancing their place in the rankings, without necessarily enhancing teaching and learning.

Today’s public universities are large, complex organizations with many moving parts. Because of this, their outcomes can be more difficult to interpret than those of other organizations. For all these reasons, prospective college students and their parents need to exercise *a great degree of diligence in choosing a college*. This is not to say that lists of rankings do not offer useful information to students and their parents, but they should be understood as a needed starting-point, rather than a panacea. The college-bound should also seek out other sources of information, such as what can be gotten from others who are attending or have attended the college recently.

Rather than curse the darkness that inevitably surrounds such efforts, this study shines a light on three valuable metrics (as provided by FIRE, ACTA, and FREOPP) currently used to rank institutions of higher education. Our ranking will combine the insights of these three studies. And, as mentioned, we will add a fourth, new criterion—fidelity to SB 17—in our second installment once this information becomes available.

## METHOD OF PRESENTATION

In the pages that follow, we provide both a macro and micro presentation of the data. At the macro level, we provide a one-page summary of our findings for each Texas public university. Each summary lists that school’s **FIRE**, **ACTA**, and **FREOPP** score. For the time being, all schools are given a grade of “Pending” regarding their compliance with SB 17.

For those looking for more granular data, we provide links to this information (for example, FREOPP has analyzed the ROI of 30,000 majors across the country). We make this more-detailed information available because students do not major *in a university*, but in a particular discipline; therefore, it is not enough to know the average ROI for West Texas A&M University (to use an example), but rather, the average ROI for the particular major that the student intends to study at West Texas.

Concurrently, we hope the following one-page summaries for each school provide easy reference for our pressed-for-time readers.

## DESCRIPTION OF METRICS

### *FIRE’s Free Speech Rankings*

(from [www.thefire.org](http://www.thefire.org))

#### **About FIRE**

“FIRE’s mission is to defend and sustain the individual rights of all Americans to free speech and free thought—the most essential qualities of liberty. FIRE educates Americans about the importance of these inalienable rights, promotes a culture of respect for these rights, and provides the means to preserve them.”

#### **Methodology**

“The College Free Speech Rankings are based on a composite score of 13 components, six of which assess student perceptions of different aspects of the speech climate on their campus. The other seven assess behavior by administrators, faculty, and students regarding free expression on campus. Higher scores indicate a better campus climate for free speech and expression.” For further details and information on FIRE’s methodology, visit [rankings.thefire.org/rank/methodology](http://rankings.thefire.org/rank/methodology).

Our report will cite three indicators from FIRE, which are three “color” ratings. These ratings (“**red**,” “**yellow**,” and “**green**”) are described as follows:

- A “**red**” rating indicates that the institution has at least one policy that both clearly and substantially restricts freedom of speech.

- A “**yellow**” rating indicates that an institution maintains policies that restrict a more limited amount of protected expression, or that, by virtue of their vague wording, such policies could easily be used to restrict protected expression.
- A “**green**” rating indicates that an institution maintains no policies that seriously threaten speech, although this rating does not indicate whether a college actively supports free expression.

**American Council of Trustees and Alumni (ACTA) Rankings of Academic Quality**  
(from [www.goacta.org/about/](http://www.goacta.org/about/))

**About ACTA**

“The American Council of Trustees and Alumni (ACTA) is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting academic excellence, academic freedom, and accountability at America’s colleges and universities.”

**Methodology**

“What Will They Learn?® rates institutions with a stated liberal arts mission on how many of seven core subjects are required in their general education programs. The subjects are Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science. The grade is based on a detailed examination of the latest publicly available online course catalogs or college websites at the time of review.” For further details and information on ACTA’s methodology, visit <https://www.whatwilltheylearn.com/rating-criteria>.

“If a subject is merely one of several options (as is often the case with “distribution requirements”), or if a subject is optional for students in either the B.A. or B.S. program, the college or university does not receive credit. The intent is always to determine what institutions require of all their students in liberal arts programs, and not what they merely offer or suggest. What Will They Learn?® also does not grant credit for a subject if the institution uses SAT or ACT scores to exempt students from coursework, since

an examination of high school-level skills should not be used to fulfill collegiate requirements.

Our report will cite the grading criteria from ACTA which are determined, according to ACTA, “based on how many of [the] seven subjects [listed above] students are required to complete. If a core course is an option among other courses that did not meet the What Will They Learn?® criteria for a certain subject, the institution does not receive credit for that subject. Credit is given only for what an institution requires of its students, not what it merely recommends ... [if] a requirement exists from which students choose between otherwise qualifying courses within two What Will They Learn® subject areas (e.g., math or science; history or economics, etc.), one-half credit is given for both subjects (with both halves totaling one whole subject).”

Their grading system is as follows: A: 6–7 core subjects required; B: 4–5 core subjects required; C: 3 core subjects required; D: 2 core subjects required; F: fewer than 2 core subjects required.

Under our coding, an A or B overall grade carries a “Green Flag,” an overall grade of C or D carries a “Yellow Flag,” and an F carries a “Red Flag.”

**The Foundation for Research on Equal Opportunity’s (FREOPP) Return on Investment (ROI)**  
(from [www.freopp.org](http://www.freopp.org))

**About FREOPP**

The Foundation for Research on Equal Opportunity (FREOPP) “seeks to expand economic opportunity to those who least have it, using the tools of individual liberty, free enterprise, technological innovation, and pluralism”

**Methodology**

FREOPP used U.S. Department of Education data on college costs and on earnings of new graduates to calculate the return on investment (ROI) for tens of thousands of different college programs. ROI is “the amount that a student can expect to see his or her earnings increase thanks to the college degree,

subtracting the direct and indirect costs of college, and accounting for the risk that the student will drop out before finishing the degree” (<https://freopp.org/we-calculated-return-on-investment-for-30-000-bachelors-degrees-find-yours-1f2f3c5e6dac>).

We focus on the ROI metric that accounts for completion, meaning that ROI is estimated for all new students, not just for those that successfully graduate. Since ROI is calculated by program, we determined the college-wide ROI by taking a weighted average of the program ROI values, with the number of graduates from each program used as weights.

Flags for Return on Investment (ROI):

- **RED FLAG:** Colleges with a negative ROI. The typical student would be financially better off not enrolling in this college due to some combination of high costs, low completion rates, or low post-graduation earnings.
- **YELLOW FLAG:** Colleges with a positive ROI, but less than the median ROI among Texas public colleges.
- **GREEN FLAG:** Colleges with an ROI that is both positive and above the median ROI among Texas public colleges.

Note: For a more granular analysis of each school (ROI by major), visit <https://public.flourish.studio/visualisation/7583742/>.

## COMPLIANCE WITH SB 17 (BAN ON DEI)

As noted above, last fall, the Texas Public Policy Foundation began submitting Public Information Requests (PIRs) to all universities covered by SB 17; that is, all Texas public, four-year universities. When we receive full responses from all Texas schools, we will, in our second installment of this study, place each school into one of three categories:

- **Full compliance (Green Flag)**, with accompanying explanatory prose.

- **Questionable (Yellow Flag)**, with accompanying explanatory prose.
- **Poor compliance (Red Flag)**, with accompanying explanatory prose.

## BEST-RANKED TEXAS PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES ACCORDING TO EACH OF THE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE METRICS

### *Texas Schools that Received a Green Flag on Free Speech*

Only one Texas public university received FIRE’s highest ranking on free speech:

1. Texas A&M University–College Station

### *Texas Schools that Received a Green Flag on Academic Quality (A or B overall grades)*

Note: All of these schools received overall grades of B on academic quality. No Texas public university received an A.

1. Lamar University
2. Midwestern State University
3. Prairie View A&M University
4. Stephen F. Austin State University
5. Tarleton State University
6. Texas A&M International University
7. Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi
8. Texas Southern University
9. Texas State University
10. Texas Tech University
11. Texas Woman’s University
12. The University of Texas Permian Basin
13. University of Houston
14. University of Houston–Victoria
15. University of North Texas
16. The University of Texas at El Paso
17. The University of Texas at San Antonio
18. The University of Texas at Austin

### *Texas Schools that Received a Green Flag on ROI*

1. Texas A&M University–College Station
2. The University of Texas at Austin
3. The University of Texas at Dallas
4. Texas Tech University
5. Midwestern State University
6. University of Texas Permian Basin
7. Texas Woman’s University
8. University of Houston
9. Prairie View A&M University
10. University of North Texas at Dallas
11. Sam Houston State University
12. Lamar University
13. Stephen F. Austin State University
14. Tarleton State University
15. University of Houston–Downtown
16. West Texas A&M University

### *Texas Schools that Received a Green Flag on Compliance with SB 17 (including full responses to our PIR’s requesting this data)*

Note: At this writing we have not received full responses to our PIRs from all SB 17–covered universities. It would therefore be precipitous of us to assign authoritative grades for Texas universities’ responses to and compliance with SB 17. These will be supplied in the second installment of this study.

## ANGELO STATE UNIVERSITY

FIRE SCORE: **YELLOW**    ACTA SCORE: **YELLOW FLAG (D)**    ROI: **YELLOW**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:**

Angelo State’s free speech rating of “Yellow Flag” by FIRE indicates that it “maintains policies that restrict a more limited amount of protected expression or that, by virtue of their vague wording, they could too easily be used to restrict protected expression.”

Its “Yellow Flag” rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of D by ACTA, which means that it requires two of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its “Yellow Flag” rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is positive, but less than the median ROI among Texas public colleges.

Its “PENDING” SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## LAMAR UNIVERSITY

FIRE: **N/A**

ACTA: **GREEN FLAG (B)**

ROI: **GREEN**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

Lamar University's "Green Flag" rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of B by ACTA, which means that it requires four to five of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its "Green Flag" rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is *both positive and* above the median ROI for all Texas public colleges.

Its "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## MIDWESTERN STATE UNIVERISTY

FIRE SCORE: **N/A**

ACTA SCORE: **GREEN FLAG** (B)

ROI: **GREEN**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

Midwestern State University's "Green Flag" rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of B by ACTA, which means that it requires four to five of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its "Green Flag" rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is *both positive and* above the median ROI for all Texas public colleges.

Its "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERISTY

FIRE SCORE: **N/A**

ACTA SCORE: **GREEN FLAG** (B)

ROI: **GREEN**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

Prairie View A&M University's "Green Flag" rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of B by ACTA, which means that it requires four to five of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its "Green Flag" rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is *both positive and* above the median ROI for all Texas public colleges.

Its "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

FIRE SCORE: **YELLOW**    ACTA SCORE: **YELLOW FLAG (C)**    ROI: **GREEN**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

Sam Houston State University's free speech rating of "Yellow Flag" by FIRE indicates that it "maintains policies that restrict a more limited amount of protected expression or that, by virtue of their vague wording, they could too easily be used to restrict protected expression."

Its "Yellow Flag" rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of C by ACTA, which means that it requires three of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its "Green Flag" rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is *both positive and* above the median ROI for all Texas public colleges.

Its "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE

FIRE SCORE: **N/A**

ACTA SCORE: **N/A**

ROI: **RED**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:**

South Texas College's "Red Flag" rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is negative. The typical student would be financially better off not enrolling in this college due to some combination of high costs, low completion rates, or low post-graduation earnings.

Its "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY

FIRE SCORE: **N/A**

ACTA SCORE: **GREEN FLAG (B)**

ROI: **GREEN**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

Stephen F. Austin State University's "Green Flag" rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of B by ACTA, which means that it requires four to five of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its "Green Flag" rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is *both positive and* above the median ROI for all Texas public colleges.

Its "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY

FIRE SCORE: **N/A**

ACTA SCORE: **YELLOW FLAG (C)**

ROI: **N/A**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:**

Sul Ross State University's "Yellow Flag" rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of C by ACTA, which means that it requires three of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

FIRE SCORE: **YELLOW**

ACTA SCORE: **GREEN FLAG (B)**

ROI: **GREEN**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

Tarleton State University's free speech rating of "Yellow Flag" by FIRE indicates that it "maintains policies that restrict a more limited amount of protected expression or that, by virtue of their vague wording, they could too easily be used to restrict protected expression."

Its "Green Flag" rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of B by ACTA, which means that it requires four to five of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its "Green Flag" rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is *both positive and* above the median ROI for all Texas public colleges.

Its "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

FIRE SCORE: **N/A**

ACTA SCORE: **GREEN FLAG (B)**

ROI: **YELLOW**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:**

Texas A&M International University's "Green Flag" rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of B by ACTA, which means that it requires four to five of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its "Yellow Flag" rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is positive, but less than the median ROI among Texas public colleges.

Its "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COLLEGE STATION

FIRE SCORE: **GREEN**    ACTA SCORE: **YELLOW FLAG (C)**    ROI Score: **GREEN**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:**

Texas A&M University–College Station’s free speech ranking of “Green Flag” by FIRE indicates that it maintains no policies that seriously threaten speech, although this rating does not indicate whether a college actively supports free expression.

Its “Yellow Flag” rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of C by ACTA, which means that it requires three of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its “Green Flag” rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is *both positive and* above the median ROI for all Texas public colleges.

Its “PENDING” SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE

FIRE SCORE: **N/A**

ACTA SCORE: **YELLOW FLAG (C)**

ROI: **YELLOW**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

Texas A&M University-Commerce's "Yellow Flag" rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of C by ACTA, which means that it requires three of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its "Yellow Flag" rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is positive, but less than the median ROI among Texas public colleges.

Its "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE

FIRE SCORE: **N/A**

ACTA SCORE: **YELLOW FLAG (D)**

ROI: **YELLOW**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

Texas A&M University-Kingsville's "Yellow Flag" rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of D by ACTA, which means that it requires two of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its "Yellow Flag" rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is positive, but less than the median ROI among Texas public colleges.

Its "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-TEXARKANA

FIRE SCORE: **N/A**

ACTA SCORE: **N/A**

ROI: **RED**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:**

Texas A&M University–Texarkana’s “Red Flag” rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is negative. The typical student would be financially better off not enrolling in this college due to some combination of high costs, low completion rates, or low post-graduation earnings.

Its “PENDING” SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY–CORPUS CHRISTI

FIRE SCORE: **N/A**

ACTA SCORE: **GREEN FLAG (B)**

ROI: **YELLOW**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi’s “Green Flag” rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of B by ACTA, which means that it requires four to five of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its “Yellow Flag” rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is positive, but less than the median ROI among Texas public colleges.

Its “PENDING” SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AT SAN ANTONIO

FIRE SCORE: **N/A**

ACTA SCORE: **N/A**

ROI: **Full information N/A**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:**

Texas A&M University at San Antonio's "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

FIRE SCORE: **YELLOW**

ACTA SCORE: **GREEN FLAG (B)**

ROI: **RED**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

Texas Southern University's free speech rating of "Yellow Flag" by FIRE indicates that it "maintains policies that restrict a more limited amount of protected expression or that, by virtue of their vague wording, they could too easily be used to restrict protected expression."

Its "Green Flag" rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of B by ACTA, which means that it requires four to five of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its "Red Flag" rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is negative. The typical student would be financially better off not enrolling in this college due to some combination of high costs, low completion rates, or low post-graduation earnings.

Its "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## TEXAS STATE UNIVERISTY

FIRE SCORE: **YELLOW**

ACTA SCORE: **GREEN FLAG (B)**

ROI: **YELLOW**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

Texas State University's free speech rating of "Yellow Flag" by FIRE indicates that it "maintains policies that restrict a more limited amount of protected expression or that, by virtue of their vague wording, they could too easily be used to restrict protected expression."

Its "Green Flag" rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of B by ACTA, which means that it requires four to five of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its "Yellow Flag" rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is positive, but less than the median ROI among Texas public colleges.

Its "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

FIRE SCORE: **YELLOW**

ACTA SCORE: **GREEN FLAG (B)**

ROI: **GREEN**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

Texas Tech University's free speech rating of "Yellow Flag" by FIRE indicates that it "maintains policies that restrict a more limited amount of protected expression or that, by virtue of their vague wording, they could too easily be used to restrict protected expression."

Its "Green Flag" rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of B by ACTA, which means that it requires four to five of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its "Green Flag" rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is *both positive and* above the median ROI for all Texas public colleges.

Its "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY

FIRE SCORE: **YELLOW**

ACTA SCORE: **GREEN FLAG (B)**

ROI: **GREEN**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

Texas Woman's University's free speech rating of "Yellow Flag" by FIRE indicates that it "maintains policies that restrict a more limited amount of protected expression or that, by virtue of their vague wording, they could too easily be used to restrict protected expression."

Its "Green Flag" rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of B by ACTA, which means that it requires four to five of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its "Green Flag" rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is *both positive and* above the median ROI for all Texas public colleges.

Its "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS PERMIAN BASIN

FIRE SCORE: **N/A**

ACTA SCORE: **GREEN FLAG (B)**

ROI: **GREEN**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:**

The University of Texas Permian Basin’s “Green Flag” rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of B by ACTA, which means that it requires four to five of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its “Green Flag” rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is *both* positive *and* above the median ROI for all Texas public colleges.

Its “PENDING” SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

FIRE SCORE: **YELLOW**

ACTA SCORE: **GREEN FLAG (B)**

ROI: **GREEN**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

The University of Houston's free speech rating of "Yellow Flag" by FIRE indicates that it "maintains policies that restrict a more limited amount of protected expression or that, by virtue of their vague wording, they could too easily be used to restrict protected expression."

Its "Green Flag" rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of B by ACTA, which means that it requires four to five of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its "Green Flag" rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is *both positive and* above the median ROI for all Texas public colleges.

Its "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON-CLEAR LAKE

FIRE SCORE: **N/A**

ACTA SCORE: **N/A**

ROI: **N/A**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:**

The University of Houston-Clear Lake's "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON-DOWNTOWN

FIRE SCORE: **RED**

ACTA SCORE: **YELLOW FLAG (C)**

ROI: **GREEN**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

The University of Houston-Downtown's free speech rating of "RED FLAG" by FIRE indicates that it has at least one policy that both clearly and substantially restricts freedom of speech.

Its "Yellow Flag" rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of C by ACTA, which means that it requires three of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its "Green Flag" rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is *both* positive *and* above the median ROI for all Texas public colleges.

Its "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON-VICTORIA

FIRE SCORE: **N/A**

ACTA SCORE: **GREEN FLAG (B)**

ROI: **YELLOW**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

The University of Houston–Victoria’s “Green Flag” rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of B by ACTA, which means that it requires four to five of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its “Yellow Flag” rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is positive, but less than the median ROI among Texas public colleges.

Its “PENDING” SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS

FIRE SCORE: **YELLOW**    ACTA SCORE: **GREEN FLAG (B)**    ROI: **YELLOW**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:**

The University of North Texas’s free speech rating of “Yellow Flag” by FIRE indicates that it “maintains policies that restrict a more limited amount of protected expression or that, by virtue of their vague wording, they could too easily be used to restrict protected expression.”

Its “Green Flag” rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of B by ACTA, which means that it requires four to five of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its “Yellow Flag” rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is positive, but less than the median ROI among Texas public colleges.

Its “PENDING” SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS AT DALLAS

FIRE SCORE: **N/A**

ACTA SCORE: **N/A**

ROI: **GREEN**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:**

UNT at Dallas's "Green Flag" rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is both positive and above the median ROI for all Texas public colleges.

Its "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON

FIRE SCORE: **YELLOW**    ACTA SCORE: **YELLOW FLAG (C)**    ROI: **YELLOW**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

The University of Texas at Arlington’s free speech rating of “Yellow Flag” by FIRE indicates that it “maintains policies that restrict a more limited amount of protected expression or that, by virtue of their vague wording, they could too easily be used to restrict protected expression.”

Its “Yellow Flag” rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of C by ACTA, which means that it requires three of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its “Yellow Flag” rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is positive, but less than the median ROI among Texas public colleges.

Its “PENDING” SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS

FIRE SCORE: **RED**

ACTA SCORE: **YELLOW FLAG (C)**

ROI: **GREEN**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

The University of Texas at Dallas's free speech rating of "RED FLAG" by FIRE indicates that it has at least one policy that both clearly and substantially restricts freedom of speech.

Its "Yellow Flag" rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of C by ACTA, which means that it requires three of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its "Green Flag" rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is *both positive and* above the median ROI for all Texas public colleges.

Its "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

FIRE SCORE: **YELLOW**    ACTA SCORE: **GREEN FLAG (B)**    ROI: **YELLOW**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

The University of Texas at El Paso’s free speech rating of “Yellow Flag” by FIRE indicates that it “maintains policies that restrict a more limited amount of protected expression or that, by virtue of their vague wording, they could too easily be used to restrict protected expression.”

Its “Green Flag” rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of B by ACTA, which means that it requires four to five of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its “Yellow Flag” rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is positive, but less than the median ROI among Texas public colleges.

Its “PENDING” SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

FIRE SCORE: **YELLOW**    ACTA SCORE: **GREEN FLAG (B)**    ROI: **YELLOW**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

The University of Texas at San Antonio’s free speech rating of “Yellow Flag” by FIRE indicates that it “maintains policies that restrict a more limited amount of protected expression or that, by virtue of their vague wording, they could too easily be used to restrict protected expression.”

Its “Green Flag” rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of B by ACTA, which means that it requires four to five of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its “Yellow Flag” rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is positive, but less than the median ROI among Texas public colleges.

Its “PENDING” SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER

FIRE SCORE: **YELLOW**    ACTA SCORE: **YELLOW FLAG (C)**    ROI: **YELLOW**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:**

The University of Texas at Tyler’s free speech rating of “Yellow Flag” by FIRE indicates that it “maintains policies that restrict a more limited amount of protected expression or that, by virtue of their vague wording, they could too easily be used to restrict protected expression.”

Its “Yellow Flag” rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of C by ACTA, which means that it requires three of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its “Yellow Flag” rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is positive, but less than the median ROI among Texas public colleges.

Its “PENDING” SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS RIO GRANDE VALLEY

FIRE SCORE: **YELLOW**

ACTA SCORE: **N/A**

ROI: **YELLOW**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:**

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley's free speech rating of "Yellow Flag" by FIRE indicates that it "maintains policies that restrict a more limited amount of protected expression or that, by virtue of their vague wording, they could too easily be used to restrict protected expression."

Its "Yellow Flag" rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is positive, but less than the median ROI among Texas public colleges.

Its "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

FIRE SCORE: **YELLOW**

ACTA SCORE: **GREEN FLAG (B)**

ROI: **GREEN**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

The University of Texas at Austin’s free speech rating of “Yellow Flag” by FIRE indicates that it “maintains policies that restrict a more limited amount of protected expression or that, by virtue of their vague wording, they could too easily be used to restrict protected expression.”

Its “Green Flag” rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of B by ACTA, which means that it requires four to five of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its “Green Flag” rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is *both positive and* above the median ROI for all Texas public colleges.

Its “PENDING” SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

FIRE SCORE: **N/A**

ACTA SCORE: **YELLOW FLAG** (D)

ROI: **GREEN**

SB 17 Compliance (including PIR correspondence): **PENDING**

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

West Texas A&M University's "Yellow Flag" rating on academic quality signifies that it has received an overall grade of D by ACTA, which means that it requires two of the seven subjects listed by ACTA. Those seven subjects are: Composition, Literature, (intermediate level) Foreign Language, U.S. Government or History, Economics, Mathematics, and Natural Science.

Its "Green Flag" rating on ROI signifies that its ROI is *both* positive *and* above the median ROI for all Texas public colleges.

Its "PENDING" SB 17 rating signifies no lapse on the part of the university; rather, it indicates that, until we receive full responses to our PIRs from all the Texas public, four-year universities, we will be unable to arrive at comparative metrics. We will continue to update this study to reflect any changes in this category as they occur.

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

**Thomas Lindsay, Ph.D.**, is the distinguished senior fellow for Next Generation Texas. He has more than two decades' experience in education management and instruction, including service as a dean, provost, and college president.

Lindsay was the director of the National Endowment for the Humanities' (NEH) signature initiative, *We the People*, which supports teaching and scholarship in American history and culture. He was later named deputy chairman and chief operating officer of the NEH.

Lindsay co-authored the American government college textbook *Investigating American Democracy* with Gary Glenn, published by Oxford University Press. He has published numerous articles on the subject of democratic education, many of which have appeared in the world's most prestigious academic journals, including the *American Political Science Review*, the *Journal of Politics*, and the *American Journal of Political Science*.

**Greyson Gee** serves as a Policy Scholar with the Texas Public Policy Foundation. He graduated in May 2023 with a B.S. in Economics and Political Science with honors from Texas A&M.

Before coming to the Foundation, Greyson was an intern with the U.S. House Ways and Means Committee under the leadership of then-Ranking Member Rep. Kevin Brady. Before that, he served the citizens of southeast Texas as an intern with former State Representative James White. All these experiences have solidified his dedication to public service and deepened his passion for politics and policy.

**Jorge Borrego** is a Post-Secondary Education Policy Analyst for the Next Generation Texas initiative at the Texas Public Policy Foundation.

Prior to joining the Foundation, Borrego was a Legislative Director at the Texas House of Representatives. He also worked in the Nonprofit Sector, working for the Down Syndrome Association of Brazos Valley. Where he worked as an Event Coordinator, Data Administrator, and Policy Administrator. He is currently serving as the Treasurer on the organization's Board of Directors.

Jorge holds a Master of Public Administration from the Bush School of Government at Texas A&M University and a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from the University of Texas at San Antonio.

