

# Six Ways Public Charter Schools Help Texas Students Succeed

Texas public charter schools educate students from diverse backgrounds, including higher rates of low-income, Black, Hispanic, and ELL students, as well as those at risk of dropping out and in foster care. It's making a difference for kids.

**#1** Public charter schools prepare more students for college and career

At Texas public charter schools, 78% of graduates are prepared for college or career — significantly higher than the statewide average of 67%.

78%

**#2** Many of the state's most successful school districts are public charters

Seven of the 10 highest-rated school districts in Texas are public charter school districts.

7 of 10

**#3** Public charter school students are twice as likely to succeed in advanced courses

At Texas public charter schools, more students complete rigorous Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate courses than the statewide average (69% vs. 48%) and they're about twice as likely to pass the exams (44% vs. 23%). These are top predictors of college success.

**#4** Students at public charter schools make faster academic progress

Studies show that public charter school students in Houston, San Antonio, and Austin achieved 1 to 3 months' worth of extra reading and math progress in a single year, compared to students with similar demographics statewide.\*

**#5** English Learners thrive at Texas public charter schools

English Language Learners at Texas public charter schools made some of the strongest reading gains in the country from 2019 to 2021, as measured by the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The average scores of fourth graders increased by 13 points and exceeded the average scores for all 50 states.

+13 POINTS  
Texas Public Charter Schools

+3 All Texas Public Schools    -1 United States

**#6** Public charter schools boost literacy for historically disadvantaged students

Low-income, Black, and Hispanic students at Texas public charter schools meet grade level on ELA/Reading STAAR exams at rates 4 to 6 percentage points higher than their peers. For English Learners, the difference is 8 percentage points.

| Group               | ISD Schools | Public Charter Schools |
|---------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| Black Students      | 41%         | 47%                    |
| Hispanic Students   | 46%         | 50%                    |
| Low-Income Students | 42%         | 47%                    |
| English Learners    | 32%         | 40%                    |

\*See the "City Studies" series by the Center for Research on Academic Outcomes at Stanford University, available at: <https://credo.stanford.edu/research-reports/city-studies/>