

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY MEETING THE DEMAND FOR STEM DEGREES IN TEXAS

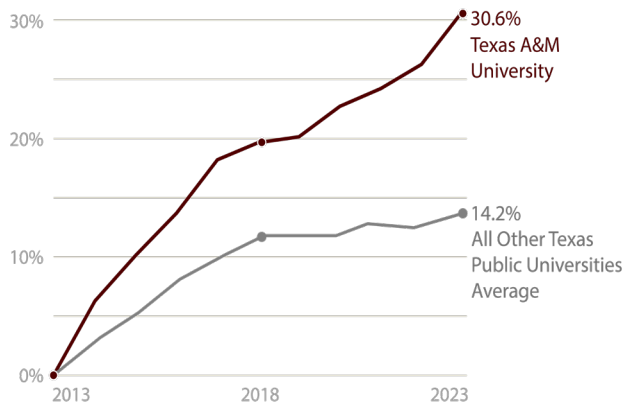
More students than ever are choosing Texas A&M University for its time-honored traditions, Core Values and commitment to educational excellence. With current and future industry clusters in Texas largely requiring a science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) foundation, Texas A&M University has been meeting this growing demand. Today, more Texans graduate from Texas A&M than any other university in the state and increasingly with STEM degrees. Due to the higher costs associated with STEM degrees and enrollment growth, the university requests state funding to support academic and student services that will “right-size” the university to support the growing demand for STEM degrees in Texas.

26.8%

Increase projected in Texas professional, scientific and technical services industry from 2020-2030.

44%

Increase in Texas A&M undergraduate enrollment in STEM degrees since 2014.



10-year enrollment growth of Texas A&M University compared to the average of all other public universities in Texas (2013-23)

EXCEPTIONAL ITEM REQUEST

\$45 MILLION / FY26-27 BIENNIUM

- Reduce student-to-faculty ratios, especially in STEM degrees (from 32:1 to 26:1 in some cases)
- Increase student support services (career and academic advising, as well as disability and mental health resources)
- Enable courses to be taught in more manageable section sizes
- Continue to support Texas STEM demand

With funding from the state legislature, Texas A&M will grow its faculty and staff and enhance student services to address the challenges created by the past 10 years of growth and high costs associated with STEM degrees, enabling the university to support future needs in Texas.

69,518

Fall 2023 enrollment at main campus

29,975

STEM undergraduates as of fall 2023

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CAPACITY STUDY

As the largest university in the state, growing at a rate double that of other public universities over the past 10 years, Texas A&M has been closely monitoring and analyzing the impact of its growth on the campus community. Earlier this year, the university conducted a Capacity Study to review the current infrastructure, teaching capacities and staffing levels and identify current and future capacity of enrollment on the main campus.

To date, the university has maintained its high-quality education standards by adding to faculty workload, increasing faculty numbers as possible, expanding to additional teaching sites to meet needs in different parts of the state, such as McAllen and Fort Worth, adjusting course schedules, increasing section sizes and adding large classrooms to address needs. In some cases, the university added online courses, offering an option some students prefer. However, these solutions will not work long-term. The study, which is being finalized for submission to the university president, includes a proposed recommendation to pause undergraduate enrollment growth for the next five years on the main campus to allow for appropriate planning and development.



The demand for a Texas A&M STEM degree continues to rise, with engineering growth alone up 75% since 2014.

“If the university pauses undergraduate enrollment growth in College Station for a period of time, Texas A&M would remain the largest university in the state, continue to admit the largest freshman class in the state if not the country, and still increase overall enrollment during that time. The proposed recommendation simply provides an opportunity for the university to continue to grow in the right places while building the infrastructure and capacity to meet current needs and prepare for the future.”

- Joseph P. Pettibon II
Vice President of Planning, Assessment and Strategy

SERVING TEXANS

Texas A&M is the largest university in the state and admits the largest freshman class each year. This would continue even with a pause on undergraduate growth in College Station.

- 50% of freshmen enrolled at Texas A&M's main campus graduated in the top 10%
- 94% of Texas A&M undergraduates are Texans
- Aggie students come from 95% (241) of Texas counties, the highest percentage of any university
- In 2024, the Wall Street Journal named Texas A&M the best university in Texas.



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