



2026-2027 Innovative Course Application – New Course

Application due no later than Friday, September 12, 2025

*Note to applicants: All text in **RED** italic font in this document may be treated as guidance and can be removed prior to submission. Before completing this application, please review the “Application Instructions” and “Application Checklist.”*

Title of proposed new innovative course:

(One course title per application)

Applicant information – All Information Is Required

Name of applying school district, charter school, or organization: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Complete mailing address: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Primary contact person: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Primary contact person’s title: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Primary contact person’s email address: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Primary contact person’s phone number, area code first: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Secondary contact person: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Secondary contact person’s title: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Secondary contact person’s email address: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Secondary contact person’s phone number, area code first: [Click here to enter text.](#)

County District Number (if applicant is a Texas public school): [Click here to enter text.](#)

Superintendent (if applicant is a Texas public school): [Click here to enter text.](#)

Date of local board of trustees’ approval of this innovative course application (if applicant is a Texas public school): [Click here to enter text.](#)



Proposed Course Information

- Subject area (choose only one): Choose an item.
- Career cluster (CTE courses only): Choose an item.
- Number of credits per course: Choose an item.
- Grade level(s) (high school only): Click here to enter text.

Brief description of the proposed course (150 words or less, paragraph form):

The description should be a paragraph response that effectively summarizes the course content and goals as aligned to the essential knowledge and skills section. Only comment on the course. Do not comment on programs, pathways, or marketed material. The following questions are intended to guide the response:

- *Who are the recommended participants?*
- *What is the central focus of the proposed course?*
- *What are the goals or student outcomes of the proposed course?*

Brief justification of how/why the proposed course qualifies as “innovative” in terms of student need. (150 words or less, paragraph form):

The justification summarizes the need for the course in terms of the student and provides an overview of the unique content of the course. Only comment on the course. Do not comment on programs, pathways, or marketed material. The following questions are intended to guide the response:

- *What do students learn in the proposed course that is not taught or could not reasonably be taught in an existing TEKS-based course?*
- *What is the specific benefit to the student in successfully completing the proposed course (e.g., industry certification)?*
- *What specific need(s) does this course address?*



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Pilot Data –New Courses

PLEASE NOTE: This section is NOT required for new CTE courses that have been approved by TEA for an [identified statewide program of study](#).

Data or other evidence that demonstrates successful piloting of the entire course. Data and descriptive information should be provided below. Only comment on the course. Do not comment on programs, pathways, or marketed material.

Provide cited evidence of an existing or previously provided course or pilot. For additional information regarding course pilots, please refer to the application instructions and guidance slide deck for assistance.

Additionally, please provide other evidence that demonstrates successful piloting of the entire course. This may include student outcomes for a locally implemented course, an existing course at an institution of higher education, a pilot program, or an industry training program that is the model for the proposed innovative course. Please do not include references of students/teachers “liking” the course.

Pilot Information	Provide Answers in This Column
2024-2025 enrollment	
Year(s) the course was offered in Its entirety	
Name of Texas pilot high school(s) and district	

Please provide evidence that demonstrates successful piloting of the course:

Regional Labor Market Data - CTE Courses Only

PLEASE NOTE: This section is for career and technology education (CTE) courses only.

Applicants must include cited evidence that the course is aligned with [state and/or regional labor market data](#). Please submit this data below.



Essential Knowledge and Skills for the Proposed Course:

Knowledge and skills that duplicate the content of a TEKS-based course or can reasonably be taught within an existing TEKS-based course will not be approved. Please refer to the application instructions and guidance slide deck for assistance in completing this section.

Format guide: Applicants may wish to use the styles [“Section (a, b, c)”]; “KS (1, 2, 3)”]; and “SE (A, B, C)” in styles menu] provided with this document to make the formatting process simpler. Please note, file sharing applications may delete or modify styles and any formatting added to this document.

Note: Proposed CTE course applications must address professional standards/employability skills as required by business and industry as the first knowledge statement (KS).

Note: Proposed ethnic studies course applications must include content in history, government, economics, civic engagement, culture, and science and technology.

- (a) General Requirements. This course is recommended for students in [insert grade levels entered on page 1]. Recommended prerequisites: [list any TEKS-based or innovative courses that would ensure student success in the proposed course]. Students shall be awarded [insert number of credit(s) entered on page 1] for successful completion of this course.
- (b) Introduction.
 - (1) [Include in the introduction the brief description of the course that you created on page 2 of this application form.]
 - (2) [Optional: Discuss how the proposed course aligns with or complements the required curriculum. This should mirror the introduction of the content area, if any, selected on page 1. Please refer to similar TEKS of the content area for guidance.]
 - (3) Statements that contain the word "including" reference content that must be mastered, while those containing the phrase "such as" are intended as possible illustrative examples.
- (c) Knowledge and Skills.
 - (1) [Write the first knowledge and skills statement (KS) here.] The student is expected to:
 - (A) [Write the first student expectation (SE) here.]



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Recommendations for new proposed innovative course

List five to ten. The recommended resources, technology, and instructional materials should:

- be currently available to the general public, accessible, and helpful for students to learn the proposed content;
- provide a variety of sources to include media beyond textbooks, such as industry manuals, periodicals, and online sources; or
- integrate the use and/or application of technology.

If the resource is published, a full bibliographic citation using Chicago Manual of Style, 18th Edition is required. General or generic resources may be listed in bullet form.

Please note that all listed resources must be submitted with the application to make them available for State Board of Education (SBOE) review. Guest access to any online course and learning management system content must be provided. If any resources are required for the course, please include the cost.

Access to electronic materials

Directions for electronic access of recommended resources, including credentials, must be emailed with the application submission by **Friday, September 12, 2025**.

Digital materials (Soft copy)

Please send digital copies of recommended resources innovative.courses@tea.texas.gov by **Friday, September 12, 2025**.

Print materials (Hard copy)

For materials that exist in hard copy, please use the following address for submission. Please ensure any shipments can be received by TEA no later than **Friday, September 12, 2025**. Please also alert TEA if you have shipped any materials and the shipping method used so that the mailroom can be properly notified.

Texas Education Agency
c/o Weston Scholten
William B. Travis Building
1701 N. Congress Avenue

Recommended resources, technology, and instructional materials to be used:

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Recommended activities:

List five to ten possible course activities. The recommended activities should relate directly to the content of the proposed course provide various opportunities for students to demonstrate learning.

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Recommended assessment methods for evaluating student outcomes:

List five to ten possible assessment methods. The recommended assessment methods should include authentic ways to evaluate learning on a daily or weekly basis and reliable summative assessments to evaluate student mastery of the standards.

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Recommended educator certifications:

Please note the following related to certifications:

- Valid Texas educator certifications related to the subject area/career cluster indicated on page 1 must be listed. Please consult [high school teacher assignment rules](#) for related courses for guidance.
- The Curriculum Standards and Student Support Division will consult with the State Board for Educator Certification to determine appropriate certifications.

An assignment in [insert course name here] is allowed with one of the following certificates:

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Required trainings, including associated costs, if applicable:

- Please list any additional required trainings or licensures for teaching the proposed course.
- If there is a cost associated with the required trainings, include that information here along with the name and information for the organization providing the training.