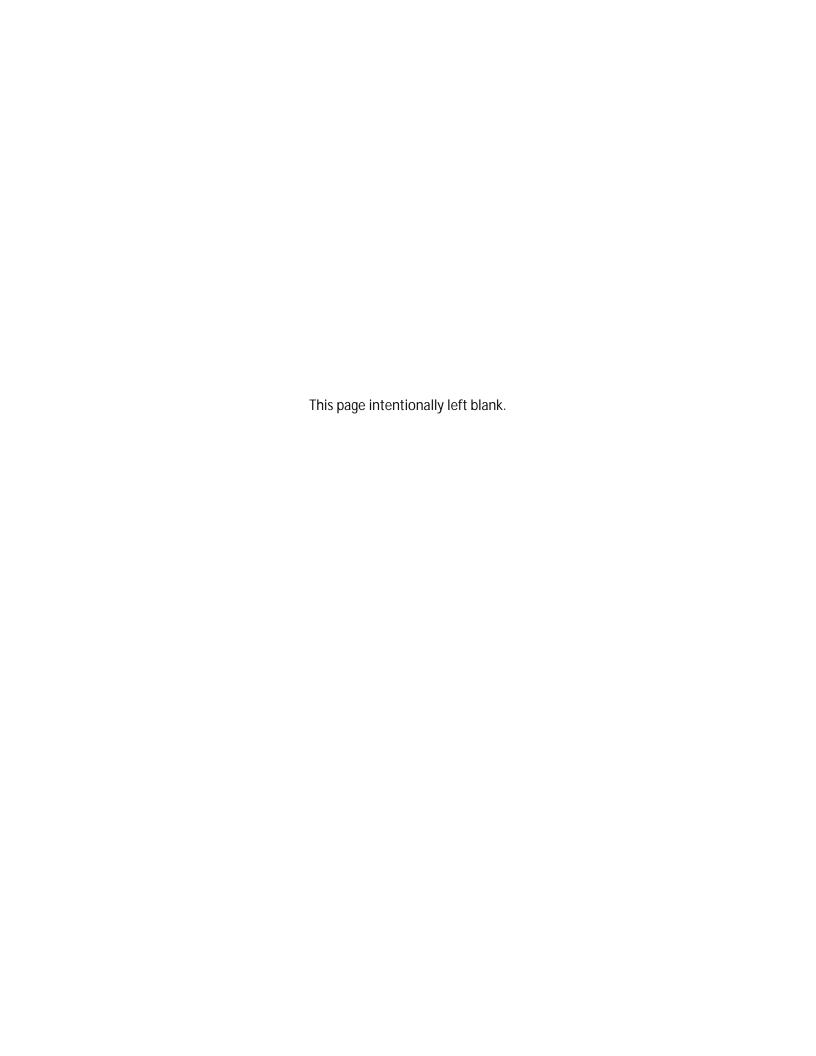# Rider 53: Texas Gateway and Online Resources

A Report on Expenditure and Performance Data

Submitted to the Legislative Budget Board and Office of the Governor

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Rider 53 required the Commissioner of Education to allocate $7,500,000 in each fiscal year of the 2020-2021 biennium from funds appropriated in Strategy A.2.1, Statewide Educational Programs, to support online educator and student resources. The Commissioner was required to set aside funds for the following purposes:

a. $3,000,000 in each fiscal year of the 2020-21 biennium for the hosting, and maintenance of online educator and student educational resources and the secure provisioning of user accounts

b. $1,500,000 in each fiscal year the 2020-21 biennium for the Lesson Study Initiative which include teacher development of best-practice-lessons and supporting tools

c. $2,000,000 in each fiscal year of the 2020-21 biennium to reimburse districts for costs related to students taking On Ramps Dual Enrollment courses

d. $1,000,000 in each fiscal year of the 2020-21 biennium to reimburse district costs related to professional development provided by UTeach and other providers, focused on improving blended-learning teacher preparation

As required by Rider 53, this report includes a program overview, information on program impact and effectiveness, and a program expenditures summary for each of the following four programs authorized under this rider for the 2018-2019 school year.

- x Texas Gateway Content Management and Development Platform
- x Texas Lesson Study
- x University of Texas (UT) at Austin OnRamps Dual-enrollment Courses
- x UTeach and UT High School Blended Learning

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Rider 53(a): Hosting and Maintenance

Program Overview
The Texas Gateway is a content management and delivery system (CMDS) through which the Texas Education Agency (TEA) provides free online resources (e.g., lessons, courses, professional development) to teachers, students, and parents. Originally launched in 2009 as Project Share, the initiative now allows districts and open-enrollment charter schools to access and use TEA-created content through their own local systems. Parents and students also have full access to the Texas Gateway. Professional development courses hosted on the Texas Gateway are available to practicing and pre-service Texas teachers.

All content hosted on the Texas Gateway is reviewed by TEA staff. Content is searchable by Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), keyword(s), subject, grade level, and audience and is organized in the following formats:

- Resource – A resource is a single, TEKS-aligned instructional piece (e.g., explanation, activity, assessment). Teachers can insert a resource into an existing lesson.

- Binder – A binder is a collection of resources that, when sequenced together, form a linear series of related lessons. A teacher can assign a binder to a student as part of an instructional unit.

- Course – A course is a structured, linear series of lessons that provide information, practice, and assessment. A teacher can enroll in a course to meet professional development requirements and to earn continuing professional education (CPE) credits.

- Book – A book is a collection of binders sequenced to form units and chapters that can be used like a traditional textbook for a course. Individual lessons and units can also be accessed for supplemental use.

Program Impact
Gateway Resources currently include content in the following areas:

Content/Subject Area	Resources*	Binders	Books	Lesson Study	Courses	Total
Math	384	30	3	56	8	481
Reading Language Arts	609	48	0	56	5	718
Science	401	34	6	13	4	

Rider 53(a): Hosting and Maintenance

TEKS Implementation Overview

Texas Adolescent Literacy Academy Tier I

Texas Adolescent Literacy Academy Tiers II & III

Texas Dyslexia Identification Academy: Dyslexia Foundations

Texas Lesson Study Facilitator Training

Texas Lesson Study Facilitator: Gateway Development and Lesson Submission

The following courses had the highest enrollments in the 2018-2019 school year.

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Rider 53(b): Texas Lesson Study

Program Overview

Lesson Study is a job-embedded professional development opportunity in which teachers work collaboratively to develop, teach, and revise research-based lessons founded on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). The program aims to improve teacher effectiveness, share best practices, improve student outcomes, and provide a platform to demonstrate mastery within the teaching profession.

In the 2016–2017 academic year, Texas Lesson Study (TXLS) was piloted in six education service center (ESC) regions. In year two of implementation, the program expanded to 16 total regions. For the 2018–2019 academic year, 17 regions received funding for this program; however, educators across the state have access to the TXLS training, technical support, and teacher-designed research-based lessons.

Program Impact (2018–2019)

The table below includes the program participation data for the 2018–2019 school year.

Program Effectiveness

Student Impact

Lesson Study teachers administer a pre- and post-assessment to students on the specific objective for their designed Research Lesson. Students made statistically significant gains from the pre-assessment to the post-assessment in all the participating ESCs. On average for the state, there was an **increase of approximately 2 there was an**

Rider 53(b): Texas Lesson Study

Teacher Impact

For teachers participating in Lesson Study, the turnover rate is three percent (3%) lower than the state average.

Teachers completed a self-efficacy survey before and after participating in the Lesson Study process. Teachers reported statistically significant gains in the following transferable skills:

x Crafting good questions for students

x Using a variety of assessment strategies

x Providing alternate examples to alleviate confusion

x

Rider 53(c): OnRamps

Program Overview

The Texas Education Agency entered into an interagency contract with The University of Texas (UT) at Austin to reimburse school districts for costs related to students taking OnRamps dual-enrollment courses.

The purpose of the OnRamps program is to provide an affordable and convenient UT experience for Texas s(e)-3 (x)-xb 02 Tc 0e ()affQ-C7..8 (e)r.85(e)5T (f)10.6 7 (sfu2.2-2.ll)}4.3 i002 T

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