

# How Texarkana College Increased Scheduling Flexibility

## Supporting Working Students with Course Options



**COURSE SHARING CHAMPION**

**Brandon Higgins, MBA**  
**Registrar & Executive Director of Enrollment**

Texarkana College (TC) provides academic and workforce training and vocational leadership in northeast Texas, advancing the region's intellectual, cultural, social, and economic life. TC is also a member of the DigiTex consortium, which powers course sharing among community colleges in Texas. DigiTex focuses on expanding access to STEM courses at rural institutions and ensures every learner in the state has access to in-demand courses, no matter where they live. In 2022, Texarkana's first year of course sharing, they helped 12 students complete 18 courses with a 94% pass rate and recovered \$4,107 in tuition revenue.

TC utilized course sharing to offer asynchronous courses for students who balance coursework outside their working hours. Through course sharing, students access fully online courses or night-time courses that give students scheduling flexibility. Course sharing also offers options to advisors trying to fill a schedule, whether trying to get a student to full-time status or offering a student one last course in their academic pathway.

Brandon Higgins, registrar, and executive director of enrollment, says the main benefit of course sharing for the campus is "offering other options because so many of our students are working students and have a day job. They must take night classes, but we don't offer that class online without course sharing. Our driving factor is offering additional options for those students who need to supplement their schedule." Course sharing through the DigiTex Consortium allows students to take elective and core courses from partner institutions to continue on their academic pathway.

### Texarkana College Fast Facts



- Texarkana, Texas
- Two-year college
- About 4,000 students
- Started course sharing in fall 2022



**“Course sharing and its flexibility are the biggest support to our students.”**

**- Brandon Higgins**

# Helping Students Complete Prerequisites for Health Science Pathways

Texarkana College saw a benefit for students in the Health Sciences pathways in its first year of course sharing. Many students, including pre-nursing students, took prerequisites like Anatomy and Physiology I and II with labs and General Chemistry through the DigiTex consortium. In the future, as Texas looks to transition to an eight-week schedule, course sharing will help students gain access to more eight-week courses. Course sharing supports the college's goals with reverse transfer efforts and degree completion. Brandon Higgins adds, "We want to push for students to complete if they transfer somewhere else for their four-year degree. We'd like to reverse transfer them back and try to get that 60-hour associate's degree completed."

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course sharing

Students in Health Sciences pathways took prerequisites like A&P I and II with labs and General Chemistry through the DigiTex consortium

-Brandon Higgins

How Texarkana College is using course sharing to meet student needs and offer additional courses to accommodate students who work or are taking prerequisites:

- + Including prereq courses for Health Sciences pathways like A&P I and II and General Chemistry
- + Providing advisors with more course options to better serve students
- + Offering asynchronous courses at night for working students
- + Supporting students to complete their academic pathways on time