

# 2025-2026 School Profile

CEEB Code # 443201

## ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

Texas Connections Academy @ Houston is one of the largest virtual, public school in Texas. We believe that all students can grow at high levels of achievement in order to master a challenging school curriculum in preparation for post-secondary success. We are confident that, with our support and help, and by working collaboratively with colleagues, students, and parents, we will help change the lives of our students as they plan for their future.

### OUR MISSION

Everyone at TCAH will be highly successful in our personalized learning community as they pursue their dreams.

### OUR HISTORY

TCAH is a Texas Online School (TOLS) that offers 100% virtual instruction to public school students across Texas in grades 3-12. The TOLS program is authorized by Texas Education Code (TEC) Chapter 30A, administered through Texas Education Agency (TEA). The school was founded during the 2009-10 school year as a 3-8 school and became a public high school in 2011-2012. TCAH is an accredited public school as part of the Houston Independent School District (HISD). Pearson Virtual Schools USA is in partnership with HISD to provide TCAH as an External Performance Contract Campus. (Connections Academy schools are supported by Connections Education LLC, dba Pearson Virtual Schools, which is accredited by Cognia.)

### OUR PROGRAM

Texas Connections Academy offers grades 3-12 with over 9000+ students with grades 9-12 having over 5000+ students. The school was founded during the 2012-13 school year as a 3-12 school. School is in session for 1,200 hours between the months of August and May.

Here are some important facts about our program:

- The school has 303 professional certified/licensed professional staff; 60% have earned advanced degrees.
- Our school has an active chapter of the National and Junior National Honor Society, Student Council, DECA, and E-Sports, along with numerous opportunities for student-led clubs, field trips and organized college campus visits.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

<https://www.connectionsacademy.com/texas-virtual-school/>

3200 Wilcrest Drive, Suite 190

Houston, TX 77042

**Fax:** 713-780-2487

**Phone:** 281-661-8293

## SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

### SCHOOL LEADER:

Darla Gardner

### PRINCIPAL(S):

Lorin Watkins 3-8

Sunny Lee 9-12

### MANAGER OF SPECIAL POPULATIONS:

Dr. Holley Prescott

### ASSISTANT MANAGER OF SPECIAL POPULATIONS:

Erica Nickols

### MANAGER OF STUDENT SERVICES:

Amber Walker

## TOP 5 IN STATE ELITE SCHOOL ACCEPTANCES

Texas A&M University

Texas State University

University of Texas

Baylor University

Southern Methodist  
University

## TOP 5 OUT OF STATE ELITE SCHOOL ACCEPTANCES

University of North Carolina @ Chapel Hill

Vassar College

Oklahoma State University

University of Notre Dame

University of California

- As a nationwide network of charter schools, Connections Academy provides specialized opportunities for participation in national clubs: Broadcast Club, Chess Club, Debate Club, Math Olympiads, and Robotics Clubs.
- Our students are/have been nationally ranked athletes, professional working actors and actresses, entrepreneurs running their own businesses, activists, community volunteers, and those participating in advanced academic endeavors. Our students are consistent finalists for National Merit Awards.

## ADVANCED COURSE OPTIONS

Texas Connections Academy core curriculum prepares students for college and beyond. Students have access to Dual Credit, AP and Advanced courses.

TCAH offers **dual credit** programs through University of Texas at San Antonio, Collin College, Houston Community College, San Jacinto Community College, Austin Community College, and Lamar Institute of Technology for the 2025-26 school year that will include online and face to face courses so that students from across the state can benefit from this opportunity.

**AP Course Offerings Include:** 2D Design, Biology, Calculus AB, Drawing, Environmental Science, English Language & Composition, English Literature and Composition, Human Geography, Macroeconomics, Psychology, Research, Seminar, Spanish Language, Statistics, United States Government and United States History

**Advanced Course Offerings Include:** Algebra I and II, Biology, Chemistry, English 1 & 2, Geometry, Pre-Calculus, and World History

## GRADE SCALE

Student transcripts reflect weighted grades based on their course of student, including Advanced Pre-AP or Advanced Placement courses.

The numerical grading scale is as follows:

| Grade | Numerical Percentage | Non-Weighted | Weighted (Pre-AP) | Weighted (AP) |
|-------|----------------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------|
| A     | 90 – 100             | 4.00         | 5.00              | 5.00          |
| B     | 80 – 89              | 3.00         | 4.00              | 4.00          |
| C     | 75 – 79              | 2.00         | 3.00              | 3.00          |
| D     | 70-74                | 1.00         | 2.00              | 2.00          |
| F     | 0 – 69               | 0.00         | 0.00              | 0.00          |

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Texas Connections Academy operates on a semester system utilizing Carnegie units. One semester class equals one-half of a high school credit. Students in middle school have the opportunity to take courses for high school credit. The typical course load is 7 classes per semester. 26 units of credit are required for graduation. Specific requirements include:

### Additional Information:

#### **Math courses must include:**

**Algebra 1**

**Geometry**

**Algebra 2**

#### **Science courses must include:**

**Biology**

**Chemistry and/or Physics**

#### **Social Studies courses must include:**

**World Geography World**

**History**

**US History Government (0.5)**

**Economics (0.5)**

### **Average Test Scores**

336 students enrolled in AP Courses and  
94 students enrolled in Dual Credit

