



# Acronyms and Abbreviations

TASB acronyms and abbreviations	
<b>AED:</b> associate executive director	top director of a TASB service area
<b>CEC:</b> continuing education credit	training hours required of board members by TEA
<b>CECRS:</b> Continuing Education Credit Reporting Service	online repository service for tracking of continuing education hours completed
<b>CEO:</b> chief executive officer	in school settings, the superintendent
<b>CFO:</b> chief financial officer	district's top financial executive
<b>CIO:</b> chief information officer	top executive responsible for information technology and computer systems
<b>Co-op:</b> Local Government Purchasing Cooperative	membership-based service for cooperative purchasing; also called Cooperative, but not LGPC
<b>CSA:</b> Texas Council of School Attorneys	provides statewide forum on practical legal problems faced by local public schools and their attorneys
<b>DLP:</b> Digital Learning Pavilion	interactive example of a 21 <sup>st</sup> century classroom with a digital environment
<b>EOB:</b> explanation of benefits	statement from an insurance company explaining what treatment and/or services were paid on enrollee's behalf
<b>ESS:</b> Executive Search Services	assists districts with recruiting and selecting a chief executive officer or key administrator
<b>GR:</b> Governmental Relations	division that monitors legislative developments and promotes advocacy on behalf of its members
<b>HR:</b> Human Resources	department responsible for internal personnel issues
<b>LAC:</b> Legislative Advisory Council	merges regional priorities identified by school board members into a statewide list of legislative priorities
<b>LAF:</b> Legal Assistance Fund	supports districts that are defending legal challenges with potential to affect public schools
<b>LTASB:</b> Leadership TASB	trains experienced board members for greater leadership roles
<b>LTS:</b> Leadership Team Services	program area that focuses on improving the effectiveness of school board leadership teams through training, planning, consulting, facilitation services, publications, and other resources
<b>OLC:</b> Online Learning Center	self-paced online courses
<b>PIO:</b> public information office	communications department of a governing body
<b>P/L:</b> property and liability	general term for insurance that covers buildings and other property, and covers the risk of liability against lawsuits
<b>RM:</b> risk management	practice of assessing, quantifying, and minimizing risk
<b>SBAN:</b> School Board Advocacy Network	enhances school board members' presence and advocacy in the legislative process
<b>SBRM:</b> School Board Recognition Month	celebrated in January
<b>SLI:</b> Summer Leadership Institute	June training event that includes sessions created specifically for new board members and board presidents
<b>SMART:</b> Site-Based Medicaid Administration, Reimbursement, and Tracking service	program to assist districts with Medicaid billing
<b>SOB:</b> schedule of benefits	statement of benefits and amount of coverage provided in a health insurance policy
<b>SOTY:</b> Superintendent of the Year	award program honoring outstanding administrators

<b>TASB:</b> Texas Association of School Boards	a voluntary, nonprofit, statewide educational association that serves and represents local Texas school districts; established in 1949
<b>TASB ISD:</b> TASB Institute for School Trustee Development	series of basics courses designed for new board members
<b>TLS:</b> <i>Texas Lone Star</i> magazine	published 10 times per year and distributed free to TASB members
<b>WC:</b> workers' compensation	insurance that provides medical care for employees injured in the course of employment
<b>WGLS:</b> Winter Governance and Legal Seminar	annual training for board members and school districts
<b>Education-related acronyms and abbreviations</b>	
<b>504:</b> Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973	national law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in programs that receive federal financial assistance
<b>AASA:</b> American Association of School Administrators	professional organization for educational leaders
<b>ABE:</b> adult basic education	instruction in basic skills like reading, writing, and arithmetic designed to help adults function in society
<b>ACM:</b> asbestos containing material	material containing more than 1 percent asbestos
<b>ACT:</b> American College Test	widely used standardized test for college admissions
<b>AD:</b> academic decathlon	scholastic competition for teams of high school students
<b>ADA:</b> Americans with Disabilities Act	federal law that forbids discrimination based on disability and requires reasonable accommodations
<b>ADA:</b> average daily attendance	total number of days of attendance for all students divided by the total number of school days in a given period
<b>AED:</b> automated external defibrillator	small portable device for detecting an abnormal heart rhythm and applying electric shock
<b>AEIS:</b> Academic Excellence Indicator System	TEA's yearly report that aggregates wide range of information on performance of students in each school and district in Texas
<b>AFT:</b> American Federation of Teachers	education labor union
<b>AG:</b> attorney general	chief legal and law enforcement officer of Texas; charged by the state constitution to defend the laws and constitution of Texas, represent the state in litigation, and approve public bond issues
<b>AHERA:</b> Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act	requires local education agencies to inspect their schools for asbestos-containing building material and prepare management plans to prevent or reduce asbestos hazards
<b>AMAO:</b> Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives	state-defined objectives that gauge the effectiveness of English-language development programs in helping students attain English-language proficiency
<b>AMO:</b> Annual Measurable Objectives	goal that a state sets each year to define a minimum percentage of students who must meet or exceed standards on its academic assessments
<b>AP:</b> advanced placement	program for high school students sponsored by the College Board that includes specific class curriculum followed by testing that can lead to college credit
<b>ARD:</b> admission, review, and dismissal committee	responsible for making educational decisions for a special-education student
<b>ASF:</b> Available School Fund	used to support public education and distributed on per-capita basis to school districts
<b>ATPE:</b> Association of Texas Professional Educators	nonunion, member-owned, member-governed association

<b>AYP:</b> Adequate Yearly Progress	annual academic performance targets on standardized tests defined by No Child Left Behind
<b>BE:</b> bilingual education	teaching academic content in native and secondary languages
<b>BRAVO:</b> Building Resources and Vocational Opportunities	project in El Paso County that provides services to low-income residents
<b>C&amp;I:</b> curriculum and instruction	a field within education that seeks to research, develop, and implement curriculum changes that increase student achievement within and outside of schools; focuses on how students learn and the best ways to educate them
<b>CAD:</b> county appraisal district	appraisal districts within each county that appraise property within the district
<b>CAI:</b> computer-assisted instruction	computer-based instruction
<b>CEC:</b> continuing education credit	credit hours earned by local school board members for completing accredited professional training required by Texas Education Code
<b>CEC:</b> Council for Exceptional Children	international professional organization that serves students with disabilities and students with gifts and talents
<b>CEI:</b> cost-of-education index	index that accounts for geographic or other cost differences beyond local school district control
<b>CFR:</b> Code of Federal Regulations	compilation of all US federal regulations
<b>CIPA:</b> Children's Internet Protection Act	law requiring that K-12 schools and libraries use Internet filters and implement other measures to protect children from harmful online content as a condition for federal funding
<b>CISD:</b> consolidated independent school district	formed by the merging of two or more districts; also Cons ISD
<b>CLEP:</b> College-Level Examination Program	enables students to take exams to earn college credit for introductory-level courses
<b>CNPIMS:</b> Child Nutrition Programs Information Management System	data-collection system used to meet reimbursement requirements of the National School Lunch, School Breakfast, and After School Snack programs
<b>COBRA:</b> Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act	allows employees who lose health benefits the right to choose to continue group health benefits provided by the plan under certain circumstances
<b>COLA:</b> cost of living adjustment	annual adjustment in wages to offset a change—usually a loss—in purchasing power, as measured by the consumer price index
<b>CPI:</b> consumer price index	program that produces monthly data on changes in the prices paid by urban consumers for a representative basket of goods and services
<b>CPI:</b> Crisis Prevention Institute	training organization focusing on safe management of disruptive and assaultive behavior
<b>CSA:</b> Texas Council of School Attorneys	membership organization that provides statewide forum on practical legal problems faced by local public schools and their attorneys
<b>CSPR:</b> Consolidated State Performance Report	required annual reporting tool for each state, as authorized under Section 9303 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as amended
<b>CTE:</b> career and technical education	programs dedicated to preparing students to manage the dual roles of family member and wage earner, enable students to gain entry-level employment in a high-skill, high-wage job and/or to continue their education
<b>DAEP:</b> disciplinary alternative education program	alternative education setting for students temporarily removed from regular instructional setting for disciplinary purposes
<b>DAP:</b> Distinguished Achievement Program	Texas high school graduation plan that requires completion of four advanced measures in addition to standard course requirements
<b>DATE:</b> District Awards for Teacher Excellence	noncompetitive state grant used to create or continue an award system for educators who are successful in improving student achievement

<b>DE:</b> distributive education	students receive classroom instruction and on-the-job training
<b>DSHS:</b> Texas Department of State Health Services	state agency charged with improving public health and well-being in Texas through planning, services, and regulation
<b>EAP:</b> employee assistance program	plan offered by an employer that helps employees identify and resolve issues through counseling and other services
<b>EC:</b> early childhood	period from birth to the start of school
<b>ED:</b> Department of Education	US agency that governs education
<b>EDA:</b> Existing Debt Allotment	state program that provides assistance to school districts in making debt service payments on qualifying debt
<b>EEOC:</b> Equal Employment Opportunity Commission	federal agency that enforces employment discrimination laws
<b>EEIP:</b> Educator Excellence Innovation Program	grant program under which a school district may receive a competitive program grant from the Texas Education Agency for the purposes of systematically transforming educator quality and effectiveness
<b>ELA:</b> English language arts	content area focused on developing students' English language skills through reading, writing, spelling, and oral communication
<b>EL/ELL:</b> English language learner(s)	students with a first language other than English in the process of learning English
<b>ELPS:</b> English Language Proficiency Standards	state curriculum standards for English language learners
<b>EMAT:</b> Educational Materials and Textbook system	used by TEA to facilitate textbook ordering
<b>EOC:</b> end of course	type of assessment that is required for certain courses; in general, students must perform satisfactorily to be eligible to receive a Texas diploma
<b>EPA:</b> Environmental Protection Agency	federal agency that oversees programs aimed at reducing pollution and protecting the environment
<b>ERS:</b> Employees Retirement System of Texas	administers retirement, health, and other insurance benefits for some state agency employees and others
<b>ESC:</b> education service center	20 regional centers that provide services and support to school districts
<b>ESEA:</b> Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965	federal legislation that authorizes federal funding for education, especially for low-income schools under Title I of the Act; passed in 1965, it has subsequently been amended by No Child Left Behind
<b>ESL:</b> English as a second language	courses designed for students whose native language is not English
<b>ESOL:</b> English for speakers of other languages	courses designed for students whose native language is not English
<b>ESSA:</b> Every Student Succeeds Act	federal legislation that reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 and replaced No Child Left Behind, to maintain accountability measures for US public schools while giving some control back to state and local education agencies
<b>ESY:</b> extended school year; also called extended school year services	an individualized instructional program for eligible students with disabilities that are provided beyond the regular school year
<b>ExCET:</b> Examination for the Certification of Educators in Texas	teacher certification test; replaced by Texas Examinations of Educator Standards through phase out beginning in 2002
<b>FAFSA:</b> Free Application for Student Aid	form that can be prepared annually by current and prospective college students (undergraduate and graduate) in the US to determine their eligibility for student financial aid
<b>FAPE:</b> free appropriate public education	an educational right of children with disabilities in the United States that is guaranteed by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and IDEA

<b>FERPA:</b> Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act	federal statute that protects the privacy of personally identifiable information; allows adult students and parents to view student education records and request amendments
<b>FHSP:</b> Foundation High School Program	default graduation program for all students entering high school beginning in 2014–15
<b>FIRST:</b> Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas	requires each school district to submit an annual school management report that is reviewed by TEA, which then assigns financial management ratings
<b>FLSA:</b> Fair Labor Standards Act	federal statute that sets standards for minimum wage and overtime pay
<b>FMLA:</b> Family and Medical Leave Act	federal statute that allows employees extended leave from employment for specified family and medical reasons
<b>FSP:</b> Foundation School Program	state program that establishes the amount of funding provided to school districts under the Texas school finance system; meant to ensure that all school districts, regardless of property wealth, receive “substantially equal access to similar revenue per student at similar tax effort”
<b>FTE:</b> full-time equivalent	set number of working hours that represent one full-time employee during a fixed time period
<b>FWTSBA:</b> Far West Texas School Boards Association	represents 12 school districts in all of El Paso County and part of Hudspeth County, Region 19 ESC
<b>FY:</b> fiscal year	period used for calculating annual financial statements in school districts, businesses, and other organizations
<b>GCAASB:</b> Gulf Coast Area Association of School Boards	represents the Texas Gulf Coast area, Region 4 ESC
<b>GED:</b> General Educational Development test	exam that determines high-school-level academic proficiency and awards a high-school-equivalency diploma
<b>GPA:</b> grade point average	number representing the average value of the accumulated final grades earned in courses over time
<b>GPC:</b> grade placement committee	determines whether a student without satisfactory achievement on a standard assessment may be promoted
<b>G/T:</b> gifted/talented	students identified as needing a higher level of academic challenge; Texas mandates that districts provide services for these students
<b>HB:</b> homebound	instructional arrangement for special-education students served at home or in a hospital
<b>HB:</b> House Bill	a bill first introduced in the House of Representatives
<b>HCR:</b> House Concurrent Resolution	legislative proposal introduced in the House that requires the approval of both houses but doesn’t have the force of law; also H.Con.Res.
<b>HIPAA:</b> Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act	federal standards that regulate the privacy of medical records
<b>HJR:</b> House Joint Resolution	legislative proposal passed by both houses and eligible to become law if signed by the chief executive; also H.J.Res.
<b>HMO:</b> health maintenance organization	health plan that contracts with providers to offer healthcare through a provider network headed by a patient’s primary care physician who issues referrals for visits to specialists
<b>HS:</b> Head Start	federal education program for preschool children
<b>HSEP:</b> High School Equivalency Program	program that prepares eligible students to pass the high school equivalency exams instead of earning a high school diploma
<b>HVAC:</b> heating, ventilation, and air conditioning	system of indoor climate control

<b>I&amp;S tax rate:</b> interest-and-sinking tax rate	also called the debt-service tax rate for its use to finance long-term debt associated with construction, renovation, and purchasing of property and equipment
<b>IA:</b> industrial arts	the study of manual and technical skills required to work with tools and machinery
<b>IB:</b> International Baccalaureate	an international educational foundation offering three educational programs for children ages 3–19; can refer to the organization itself, any of its three programs, or the diploma or certificates awarded at the end of the diploma program
<b>IDEA:</b> Individuals with Disabilities Education Act	federal law requiring services for children with disabilities
<b>IEP:</b> Individualized Education Program	mandated by IDEA's specific plan that includes student goals and objectives, and explains a school's commitment to provide services to an eligible special education student
<b>IFA:</b> Instructional Facilities Allotment	state aid providing assistance to school districts in making debt service payments on qualifying bonds or lease-purchase agreements
<b>IGC:</b> individual graduation committee	committee made up of relevant individuals under Education Code 28.0258 that determines whether a student who has failed to meet the graduation requirements on no more than two end-of-course assessments qualifies to graduate
<b>IMA:</b> instructional materials allotment	an annual allotment from the state instructional materials fund given to each district to purchase instructional materials, technological equipment, and technology-related services
<b>IMF:</b> Instructional Materials Fund	formerly Textbook Fund
<b>IPM:</b> integrated pest management	pest management designed to minimize use of pesticides
<b>IRA:</b> International Reading Association	international association to promote worldwide literacy
<b>ISC:</b> instructional skills class	curriculum for students with moderate disabilities that includes academic and developmental skills
<b>ISD:</b> independent school district	district that's independent and separate from any municipality, county, or state, and generally has its own taxing authority
<b>ITV:</b> instructional television	programming used to achieve educational objectives
<b>JJAEP:</b> Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program	county-operated alternative school setting for students expelled for dangerous or disruptive behavior; state mandated for counties with populations of at least 125,000
<b>JROTC:</b> Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps	training program sponsored by the US Armed Forces for students in high school
<b>LBB:</b> Legislative Budget Board	a permanent joint committee of the Texas Legislature that develops budget and policy recommendations for legislative appropriations for all agencies of state government and completes fiscal analyses for proposed legislation
<b>LDA:</b> Learning Disabilities Association of America	organization of individuals with learning disabilities, their families, and the professionals who work with them, whose mission is to create opportunities for success for all individuals affected by learning disabilities and to reduce the incidence of learning disabilities in future generations
<b>LEA:</b> local education association	commonly used synonym for a school district; an entity that operates local public primary and secondary schools in the United States
<b>LEP:</b> limited English proficient	students without sufficient English comprehension to succeed in English-only classrooms; replaced LESA—limited-English speaking ability
<b>LESA:</b> limited English speaking ability	replaced by limited English proficient
<b>LFA:</b> Local Fund Assignment	operations money a school district is required to raise

<b>LIFE:</b> Literacy Is for Everyone	organization that supports reading efforts
<b>LOA:</b> leave of absence	employer-approved time off
<b>LPAC:</b> Language Proficiency Assessment Committee	committee that makes assessment decisions regarding individual limited-English proficient students
<b>LRE:</b> Least Restrictive Environment	places students with a disability, to the extent possible, in an education environment with nondisabled peers
<b>M&amp;O tax rate:</b> maintenance-and-operations tax rate	school district property-tax rate that raises revenue to operate and maintain the district's schools
<b>MASBA:</b> Mexican American School Board Members Association	organization that represents minority, primarily Hispanic, board members and students in Texas
<b>MEaP:</b> Make Education a Priority	public education advocacy group founded by school board members that focuses on public school governance and advocacy
<b>MHSP:</b> Minimum High School Program	one of three high school programs on which students who entered grade 9 prior to the 2014–15 school year may graduate
<b>MOE:</b> Maintenance of Effort	requirement included in certain federal legislation that funds must be maintained at the state and/or local level to receive federal funds
<b>MSD:</b> municipal school district	district not operated by an independent school board; Stafford only one in Texas
<b>NABE:</b> National Association for Bilingual Education	organization that advocates for English-language learners and education professionals
<b>NAEP:</b> National Assessment of Educational Progress	periodic continuing assessments of what American students know and can do in various subject areas; conducted by the US Department of Education
<b>NCLB:</b> No Child Left Behind	federal legislation from 2002–15 that required a series of accountability measures for US public schools
<b>NEA:</b> National Education Association	nation's largest professional employee organization committed to advancing the cause of public education
<b>NIFA:</b> New Instructional Facilities Allotment	state aid for school district operational expenses related to building new facilities
<b>NMSQT:</b> National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test	standardized test that's combined with the PSAT and determines eligibility for the National Merit Scholarship Program
<b>NSBA:</b> National School Boards Association	represents state school board associations and their member districts across the United States
<b>NSPRA:</b> National School Public Relations Association	provides training and resources regarding school public relations
<b>NTAASB:</b> North Texas Area Association of School Boards	represents school boards in North Texas, ESC Regions 10 and 11
<b>NTSBA:</b> Northeast Texas School Boards Association	represents school boards in Northeast Texas, Region 8 ESC
<b>OCR:</b> Office for Civil Rights	division of the U.S. Department of Education that investigates and enforces civil rights to ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence throughout the nation
<b>OM:</b> Odyssey of the Mind	worldwide student team competition; also known as OotM
<b>OMA:</b> Open Meetings Act	state statute requiring governmental decision-making meetings to be open to the public; also called Texas Open Meetings Act
<b>OSHA:</b> Occupational Safety and Health Administration	federal agency that enforces safety and health legislation
<b>PAASB:</b> Panhandle Area Association of School Boards	represents school boards in the Panhandle, Region 16 ESC

<b>PBMAS:</b> Performance-Based Monitoring Analysis System	automated data system that reports annually on the performance of Texas school districts in selected program areas
<b>PBSBA:</b> Permian Basin School Boards Association	represents school boards in the Permian Basin, Region 18 ESC
<b>PDAS:</b> Professional Development and Appraisal System	former state system of appraising teachers and identifying areas that would benefit from staff development; formerly Texas Teacher Appraisal System
<b>PEG:</b> Professional Educators Group	introductory membership into the Texas branch of the American Federation of Teachers
<b>PEG:</b> Public Education Grant	state program that allows parents to request an out-of-district transfer from certain preidentified schools
<b>PEIMS:</b> Public Education Information Management System	state database of information gathered from Texas public schools required by state and federal law
<b>PFIA:</b> Public Funds Investment Act	act that requires every Texas government entity (or nonprofit corporations acting on their behalf) to obtain a compliance audit for its investments that are not invested by the State Comptroller of Public Accounts
<b>PGP:</b> personal graduation plan	identifies goals, strategies, expectations, and methods to encourage graduation in struggling students
<b>PIA:</b> Public Information Act	Texas statute that allows citizens to request government records
<b>PIC:</b> Private Industry Council	career development organization
<b>PIO:</b> public information office	department that oversees communication for an organization
<b>PPO:</b> preferred provider organization	health plan that contracts with providers to offer healthcare through a preferred provider network
<b>PSAT:</b> Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test	standardized test that's combined with the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test and gives students practice before taking the SAT
<b>PSAT/NMSQT:</b> Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test	full name of the PSAT
<b>PSF:</b> Permanent School Fund	trust fund created by the Texas Constitution and made up of revenue from land sales and leases on offshore oil lands and other mineral holdings
<b>PTA:</b> Parent-Teacher Association	formal organization made up of parents, teachers, and staff that is intended to facilitate parental participation in students' education
<b>PTO:</b> Parent-Teacher Organization	see PTA
<b>PTSA:</b> Parent-Teacher-Student Association	see PTA
<b>QSCB:</b> Qualified School Construction Bond	allows schools to borrow for the construction, rehabilitation, or repair of a public school facility, or for the acquisition of land for a facility
<b>R1SBA:</b> Region 1 School Boards Association	represents school boards in far south Texas, Region 1 ESC
<b>RACM:</b> Regulated Asbestos-Containing Material	material that contains more than 1 percent asbestos and is friable
<b>RADA:</b> refined average daily attendance	total of all students' days of attendance, divided by number of days taught for all six-week periods in a school year, divided by six, and rounded to three decimal places
<b>RFP:</b> request for proposal	invitation for suppliers to bid for the opportunity to provide a good or service
<b>RHSP:</b> Recommended High School Program	standard curriculum for Texas public high school students
<b>RIF:</b> reduction in force	planned decrease in work force; also called a layoff



<b>ROTC:</b> Reserve Officers' Training Corps	college-based program that trains students for commissioned officer positions; sponsored by US Armed Forces
<b>RVAA:</b> Religious Viewpoint Antidiscrimination Act	statute that addresses religious expression in public elementary and secondary schools
<b>RYHT:</b> Raise Your Hand Texas	public education advocacy group that focuses on educational leadership and advocacy
<b>SAC:</b> special assignment classroom	classroom for students completing in-school suspension
<b>SAS:</b> Standard Application System	used by TEA for grant applications
<b>SAT:</b> standardized test for college admissions	originally stood for Scholastic Aptitude Test; changed to Scholastic Assessment Test in 1990; changed in 1993 to SAT I: Reasoning Test (with the letters not standing for anything) to distinguish it from the SAT II: Subject Tests; roman numerals on both tests were dropped in 2004, and SAT I was renamed the SAT Reasoning Test; and scoring categories are now critical reading (comparable to some of the verbal portions of the old SAT I), mathematics, and writing
<b>SB:</b> Senate Bill	piece of proposed legislation that either originated or was modified in the Senate
<b>SBAN:</b> School Board Advocacy Network	legislative liaisons representing every school district in Texas; created by TASB to enhance local school boards' presence in the legislative process
<b>SBEC:</b> State Board for Educator Certification	oversees all aspects of the preparation, certification, continuing education, and standards of conduct for public school educators in Texas
<b>SBOE:</b> State Board of Education	elected 15-member board overseeing public education in Texas
<b>SCE:</b> state compensatory education	program and/or services that supplement the regular education for students identified as drop-out risks
<b>SCR:</b> Senate Concurrent Resolution	legislative proposal introduced in the Senate that requires approval of both houses but doesn't have the force of law; also S.Con.Res.
<b>SEA:</b> state education association	agency that oversees education at the state level
<b>SEDL:</b> Southwest Educational Development Laboratory	education research organization that no longer uses its full name; formally changed its name to SEDL in 2007
<b>SES:</b> Supplemental Education Services	free extra academic help, such as tutoring or remedial help, that is provided to students; each state educational agency is required to identify organizations that qualify to provide these services
<b>SHAC:</b> School Health Advisory Council	mandated by Texas law, a council is appointed by each district to give advice on school health programs and their effect on student health and learning
<b>SHARS:</b> School Health and Related Services	Medicaid financing program that allows school districts to obtain reimbursement for health-related services provided to students in special education
<b>SJR:</b> Senate Joint Resolution	legislative proposal passed by both houses and eligible to become law if signed by the chief executive; also S.J.Res.
<b>SNASBMA:</b> Sabine-Neches Administrators and School Board Members Association	represents school boards in Sabine-Neches, Region 5 ESC
<b>SPED:</b> special education	educational and social services provided to individuals with disabilities; also SpecEd or SpEd
<b>SPSBA:</b> South Plains School Boards Association	represents school boards in the South Plains, Region 17 ESC
<b>SR:</b> Senate Resolution	simple resolution initiated in the Senate that addresses matters within the Senate; also S.Res.

<b>SREB:</b> Southern Regional Education Board	nonprofit group founded by the governors and legislators of 16 southern states to improve teaching, learning, and student achievement
<b>SRO:</b> school resource officer	sworn law enforcement officers who are responsible for providing security and crime prevention services in schools
<b>SSIG:</b> Student Success Initiative Grant	state funding to assist districts with students identified as at risk for academic difficulties in reading and math
<b>STAAR™:</b> State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness	replaced the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills assessment beginning in the 2011–12 school year
<b>STEM:</b> Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics initiative	focused education that integrates these four disciplines into one field of study
<b>T-IIA:</b> Title II, Part A	federal grant to increase student academic achievement through teacher and principal training and recruiting; also Title IIA
<b>T-PESS:</b> Texas Principal Evaluation and Support System	state system of evaluating principals, implemented statewide starting with the 2016–17 school year
<b>T-TESS:</b> Texas Teacher Evaluation and Support System	state system of evaluating teachers, implemented statewide starting with the 2016–17 school year
<b>TAAS:</b> Texas Assessment of Academic Skills	precursor to Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills; used 1991–2002
<b>TABS:</b> Texas Assessment of Basic Skills	first standardized assessment test for Texas students; used 1980–85
<b>TAC:</b> Texas Administrative Code	compilation of all state agency rules in Texas
<b>TAC:</b> Texas Association of Counties	association representing county government bodies
<b>TACC:</b> Texas Association of Community Colleges	a non-profit association that includes all 50 public community college districts in the state
<b>TACS:</b> Texas Association of Community Schools	represents school districts with no more than one high school
<b>TAFCS:</b> Texas Association of Family and Consumer Sciences	state association of family and consumer science professionals
<b>TAFT:</b> Texas American Federation of Teachers	formerly known as Texas Federation of Teachers; represents all nonadministrative certified and classified public school employees in traditional public schools and some charter schools
<b>TAGT:</b> Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented	organization of educators and parents supporting gifted and talented students
<b>TAIR:</b> Texas Association for the Improvement of Reading	represents literacy educators
<b>TAKS:</b> Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills	standardized assessment test for Texas students; used 2003–11
<b>TAMSA:</b> Texans Advocating for Meaningful Student Assessments	a non-profit association that includes all 50 public community college districts in the state
<b>TAPE:</b> Texas Association of Partners in Education	network of volunteers, community members, and businesses aimed at increasing student success
<b>TAPR:</b> Texas Academic Performance Report	report combining details of district and campus academic performance with financial reports and information about staff, programs, and demographics; formerly the Academic Excellence Indicator System (AEIS)
<b>TASA:</b> Texas Association of School Administrators	represents school administrators and support personnel
<b>TASBO:</b> Texas Association of School Business Officials	represents professionals involved in the business operation of schools
<b>TASN:</b> Texas Association for School Nutrition	represents school food-service employees; formerly known as Texas School Food Service Association

<b>TASP:</b> Texas Academic Skills Program	designed to assess a student's college readiness and provide developmental instruction if needed; replaced by the Texas Success Initiative in 2003
<b>TASPA:</b> Texas Association of School Personnel Administrators	represents school human resources administrators and support staff
<b>TASSP:</b> Texas Association of Secondary School Principals	represents high school and middle level principals
<b>TBEC:</b> Texas Business and Education Coalition	network of business and education leaders working together to improve education
<b>TCBSBM:</b> Texas Caucus of Black School Board Members	nonprofit organization that speaks on behalf of quality education for African Americans in the state of Texas
<b>TCTA:</b> Texas Classroom Teachers Association	nonunion association with strong lobbying activities that represents classroom teachers
<b>TDSHS:</b> Texas Department of State Health Services	see DSHS
<b>TxDOT:</b> Texas Department of Transportation	state agency responsible for planning, constructing, maintaining, inspecting, and regulating state transportation
<b>TEA:</b> Texas Education Agency	state agency responsible for public education
<b>TEC:</b> Texas Education Code	state laws governing education in Texas
<b>TECAT:</b> Texas Examination of Current Administrators and Teachers	teacher certification exam used 1986–2000
<b>TEKS:</b> Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills	state curriculum standards that outline expected knowledge in each subject area
<b>TELPAS:</b> Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System	assessment program for English language learners in K–12
<b>TEPSA:</b> Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association	represents elementary and middle school principals and supervisors
<b>TExES:</b> Texas Examinations of Educator Standards	criterion-referenced teacher certification test; replaced the Examinations for the Certification of Educators in Texas through a phase out that began in 2002
<b>TFA:</b> Texas Forensic Association	provides competition in speech, debate, and drama for high school students
<b>TFT:</b> Texas Federation of Teachers	former name of the Texas branch of the American Federation of Teachers union; called Texas AFT since 2007
<b>THEA®:</b> Texas Higher Education Assessment	assessment tool to determine college readiness
<b>THECB:</b> Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board	provides leadership and coordination for the Texas higher education system
<b>TIAA:</b> Texas Industrial Arts Association	provides competition for students in the industrial arts
<b>TML:</b> Texas Municipal League	provides services to meet the needs of and advocate for Texas cities
<b>TOMA:</b> Texas Open Meetings Act	state statute requiring governmental decision-making meetings to be open to the public; also called Open Meetings Act
<b>TRS:</b> Teacher Retirement System of Texas	established to serve the needs of Texas public education employees; created a statewide teacher retirement system; responsible for investing funds under its stewardship and for delivering benefits to members as authorized by the Texas Legislature
<b>TRS-Care:</b> Teacher Retirement System of Texas Care	group retiree health benefits program administered by TRS

<b>TSA:</b> Texas Society of Architects	state component of the American Institute of Architects; is the voice for Texas architecture, supporting the creation of safe, beautiful, sustainable environments
<b>TSI:</b> Texas Success Initiative	state-legislated program designed to assess a student's college readiness and provide developmental instruction if needed to improve success in college; replaced Texas Academic Skills Program in 2003
<b>TSPRA:</b> Texas School Public Relations Association	organization that offers professional development, resources, and networking; dedicated to promoting public schools through effective communication
<b>TSSC:</b> Texas School Safety Center	an official university-level research center tasked with key school safety initiatives and mandates
<b>TSTA:</b> Texas State Teachers Association	teachers' organization affiliated with the National Education Association
<b>T-STEM:</b> Texas Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics initiative	see STEM
<b>TWC:</b> Texas Workforce Commission	state agency responsible for work-force development services
<b>TxVSN:</b> Texas Virtual School Network	established by the Texas Legislature in 2007 to provide Texas students with equitable access to quality online courses
<b>UDL:</b> Universal Design for Learning	framework for instruction designed to meet the needs of a diverse range of learners
<b>UIL:</b> University Interscholastic League	created by The University of Texas to provide academic, athletic, and music competitions for high school students
<b>WADA:</b> weighted average daily attendance	finance formula that takes into account the cost of educating students with additional needs