BREAKTHROUGH
CENTRAL TEXAS



2026
COLLEGE & CAREER SUCCESS SUMMER EXPERIENCE

SUMMER AT A GLANCE
2026

1,700+
Breakthrough Postsecondary Students Served

270+
Summer Program Participants

10
Campus Co-Orientations

7
TSI-Centered Events

90
Students placed in internships

7
Breakthrough Internship Network Events











SUMMER PROGRAMMING

SUMMER MELT RETENTION



Summer melt retention is a top priority for Breakthrough's College & Career Success Team. The transition from high school graduation to postsecondary enrollment is a pivotal time in a student's educational journey.

During this period, students may face barriers that can delay or prevent them from starting their upcoming semester. Through interactive, engaging events that build community and strengthen students' confidence, Breakthrough helps students stay connected and prepared for this transition. These efforts ensure students remain on track to successfully matriculate into their postsecondary programs.

RE-ENROLLMENT



Over the summer, the College and Career Success Team focuses on reconnecting with students who are facing barriers to continuing their postsecondary journey.

We meet each student where they are, providing individualized guidance and support throughout the re-enrollment process while keeping their unique goals, needs, and well-being at the center of our work. Through consistent outreach, personalized support, and trusted relationships, we help students overcome challenges, rebuild confidence, and begin the new academic year on a path toward long-term academic, career, and personal success.

BREAKTHROUGH INTERNSHIP NETWORK



The Breakthrough Internship Network (BIN) is a comprehensive internship placement and professional development program that connects Breakthrough college students with meaningful internships and professional skill-building opportunities. This summer, 90 Breakthrough college students secured paid, professional internships, gaining hands-on experience, expanding their networks, and exploring potential career paths while still in school.

With 237 students enrolled in BIN, the program helps students build the skills, confidence, and experience needed to navigate professional environments and take the next steps toward their career goals.

BACHELOR'S PATHWAY CO-ORIENTATIONS

During the summer, Breakthrough hosts custom orientations for incoming freshmen at partner campuses across Central Texas.



ROADRUNNER DAY

26 incoming college students attended

- In partnership with University of Texas in San Antonio
- One-on-one advising to clear registration holds
- On-campus scavenger hunt highlighting campus resources
- Raffle prizes, including a laptop and first-year experience swag
- Community-building lunch at Chicken N Pickle



LONGHORN DAY

24 incoming college students attended

- In partnership with The University of Texas in Austin
- One-on-one advising to clear registration holds
- On-campus scavenger hunt introducing students to key campus resources and services
- Student panel featuring current Breakthrough college students at UT, sharing their experiences and insights
- Roundtable discussions with campus partners
- Raffle prizes, including a laptop and One Stop swag



BOBCAT DAY

60 incoming college students attended

- In partnership with Texas State University (TXST)
- One-on-one advising to clear registration holds
- On-campus scavenger hunt introducing students to key campus resources and services
- Student panel featuring current Breakthrough college students at TXST, sharing their experiences and insights.
- Informational sessions covering topics such as understanding degree audits and making informed major selection decisions



HILLTOPPER DAY

10 incoming college students attended

- In partnership with St. Edward's University
- One-on-one advising to clear registration holds
- On-campus scavenger hunt introducing students to key campus resources and services
- Student panel featuring current Breakthrough college students at St. Ed's, sharing their experiences and insights
- Informational sessions covering topics such as understanding degree audits and making informed major selection decisions

ACC & TRADE PATHWAYS CO-ORIENTATIONS



ASSOCIATE DEGREE PATHWAY

Three *Riverbat Day* orientation sessions were held throughout the summer, providing greater flexibility and increased access to resources for incoming first-year students in our associate degree pathway. During these sessions, students had the opportunity to:

- Clear account and financial aid holds
- Complete the TSI assessment
- Connect with peers from Breakthrough schools across Central Texas
- Become familiar with the ACC campus
- Meet one-on-one with their Breakthrough advisors

In addition, first-year students were invited to attend a dedicated ACC Advising Day for Breakthrough students, where they worked with ACC advisors to build their class schedules and prepare for the upcoming semester.



TRADES AND CERTIFICATIONS

Students pursuing trades and certification worked closely with Summer Success Advisors to complete their applications, enroll in their intended programs, and obtain all required materials before their start dates. Advisors provided close support to help students navigate admissions requirements, meet application deadlines, and overcome any barriers to enrollment.

Since many trades and certification programs are highly competitive and have limited capacity, early planning and consistent communication is essential to helping students secure placement and successfully transition into their chosen career pathways.

ACC ENROLLMENT BREAKDOWN

Certification/Trade Pathway: 13%

Associate Degree Pathway: 56%

Undeclared Major: 31%

PREPARING FOR THE TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE (TSI)

A college readiness assessment used to determine whether students are prepared for college-level math and English coursework



TSI DRIVES

45 students participated in June and July TSI Drives at Austin Community College in collaboration with their Testing Center Director, Mrs. Loreah Johnson. The goal: to ensure students had TSI test scores on file prior to college-level advising.

TSI BOOTCAMPS

TSI MATH

students attended

- 3 distinct TSI Bootcamps
- On average, students improved their scores by 8 points



TSI ELAR

students attended

- 3 distinct TSI Bootcamps
- On average, students improved their scores by 14 points



TAKEAWAY

TSI bootcamps provided targeted TSI test preparation to help incoming college students improve their scores and increase their chances of successfully meeting TSI requirements. By performing well on the TSI, students were **more likely** to have their TSI hold removed and qualify for placement into classes needed for their degree plans.

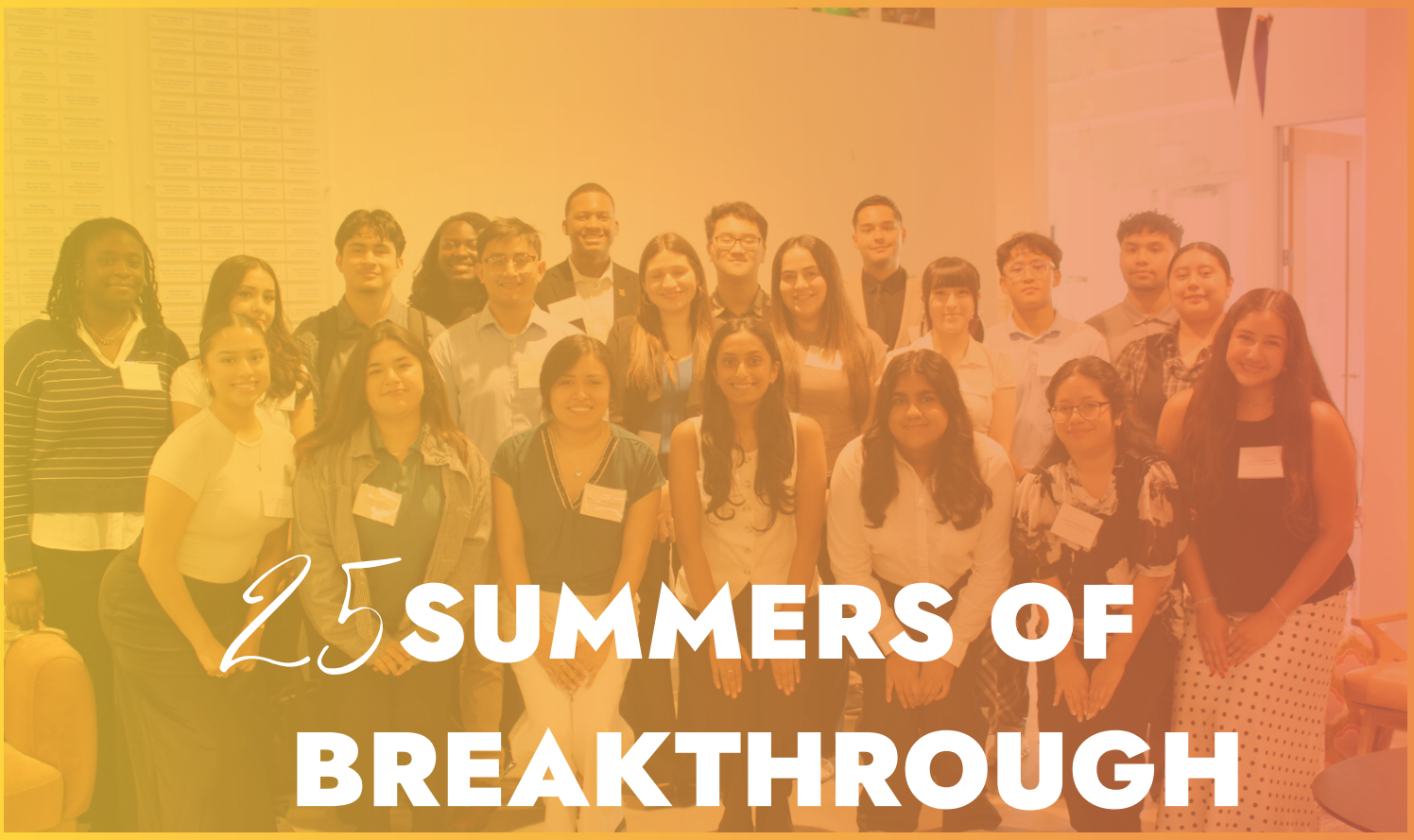
HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION PARTNERS

VOICES OF SUMMER

When we all got sticky notes at Bobcat Day and wrote our goals on them, I looked around as everyone wrote down what they wanted for their life in the middle of so much change. Change is scary for everyone. But sitting there together, opening up about what we wanted, it made it feel less scary.
You realize you're not going through it alone.
-Sienna

I learned to never worry about being behind, because there will always be time and support to figure out what you want to do.
-Austin

The [BIN Mentorship] program really helps with confidence and consistency needed for professional development.
-Jaiden



25 SUMMERS OF BREAKTHROUGH







BREAKTHROUGH CENTRAL TEXAS
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