



CONTACT: Texas Education Agency  
Media Relations  
(512) 463-9000

## **TEA and Texas PBS announce educational programming collaboration**

*Innovative initiative will bring educational content to 10 Texas television markets to supplement at-home learning during the COVID-19 pandemic*

AUSTIN, Texas – April 21, 2020 – The Texas Education Agency (TEA) and Texas PBS stations are proud to promote a joint initiative to air TEKS-aligned educational programming each week in 10 different PBS viewing areas during the COVID-19 pandemic. Officially known as the At-Home Learning Initiative, the collaboration strengthens TEA’s efforts in assisting school districts and public charter schools with establishing instructional continuity and at-home learning during this unprecedented public health crisis.

The partnership calls for all 10 of Texas’s PBS affiliates to preempt regularly scheduled weekday programming with grade-level-appropriate programming featuring shows such as *Peg+Cat*, *NOVA*, and *American Experience*. Affiliates will air educational programming each weekday, with the slate of programming divided into three distinct age groups: Pre-K through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, and high school. This free programming will reach 96 percent of Texas’s student-age population and each age group will receive targeted programming at specific times throughout the school day.

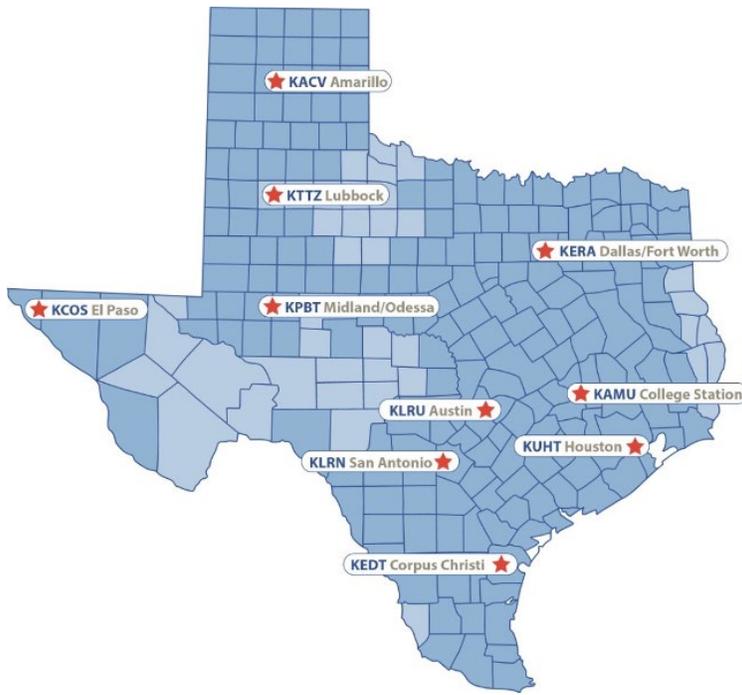
“This joint initiative between TEA and PBS stands to benefit all students as they work each day to navigate uncharted waters and continue to do their best to learn and grow as students and individuals” said Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath. “While we’re living through uncertain times, we are thankful to have PBS commit itself in such a meaningful way to serve the needs of communities across our state. We are all in this together, and our friends at PBS understand and exemplify that.”

Weekday education programming commenced statewide April 20.

“The Texas PBS stations are proud to work with the Texas Education Agency and Commissioner Morath to ensure that kids in our state stay on track with learning,” said Texas PBS Executive Director Kierstan Schwab. “PBS stations are dedicated to providing educational programs so offering our daytime schedule to help teachers, parents, and students continue learning was very important to us.”

In addition to the broadcast options, TEKS-aligned supplemental materials—including interactive lessons and media galleries—are available at <http://pbslearningmedia.org/>. TEA has provided instructional resources for school districts at [COVID-19 Support: Instructional Continuity](#).

To find the PBS affiliate in your area, please refer to the station map below:



# AT-HOME LEARNING

*A Texas Public Education Partnership*



Panhandle PBS basin PBS Austin PBS PBS El Paso PBS Texas Tech Public Media

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