

Best Online Business Schools in Texas

Jun 28, 2019 | By Anna Baluch







The 1.8 trillion-dollar economy of <u>Texas</u> is the second largest in the United States, second only to California. Therefore, it's no surprise that the state is home to 102 of the 1,000 largest public and private corporations in the United States. These corporations include AT&T, Dell, ExxonMobil, and JCPenney, all of which depend on a variety of <u>business</u> professionals to thrive.

For example, AT&T needs people-oriented and relationship-driven account managers to develop and manage existing customer relationships and seek out new opportunities for business. Meanwhile, JCPenney and other major retailers in Texas can benefit from business analysts to assist with pricing strategy and other initiatives that can help maximize profit. And since the commercial banking industry has grown in Texas over the past few years, banking professionals such as commercial bankers, loan officers and tellers are also in high demand at Texas-based financial institutions such as USAA Federal Bank, Inwood National Bank, and Jefferson Bank.

Whether you're planning to become a market research analyst, a human resource manager or an accountant, you can bring important support to the operations and growth of large and small organizations throughout the Lone Star State. And one of the most important steps to becoming one of these business professionals can be earning an accredited degree from one of the best business colleges in Texas.

3 Facts about Business in Texas

- Since the cost of living is affordable and there is no personal income tax, Texas has become home to an increasing number of startup companies. ClearData a startup that provides cloud data and security solutions to the healthcare industry as well as ScaleFactor a platform that handles booking, payroll, and other tasks for businesses are two examples of hot startups in the state.
- According to data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, operations research analysts are projected to grow in Texas by 36.2 percent from 2016 to 2026. These professionals use data mining, statistical analysis and mathematical modeling to help all types of businesses throughout the state operate more efficiently.
- More than 1.3 million individuals work in the restaurant, retail and hospitality industries in Texas. The BLS' 2018 data discovered that Texas is the second-largest employer in the hospitality and leisure industry. To honor professionals in this industry, the Texas governor proclaimed February 13th "Hospitality Industry Appreciation Day."

Most Popular Business Degrees in Texas

Below is our ranking of the most popular Business degrees in Texas, based off how many degrees of each type were awarded by Texas schools in the 2017-18 school year.

1	Certificate in Real Estate	385	5	Bachelor in Hospitality Administration/Management, General	207
2	Bachelor in Agribusiness/Agricultural Business Operations	371	6	Bachelor in Tourism and Travel Services Management	184
3	Bachelor in Hotel/Motel Administration/Management	330	7	Bachelor in Business Administration, Management and Operations, Other	167
4	Master in Business Administration, Management and Operations, Other	224	8	Bachelor in Real Estate	151

How to pick a business major that's best for you?

Online business schools in Texas offer a plethora of business-related majors, tailored to students with various interests and personalities. For example:

- Since Texas is one of the most culturally diverse states in the nation, students who speak a foreign language or enjoy interacting with individuals from different cultures may want to major in international business.
- Students who consider themselves go-getters and dream of owning their own business in a thriving startup city like Austin may benefit from a certificate or degree in entrepreneurship.

• On the other hand, those who are creative and find joy in coming up with catchy slogans or taglines may pursue a <u>marketing</u> degree, which could help them earn a position at one of the top ad agencies in the state, such as The Richards Group or TracyLocke.

Best Online Business Schools in Texas

To help prospective students find the right business school for their particular interests and future career goals, we've compiled a list of the best online business schools in Texas. Each school that made our list offers at least one online or hybrid degree or certificate program in a business-related subject, and each one is accredited by an official agency that is recognized by the state of Texas.

Data from the National Center of Education Statistics (NCES) on factors such as tuition costs, graduation rate and retention rate was collected and analyzed to formulate the list. Using this analysis, we are pleased to present our ranking of the best accredited business schools in Texas.

1. University of the Incarnate Word

We consider the University of the Incarnate Word to be one of the best business colleges in Texas because of the fantastic variety of online business programs Texas students can take here. At this faith-based institution, online courses are taught in an asynchronous format through Blackboard, in fields such as:

- At the associate level, there is an A.A. in business administration that can be seamlessly transitioned into a UIW bachelor's degree program after completion.
- At the bachelor's level, there are B.A. programs in administration, human resources and organizational development, as well as B.S. programs in business administration, leadership studies and public administration.
- At the master's level, there is an M.A. in administration, an M.S. in organizational development and leadership, and a professional M.B.A. program.
- There is even a 100 percent online Doctor of Business Administration program available.

To put the cherry on top, the UIW offers a plethora of certificate programs, minors and concentrations in business-related subjects such as accounting, business administration, management and organizational development. With so many options, students can tailor their business education in whichever manner best suits their needs.

2. Texas A&M University- College Station

At Texas A&M University, one of the top accredited business schools in Texas, students can enroll in a five-semester, part-time M.S. in analytics through the Mays Business School. This program is specifically designed for working professionals who have at least three years of work experience, and it ends with a capstone course where students work with real-data to to construct a predictive model. It is taught live online via Blackboard Learn, as well as face-to-face on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

TAMU students may also be interested in the Executive Master of Public Service and Administration program, which has the option to specialize in either nonprofit management or public management. The university also hosts certificate programs with the same specializations, offering a more direct track into the field for those who desire it.

3. Central Texas College

Central Texas College boasts an extensive portfolio of online associate degree and certificate programs that can teach students various aspects of business. Through Blackboard, students can pursue associate degrees in subjects such as accounting, business administration, business management, hospitality management or logistics and global supply chain management. Some of these programs come with the option of a specialization, such as the business management program, which can be specialized into marketing and sales management.

The school's certificate programs focus on fewer broad subjects, but have a correspondingly larger number of specializations for each subject. Business-related certificates can be pursued in business management, hospitality management, human resources management or office technology, but the hospitality management certificate alone has three different options: food and beverage management, advanced property management or rooms division.

4. University of North Texas

If you're looking for an online accelerated MBA degree program, the University of North Texas has plenty of options to choose from. Students can choose to pursue their MBA with a focus on strategic management, marketing, marketing analytics, supply chain, supply chain analytics or organizational behavior and human resource management. These programs consist of asynchronous courses that can be completed in eight weeks, with five available start dates per year. For students who are not looking for accelerated courses, a regular MBA in marketing is also offered at UNT, as well as M.S. programs in hospitality management or merchandising.

Alternately, students who are looking to enter the job market even more quickly might consider UNT's 12-credit hour online certificate programs. Some of these programs pertain directly to business, such as merchandising, but others address management in other fields, such as advanced management in libraries and information agencies.

5. LeTourneau University

Online courses at LeTourneau University are delivered in an asynchronous format through the Canvas learning platform. Since the university runs on a semester system, courses can be taken in the fall, spring and summer semesters. This gives students plenty of opportunities to pursue their preferred online business program at this accredited online college.

In addition to several business-focused degree programs at both the graduate and undergraduate level — including accounting, business administration, strategic leadership and more — LETU offers students opportunities to pursue management in other fields as well. Majors such as healthcare management, integrated media management and sports management present students

with many alternative routes for their interest in business. (Healthcare management can also be pursued as a minor — one of the few minors that can be taken online at LETU.)

6. University of Houston-Downtown

One look at the banquet of online business options at the University of Houston, and it should be readily apparent why this school makes our list of the best online business schools in Texas. The offerings at UHD Online do not stop with the undergraduate degree completion program in retailing and consumer sciences, nor the several business-focused master's programs. Instead, UHD may be most interesting for its alternative options.

The <u>online skills programs</u> at UHD are six-week programs that begin every month, designed to teach students a new skill in a compressed period of time. Subjects such as accounting fundamentals, business communication or QuickBooks can be useful options for an aspiring business professional. Then there are the <u>online career training programs</u>, built for career changing or career advancement. These may be the perfect choice for students looking to become administrative professionals, certified bookkeepers, freight brokers or certified wedding planners.

Professional Business Organizations in Texas

There are a variety of professional business organizations in the Lone Star State. Students enrolled in online business programs in Texas may find these organizations beneficial, as they often host workshops and seminars that can help students learn more about the field. Even better, professional business organizations often offer ample networking opportunities that can help students make connections to internships or jobs even before graduating from their program!

- American Marketing Association: Chapters in Austin, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Houston, and San Antonio
- Texas Association of Certified Public Accountants, Wylie
- <u>Public Relations Society of America</u>: Chapters in Austin, Waco, Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, San Antonio, and Lubbock
- Texas Association of Business, Austin
- <u>Society for Human Resource Management</u>: Chapters in the Pandhandle and West Region, Dallas-Fort Worth Region, Central Region, Southeast Region, and South Region