

Odessa College

news release

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For immediate release

OC awarded \$2.2 million grant for pre-engineering program

ODESSA (Oct. 1, 2008) – Odessa College recently was awarded more than \$1.1 million annually for the next two years from the Department of Education through the College Cost Reduction and Access Act – Title V Grant.

This grant will create the pathway for Hispanic and low-income students to obtain appropriate skills and credentials and to become part of the educated engineering workforce in our region.

For the first time, Odessa College's Pathway for Hispanic Engineers in West Texas project creates a Pre-engineering degree at OC. It also develops articulation agreements with four-year institutions including UTPB and Texas Tech University; and facilitates the transfer of students from two-year to four-year institutions.

This Project improves math and science facilities and curriculum, increases enrollments in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) degree programs, and increases graduation and transfer rates in STEM degree programs.

This Project will:

- Establish a University Transfer Center
- Renovate Chemistry Lab equipment and facilities
- Create an Engineering Lab

- Renovate the Physics Lab equipment and facility
- Upgrade technology in the Math Lab
- Design and host a Summer Bridge Math Academy

Total two-year funding request: \$2,242,363

Year one funding: \$1,133,276

New employee positions:

- Project Director/Articulation Specialist
- Transfer Specialist/Summer Bridge Coordinator
- Engineering Curriculum Specialist
- Secretary