

**DCCCD Incentive Funding
Retention Awards
Executive Summary**

Seed Awards:

**Integrated Chemistry Instruction
Eastfield College**

Award Principal Coordinators: Alexander Daniel

Collaboration: RLC

Award Amount: \$4,500 Award Period: 2 long semesters

Chemistry is often seen as a “gateway” course – that is, one that discourages students from pursuing a 4-year degree in science. The success rate in these classes has historically been low. This project has been designed primarily for science majors who may not be adequately prepared to enter a transfer chemistry course, and therefore may be discouraged from pursuing a science major early in their education.

This project will integrate Chemistry 1405 and Chemistry 1411 courses and help students, especially the first-time-in-college students, to complete the chemistry courses successfully. The units in each of these courses will be re-designed to be parallel, and students will sign up for both Chemistry 1405 and 1411 courses at the same time. In the combined courses the instructor will teach the first unit of 1405, test that content, then teach the first (same) unit of 1411 and test. The project will, in a sense, provide “modular” delivery of content since both levels of chemistry are taught unit by unit instead of by course. It is anticipated that this will increase the student success rate in these courses.