

# THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT HOUSTON

## 2014-2016 CATALOG GENERAL INFORMATION SECTION



The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award certificate, baccalaureate, masters, doctoral, and professional degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.

This catalog is a general information publication only. It is not intended to nor does it contain all regulations that relate to students. Applicants, students, and faculty are referred to the respective UTHealth School catalogs. The provisions of the General Information section or the School-specific information in each School catalog, student handbooks, or School policy or regulations do not constitute a contract, expressed or implied, between any applicant, student or faculty member and UTHealth or The University of Texas System. UTHealth reserves the right to withdraw courses at any time, to change fees or tuition, calendar, curriculum, degree requirements, graduation procedures, and any other requirement affecting students. Changes will become effective whenever the proper authorities so determine and will apply to both prospective students and those already enrolled.



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## Message from the President



**Giuseppe N. Colasurdo, M.D.**  
President

Welcome to The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) and to an exciting new chapter in your academic career. Your UTHealth education will be both challenging and enriching, and will prepare you to make a significant contribution in your chosen professional field.

UTHealth is the most comprehensive academic health center in The University of Texas System and educates more than 4,600 health professionals every year. Our School of Dentistry is more than 100 years old and rich in tradition; our Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences offers an innovative curriculum of postgraduate training in partnership with The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center; our Medical School is the sixth largest in the nation and is home to the country's fastest growing academic clinical practice; our School of Biomedical Informatics offers a first-of-its-kind curriculum critical to improving health delivery, quality and safety; our School of Public Health has a statewide presence with five regional campuses; and our School of Nursing is ranked among the top five percent in the nation.

Completing your training at UTHealth will also provide you access to a broad patient population as well as opportunities to collaborate with students and faculty from all six of our schools, our affiliated partners and our neighboring institutions.

As you join the UTHealth family, know that you have tremendous resources at your service. The faculty and staff are here to provide you with more than education – we are also here to support and guide you on your professional journey. In return, I ask that you give us your very best – for your benefit and for the benefit of your classmates. We need bright minds like yours to provide innovative solutions to the most pressing health problems of our time. I know that you will make us proud.

Thanks to each of you for trusting us with your education and, again, welcome to UTHealth.

Sincerely,

**Giuseppe N. Colasurdo, M.D.**

President

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

### Welcome!



**George M. Stancel, Ph.D.**  
Executive Vice President  
Academic & Research Affairs

On behalf of our entire university community I welcome you to UTHealth. As a current or potential student or faculty member, interested parent, or member of the public it is important to know that our university provides a rich and stimulating environment that promotes learning, nurtures creativity, and fosters discovery. The combination of our six schools, multiple research institutes and centers, and hospital partners and clinics provides a wealth of opportunities for personal and professional growth, an outstanding education in a number of biomedical areas, obtaining professional competencies, and/or participating in research that leads eventually to improved health.

As with any university, teaching, learning, and the generation of new knowledge underlie everything we do. We demand true excellence of ourselves in all aspects of these missions and this self-imposed standard is the basis for important beliefs and actions that permeate our university community.

- We are rigorous in our recruitment of faculty and students who share our goals and commitment to excellence. We invest in leadership, both current and future, and provide an environment that helps our students, faculty and alumni to become leaders at all levels.
- We highly value diversity and the contributions of every individual in our university community, including students, faculty and staff. We respect the individuals in each of these groups as well as our patients.
- We believe that scholarship is the foundation of all our activities, - in learning, in discovering new knowledge, and in teaching, integrating and applying that knowledge.
- We believe that service is an obligatory extension of our scholarship, and consequently, members of our university community translate and apply their knowledge and skills to care for patients, to treat and prevent disease, promote health, and to improve public policies related to education, research, and health care. These services are provided at the local, state, national and international levels.
- Our location and research activities benefit all of our educational programs. Our presence in the Texas Medical Center, in five regional campuses across Texas, in community hospitals, in clinics, and in local schools supports scholarly activity and helps apply new knowledge for the public good. Our physical plant includes more than 4 million gross square feet of space for education, basic science, translational, and clinical research, inpatient and ambulatory health care, and student housing, services, and recreation.
- The quality of our faculty and the number and breadth of our educational, research and patient care programs provide opportunities second to none for students to achieve their full potential. Our 19 academic degree and certificate programs employ cutting-edge technology and innovative educational approaches to student learning.
- We value both the individual and teamwork. Students learn to work with one another as well as faculty - learning from the knowledge, skills and experiences of both. We value one another, recognizing and celebrating the talents, creativity, potential, and character of each member of the team.

As a proud, longtime UTHealth employee I have seen first-hand that our university provides an outstanding environment for all individuals to grow through learning, discovery, and service. I am confident that those who join us will have positive experiences that will enrich their lives, contribute to the mission and reputation of our university, and benefit our community and the broader society. Welcome to UTHealth!

**George M. Stancel, Ph.D.**  
Executive Vice President for Academic and Research Affairs

## BOARD OF REGENTS

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### Officers

**Paul L. Foster**  
Chairman

**R. Steven “Steve” Hicks**  
Vice Chairman

**Wm. Eugene Powell**  
Vice Chairman

**Francie A. Frederick**  
General Counsel to the Board  
of Regents

### Members

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*Terms expire February 1, 2015*

*Terms expire February 1, 2017*

**Wm. Eugene Powell**  
San Antonio

**Alex M. Cranberg**  
Austin

**R. Steven “Steve” Hicks**  
Austin

**Wallace L. Hall, Jr.**  
Dallas

**Robert L. Stillwell**  
Houston

**Brenda Pejovich**  
Dallas

*Term expires May 31, 2015*

*Terms expire February 1, 2019*

**David Maximilian Richards**  
(Student Regent)  
Austin  
*Student Regent serves a one-year term.*

**Paul L. Foster**  
Austin

**Ernest Aliseda**  
McAllen

**Jeffery D. Hildebrand**  
Houston

## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

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### The University of Texas System

**Francisco G. Cigarroa, M.D.**

Chancellor

**Scott C. Kelley, Ed.D.**

Executive Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs

**Raymond S. Greenberg, M.D., Ph.D.**

Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs

**Pedro Reyes, Ph.D.**

Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

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### The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

**Giuseppe N. Colasurdo, M.D.**

President

**George M. Stancel, Ph.D.**

Executive Vice President for Academic  
and Research Affairs

**Kevin Dillon, M.B.A., C.P.A.**

Senior Executive Vice President  
Chief Operating and Financial Officer

**John A. Valenza, D.D.S.**

Dean  
School of Dentistry

**Osama I. Mikhail, Ph.D.**

Interim Dean  
School of Public Health

**Giuseppe N. Colasurdo, M.D.**

Dean  
Medical School

**Jiajie Zhang, Ph.D.**

Dean  
School of Biomedical Informatics

**Michelle C. Barton, Ph.D. and Michael**

**R. Blackburn, Ph.D.**

Deans  
Graduate School of  
Biomedical Sciences

**Patricia L. Starck, D.S.N., R.N.**

Dean  
School of Nursing

## MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS

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### Teaching, Searching, Serving

#### Mission Statement

As a comprehensive health science university, the mission of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston is to educate health science professionals, discover and translate advances in the biomedical and social sciences, and model the best practices in clinical care and public health.

We pursue this mission in order to advance the quality of human life by enhancing the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease and injury, as well as promoting individual health and community well-being.

#### To fulfill our mission, UTHealth:

1. Educates health professionals and scientists in a diverse interdisciplinary academic community.
2. Creates and evaluates new knowledge – through basic science and applied research – as it relates to disease prevention, treatment and cure.
3. Provides leadership and advances scholarship in biomedical sciences, health professions, health promotion, public health policy and health care delivery.
4. Models appropriate and compassionate clinical care.
5. Addresses the health needs of the community at large through public health expertise, information, outreach and service.
6. Develops the expanding field of health information science.

#### Vision Statement

**“Excellence above all” in the quest to be an acknowledged leader in the collaboration to treat, cure, and prevent the most common diseases of our time through education, research, and clinical practice.**

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston aspires to be a leader in the collaboration to treat, prevent, and cure the most common diseases of our time by:

1. Utilizing the distinctive capabilities of its schools, clinics, institutes and centers;
2. Collaborating with colleagues in The University of Texas System, the Texas Medical Center and throughout the world;
3. Being an academic health science center that is nationally and internationally recognized in teaching, research and service;
4. Serving as a home for the visionaries and scholars who will lead the way in defining and creating the future of the health sciences; and
5. Providing a diverse work environment that is ethically-based, service-oriented and community-sensitive.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

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### History of The University of Texas System

The idea of a University of Texas is as old as the State. The Texas Declaration of Independence lists as one of its main indictments against the government of Mexico the fact that “it has failed to establish any public system of education...” Several early attempts were made to establish a state university, but they were not successful because of the Civil War and subsequent Era of Reconstruction. Establishment of a state university for Texas was provided first by act of the State Legislature in 1881. It provided for the location of the institution by popular vote and for appointment of a Board of Regents to be entrusted with its organization and governance. By results of an election in September 1881, the site of the main university was designated as Austin and Galveston was chosen as the location for the Medical Branch. An undergraduate college and law school was established and The University of Texas formally opened on September 15, 1883.

Since then numerous campuses, schools, colleges, divisions and branches have been added to The University of Texas System at several locations throughout the state. The System now includes academic campuses in Arlington, Austin, Brownsville, Dallas, El Paso, Midland/Odessa (UT Permian Basin), San Antonio, Tyler and Edinburg. The health science centers are located at Dallas, Galveston, Houston, and San Antonio. A health center (hospital) is located in Tyler. The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center is located in Houston.

Other components of the System include the Institute of Texas Cultures (at San Antonio), the Institute of Humanities in Medicine (UT Medical Branch, Galveston), the Environmental Science Park near Smithville (UT MD Anderson Cancer Center), the Marine Science Institute in Port Aransas (UT Austin), the McDonald Observatory at Fort Davis (UT Austin), and the Shriners Burn Institute (in conjunction with UT Medical Branch, Galveston).

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### The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) was established in late 1972 to administer and provide for the operation of the several biomedical and health-related units located in the city through the integration and coordination of functions and activities. The Health Science Center presently includes, in order of establishment:

- 1905 School of Dentistry (originally as the Texas Dental College)
- 1963 Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
- 1967 School of Public Health
- 1970 Medical School
- 1972 School of Nursing
- 1973 School of Biomedical Informatics (originally as the School of Allied Health Sciences)
- 1990 Harris County Psychiatric Center
- 1995 Brown Foundation Institute of Molecular Medicine for the Prevention of Human Diseases

As a component of The University of Texas System, UTHealth is subject to The University of Texas System Board of Regents – Rules and Regulations for the governance of The University of Texas System.

The official name of the institution is The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. It is informally termed UTHealth or the Health Science Center.

Today, UTHealth employs more than 1,538 faculty, 3,926 staff and has 4,600 students enrolled in various health and biomedical disciplines at its component schools and regional campuses.

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**UTHealth Addresses\***

**School of Dentistry**

7500 Cambridge St.  
Houston, TX 77054

**Medical School**

Medical School Building  
6431 Fannin  
Houston, TX 77030-1503

**Graduate School of Biomedical  
Sciences**

6767 Bertner Ave., Rm 3.8344  
Houston, TX 77030

**School of Biomedical Informatics**

(University Center Tower)  
7000 Fannin, Suite 600  
Houston, TX 77030

**School of Nursing**

6901 Bertner  
Houston, TX 77030

**School of Public Health**

(Reuel A. Stallones Building)  
1200 Herman Pressler  
Houston, TX 77030-3900

**Child Development Center**

7900 Cambridge  
Houston, TX 77054-5500

**Jesse Jones HAM-TMC Library**

1133 John Freeman Blvd.  
Houston, TX 77030

**Harris County Psychiatric Center**

2800 S. MacGregor Way  
Houston, TX 77021

**Brown Foundation Institute of  
Molecular Medicine for the Prevention  
of Human Diseases**

1825 Hermann Pressler St.  
Houston, TX 77030

**Recreation Center**

7779 Knight Road  
Houston, TX 77054

**Registrar Office**

(University Center Tower)  
7000 Fannin, Suite 2250  
Houston, TX 77030

**Student Financial Services**

(University Center Tower)  
7000 Fannin, Suite 2220  
Houston, TX 77030

## General Information

### **Student Health & Counseling Services**

6410 Fannin, Suite 130  
Houston, TX 77030

### **UTHealth Administrative Offices**

(University Center Tower)  
7000 Fannin  
Houston, TX 77030

### **UT Police Department**

7777 Knight Road  
Houston, TX 77054

### **UTHealth Professional Building**

6410 Fannin  
Houston, TX 77030

\*Unless otherwise clearly posted or expressed by an authorized official of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth), the various UTHealth facilities and locations are open only to persons with legitimate business purposes requiring presence at such facilities and locations. UTHealth allows only agents of UTHealth, employees acting within the scope of their employment with UTHealth, the Student InterCouncil, and other registered student, faculty, and staff organizations to solicit on the grounds, sidewalks, or streets of the UTHealth campus or in any building, structure, or facility owned, controlled, or operated by UTHealth, and only with prior written approval.

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## Institutional Governance

Institutional governance at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston is supported by a system of councils and standing committees. As a whole, these councils enhance communication both vertically and horizontally within the university; enable leaders and constituent representatives from each of the major mission areas to participate in exchange of information and decision making; and incorporate ideas and points of view from a variety of students, faculty and staff in the decision-making process. Deliberations and recommendations from councils provide assistance to executive leadership of the university as they make decisions about the university's future and well-being. The University Executive Council is responsible for advising the President on key issues related to institutional governance and operations.

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## Standing Committees

Animal Welfare Committee  
Audit Committee  
Biological Safety Committee  
Chemical Safety Committee  
Committee for the Protection  
of Human Subjects  
Committee on the Status of Women  
Faculty Development Leave Committee  
Institutional Biosafety Committee  
Intellectual Property Committee  
Interfaculty Council

Radiation Safety Committee  
Research Conflicts of Interest  
Committee  
Safety Council  
Student InterCouncil  
Student Services Council  
University Appointment, Promotion  
and Tenure Committee  
University Classified Staff Council  
University Leadership Council  
Work/Life Council

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## Development Board

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston Development Board consists of approximately 180 community leaders who have committed to advance the mission and vision of the health science center by increasing public awareness and philanthropic support through advocacy, service and investment.

## CENTERS, PROGRAMS AND INSTITUTES

A variety of interdisciplinary centers, institutes and programs have been created to enrich the primary programs of the schools of UTHealth. In general, the centers focus on specific service and research efforts while the institutes provide opportunities for special multidisciplinary educational projects. These efforts reinforce UTHealth's commitment to providing a means through which the health professions may join with each other and with society to consider health-related issues.

Listed below are a few of UTHealth's centers. A more comprehensive listing can be found at [www.uthouston.edu/index/institutes-centers.htm](http://www.uthouston.edu/index/institutes-centers.htm). Inquiries for more detailed information should be directed to the appropriate school.

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## The Brown Foundation Institute of Molecular Medicine for the Prevention of Human Diseases

Advances in molecular and cell biology have enormous potential for innovative medical research and the future practice of medicine with more novel therapies. These approaches have been most successfully used to determine the causes of infectious disorders and genetic diseases. However, it is clear that molecular and cell biology will play a major role in clarifying the causes of many unsolved problems of modern medicine: heart disease, hypertension, vascular disorders, major mental illnesses, and inflammatory and immunologic diseases. The Brown Foundation Institute of Molecular Medicine for the Prevention of Human Diseases (IMM) houses nine research centers and several support laboratories, each exploring the genetic and molecular aspects of biological processes significant to explain the basis of human diseases.

The long-term goals of the IMM are to set the example for research excellence and collaborations locally, nationally, and internationally. Scientifically, the IMM is on the verge of a new frontier of expansion and collaborations. The IMM has two major objectives: discovery through medical advancements driven by breakthrough discoveries which give new insight into disease that lead to new solutions; and patient benefit from such solutions. New diagnostics and therapies are a derivative of discovery. The IMM focuses on these medical solutions. The IMM has organized Texas talent in the Texas Therapeutics Institute to achieve this goal of patient benefit from discovery.

Website <http://www.uthouston.edu/imm>

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## Center for Laboratory Animal Medicine & Care (CLAMC)

The Center for Laboratory Animal Medicine and Care (CLAMC) is a program accredited by the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC-International) and meets all standards mandated by the Animal Welfare Act, Center for Disease Control, National Research Council Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals and the Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals. CLAMC is responsible for the management and operations of all animal care and use pro-

grams for UTHealth. CLAMC includes six physically separate animal facilities and numerous satellites on the Texas Medical Center campus. The program provides professional veterinary, surgical, and animal care services in support of principal investigators' animal use studies. The CLAMC is an integral part of UTHealth's research and teaching mission and provides the highest standards possible for ensuring the health and well-being of laboratory animals used in biomedical research. CLAMC staff includes five veterinarians, one veterinary resident, seven veterinary technicians, and approximately 30 animal care and support personnel.

Website: <http://www.uthouston.edu/animal-research/clamc.htm>

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### **John P. McGovern, M.D., Center for Humanities and Ethics**

Established in 2004, The John P. McGovern, M.D. Center for Humanities and Ethics promotes excellence in scholarship and teaching in the medical humanities and ethics. It provides an interdisciplinary forum where scholars, students, physicians, and other health care professionals examine questions of value and meaning in search of ethically sound and spiritually informed patient care. Appropriately, the Center bears the name of John P. McGovern, M.D. (1921-2007), who founded the American Osler Society and throughout his lifetime championed the importance of the compassionate art of medicine.

The McGovern Center is housed in the Medical School but serves all six UTHealth schools. Drawing from bioethics, medical history, health law, spirituality, literature and the arts, the Center offers courses, lectures, research seminars, faculty workshops and consultation. It provides opportunities for collaborative research and professional development for students, residents and faculty. The Center collaborates closely with other academic institutions in Houston, including Rice University, UT MD Anderson Cancer Center and the University of Houston, as well as the Museum of Fine Arts and the Jung Center.

The Center established a Medical Humanities Certificate Program in 2006. This four-year program enriches medical students' education through additional study and involvement in the humanities, including participation in elective courses, seminars and ethics grand rounds, community outreach opportunities, writing workshops and directed research, leading to a Certificate in the Medical Humanities.

In 2009, the Center launched a Campus-Wide Ethics Program to enhance the ethics and professionalism curricula at each of the six UTHealth schools. Beginning in 2011, all UTHealth students are required to take an introductory ethics and professionalism curriculum called, "The Brewsters". The Brewsters is a choose your own adventure, on-line, three-part module where students immerse themselves as characters caught up in ethical dilemmas.

Website: <http://www.uth.tmc.edu/hhhs/>

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### **Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences Clinical Research Units**

The goal of the Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences (CCTS) is to facilitate clinical and translational research at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, and the Memorial Hermann Hospital System. The CCTS is one of the original 12 such centers funded by the National Institutes of Health Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSAs) and is also a member of the Texas CTSA Consortium.

According to the NIH, “(t)ranslational research includes two areas of translation. One is the process of applying discoveries generated during research in the laboratory, and in preclinical studies, to the development of trials and studies in humans (T1 translation). The second area of translation (T2 translation) concerns research aimed at enhancing the adoption of best practices in the community.”

The CCTS is comprised of a series of component programs and services designed to assist investigators and their teams in the development and performance of translational research projects. These components include: Biobank, Bioinformatics, Biostatistics and Design, Clinical Research Units, Community Engagement, Core Labs, Ethics and Advocacy, and Regulatory. In addition, the CCTS T32 program provides stipends for PhD students whose dissertation research is clearly translational or addresses a problem that has direct clinical implications and provides didactic courses, seminars, and other training activities. The program also supports the training and career development of postdoctoral fellows within UTHealth and MD Anderson Cancer Center. The goal of the program is to train truly interdisciplinary researchers by a meaningful blending of programs and disciplines that have been traditionally operated as stand-alone entities within schools of the UTHealth or units within M. D. Anderson.

Website: <http://ccts.uth.tmc.edu/>

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### **The Center for Translational Injury Research (CeTIR)**

The Center was established by funds from the Texas Emerging Technology Fund, UTHealth, and the Memorial Hermann Hospital Fund. The principle mission of the center is to lead in the research and development of next-generation medical technologies related to hemostasis, resuscitation, and computerized decision support of trauma patients. The need for translating trauma research from the bench to the bedside is as great a priority and CeTIR is in a unique position to link basic science research and clinical practice.

Website: <http://www.uth.tmc.edu/cetir/>

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### **Consortium on Aging**

The Consortium on Aging is a university-wide collaborative that allows UTHealth to leverage the existing strengths of its many schools and centers and focus on addressing the health care needs of older adults. The Consortium’s mission includes comprehensive care for older adults and their caregivers; education of future health care providers, the current workforce and the community at large; and, research to expand our understanding of aging.

Website: <http://www.uthouston.edu/aging/>

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### **The University of Texas Harris County Psychiatric Center**

The University of Texas Harris County Psychiatric Center (UTHCPC) opened in 1986 and is the only acute care, public psychiatric facility in Harris County serving persons with debilitating chronic mental illness.

UTHCPC is dedicated to excellence and leadership in the treatment of persons with mental illness. It shares the additional unique missions of UTHealth of conducting research into the causes and cures of mental illness, providing education of professionals in the care of mental illness and acting as a community resource providing outreach to the community.

## General Information

- UTHCPC and The University of Texas Medical School Department of Psychiatry offers a comprehensive program of in-patient (UTHCPC) and outpatient (Department of Psychiatry) diagnostic and treatment services for: Children and adolescents, ages 3 through 17 with depression, bipolar disease, schizophrenia, personality disorders, attention deficit disorders and hyperactivity disorder; and
- Adults ages 18 and up with bipolar disorders, depression, schizophrenia, dementia, psychosocial or personality disorders.

UTHCPC's treatment programs offer individualized treatment plans; individual and group counseling and therapy; family participation; discharge planning and community follow-up referrals. UTHCPC utilizes a multidisciplinary team approach, including, as needed, psychiatrists, nurses, residents, psychologists, social workers, clinical programming therapists, dietitians and clergy.

UTHCPC serves more than 7,000 in-patients annually. Additionally, more than 700 students receive practical experience in the fields of medicine, psychiatry, psychology, nursing, social work, pharmacy, and activity therapy.

UTHCPC, in cooperation with the Harris County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authority, also operates an active forensic competency restoration unit, providing care for those incarcerated by the Harris County Sheriff's Office in the Harris County Jail as well as other jail facilities throughout the area.

Website: <http://hcpc.uth.tmc.edu/>

## TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER

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### Texas Medical Center

Texas Medical Center (TMC) is a comprehensive medical complex that was organized in the mid-1940s as a means for coordinating medical and health education, patient care, and related research in a not-for-profit setting. Today it stands as the leading health care destination for people all over the world. More than 160 permanent buildings, not including Rice University, occupy nearly 1,000 acres that include 15 patient care facilities and 21 academic and research institutions, housing 20,000 advanced-degreed professionals in the life sciences. There are approximately 12,000 volunteers who assist with a wide variety of tasks benefiting the TMC.

More than 106,000 full and part-time employees work in the Texas Medical Center in member institutions with a combined annual operating budget in excess of \$6 billion. TMC hospitals contain more than 7,000 licensed beds. With more than 7.2 million visits recorded per year.

With nearly 72,000 students, the Texas Medical Center includes three medical schools, six nursing schools, a dental school, two colleges of pharmacy, a school of public health, a high school for the health professions (with an annual rate of greater than 95 percent of its graduates going on to college), a community college specializing in health careers training, plus other graduate and post-graduate schools and programs to provide training in the allied health professions.

The Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center (HAM-TMC) Library, which serves as the accredited library for most of the TMC institutions, is recognized as one of the largest academic health sciences libraries in the United States. In addition, research expenditures of the Texas Medical Center member institutions total about \$1.8 billion annually.

One of the most distinctive and visited locations in the Texas Medical Center is The John P. McGovern Texas Medical Center Commons amenities building, which is the central meeting and gathering place for thousands of staff, patients and visitors who frequent the campus daily. It features an exterior 64-foot waterwall; Waterside Court, which provides eight diverse food concepts; Trevisio Restaurant for fine dining, meetings and special events; and a 500-space parking garage.

A major part of this “biomedical city” called the Texas Medical Center is UTHealth, the most diverse of the academic health institutions in the Texas Medical Center.



## **MEMORIAL HERMANN HOSPITAL-TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER, CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL HERMANN HOSPITAL AND TIRR MH**

The Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center Campus is home to three hospitals: Memorial Hermann–Texas Medical Center, Children’s Memorial Hermann Hospital and TIRR Memorial Hermann.

Part of the 12-hospital Memorial Hermann System, these hospitals serve as primary teaching hospitals for The University of Texas Medical School at Houston, ensuring that patient care is based on new knowledge at the frontiers of medicine.

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### **Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center**

For generations, Houston and its surrounding communities have trusted Memorial Hermann-TMC for outstanding care. Memorial Hermann-TMC built a reputation for excellence in heart and vascular, cancer, neuroscience, sports medicine and orthopedics, specialty surgery and organ transplantation.

As the first hospital to open its doors in the renowned Texas Medical Center, Memorial Hermann-TMC has a long history of innovation. These are just a few of the firsts: In 1946, Memorial Hermann-TMC was the first in Texas to perform a cardiac catheterization. In 1976, the hospital was the first in Texas and the second in the nation to launch an air ambulance program, Memorial Hermann Life Flight®, which remains Houston’s only hospital-based air ambulance service. In 1985, Memorial Hermann-TMC broke new ground in the treatment of end-stage liver disease as the site of Houston’s first liver transplant. In 1988, the hospital opened the first stroke center in Houston and one of the first dedicated stroke programs in the world. In 2005, Memorial Hermann-TMC was the first in the world to perform robotic reconstructive aortic surgery. In 2006, Memorial Hermann-TMC performed the first four-organ transplant in Houston and only the fourth in the nation. In 2011, Memorial Hermann-TMC gained world wide recognition for the treatment of Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords where UTHealth faculty led the treatment team.

Through revolutionary advances in medicine and surgery, Memorial Hermann-TMC set new standards of care for the nation and has been recognized as an industry leader by prestigious national organizations, including Thomson Healthcare, VHA, U.S. News & World Report, University Health System Consortium and the American Heart Association.

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### **Children’s Memorial Hermann Hospital**

When families come to Children’s Memorial Hermann Hospital, they expect to find the technological advances and healing expertise of a university-affiliated academic hospital. What continues to surprise them is the special compassion and focus on families that distinguishes Children’s Memorial Hermann Hospital as one of the finest in the nation.

Founded in 1986, Children’s Memorial Hermann Hospital is the primary teaching institution for the pediatrics and obstetrics/gynecology programs at The University of Texas Medical School at Houston. Our healthcare professionals are focused on the specialized needs of women and children, with an emphasis on quality, customer service and leading-edge research.

The hospital offers the latest advances in maternal-fetal medicine and neonatal critical care services, as well as renowned programs in pediatric trauma, neuroscience, pulmonology and

cardiac services. Interdisciplinary teams include experienced nurses, child life specialists, pediatric respiratory therapists, pediatric clinical pharmacists, social workers and more. In 2012, Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital became the first in Texas to perform in-utero surgery in the treatment of Spina Bifida.

As part of Memorial Hermann's network of hospitals, patients can now access children's healthcare or high-risk pregnancy services at our affiliated hospitals in the community or, for more acute healthcare needs, at Children's Memorial Hermann's main facility in the Texas Medical Center.

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### TIRR Memorial Hermann

TIRR Memorial Hermann changes lives by improving outcomes, offering hope and maximizing independence for people affected by disabling injury or illness. Recognized among the leading rehabilitation hospitals in the country, TIRR serves as a model for interdisciplinary rehabilitation services, patient care, education and research.

TIRR is one of only six rehabilitation hospitals in the nation designated as model systems by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) for both our spinal cord injury and traumatic brain injury programs. For 21 consecutive years, U.S. News & World Report has named TIRR to the list of "America's Best Hospitals."

TIRR's reputation is based on more than 50 years of experience in rehabilitation and research, the high caliber of physician partners and clinical staff and comprehensive programs and services. TIRR is also recognized for its long-standing commitment to educating patients, families, healthcare professionals, caregivers and the general public about rehabilitation. Extending TIRR knowledge and resources into the community remains a top priority and part of its pledge to make a difference in the lives of those recovering from disabling injury and illness.

Website of Memorial Hermann locations: <http://www.memorialhermann.org/locations/default.html>

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### THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MD ANDERSON CANCER CENTER

Celebrating seven decades of Making Cancer History®, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center ranks as one of the world's most respected and productive centers devoted exclusively to cancer patient care, research, education and prevention. It is one of the nation's original three comprehensive cancer centers designated by the National Cancer Act of 1971.

Since 1944, patients have turned to MD Anderson for cancer care in the form of surgery, chemotherapy, radiation therapy, immunotherapy, or combinations of these and other treatments. This multidisciplinary approach to treating cancer was pioneered at MD Anderson. Because they focus only on cancer, the center's experts are renowned for their ability to treat all types of cancer, including rare or uncommon diseases.

In 2011, more than 108,000 patients, about one-third of them new patients, sought care at MD Anderson. About one-third of these patients come to Houston from outside Texas seeking the research-based care that has made MD Anderson so widely respected. MD Anderson's clinical trials exploring novel therapies and diagnostic tests continues to be one of the largest such programs in the nation.

At MD Anderson, important scientific knowledge gained in the laboratory is rapidly translated

into clinical care. In FY11, the institution spent more than \$623 million in research. MD Anderson ranks first in the number of research grants awarded and total amount of grants given by the National Cancer Institute. The institution holds 11 NCI Specialized Programs of Research Excellence grants.

In FY11, almost 7,000 students, including physicians, scientists, nurses and allied health professionals, took part in MD Anderson educational programs. The School of Health Professions offers bachelor's degrees in eight allied health disciplines.

More than 1,000 clinical residents and fellows come to MD Anderson each year to receive specialized training in the investigation and treatment of cancer. More than 500 graduate students are working on advanced degrees at the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences in which MD Anderson cooperates with UTHealth, and more than 1,500 research fellows are being trained in MD Anderson laboratories.

MD Anderson employs more than 18,000 people, including more than 1,500 faculty members. A volunteer corps of about 1,100 people supplements its workforce; these volunteers provide more than 200,000 hours of service each year, the equivalent of 96 full-time employees. Faculty, staff and volunteers are dedicated to MD Anderson's mission of eliminating cancer as a major health threat.

Website: <http://www.mdanderson.org/>

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### Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center Library



The Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center (HAM-TMC) Library serves as the accredited library for most Texas Medical Center institutions and is the primary library for The University of Texas Medical School at Houston. The Library is also home to the John P. McGovern Historical Research Collection, as well as the Menninger Collection on Psychiatry and Psychoanalysis, one of the world's most comprehensive collections of books, journals and archival materials in psychiatry, psychoanalysis and psychology.

Currently, the HAM-TMC Library contains 76,500 square feet of space and holds over 357,023 volumes, including books and journal volumes. Additionally, the Library has subscriptions to over 200 electronic databases and over 8,000 electronic journals. Over 50 public access computers are available to library users for Internet access and research, as well as word processing, database development and preparation of spreadsheets and public presentations through Microsoft® software applications. WiFi is available throughout the Library. The Library also offers such classes as Navigating, in addition to instruction in RefWorks, Tracking Your Publications and Creating Your Own eBooks.

Since 1991, the Library has served as the Regional Medical Library for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, South Central Region, with responsibility for the library needs of health professionals in the five-state region of Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. Chosen by the National Library of Medicine, there are only eight Regional Medical Libraries in the nation.

Website: <http://www.library.tmc.edu/>

## ACADEMIC GENERAL INFORMATION

### Degrees offered at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

School/Program	Degree	Cert.	Bach.	Mast.	Doc.
School of Dentistry	<b>D.D.S.</b>				X
	<b>Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Certificate</b> (4 years post-DDS)	X			
	<b>Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Certificate/MD*</b> (6 years post-D.D.S.) *MD degree conveyed by UT Medical School	X			X
	<b>Advanced Education Programs</b> General Practice Residency (GPR) Advanced Education in General Dentistry (AEGD) (certificate only):	X			
	<b>M.S.D*</b> . Endodontics, Periodontics, Prosthodontics (*M.S.D. is required in these programs in addition to the certificate); Orthodontics, Pediatric Dentistry (certificate program, M.S.D. is optional)	X			X
	<b>B.S. in Dental Hygiene</b>			X	
	<b>Dental Hygiene Certificate Program</b>	X			
<b>Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences</b>	<b>M.S. in Biomedical Sciences</b> (with concentrations in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; Biostatistics, Bioinformatics and Systems Biology; Biomedical Sciences; Cancer Biology; Cell and Regulatory Biology; Clinical and Translational Sciences; Experimental Therapeutics; Genes and Development; Genetic Counseling; Human and Molecular Genetics; Immunology; Medical Physics; Microbiology and Molecular Genetics; Molecular Carcinogenesis; , Neuroscience; Virology and Gene Therapy).			X	

School/Program	Degree	Cert.	Bach.	Mast.	Doc.
<b>Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences</b>	<b>Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences</b> (with concentrations in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; Biostatistics, Bioinformatics and Systems Biology; Cancer Biology; Cell and Regulatory Biology; Clinical and Translational Sciences; Experimental Therapeutics; Genes and Development; Human and Molecular Genetics; Immunology; Medical Physics; Microbiology and Molecular Genetics; Molecular Carcinogenesis; Neuroscience; Virology and Gene Therapy).				X
<b>School of Biomedical Informatics</b>	<b>Certificate</b> (in Health Informatics)	X			
	<b>M.S.</b> (in Health Informatics ) (Focus areas in Biomedical Engineering, Clinical Informatics, Computational Biomedicine, Learning and Technology and Public Health Informatics)			X	
	<b>Ph.D.</b> (in Health Informatics) (Focus areas in Biomedical Engineering, Clinical Informatics, Computational Biomedicine, Learning and Technology and Public Health Informatics)				X
<b>Medical School</b>	<b>M.D.</b>				X
	<b>M.S. in Clinical Research</b>			X	
<b>School of Nursing</b>	<b>B.S.N.</b>		X		
	<b>M.S.N.</b>			X	
	<b>Ph.D.</b> (in Nursing)				X
	<b>D.N.P.</b>				X
<b>School of Public Health</b>	<b>M.P.H.</b> (in Public Health)			X	
	<b>M.S.</b> (in Public Health)			X	
	<b>Dr.P.H.</b> (in Public Health)				X
	<b>Ph.D.</b> (in Public Health)				X
	<b>Certificate in Public Health</b>	X			
	<b>Certificate in Public Health Informatics</b>	X			

**Accreditation**

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award certificate, baccalaureate, masters, doctoral, and professional degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.

While SACS accredits the total institution, many of the academic degree programs offered at UTHHealth also undergo accreditation by specialized accrediting bodies\*. They are as follows:

School	Degree or Certificate	Accrediting agency
<b>School of Dentistry</b>	D.D.S.	American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation
	M.S.	American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation
	Advanced Education Certificate Program	American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation
	B.S. (Dental Hygiene)	American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation
	Dental Hygiene Certificate Program	American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation
	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Certificate Program	American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation
<b>Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences</b>	M.S. with specialization in Genetic Counseling	American Board of Genetic Counseling
	M.S. with specialization in Medical Physics	Commission on Accreditation of Medical Physics Education Programs
	M.S.	
	Ph.D.	
<b>Medical School</b>	M.D.	American Medical Association/ Association of American Medical Colleges Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME)
		Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)
		Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME)
	M.S. in Clinical Research	

School	Degree or Certificate	Accrediting agency
<b>School of Biomedical Informatics</b>	M.S.	
	Ph.D.	
<b>School of Nursing</b>	B.S.N.	Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
	M.S.N.	Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
	Nurse Anesthesia	Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs
	D.N.P.	Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
	Ph.D. (Nursing)	
<b>School of Public Health</b>	M.P.H.†	Council on Education for Public Health
	M.S.†	Council on Education for Public Health
	Dr.P.H.	Council on Education for Public Health
	Ph.D.	Council on Education for Public Health
	M.P.H. (Industrial Hygiene)	The Applied Science Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology

\*The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston is also accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians.

† The Industrial Hygiene curriculum in the MPH and MS degree programs is accredited by the Applied Science Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET), 111 Market Place, Suite 1050, Baltimore, MD 21202-4012, telephone: (410) 347-7700.

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## Academic Qualifications

In accordance with Department of Education guidelines, in order to receive Title IV financial aid funds, a student must be qualified to study at the postsecondary level. A student qualifies if he/she:

- Has a high school diploma;
- Has the recognized equivalent of a high school diploma, typically a general education development or GED certificate;
- Has completed home schooling at the secondary level; or
- Has an academic transcript of a student who has successfully completed at least a two-year program that is acceptable for full credit toward a bachelor's degree. In addition to these qualifications, please refer to the school catalog section for specific admissions criteria for academic degree program in each of the UTHealth schools.

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### Academic Fresh Start

If a student who enrolls under the Texas Fresh Start program, completes a prescribed course of study, earns a baccalaureate degree, and applies for admission to a postgraduate or professional program, the institution, in considering the applicant for admission into the postgraduate or professional program, shall consider only the grade point average of the applicant established by the course work completed after enrollment under the Texas Fresh Start program, along with any other criteria the institution uses in evaluation applications for admission.

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### Academic Common Market

The Academic Common Market (ACM) is an interstate agreement among southern states for sharing academic uncommon programs. Participating states arrange for their residents who qualify for admission to enroll in specific programs in other states on the in-state tuition basis. The ACM is available only to states that are members of the Southern Regional Educational Boards.

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### Tuition and Fees

Tuition and fees are subject to change by legislative or Regental action and become effective on the date enacted. The Texas Legislature does not set the specific amount for any particular student fee. The student fees assessed are authorized by state statute; however, the specific fee amounts and the determination to increase fees are made by the university administration and The University of Texas System Board of Regents.

Please refer to the Office of Registrar website at <http://www.uth.edu/registrar/current-students/registration/tuition--fee-schedule.htm> for the current Tuition and Fee Schedules.

For additional tuition and fee information go to the Office of the Registrar's website under Current Students/Student Information for a list of general information helpful to all students. This website discloses current information regarding tuition and fee exceptions and/or waivers, Veterans education benefits, and the Policy for Texas Resident Tuition. Please refer to the Office of Registrar website at <http://www.uth.edu/registrar/> to view this information.

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### Tuition and Fees Payment Policy

Payment of tuition and fees are due no later than the last day of regular registration for the term.

Students whose registration is cancelled because of non-payment or issuing an insufficient funds check will not be reinstated for the term.

An insufficient check fee of \$25 will be assessed for each returned check.

Students who have fees billed to a sponsor are financially responsible for any charges determined to be uncollectible by the Accounting Office. Furthermore, extended delays in collection of receivables from sponsors will require the student to make the uncollected payment. Student payments will be refunded upon receipt of payment from the sponsor.

Payment of tuition and fees may be paid in full or in installments for the fall, spring and summer 12 week semester. An Installment Use Fee of \$20 will be assessed for the use of the installment plan. A \$25 Late Payment Fee will be assessed if the initial payment is late; a \$25 charge will

be assessed for each subsequent delinquent installment payment. Certain fees, such as health insurance, liability insurance and the installment use fee must be paid in full at the initial payment and may not be paid in installments. Check with the Bursar's Office for a complete list of fees.

A student who fails to provide full payment of tuition and fees, including late fees assessed by the university, when such payments are due, is subject to one or more of the following actions:

- Prohibited from registration in future terms until full payment is made,
- Withholding of degree and/or official transcript,
- Denial of credit for the work done during the academic year, and
- Subject to all penalties and action authorized by law.

For more information regarding tuition and fee payment, installment plans and payment methods please contact:

Bursar's Office  
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston  
University Center Tower  
7000 Fannin, Suite 2240  
713-500-3380

Bursar Website: <http://inside.uthouston.edu/finance/bursars/>

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### **Adding, Dropping and Withdrawing Courses**

For all programs other than Medical School (MD) and Dentistry (DDS) programs, students may add and drop classes after the initial enrollment period during the first 12 days of the fall and spring semesters and during the first four days of the summer term. Students withdrawing from classes after the initial drop/add period must submit a drop form that may be obtained from the Student Affairs Office in each school or from the Office of the Registrar.

Classes dropped on or before the 12th class day of a semester or 4th class day of a summer term will not appear on a student's transcript. Classes dropped after the 12th class day of a semester or the 4th class day of a summer term will appear on the student's permanent record with a "W," "WP" or "WF" grade, depending upon the school's grading policy.

Students should check with their school advisor or instructor to make sure the appropriate specific program approvals, guidelines and deadlines for add, drop or withdrawals from courses are followed.

Refunds for classes dropped will be credited in strict accordance to the schedule specified by state law and will depend on the number of days that have elapsed since the beginning of the semester or term. Please see Refund Policy section for additional information.

Class Schedule Contents with add/drop and information can be found on MyUTH class search.

**Refund Policy**

All programs at UTHealth follow a standard Refund Policy based on the first day of the semester term and not on the first day class convenes. Refunds shall be made of applicable tuition and fees collected for courses from which a student drops within the first 12 days of the fall and spring semesters, provided the student remains enrolled at the institution. Refunds of applicable tuition and fees collected for courses which a student drops, shall be made as soon as practicable during the two summer semesters, provided the student remains enrolled at the institution, 1) within the first four days of the six week summer session; and 2) within the first 12 days of the 12 week summer session.

All refunds will be based on the day the student drops the course(s) electronically through MyUTH (<http://www.uth.edu/registrar/myuth.htm>) or the date the official withdrawal form is received in the Registrar’s Office.

Refunds of tuition and mandatory fees shall be made to the students withdrawing completely from UTHealth during a semester according to the following schedules. The percent refunded is based upon the full payment of all tuition and fees. If full payment has not been made, it is possible that a balance may be due. Not all fees are refundable beyond the first day of the term. Tuition reassessment refunds will be made after the 20th class day.

(fall, spring, 12 week summer semesters)

Prior to the first day of the session (a \$15 matriculation fee shall be assessed)	100%
During the first five class days of the term	80%
During the second five class days of the term	70%
During the third five class days of the term	50%
During the fourth five class days of the term	25%
After the fourth five class days of the term	None

(6 week summer semester)

Prior to the first day of the session (a \$15 matriculation fee shall be assessed)	100%
During the first, second, or third class days of the session	80%
During the fourth, fifth, or sixth class days of the session	50%
After the seventh day of class and thereafter	None

All policies regarding the payment or refund of tuition, fees and charges are approved by The University of Texas System Board of Regents and comply with all applicable state statutes. Students should contact the Bursar's Office on any clarification of matters relating to payment or refunds of all tuition, fees and other charges associated with their enrollment at UTHealth.

Bursar Office

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

University Center Tower

7000 Fannin, Suite 2240

Houston, Texas 77030

713-500-3380

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## Teaching Affiliations

UTHealth continually strives to increase the number of formal educational affiliation agreements with other institutions and agencies in the greater Houston area and the state, including a dozen major hospitals, city and neighborhood clinics, public schools, and other sites that provide settings for clinical services. These agreements allow students a multiple array of opportunities for educational growth in health-related fields.

**Memorial Hermann Hospital** is the primary teaching affiliate of the Medical School and School of Dentistry. Memorial Hermann Hospital and UTHealth work toward the goals of exemplary patient care, innovative teaching, community service, and productive research. The School of Dentistry operates general practice, pediatric dentistry, and oral and maxillofacial surgery clinics in conjunction with Memorial Hermann Hospital as part of the advanced dental education programs.

**Lyndon B. Johnson General Hospital** is a 332-bed full service general hospital staffed by faculty and residents of the Medical School and School of Dentistry (oral surgery only). The hospital, owned and operated by the Harris County Hospital District, is medically staffed by Affiliated Medical Services, an organization formed through an agreement between the Medical School and Baylor College of Medicine.

**The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center** and UTHealth, together with the Texas A&M Institute of Biosciences and Technology, collaborate extensively in research and education. Many of MD Anderson Cancer Center faculty have joint appointments in most UTHealth units, and UTHealth students and residents gain clinical experience at MD Anderson Cancer Center in a variety of medical, dental and nursing specialties.

**The UT Medical School** has affiliations with institutions where residents are assigned, including St. Joseph Medical Center for orthopedic surgery, psychiatry, radiology, and urology; Harris County Psychiatric Center; St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital for anesthesiology, internal medicine, pathology, renal transplant and surgery; The Methodist Hospital for anesthesiology, colon and rectal surgery; Shriners Hospitals for Children—Houston or orthopedics; Texas Children's Hos-

pital for radiology, anesthesiology, physical medicine and rehabilitation; and, Woman's Hospital of Texas for obstetrics.

**The UT School of Dentistry** has affiliations with institutions for dental student, dental hygiene student, and resident rotations and training. Hospital affiliations include: Ben Taub General, LBJ General, Memorial Hermann, The Methodist Hospital, Shriners Hospital, St. Luke's Hospital, Texas Children's Hospital, The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research, U.T. MD Anderson Cancer Center, and the Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Community clinics and organizations include: Bering-Omega Clinic, City of Houston, Communities in Schools Houston, Denver Harbor Dental Clinic, East Texas Health Area Network (ETHAN), Fort Bend Family Health Center, Harris County, Harris County Hospital District, Houston ISD, San Jose Clinic, and St. Luke's Episcopal Health Charities.

**The University of Texas Harris County Psychiatric Center** has affiliations or program agreements with the UT School of Nursing; College of the Mainland (nursing); DeBakey High School for Health Professions (preceptorship program); Houston Baptist University (psychology and nursing); Houston Community College (Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and nursing); Lee College (EMT and nursing); Prairie View A&M (nursing); San Jacinto College South (nursing); Stephen F. Austin State University (nursing and psychology); Texas Southern University (psychology, social work, and health information management); Texas Woman's University (nursing); Galveston College (nursing); Alvin Community College (nursing); San Jacinto College Central (nursing); University of Houston (nursing, psychology, and social work); University of Houston-Clear Lake (psychology and counseling/educational psychology); University of Houston Sugar Land (nursing); UT Austin (social work); UT-El Paso (occupational therapy); and UT Medical Branch (nursing). Psychology residents from a variety of institutions are also trained.

UTHealth has academic affiliations with numerous universities in Latin America, Europe, and Asia that permit interested students to arrange, on an individual basis, periods of study or research abroad. We recognize that health and biomedical sciences are global in scope and encourage academic exchange with other countries and cultures.

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### Concurrent/Inter-Institutional Enrollment

The University of Houston, Texas Woman's University, UT Brownsville, UT El Paso, UTMB Galveston, UTHSC at San Antonio, UT Austin, and UTHealth have concurrent enrollment agreements that allow students enrolled in one institution to enroll for support courses in another institution. Additionally, UTHealth has inter-institutional agreements with Rice University, Baylor College of Medicine, Texas A&M HSC-IBT, and the Gulf Coast Consortia.

The mechanism for payment of tuition and fees vary according to the individual institution. Consult with the Registrar's Office for specific details at the following website: <http://www.uth.edu/registrar/current-students/student-information/concurrentinter-institutional-enrollment.htm> or call 713-500-3388.

## STUDENT GENERAL INFORMATION

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### Student Government

UTHealth authorizes the existence of a student government body that has the jurisdictions and powers delegated to it by The University of Texas System Board of Regents. The UTHealth student governance body is the Student InterCouncil (SIC), which is recognized as a forum of student opinion and is comprised of representatives from each of the six schools and includes representatives from the traditionally underrepresented minority and international student constituencies.

The SIC contributes to the quality of student life at the university by participating in the development and implementation of policies and procedures affecting students, providing funds to support special projects of other student groups, representing student interests on external and internal committees, providing feedback to university administration on tuition and fee proposals, improving communication among the schools through the publication of an online student newsletter, Student Pulse, and planning and implementing activities that address the special needs of students.

Learn more about the Student InterCouncil at their website.

Website: <http://www.uthouston.edu/sic>

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### Student Organizations

UTHealth encourages its students, faculty, and staff to develop collegial relationships, and has established specific policies, based on UT System Board of Regents' Rules and Regulations that govern any organizations formed by those affiliated with the university.

A student organization that is registered with UTHealth may have a membership composed only of students, faculty, and staff of all or particular UTHealth schools or operating units. The organization may not suggest or imply that it is acting with the authority or as an agency of UTHealth or UT System.

Accordingly, a registered organization may not use the name of the university or the name of The University of Texas System as part of the name of the organization. An organization cannot display the UTHealth logo or the seal of either UTHealth or The University of Texas System in connection with any activity of the organization or use such marks as part of any letterhead, sign, banner, pamphlet, or other printed material bearing the name of the organization. A registered organization may not have any person as a member who is not either a registered student or a member of the faculty or staff of UTHealth. The full UTHealth employee or student organizations policy can be found online in the Handbook of Operating Procedures (HOOP) Policy 110, Employee or Student Organizations (<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1448068>)

Students should contact their respective school's Office of Student Affairs for application instructions for annual renewal or new student organizations.

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### Student Fee Advisory Committee

The Student Fee Advisory Committee established pursuant to state law is charged with the responsibility of reviewing proposed tuition, student services, incidental, laboratory and other fee changes, and making recommendations to the university President before submission of new fee proposals to UT System for approval by the Board of Regents.

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## Student Guide

The Office of Academic and Research Affairs provides an informational resource website for students and prospective students that describes UTHHealth and community services, and provides an overview of student policies and accompanying procedures, and information about the Texas Medical Center area.

The Student Educational and Program Services website is at <http://www.uthouston.edu/academics/applicants/> For more information, contact the Office of the Executive Vice President for Academic and Research Affairs at (713) 500-3082.

## STUDENT SERVICES

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### Registrar

The UTHHealth Registrar's Office provides a central computer-based student record system and web registration activities and other services for schools on this campus. The goals of the office are to provide an effective and efficient application process; to direct an accurate, facile registration process; and to maintain a computerized applicant, student and alumni record system.

Additional services provided by the Registrar's Office include the issuance of transcripts, certification of student status, degree verification, Veteran's Administration counseling and verification, residence determination and enrollment verification. The office, in conjunction with the Office of International Affairs, assists foreign students in maintaining their student status.

For further information, contact:

Office of the Registrar  
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston  
P.O. Box 20036  
7000 Fannin, Suite 2250  
Houston, Texas 77225  
(713) 500- 3388  
email: [registrar@uth.tmc.edu](mailto:registrar@uth.tmc.edu)  
Website: <http://www.uth.edu/registrar/>

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### Student Financial Services

UTHHealth has available grants, scholarships, and loans based on the most current regulations or guidelines in effect at the time of award. Financial aid counselors are available Monday- Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to provide counseling on the financial assistance programs available to students. The Office of Student Financial Services is located on the 22nd floor of the University Center Tower, 7000 Fannin, Houston, Texas 77030.

A student subject to selective service registration will be required to file a statement that the student has registered or is exempt from selective service registration to be eligible to receive financial assistance funded by state revenue.

Students can visit the Student Financial Services website at <http://www.uthouston.edu/SFS/financial-aid/attendance.htm> to find the latest information regarding Costs of Attendance and an example of Student Living Expense Budgets for current aid years.

The Texas Education Coordinating Board administers various tuition assistance programs including programs for teachers and vocational nursing students. Further information about these programs may be obtained by contacting the Office of Student Financial Services.

Please visit the Office of Student Financial Services website for instructions on how to apply for financial aid or contact:

Office of Student Financial Services  
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston  
P.O. Box 20036  
7000 Fannin, Suite 2220  
Houston, Texas 77225  
(713) 500-3860  
Website <http://www.uthouston.edu/sfs/>

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### Office of the Bursar

The Bursar's Office (also known as the Cashier's Office) has the responsibility for the assessment and collection of tuition and fees, processing institutional deposits, remission of tuition, fees and sales tax to the State, financial reporting, reconciliation of various revenue accounts and providing quality customer service to students, faculty and staff. The primary purpose of this office is to assess and collect tuition and fees from students and third party sponsors, including providing and maintaining multiple installment payment plans, issuing student identification badges, distributing financial aid, emergency loans and refunds. This office works closely with the Registrar and Student Financial Service offices to support the needs of the students.

The Bursar Office is also responsible for distributing special compliance notifications to students, such as set aside funds from designated tuition to be used for local institutional aid assistance programs and how the student can apply for those funds.

The office is located in the UHealth University Center Tower (UCT) room 2240 at 7000 Fannin, Houston, Texas 77030. Office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:00am-5:00pm. For questions regarding student accounts, tuition and fee payments, refunds, or installment plans students may call 713-500-3088.

Bursar Website: <https://inside.uthouston.edu/finance/bursars/>

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### Office of International Affairs

The Office of International Affairs (OIA) serves as the internal institutional resource to facilitate and oversee institutional compliance with state, local, and federal laws and regulations regarding the immigration status of all non- U.S. citizens who participate in the academic, research, and clinical endeavors of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.

Services and programs offered include:

- Advice on immigration issues to university units wishing to host or employ international visitors;
- Institutional compliance with immigration regulations;
- Processing of non-immigrant and immigrant visa applications sponsored by the institution;

## General Information

- Acting as a liaison among institutional departments, government agencies, and private organizations; and
- Coordinating educational and cultural programs and activities that promote the well-being of international visitors, students, trainees, faculty, and staff.

To ensure compliance with federal, state, and local regulations as well as institutional policies, all non-U.S. citizens must check-in with the Office of International Affairs prior to registering for classes in order to obtain the appropriate clearance to begin studies.

The Office of International Affairs is located in the University Center Tower, Suite 130. Office hours are Monday through Friday from, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Appointments are required.

For further information, contact:

Office of International Affairs

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

P.O. Box 20036

Houston, Texas 77225

7000 Fannin St., Suite 130

Houston, Texas 77030

(713) 500-3176 FAX (713) 500-3189

email: [utoiahouston@uth.tmc.edu](mailto:utoiahouston@uth.tmc.edu)

Website: <http://www.uthouston.edu/international-affairs/>

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## Office of Equal Opportunity

The Equal Opportunity Office within Human Resources (HR-EO) provides resources, and advice to the university community. Key functions include:

- Investigating complaints of discrimination and harassment based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation, mental or physical disability, genetic information, veteran's status, or any other basis protected by applicable university policy and/or law.
- Working with supervisors and 504 Coordinators to evaluate requests for reasonable work and/or academic accommodation under university policy and/or applicable law;
- Educating hiring officials on best practices for attracting, hiring, and retaining a diverse workforce;
- Preparing the university's affirmative action plans and reporting other demographic data as required by state and federal law;
- Promoting an inclusive environment by delivering training on equal opportunity, discrimination & harassment, affirmative action, diversity and other topics as appropriate for and the university community.

For additional information, contact:

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

Human Resources

7000 Fannin, Suite 150

Houston, Texas 77030

(713) 500-3079

Website <http://hr.uth.tmc.edu/EEOnew/eo.html>

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## Student Health and Counseling Services

UT Student Health and Counseling Services serves as the medical home for all UTHealth students and provides both medical and mental health services. A portion of the student services fee funds the programs.

### Medical Services:

The Medical health services are available for all UTHealth students and their dependents. Dependents services are billed directly to their health insurance. Services available include immunizations required for matriculation into and through UTHealth, tuberculosis screening, physical examinations, well woman examinations, flu shots, travel medicine, treatment of acute and chronic medical problems, and referrals to specialists as necessary. The clinic manages a 24-hour a day hotline for needlesticks and other exposures to hazardous body fluids. An on-site Class D pharmacy offers many prescription medications for common illnesses and oral contraceptives. The clinic is staffed by physicians who are board certified both in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics.

Low complexity office visits are covered by the student fees. Higher complexity visits can be charged to the student's insurance carrier. Immunizations may be covered by the student's insurance and are otherwise offered at near cost. Testing following blood or body fluid exposure while performing educational assignments is covered by the Needlestick Program as long as student reports incident to our Occupational Exposure Hotline at 713-500-OUCH. Any charges not covered by the student's insurance carrier are the responsibility of the student. These may include laboratory tests, radiological services, hospitalization and referred consultation, and pharmaceuticals.

### Psychiatric and Counseling Services:

Balancing personal life with the demands of academia can be challenging. Psychiatric and counseling services are available for all UTHealth students at not additional cost. Available services include therapy sessions for a wide variety of concerns such as depression, anxiety, academic problems, alcohol/substance abuse, eating disorders, insomnia, relationship concerns, smoking cessation, suicidal thoughts, etc. Referrals are not required and students are strongly encouraged to call and make an appointment if they are in need of these services.

Records are kept strictly confidential, subject to federal and state law. Staff is available for outreach and prevention programs for all UTHealth Schools.

Student Health Services is located in the UT Professional Building, Suite 130 Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Appointments are preferred but not required for acute illness and emergencies.

## General Information

For more information, contact:  
UT Student Health Services  
The University of Texas Professional Building  
6410 Fannin, Suite 130

Houston, Texas 77030  
(713) 500-5171 FAX (713) 500-0605  
Website: [www.uthouston.edu/studenthealth](http://www.uthouston.edu/studenthealth)

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### Student Health Insurance

The University of Texas System Board of Regents approved mandating health insurance for students enrolled in the UT System health components, including students previously enrolled. The Board of Regents has authorized the assessment of a health insurance fee for each semester to each student who cannot provide evidence of continuing coverage under another approved plan.

In addition, the Board of Regents requires all international students holding non-immigrant visas and living in the United States to have coverage for repatriation and medical evacuation while enrolled at University of Texas System component institutions. The required health insurance fee assessed by the university includes coverage for repatriation and medical evacuation. International students with coverage outside of the plan can contact UTHealth Auxiliary Enterprises at (713) 500-8400, or [student-insurance@uth.tmc.edu](mailto:student-insurance@uth.tmc.edu) to provide the information needed to waive the insurance fee and, if needed, purchase coverage for repatriation and medical evacuation.

A student health insurance program is offered to registered students through a private company selected by The University of Texas System. This plan is designed to supplement student health services. In addition, it also assists with expenses not covered by the student services fee such as prescriptions, hospitalization, etc. Students have the option of enrolling their families in this plan at an additional cost.

For further information, contact: Auxiliary Enterprises  
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston  
7779 Knight Road  
Houston, Texas 77054  
(713) 500-8400 FAX (713) 500-8409  
email: [student-insurance@uth.tmc.edu](mailto:student-insurance@uth.tmc.edu)  
Website: [www.uth.edu/auxiliary-enterprises/insurance](http://www.uth.edu/auxiliary-enterprises/insurance)

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## Child Development Center

UTHealth operates a Child Development Center (-CDC) for children ages six weeks through kindergarten, located within the University Housing complex at 7900 Cambridge. The Center offers a safe, wholesome environment where children enjoy living and learning. The educational environment for infants is designed to provide visual and auditory stimulation in an atmosphere of warmth and nurturance. The program for toddlers and older children features open learning centers that provide for individual instructional activities with large and small group interaction. All children are encouraged to develop according to their own unique abilities, interests and growth rates.

In addition to being licensed by the State of Texas, the CDC is nationally accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). The CDC program was the first nationally accredited center in the Texas Medical Center. Each classroom has a lead teacher with an Associate's or Bachelor's degree in Child Development or related field, and our Kindergarten teacher has a Master's degree. The CDC is open from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and is closed on all holidays observed by UTHealth.

Parents are encouraged to participate in various projects involving their children and in the activities of the Building Blocks Committee, which acts as a support group for the CDC. Regularly scheduled parent/teacher conferences apprise parents of their child's growth and development.

Tours are available Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Child Development Center

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

7900 Cambridge

Houston, Texas 77054

(713) 500-8454

Website: [www.uth.edu/child-development-center](http://www.uth.edu/child-development-center)

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## University Housing

University Housing consists of three unique apartment communities. Each apartment is carpeted and equipped with an all-electric kitchen. The Phase I complex was built in 1982 and features first and second floor units in one, two, and three bedroom floor plans. Phase I offers coin-operated washers and dryers housed in three laundry rooms.

The Phase II property, built in 2005, is a contemporary style living environment with four floors of one and two bedroom apartments and a four-story parking garage located in the middle of the complex. Each unit in Phase II has its own washer and dryer.

Phase III, to be finished in May of 2014, was built in the same style and offers the same amenities of the Phase II property.

The entrance to all three properties is monitored by a 24-hour guard. Residents enjoy the amenities of a commons room, swimming pool and close proximity to the Child Development Center, the Recreation Center and the UTHealth shuttle.

Leasing office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

## General Information

Affiliated students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to apply for a place on the waiting list for available vacancies.

For further information contact:  
University Housing  
The Leasing Office  
1885 El Paseo  
Houston, Texas 77054  
(713) 500-8444 FAX 500-8448  
Website: [www.uth.edu/housing](http://www.uth.edu/housing)

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## Transportation

UTHealth provides a circulator shuttle for all UTHealth students, faculty and staff. UTHealth identification badges are required for access onto the shuttle. The shuttle service is contracted through Groome Transportation and operates from 6:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Friday excluding official university holidays. During peak operating hours (6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.) the shuttle runs every 10-15 minutes. Shuttle stops located at: University Housing, Recreation Center, University Center Tower, School of Nursing, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Medical School Building, School of Public Health and the Research Park Complex. The real-time location of each shuttle can be tracked online at <http://uthpublic.etaspot.net> or <http://uthmobile.etaspot.net> (for mobile devices). For information regarding shuttle services or routes, please contact Auxiliary Enterprises at [shuttle@uth.tmc.edu](mailto:shuttle@uth.tmc.edu) or visit the website at [www.uth.edu/shuttle](http://www.uth.edu/shuttle).

In addition to the UTHealth Shuttle, the Texas Medical Center (TMC) operates a free shuttle from its various locations. For information about TMC shuttle service, see [www.texasmedicalcenter.org](http://www.texasmedicalcenter.org) or call the TMC Parking Office at (713) 791-6161.

Vehicles parking or driving on property controlled by UTHealth are subject to enforcement of state vehicle inspection laws.

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## General Parking Information for UTHealth Students

Student may obtain contract parking from UTHealth or the Texas Medical Center (TMC). For UTHealth student parking information, call 713/500-3405 or visit [www.uth.edu/parking](http://www.uth.edu/parking) (under the Parking tab, click on Student Parking Policy). For TMC information, call 713/791-6161 or visit [www.texasmedicalcenter.org](http://www.texasmedicalcenter.org) (under the Parking & Transportation tab select Contract Parking). Reduced rate parking is available at these remote lots: UT South Campus Lot, TMC South Extension Lot, TMC Smith Lands and TMC South Main Lot. Some remote parking lots offer free shuttle service to the main campus and “after hours” privileges to park in the main campus garages.

UTHealth On-Campus Parking:

**University Center Tower (UCT) Garage (7000 Fannin at Pressler):** Full-access contract parking at the UCT garage is available only to employees and students in the UCT and Institute of Molecular Medicine (IMM) buildings. However, after-hours parking contracts are available to all students (see below). In addition, all currently enrolled students who visit UCT for student-related business (i.e. Registrar, financial aid, and Bursar’s office) are granted complimentary parking for one and a half hours. Before leaving the building, the student must present a valid student ID badge and parking ticket to the Parking Office on the first floor of UCT to obtain a

validation to exit the garage. Parking in excess of the 1-1/2 hour complimentary parking is at the student's expense.

**University Professional Building (UPB) Garage (6414 Fannin):** Full-access contracts are not available to students at the UPB Garage. However, after-hours contracts are available (see below). The Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) Garage at 6436 Fannin (next to UPB Garage) offers 24/7 month-to-month parking contracts to UTHHealth students on a first-come, first-served basis. Students may purchase a parking contract for PVAMU by presenting a valid student ID at the UPB Parking Office.

**UT South Campus Lot:** The South Campus Lot, located across from the University Recreation Center, is available to all students 24/7 at a rate of \$40 per month. The UTHHealth Shuttle picks up directly in front of the South Campus Lot and stops at key points around campus. The South Campus Lot is also in walking distance to the UTHHealth School of Dentistry (SOD). South Campus contracts include after-hour access to the Research Park Complex (RPC) Lot located directly in front of SOD.

**Research Park Complex (RPC) Lot:** The RPC Lot, located across from the UTHHealth School of Dentistry, is not available for full access student contract parking. However, after-hours and weekend access to the RPC Lot is included with the purchase of contract parking at the UT South Campus Lot.

**SON/SPH Lots:** The SON/SPH lots adjacent to the UTHHealth School of Nursing and the UTHHealth School of Public Health are not available for full access student contract parking. However, after-hours contracts are available (see below).

After-Hours Parking Contracts are available for UCT Garage, UPB Garage and SON/SPH lots. These contracts allow parking at the designated facility Monday through Friday from 5:00 pm to 8:00 am, or any time on weekends. The cost for an after-hours parking contract is \$30 per six-month period (January-June and July-December) plus a one-time non-refundable parking card activation fee of \$10. (Please note, after-hours parking at RPC Lot is included with the purchase of a full-access contract at UT South Campus.)

For further information contact:  
UTHHealth Parking Services UCT  
7000 Fannin (UCT)  
Houston, Texas 77030  
(713) 500-3405  
email: [Parking@uth.tmc.edu](mailto:Parking@uth.tmc.edu)  
Website: [www.uth.edu/parking](http://www.uth.edu/parking)

UTHHealth Parking Services UPB  
6414 Fannin (UPB)  
Houston, TX 77030  
(832) 325-7655

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## Alternative Transportation Options

**Van Pool Info:** METRO Star offers a monthly subsidy per van pool riders who ride at least twelve times per month round trip. The subsidy is provided direct to the vanpool driver's account and the savings passed on to the rider. To form or join a vanpool, please register on METRO's online website at [www.ridemetro.org](http://www.ridemetro.org) or call METRO at (713) 224-RIDE (7433).

**METRO:** METRO offers a 50% discount off the full fare for all local Park and Ride or METRO Rail rides. Student must obtain a letter showing you are a registered student of the university. The letter can be obtained by presenting a current UTHHealth ID Badge at one of the UTHHealth Park-

## General Information

ing Offices: UCT-7000 Fannin or UPB-6414 Fannin. The letter and student ID must then be taken to the METRO Ridestore, 1900 Main Street, 1st floor, to obtain a pictured METRO QCard. METRO is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, and can be reached by riding the METRO Rail Line to Downtown Transit Center stop. Contract METRO at (713) 739-6968 for more information.

For additional information please contact UTHealth Parking at

Email: [Parking@uth.tmc.edu](mailto:Parking@uth.tmc.edu)

Website: [www.uth.edu/parking](http://www.uth.edu/parking)

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## Bookstores

Matthews Medical Book Company operates three locations at UTHealth – Medical School, School of Dentistry and School of Nursing.

A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a text-book from a university-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Each bookstore location carries required and recommended textbooks for affiliated school, relevant reference and review materials, equipment and supply kits, and computer software. UTHealth gift and clothing items, graduation invitations, academic regalia and diploma frames are also available. Books that are not in stock may be special ordered at the service desk or online.

For further information, contact:

Matthews UTHealth Medical School Bookstore

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

6431 Fannin, Suite B600

Houston, TX 77030

(713) 500-5860 FAX (713) 500-0540

Website: [www.uthoustonbooks.com](http://www.uthoustonbooks.com)

Hours of operation: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Monday to Friday

Matthews UTHealth School of Dentistry Bookstore

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

7500 Cambridge

Houston, Texas 77054

(713) 486-4450

Website: [www.uthoustondental.com](http://www.uthoustondental.com)

Hours of operation: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday to Friday

Matthews UTHealth School of Nursing Bookstore

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

6901 Bertner, Room 280

Houston Texas 77030

(713) 500-9561 FAX (713) 500-0982

Website: [www.uthoustonnursing.com](http://www.uthoustonnursing.com)

Hours of operation: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Monday to Thursday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Friday

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## University Dining and Catering Services

Food Service locations are provided at the School of Nursing, School of Dentistry and Medical School buildings through a contracted provider. Catering is available through the School of Nursing location. Vending is also contracted with machines located throughout the UTHealth campus.

Phone: 713-500-8405

Catering: 713-500-9103

Website: [www.uth.edu/dining-catering](http://www.uth.edu/dining-catering)

**School of Nursing** The cafeteria is located on the first floor of the School of Nursing Building at 6901 Bertner Avenue. A variety of dining choices are available for your convenience.

Call for catering needs throughout the university. Phone: 713-500-9103

**School of Dentistry** The grab-n-go is located on the ground floor of the School of Dentistry at 7500 Cambridge. A limited variety of dining choices are available along with a selection of specialty coffee drinks.

**Medical School** The grab-n-go is located on the ground floor of the Medical School Building at 6431 Fannin. A limited variety of dining choices are available along with a selection of specialty coffee drinks.

Hours of Operation (excluding university holidays): Monday - Friday 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

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## Recreation Center Facilities and Programs

The UT Recreation Center, adjacent to the University Housing Complex, and offers quality recreational and athletic facilities featuring a variety of programs and equipment designed for health and fitness as well as fun and relaxation.

Programs consist of personal training, motivational and incentive programs, group fitness classes, American Heart Association CPR/AED and First Aid Certifications, team and individual recreational sports and seasonal swim lessons all centered upon the facilities:

- Heated outdoor Olympic size pool
- Strength training equipment
- Cardiovascular equipment w/individual TVs, personalized tracking programs and Wi-Fi
- Leisure games – Tennis and Billiards
- Racquetball Court
- Outdoor basketball courts
- Tennis courts
- Volleyball courts
- Athletic fields – softball, football, soccer and recreational activities (seasonal)
- Trail and fitness stations

Membership is open to all UTHealth students, faculty, staff, and affiliates, including institutions of the Texas Medical Center, and UT System Alumni and associated families. For current UTHealth students, the membership is already included in the student service fees. A valid TMC institutional ID or proof of alumni status is required at time of purchase and renewal of any services offered. Memberships are offered on a monthly, quarterly or yearly basis for individuals or

families. Family memberships extend to the main member's spouse and all dependents up to the age of 20 (children under 16 must be accompanied and supervised by a parent or guardian at all times while using the facilities). Summer Family Packages are available for pool use.

The facility is open seven days a week, closing only for major university holidays. For minor holidays, hours may be reduced, but will be announced in advance. Hours are Monday through Friday, 5:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Please note the pool always closes 30 minutes prior to the facility.

For further information, please contact:

UTHealth Recreation Center  
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston  
7779 Knight Road  
Houston, Texas 77054  
(713) 500-8420  
Website: [www.uth.edu/recreation-center](http://www.uth.edu/recreation-center)

## STUDENT POLICIES

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### UTHealth Policy Information for Students

The following excerpts and policy descriptions from The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston Handbook of Operating Procedures (HOOP) are from selected policies that relate to student life at UTHealth. Additional student policies can be found in the HOOP located at <https://www.uth.edu/hoop/disposition-table.htm>

In an educational community as large as The University of Texas System, formal policies and procedures must exist to facilitate the orderly conduct of affairs. The University of Texas System Board of Regents' Rules and Regulations (<http://www.utsystem.edu/board-of-regents/rules>) reflect the general policies and rules set forth by The University of Texas System Board of Regents and apply to all institutions within the UT System. The HOOP implements the rules of governance and administrative procedures for UTHealth within the guidelines of the policies set forth by the Board of Regents.

**STUDENTS (INCLUDING RESIDENTS AND FELLOWS) ARE CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWLEDGE OF AND COMPLIANCE WITH ALL UTHealth POLICIES, REGULATIONS, AND PROCEDURES, INCLUDING, AS APPROPRIATE, POLICIES, REGULATIONS, AND PROCEDURES UNIQUE TO THE INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL OR PROGRAM IN WHICH THE STUDENT IS ENROLLED OR PARTICIPATES.**

For additional information on policies specific to individual schools, contact the Student Affairs Office in your school or access the individual school website from the links provided on the UTHealth homepage at <https://www.uth.edu/>

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## Educational Records and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston complies with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), which protects the privacy of educational records and establishes the rights of students to access their educational records. The Registrar will annually notify students of their rights and the procedures for exercising these rights.

The full policy can be found in HOOP Policy Number 129, Educational Records. (<https://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1448106>)

The link to the full text of FERPA can be found on the Registrar's website at <http://www.uth.edu/registrar/current-students/student-information/ferpa.htm>

All research papers, thesis, and dissertations authored by degree candidates are available to interested members of the general public upon request.

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## AIDS, HIV, HBV, and HCV Infection

UTHealth works to help safeguard the health and safety of students, employees, patients, and the general public against the contact and spread of infectious diseases. UTHealth is also sensitive to the needs and rights of any of its employees or students who have contracted diseases that might be infectious. In recognition of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), and Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) as serious public health threats, UTHealth has adopted policy and procedural steps to both prevent the spread of HIV, HBV, and HCV infections and to protect the rights and well-being of those employees or students who may be infected with communicable diseases. The full HOOP policy, which defines terms and addresses general principles, voluntary counseling and testing, work-related exposure, and educational efforts, can be found in HOOP Policy Number 158, Bloodborne Pathogen Infection Control. (<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1448164>)

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## Campus Security

UTHealth is committed to a safe and secure learning and working environment. To that end, the university strives to assure that its buildings and contents are secure and that members of the university community are properly identified and are given appropriate access to university facilities and amenities. Campus security policies can be found online in HOOP Policy Number 2, Campus Security (<https://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1447852>)

In compliance with the Student Right-to-Know and Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act, UTHealth collects specified information on campus crime statistics and makes timely reports to the campus community on crimes considered to be a threat to students and employees. The University of Texas at Houston Police Department provides a link to crime statistics on its website at <http://www.mdanderson.org/utpd/>.

Guidance on reporting criminal activity on campus can be found online in HOOP Policy Number 87, Reporting Criminal Activity on Campus (<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1448022>)

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### Making a False Alarm or Report

A person commits an offense under Section 42.06, Texas Penal Code, if he or she knowingly initiates, communicates or circulates a report of a present, past, or future bombing, fire, offense, or other emergency that he or she knows is false or baseless and that would ordinarily: (1) cause action by an official or volunteer agency organized to deal with emergencies; (2) place a person in fear of imminent serious bodily injury; or (3) prevent or interrupt the occupation of a building, room, place of assembly, place to which the public has access, or aircraft, automobile, or other mode of conveyance. The offense under Section 42.06, Texas Penal Code, of making such a false alarm or report involving a public or private institution of higher education is a state jail felony. An individual adjudged guilty of a state jail felony shall be punished by confinement in a state jail for any term of not more than two years or less than 180 days and, in addition to confinement, an individual adjudged guilty of a state jail felony may be punished by a fine not to exceed \$10,000.

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### Conduct and Discipline

All UTHealth students are expected and required to obey federal, state, and local laws. to comply with the Regents' Rules and Regulations, the rules and regulations of UTHealth, and directives issued by administrative officials of the university or UT System in the course of their authorized duties, and to obey standards of conduct appropriate for an academic institution. Any student who engages in conduct that violates UTHealth or UT System policies or rules, or federal, state, or local laws is subject to discipline whether the conduct takes place on or off campus and whether or not civil or criminal penalties are imposed for such conduct.

The full student conduct and discipline policy, can be found online in HOOP Policy Number 186, Student Conduct and Discipline (<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1448220>)

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### Copyrighted Material and Software

All employees and students of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston must comply with United States Copyright Law of 1976, as amended, (Title 17, United States Code) ("Copyright Act") including UTHealth policies and guidelines governing the use of copyrighted materials. All students are responsible for knowing the laws that govern copyrighted materials which are outlined in HOOP Policy Number 47, Classroom and Research Use of Copyrighted Material at (<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1447942>).

Both uploading and downloading files can potentially violate copyright laws. Students should be cautious and research whether the source provides material licensed by the copyright owner.

Links regarding Peer-to-Peer file sharing and potential copyright infringement can be found on the UTHealth Information Technology website at <https://www.uth.edu/it/>, under the heading of Cyber-Security Tips (US-CERT).

UTHealth must also comply with current copyright laws pertaining to computer software provided in federal law and with software license agreements. Any use of university computers and/or computer peripherals by students or employees for unauthorized duplication of copyrighted or licensed works is subject to appropriate disciplinary action as well as those civil remedies and criminal penalties provided by federal and state laws. Detailed information on Software Copyright Compliance can be found in HOOP Policy 198 at (<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1699026>)

In addition to potential civil and criminal penalties established by federal law, each UTHealth school may impose student disciplinary actions where appropriate in accordance with university policies governing student conduct and discipline.

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### **Criminal Background Checks - Students**

UTHealth is committed to providing a safe environment for its students and employees. The university obtains criminal background information regarding applicants for security sensitive positions. The university has determined all positions (whether employee or student) within the university are security sensitive. Increasingly, a criminal background check is being required by clinical facilities in which students enrolled in clinical programs receive education and training. Furthermore, some licensing boards in Texas require criminal background checks before issuing a license to practice. Individuals who are unable to meet the university's criminal history standards may be denied admission or continued enrollment in the program.

Enrolled students may be required to consent to additional criminal background checks for clinical placement or other purposes at the discretion of the Dean of each school.

The full policy can be found online in HOOP Policy Number 160, Criminal Background Checks (<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1448168>)

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### **Disability Accommodation**

UTHealth is committed to providing equal opportunities for qualified employees, job applicants, and students with disabilities in accordance with state and federal law. Student applicants and enrolled students can obtain information concerning program-related accommodations in each school from the school's Section 504 Coordinator (usually found in the Student Affairs office of each school). The Disability Coordinator (in Human Resources) and the Section 504 Coordinators can provide information and referrals regarding campus accessibility, disabled parking permits, transportation services, and other resources.

The full policy can be found online in HOOP Policy Number 101, Disability Accommodation (<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1448050>)

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### **Equal Educational Opportunity**

UTHealth endeavors to foster an educational environment and working environment that provides equal opportunity to all members of the university community. To the extent provided by applicable law, no person shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under, any program, or activity sponsored or conducted by The University of Texas System or any of its institutions on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, veteran status, or disability.

Any student or potential student who has a complaint under this policy should contact the associate dean for student affairs in his or her school, the executive vice president for academic and research affairs, or the Office of Human Resources.

The full policy can be found online in HOOP Policy Number 183, Equal Opportunity, Discrimination and Harassment (<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1448214>)

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### Hazing

Hazing is prohibited by both state law and by the Regents' Rules and Regulations (Rule 50101). Individuals or organizations engaging in hazing could be subject to fines and charged with criminal offenses. Additionally, the law does not affect or in any way restrict the right of the University to enforce its own rules against hazing.

The term "hazing" is broadly defined by statute to mean any intentional, knowing, or reckless act, occurring on or off the UTHealth property, by one person alone or acting with others, which endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization whose members are or include students at the university. Hazing with or without the consent of the student is prohibited and violations may render both the person inflicting the hazing and the person submitting to the hazing subject to criminal prosecution and student disciplinary action by UTHealth

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### Student Immunizations and Health Records

All students registering at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) are required to furnish an immunization record signed by a health care provider. An immunization hold is automatically placed on an applicant's record at the time of an applicant's acceptance to UTHealth. The UT Student Health Clinic will release all immunization holds after proof of immunizations is satisfied. The UT Student Health Clinic may place a hold on a student's record at any time if a student fails to comply with the requirements of this policy.

The following immunizations and screening tests are required for all students at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston:

- Tuberculin Skin Test must be done within the past 12 months, even for those who have received BCG vaccine as a child. If current or former PPD skin test is positive a chest x-ray, taken within the past 12 months, documenting no active tuberculosis must be submitted with immunization form;
- Measles – proof of two doses of measles vaccine administered on or after the first birthday and at least 30 days apart or proof of immunity;
- Mumps – proof of one dose of mumps vaccine administered on or after the first birthday or proof of immunity;
- Rubella – proof of one dose administered on or after the first birthday or proof of immunity;
- Tetanus/Diphtheria and Pertussis – proof of one "booster" dose within the past 10 years;
- Hepatitis B virus (HBV) – proof of serologic immunity to HBV or certification of immunization with a complete series of hepatitis B vaccine. Student must be vaccinated to most current status possible prior to registering for classes;
- Varicella (chickenpox) – Physician validated history of the disease or proof of two dose vaccine series or lab report of positive varicella titer. If varicella titer is negative, varicella vaccine series is required; and,
- Meningococcal (Meningitis) – Required of all incoming and transfer students 21 years old

and younger. Students must have been immunized within the past five years and submit proof of immunization at least ten days prior to the first day of class.

**\*\*Important information regarding the Meningococcal Vaccine\*\***

Texas law mandates that Texas universities and health science centers require all new and transfer students show proof of vaccination against bacterial meningitis. The law does not apply to new and transfer students who are over the age of 21 at the time of enrollment or who are enrolled only in distance learning classes.

The only exceptions permitted by law are for:

1. Students who can provide proof that a health care provider has determined that it would be a health risk for the student to have the vaccine; or,
2. Students who use the Exemption Form issued by the Texas Department of State Health.

Obtaining the required form from the Texas Department of Health Services to establish an exemption for reasons of conscience is a time-intensive process that takes approximately a month. A student anticipating using this exemption should start this process early. An online exemption request form can be found on the Texas Department of State Health Services website at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/school/default.shtm#exclusions>.

A student who previously attended a UTHealth school or another institution of higher education before January 1, 2012 and are re-enrolling following a break in enrollment of at least one fall or spring semester must fulfill the meningitis vaccine requirement.

For more information on immunizations or how to obtain certain required immunization exemptions students are requested to contact the UT Student Health Clinic at (713) 500-5171 or visit their website at <http://www.uthouston.edu/studenthealth>

The full policy, which lists required immunizations and procedures for requesting exemptions from required immunizations, can be found in HOOP Policy Number 55, Student Immunizations and Health Records (<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1447958>)

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## Determination of Resident Status

Before an individual may register at UTHealth and pay tuition at the rate approved for residents of the State of Texas, the individual must provide required information regarding residency status. The Registrar is the Residency Determination Official for the university. The full policy can be found online in HOOP Policy Number 58, Determination of Resident and Non-Resident Tuition Status (<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1447964>)

Information about the Petition for Resident Tuition and a link to the Core Residency Questionnaire can be found on the Registrar's Website at: <http://www.uth.edu/registrar/current-students/student-information/policy-for-texas-resident-tuition.htm>

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## Absences

**Observance of a Religious Holy Day:** Students who wish to observe a religious holy day that interferes with classes, examinations or completion of assignments, must inform the instructor of each class to be missed and/or of the planned absences(s) not later than the fifteenth day of the semester. The notification must be in writing and may either be delivered by the student personally to each instructor, with receipt of the notification acknowledged and dated by each instructor, or mailed by certified mail, return receipt requested, to each instructor. Pursuant to Texas law, a request to observe a religious holy day may be denied if the student's absence will interfere with clinical care.

As noted, a student who follows these procedures and is excused from class for a religious holy day may not be penalized, but the instructor may respond appropriately if the student fails to satisfactorily complete a missed assignment or examination within a reasonable time after the absence. The full policy can be found in HOOP Policy Number 112, Observing Religious Holy Days (<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1448072>)

**Military Obligations:** For any academic term that begins after the date a student is released from active military service but not later than the first anniversary of that date, a school shall readmit the student, without requiring reapplication or charging a fee for readmission, if the student is otherwise eligible to register for classes. On readmission of the student under these circumstances, the School shall provide to the student any financial assistance previously provided by the institution to the student before the student's withdrawal if the student meets current eligibility requirements for the assistance, other than any requirement directly affected by the student's service, such as continuous enrollment or another similar timing requirement; and allow the student the same academic status that the student had before the student's withdrawal, including any course credit awarded to the student by the institution. The university may require reasonable proof from a student of the fact and duration of the student's active military service.

Similarly, if a student enrolled in a school fails to attend classes or engage in other required activities because the student is called to active military service that is of a reasonably brief duration and the student chooses not to withdraw from school, the school shall excuse a student from attending classes or engaging in other required activities, including examinations, in order for the student to participate in active military service to which the student is called, including travel associated with the service. A student whose absence is excused under this provision may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to complete an assignment or take an examination from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. An instructor may appropriately respond if the student fails to satisfactorily complete the assignment or examination with a reasonable time after the absence.

**Military Service Withdrawal:** A student who withdraws as a result of being called to active military service may choose: (1) to receive a refund of tuition and fees for the semester; (2) if eligible, to be assigned an incomplete "I" in each course; or (3) at the instructor's discretion, to receive a final grade in courses where the student has completed a substantial amount of course work and has demonstrated sufficient mastery of the course material.

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## Sexual Misconduct

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits discrimination based on sex in educational programs or activities. UTHealth is committed to providing an environment free from discrimination and inappropriate conduct, which includes all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment and sexual assault. Sexual misconduct will not be tolerated, and individuals who engage in such conduct will be subject to disciplinary action.

In accordance with this commitment, UTHealth developed a policy specifically to address this important issue, as well as training programs as part of UTHealth's Title IX compliance program to ensure that all members of the university community receive education and understand UTHealth's policies and procedures. The full policy on sexual misconduct, contact information for UTHealth's Title IX Coordinator, and how to proceed if you are a victim of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment and sexual assault, can be found online in HOOP Policy Number 59, Sexual Misconduct-Students (<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1447966>)

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## Equal Opportunity, Discrimination and Harassment

UTHealth has established procedures for dealing with allegations of discrimination and/or harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability or veteran status. Any student who believes that he or she has been discriminated against on the basis of his or her sex should use the appropriate process outlined in HOOP Policy Number 183. This policy applies to the conduct of all members of the UTHealth community, including, but not limited to administrators, faculty, staff, students, residents, fellows and other trainees, volunteers, vendors, consultants, observers, and visitors. The full policy can be found online in HOOP Policy Number 183, Equal Opportunity, Discrimination and Harassment (<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1448214>)

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## Substance Abuse - Students

UTHealth is committed to maintaining an environment that is free from substance abuse. The university expects impaired students to seek help voluntarily and to assume responsibility for their professional and personal conduct. UTHealth recognizes that substance abuse is a treatable condition and, as an institution dedicated to health, facilitates the treatment and rehabilitation of this condition. Such assistance may be provided through UT Counseling and Worklife Services, the Medical School Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, private physicians or community agencies with expertise in treating chemical dependence.

The full policy on Substance Abuse can be found online in HOOP Policy 173 at <https://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1448194>

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## Student Travel

UTHealth supports the educational, research and service activities of its students by sponsoring and reimbursing certain approved travel activities and expenditures. The university, however, has special concerns as to how students are asked or permitted to travel on official university business. The Student Travel policy ensures that students who are asked or authorized to travel are aware of university rules on travel, how to seek and obtain approval for travel, how to be reimbursed for travel expenditures, and safety rules that apply to student travel.

The full policy on Student Travel can be found online in HOOP Policy 61 at <https://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1447970>

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## Solicitation on Campus

No solicitation shall be conducted on the campus of UTHealth unless permitted under HOOP Policy 165. Auxiliary Enterprises is the responsible office at UTHealth for coordinating the review and approval for solicitation on campus. All other inquiries or questions regarding the definitions outlined in the university policy should be directed to the Office of Legal Affairs.

The full policy on Solicitation on Campus can be found online at <https://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1448178>

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## Other Important Policies Affecting Students

The Handbook of Operating Procedures (HOOP) lists other important policies affecting students and is divided into a Table of Contents found in the HOOP Disposition Table. Students are charged with knowledge of and compliance with all applicable UTHealth policies.

Some additional HOOP Policies not outlined in detail above that students should familiarize themselves with are:

Policy Number:

- 109 General Standards of Conduct, Chapter 2 University Citizenship  
<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1448066>
- 9 Alcoholic Beverages, Chapter 2 University Citizenship  
<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1447866>
- 8 Use of University Name or Logo On Merchandise, Chapter 1 University Administration  
<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1447864>
- 11 Use of University Facilities, Chapter 2 University Citizenship  
<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1447870>
- 174 Speech and Assembly, Chapter 2 University Citizenship  
<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1448196>
- 167 Student Employment Appointments, Chapter 6 Students  
<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1448182>
- 56 Student Financial Aid, Chapter 6 Students  
<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1447960>
- 121 Student Loan Collections, Chapter 6 Students  
<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1448090>
- 57 Tuition, and Fees Payment, Refunds and Student Debt, Chapter 6 Students  
<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1447962>
- 58 Determination of Resident and Non-Resident Tuition Status, Chapter 6 Students  
<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1447964>
- 60 Student Services, Chapter 6 Students  
<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1447968>

- 85 University Closure for Emergency, Disaster or Severe Weather, Chapter 18 Safety & Health  
<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1448018>
- 86 Medical Emergencies, Minor Injuries/Illnesses, Chapter 18 Safety & Health  
<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1448020>
- 87 Reporting Criminal Activity on Campus, Chapter 18 Safety & Health  
<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1448022>
- 168 Conduct of Research, Chapter 23 Research  
<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1448184>
- 202 Honesty in Research, Chapter 23 Research  
<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1702018>
- 59 Sexual Misconduct, Chapter 6 Students  
<http://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1447966>