

Toshi Nikaidoh Service Award Instructions

Hitoshi Christopher Nikaidoh, MD served as Student InterCouncil President from 2000-2001. As a medical student, Toshi embodied leadership and service, both within the University of Texas institution as well as the Houston community. He strived to bring better healthcare to the poor and disadvantaged, and a kindness for all humankind. As a 2003 graduate of The University of Texas Medical School Toshi was chosen by his classmates as the sole recipient of the Gold-Headed Cane Award for Humanism and Service.

Toshi passed away in a tragic accident in August of 2003, but his compassion and memory live on. The Student InterCouncil honors his memory by awarding an individual who demonstrates the qualities, passion, drive, selflessness and love for humanity with the Toshi Nikaidoh Service Award.

The amount of \$1,000.00 will be awarded to the selected recipient. The Student InterCouncil (SIC) Scholarship Committee will review all applications and make the final selection of winners.

Minimum Eligibility Requirements:

- Must be a current student at one of the UTHealth Houston schools in good academic standing.
- Must be enrolled at least part time at the UTHealth Houston school applying under.
 - Must be attending the UTHealth Houston School indicated on application for the duration of the academic year for which the application is being submitted.
 - Recipients will be chosen in January 2026. Must be a registered student during the Spring 2026 term.
- SIC representatives who are members of the Scholarship Selection Committee are not eligible to apply for this award.
- Students related in any way to a [current UT Board of Regent member](#) are not eligible according to Senate Bill 1325.
- **Selected scholarship recipients agree to attend the annual SIC Deans' Reception Dinner to receive their award (Dinner April 2026).**

Checklist:

- Application
- Current curriculum vitae (CV) or resume that indicates service roles/community service activity.
- Self-written essay focusing on questions within the application (each question will be limited to 250-500 words).
 - Many factors influence one's decision to serve. What is your primary motivation to serve? What role does this motivation play when selecting service events in which you participate? (500-word limit)
 - Please describe the service project in which you participated that best represents your motivation and commitment to serve. Provide short answers to the following questions. (250-word limit per question)
 - a. Why do you feel this project best represents your motivation and commitment to serve?
 - b. What role did you play in this event (project coordinator, project leader, participant, educator, behind the scenes, etc.)?
 - c. What did you do to prepare for the event?
 - d. What was the most significant aspect of the event/experience and why?
 - e. How did this project affect you personally?
 - f. Identify one negative aspect of the project and explain your choice. What would you have done differently?
- Letter of Recommendation from a UTHealth Houston Faculty or Staff member
 - Optional: Any other supporting documentation
- Service commitment reference(s)

Application instructions:

Before applying, applicants should ensure that they meet all eligibility and submittal requirements. Applicants should follow directions carefully and complete all application sections. Any applications not in compliance with any of the details specified may be disqualified. The committee will not consider late applications or any additions to the application once it has been submitted.

All application materials must be submitted electronically by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, January 23, 2026.

This scholarship is not a qualifying competitive scholarship and will not allow a nonresident student to pay the Texas resident tuition and fee rate at a participating public institution in the state of Texas.

If you have any issues, and/or experience any problems completing this application, please contact Ms. Nedra Booker at tanedra.booker@uth.tmc.edu.