

Academic Outreach Programs

Our academic outreach programs span more than three decades. We consider it a privilege to serve our community and have received recognition for our programs designed to increase diversity within the scientific community and further careers in the life sciences, including:

- National Institutes of Health-Minority Access Role Model Institution
- National Association of Graduate Admissions Professionals-Award for Excellence in Minority Recruitment
- National Science Foundation-President's Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering



PRIMARY AND SECONDARY

Texas Academy of Biomedical Sciences (TABS)

Middle and high school students earn up to two years' college credit while preparing for careers as physicians, veterinarians, emergency medical technicians, forensic scientists, biomedical engineers, biotechnicians, pharmacists and homeland security officials.

Math, science and technology are taught in an environment that often resembles university pre-med classes and may include biomedical courses, guest lectures and internships.

At TABS Prep at Stripling Middle School, part of the Fort Worth Independent School District (FWISD), students get the necessary fundamentals to succeed at TABS High School. Before starting TABS Prep, students attend a summer program in connection with the UNT Health Science Center.

After TABS Prep comes TABS High School, also preceded by a summer program in connection with UNTHSC. Students get a first-hand view of medical school and our other patient-care and life sciences programs.

TABS is a partnership among UNTHSC, FWISD, the University of North Texas and Tarrant County College-Trinity River.

Mini-Medical School

This one-day on-campus event, held periodically, gives fifth-grade students an overview of medical school and what it means to be a physician or health professional.

Reach Out and Read

The Reach Out and Read program promotes literary skills to patients and their parents at UNTHSC. The Department of Pediatrics reading program oversees volunteers who coordinate book donations and read to children in the waiting rooms during well-child checkups.

North Side High School Math and Science Tutoring Program

UNTHSC students tutor North Side students in math and science classes to assist those with limited English proficiency or special education needs.

Adopt-A-School with FWISD

UNTHSC student organizations, faculty and staff offer a variety of programming, tutoring, preceptorships, mentoring and advising to support science education and leadership development, and to help improve attendance rates, academic achievement and completion rates.

Activities are designed to familiarize students with the sciences and help prepare them for successful education beyond high school.

Our adopted schools:

- Manuel Jara Elementary, J.P. Elder Middle and North Side High (North Side pyramid)
- Maude I. Logan Elementary, Dunbar Sixth Grade
- Dunbar Middle and Dunbar High (Dunbar pyramid)

UNTHSC is a charter member of Adopt-A-School.

GO Center Project with FWISD

GO centers help students see pathways to careers and college. UNTHSC partners with the GO Centers at New Rising Star and Stop Six community centers by helping with college applications, SAT/ACT preparation, writing tips, career exploration, college research, applying for financial aid/FAFSA and presentations. Students also receive help with their homework and classwork.

UNTHSC also hosts forums for teens and parents, and participates in the FWISD Super Saturday and College Financial Aid Help Sessions.

FWISD Guidance and Counseling Volunteer Mentorship Program

This program assists students with college/career preparation. UNTHSC medical students are trained to work as community mentors, advising high school students and parents on the steps needed to make college a reality.

Richard Milburn Academy Tutorial Partnership

UNTHSC students tutor in math and science classes at the Richard Milburn Academy (RMA), a public charter high school designed to help students get back on track after setbacks, improve their grades and earn their diploma in a nontraditional learning environment.

SECONDARY/UNDERGRADUATE

North Texas Research Symposium

The Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences hosts an annual research symposium to foster interest in scientific research and careers in science.

Local high school students and college undergraduates from across the state present their research in poster sessions, competing for awards. They tour the campus and participate in a presentation by a distinguished alumnus.

UNDERGRADUATE

Joint Admission Medical Program (JAMP)

Created by the Texas Legislature to support and encourage highly qualified, economically disadvantaged Texas residents pursuing medical education, JAMP brings college sophomores to our campus for five weeks each summer.

They prep for the Medical College Admission Test and take graduate-level physiology and medical ethics courses, and participate in clinical preceptorships and mentoring by students in our Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM). They also do community service projects and attend career workshops.

Summer Multicultural Advanced Research Training Program (SMART)

The Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences hosts the SMART program each summer to familiarize college undergraduate students with the disciplines and methodologies used in biomedical research.

Students work with faculty scientists in state-of-the-art laboratories and attend classroom lectures on the physiology sciences, general laboratory principles and safety practices.

The SMART program includes a stipend and housing allowance.

POST-BACCALAUREATE AND GRADUATE

Post-Baccalaureate Research Education Program and Retention Enhancement (PREPARE)

Designed for under-represented minorities who have earned undergraduate degrees in science, this program provides a challenging, focused post-baccalaureate

experience that will prepare students for acceptance in doctoral programs and success in earning their PhDs.

Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program

This on-campus program helps prepare students for doctoral study. Participants are low-income students, first-generation college students and students from groups under-represented in graduate education. This is a national program of the U.S. Department of Education in memory of Ronald E. McNair, PhD, an African American physicist killed on a 1986 Space Shuttle Challenger mission.

Participants receive tutoring, counseling, assistance with securing graduate program admission and financial aid, preparation for the Graduate Record Examination and other support services. McNair Scholars also participate in summer internship programs in research laboratories with faculty mentors.

Minority Opportunities in Research and Education (MORE)

This program is designed to ease the transition from undergraduate to graduate studies through academic and financial support. With funding from the National Institutes of Health, MORE Scholars receive full tuition and fees, and a graduate assistantship. MORE Scholars are selected from under-represented minority applicants accepted to the doctoral program in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

They receive assistance with studying and exam-taking skills, and an introduction to laboratory research. Each MORE Scholar is paired with a senior student and a faculty advisor.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Steps Toward Academic Research (STAR) Fellowship

Since 2006, the UNTHSC Texas Center for Health Disparities (TCHD) has promoted research, education and training programs with the goal that students, faculty and the community participate in understanding and eliminating health disparities. The objective of developing a strong, minority-based cadre of research faculty from under-represented minority partner institutions led to the formation of the STAR program. Of the 30 STAR Fellows in the first three groups, 19 have reported submitting 46 papers to peer-reviewed journals (41 published). Seventeen grant applications submitted by former STAR Fellows have been funded thus far for a total of \$1,874,046.

MORE INFORMATION on UNT Health Science Center academic outreach programs is available from the Office of Community Relations, 817-735-2720 • www.unthsc.edu