

REAL RESEARCH BIG IMPACT



BIG THINGS ARE HAPPENING ALL OVER UTRGV.

Our PhD students are lighting up the world — and the cosmos — with their research in gravitational waves. On the Brownsville campus, they work alongside award-winning faculty to explore new ways to treat and prevent common diseases through the principles of genetics and genomics. In Edinburg, groundbreaking research is transforming our understanding of information technology's impact on human behavior, while innovative STEM learning environments are bridging gaps and opening doors for future generations.

Earn your doctorate in the most affordable and vibrant part of Texas, where BIG questions meet their match, and dreams take flight. Bring your BIG goals and ambitions—even the ones too audacious to speak of — and watch them thrive in an environment dedicated to your success.

Join The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley!



AFFORDABLE LIVING. EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION. IT'S ALL HERE.

The RGV's affordable cost of living offers a significant advantage when pursuing your PhD, allowing you to fully immerse yourself in your studies and research while enjoying the financial peace of mind that comes with manageable living expenses.



AFFORDABLE HOUSING

With generous stipends that comfortably cover rent, there's enough left over for living essentials and leisure activities.

LOW DAILY EXPENSES

Groceries, utilities, and entertainment costs are significantly lower, so you can enjoy artisanal coffee and organic produce without breaking the bank.



NO STATE INCOME TAX

Yes, everything might be bigger in Texas but your stipends and earnings go farther in the RGV. So, don't worry about cutting back on retirement savings during your doctorate—you'll still have the means to invest in your future.



HEALTH COVERAGE OPTIONS

UTRGV offers medical insurance options for graduate students, with some programs providing comprehensive coverage at no cost. Depending on your program, you may also have the option to add coverage for family members. Dental and vision insurance are available as well.



**UTRGV PHD
STIPENDS:**

Approximately

\$20,000-\$25,000

per year

AVERAGE COST OF RENT ACROSS TEXAS



\$949

McAllen



\$1,153

San Antonio



\$1,205

Houston



\$1,423

Dallas



\$1,619

Austin

Focus On Your Defense, Not Your Budget: When you combine our generous stipends and the RGV's low cost of living, getting your PhD at UTRGV **JUST MAKES SENSE.**

WHY CHOOSE THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY FOR DOCTORAL STUDIES?

There are only 135 U.S. institutions classified with the Carnegie R2 distinction, an indication of high activity in impactful research, and UTRGV is proud to be one of them. With our research focus in diabetes and obesity, human genetics, neurosciences, cancer, rail safety, additive manufacturing, coastal studies, and more, we're already just one level away from the highest classification of Tier One.

PROFESSIONAL DEGREES

- Podiatric Medicine (D.P.M.)
- Nursing Practice (DNP) 100% Online
- Occupational Therapy (OTD)
- *Physical Therapy (DPT) (Summer 2025)
- Medicine (M.D.)

DOCTORAL DEGREES

- Business Administration (PhD)
- Clinical Psychology (PhD)
- Computer Science with Interdisciplinary Applications (PhD)
- Curriculum and Instruction (EdD)
- Doctor of Optometry (Fall 2027)
- Educational Leadership (EdD)
- Human Genetics (PhD)
- Materials Science and Engineering (PhD)
- Mathematics and Statistics with Interdisciplinary Applications (PhD)
- Physics (PhD)
- Rehabilitation Counseling (PhD)

*Effective April 29, 2025, the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Doctor of Physical Therapy Program has been granted Candidate for Accreditation status by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (3030 Potomac Ave., Suite 100, Alexandria, Virginia 22305-3085; phone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org). If needing to contact the program/institution directly, please call (956) 296-1393 or email physicaltherapy@utrgv.edu.

Candidate for Accreditation is an accreditation status of affiliation with the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education that indicates the program may matriculate students in technical/professional courses. Achievement of Candidate for Accreditation status does not assure that the program will be granted Initial Accreditation.



WE FUND IT. YOU DISCOVER IT.

For the 2024 fiscal year, UTRGV reached **\$86.9 million** in research expenditures, including funding from prestigious grants and contracts that support assistantships, providing hands-on learning with leading experts. Some of our most recent research grants and contracts include:

- **NASA**
- **National Science Foundation (NSF)**
- **U.S. Department of Defense**
- **National Institutes of Health (NIH)**
- **U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)**

These grants and contracts underscore UTRGV's commitment to advancing research and providing valuable educational opportunities to students like you.

EXPERIENCE THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY

A South Texas region hugged by the powder-soft beaches of South Padre Island, and the unique bicultural community of the Tex-Mex border — we're all about **beautiful contrast**.



200+

events, festivals, concerts,
and shows yearly across
the RGV.



500+

businesses, shops,
restaurants, and cafes.



**TOP BIRDING
DESTINATION**

The Rio Grande Valley is a top destination
for birding, offering a rich natural habitat
teeming with diverse wildlife at Laguna
Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge.



40 MILES

of biking paths in the RGV cater
to all skill levels.



60°F TO 90°F

Enjoy year-round warm weather, perfect for
outdoor activities, wildlife viewing, and just
being out-and-about.

UTRGV™

Office of Graduate Recruitment
Email: gradrecruitment@utrgv.edu
Call: 1-833-887-4842
Text: 956-996-8095



[UTRGV.edu/gradapply](https://utrgv.edu/gradapply)

