

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

**College of Health Professions
Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders**

Undergraduate Admissions Application

for FALL 2026 ADMISSIONS

**DEADLINE: Friday, February 20, 2026, no later than 5:00 p.m.
Late applications will NOT be accepted.**

COMD UNDERGRADUATE APPLICATION PACKET

for Fall 2026 ADMISSIONS

DEADLINE: Friday, February 20, 2026, no later than 5:00 p.m.

Late applications will NOT be accepted.

DEADLINE & CONTACT INFORMATION

Admission to the program is competitive. All students must be accepted to UTRGV prior to applying to the Communication Sciences and Disorders (COMD) Program. Complete applications to the Undergraduate Program in Communication Sciences & Disorders are due **Friday, February 20, 2026** no later than **5:00 p.m** for the upcoming class of **Fall 2026**. It is in the student's best interest to submit their complete application before this deadline, as late applications will not be accepted.

Students must include their UTRGV email address on the application form (page 2) and use their UTRGV email address when submitting their application. Complete applications are to be mailed to:

<https://www.utrgv.edu/communication-disorders/>.

All required coursework must be on the UTRGV Academic Record/DegreeWorks to be considered eligible to apply and to be considered for the COMD Undergraduate Program.

For questions regarding the Undergraduate Admissions Application packet, please contact:

- COMD Department Secretary: Deisse Esparza
Email address: communicationdisorders@utrgv.edu
Office Phone Number: 956-665-7040
- COMD Undergraduate Program Coordinator: Ms. Lily Puente
Email address: Lily.Puente@utrgv.edu
Office Phone Number: 956-665-5275

When emailing a completed application packet, indicate **COMD Undergraduate Application** in the subject line.

If calling, please leave a message including your name, student ID number, and a callback number so your call may be returned.

IMPORTANT

ALL required coursework and prerequisites must be on the student's UTRGV Academic Record/DegreeWorks to be considered eligible to apply and to be considered for the COMD Undergraduate Program. Students are to refer to their degree plan year for admission requirements, as they are different for degree plans PRIOR to 2020-2021.

ALL applicants (including transfer students and those who hold a bachelor's degree from UTPA/UTB or another institution) must apply and be accepted to UTRGV for Spring 2026 **BEFORE** applying to the COMD Undergraduate Program (**Apply at <http://www.applytexas.org> by UTRGV admission deadline**).

COMD UNDERGRADUATE APPLICATION PACKET

for Fall 2026 ADMISSIONS

DEADLINE: Friday, February 20, 2026, no later than 5:00 p.m.
Late applications will NOT be accepted.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are required for a submission to be considered complete:

I. APPLICATION (PAGES 1 & 2)

Please make sure all information is completed **before** submitting.

II. THREE (3) LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION: Your recommender will be directly submitting this document to the department. See details below.

Blank RECOMMENDATION FORMs are included in this packet. The deadline for receiving letters of recommendation is the same as the application deadline. Late submissions will NOT be accepted. Further information regarding Recommendation Forms is as follows:

1. Download and **print three (3) BLANK** Recommendation Forms.
2. Complete the top portion of each form and sign each indicating whether you will or will not waive your right to see any of the submitted recommendation forms. An example is provided for you. Do **not** send this form to your recommenders.
3. Scan each form with the filled top portion and send it via email to each of your Recommenders.
 - One recommender/reference may be from someone unrelated to the applicant who can comment on the student's Academic Record. **The remaining two (2) must be from college instructors.**
 - If you have been away from an academic institution for two (2) or more years, recommendation letters may be obtained from other people able to comment on your academic qualifications or work experience.
4. The Recommender will need to download the form, complete the form, sign, scan, and email the form **(as a pdf file)** directly to: communicationdisorders@utrgv.edu.
5. Please let the recommender know to indicate **COMD Undergraduate Application** on the subject line of their email.

III. Essay

An essay in your own words responding to: “***Why I Want an Undergraduate Degree in Communication Disorders***” is required as part of a completed application packet. Essay must be between 250-500 words.

IV. GPA

Students must have a **Minimum Overall GPA of 2.8** to apply. All required coursework must be on the applicant's UTRGV Academic Record/DegreeWorks before applying to the program to be considered for the COMD Undergraduate Program.

COMD UNDERGRADUATE APPLICATION PACKET

for Fall 2026 ADMISSIONS

DEADLINE: Friday, February 20, 2026, no later than 5:00 p.m.
Late applications will NOT be accepted.

COURSEWORK REQUIREMENTS

ALL required coursework and prerequisites must be on the student's UTRGV Academic Record/DegreeWorks to be considered eligible to apply and to be considered for the COMD Undergraduate Program. Students are to refer to their degree plan year for admission requirements, as they are different for degree plans **BEFORE** 2020-2021.

ALL applicants (including transfer students and those who hold a bachelor's degree from UTPA/UTB or another institution) must apply and be accepted to UTRGV for Spring 2026 **BEFORE** applying to the COMD Undergraduate Program (**Apply at <http://www.applytexas.org> by UTRGV admission deadline**).

TRANSFER STUDENTS WHO HAVE NEVER ATTENDED UTRGV

Transfer students must transfer all courses taken at other institutions (must include Fall 2025 courses, if taken) and have a course evaluation of those courses **BEFORE** applying to the COMD program. Call 956-882-4026 or email recruitment@utrgv.edu for questions regarding UTRGV admission requirements. All required coursework must be on the Course Evaluation and UTRGV Academic Record/DegreeWorks to be eligible to apply and to be considered for the COMD Undergraduate Program.

STUDENTS WHO HOLD A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN A FIELD OTHER THAN SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY FROM AN INSTITUTION OTHER THAN UTRGV

Students must submit all official transcripts obtained at other institutions (must include **Fall 2025 courses**, if taken) and request a Second Degree Evaluation of those courses **PRIOR** to applying to the COMD program (<https://www.utrgv.edu/undergraduate-admissions/second-degree-students/index.htm>

STUDENTS SEEKING A SECOND DEGREE WHO HOLD A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN A FIELD OTHER THAN SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

Students must submit all official transcripts obtained at other institutions (must include **Fall 2025 courses**, if taken) and request a Second Degree Evaluation of those courses **BEFORE** applying to the COMD program (<https://www.utrgv.edu/undergraduate-admissions/second-degree-students/index.htm>).

Students must submit all transcripts and any other documentation for review by UTRGV Admissions office by UTRGV Admissions Deadline for Spring 2026. Call 956-882-4026 or email recruitment@utrgv.edu for questions regarding UTRGV admission requirements.

STUDENTS WHO HOLD A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN A FIELD OTHER THAN SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY – LEVELING PROGRAM

Students who hold a bachelor's degree in a field other than speech-language pathology and are interested in being eligible to apply to the master's program in COMD may contact Dr. Ruth Crutchfield, COMD Graduate Advisor/Chair at the following for more information: Ruth.Crutchfield@utrgv.edu 956-665-7040

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

Fall 2026 ADMISSIONS APPLICATION (pg. 1)

DEADLINE: Friday, February 20, 2026, no later than 5:00 p.m. Late applications will NOT be accepted.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST: *Check the box to indicate you are including all required documents.*

☐ APPLICATION (Pages 1 & 2)

☐ ESSAY

Scan, and email the completed application and your essay to: communicationdisorders@utrgv.edu.

*******ONLY PDF files are accepted*******

OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

☐ Minimum Overall GPA: 2.8

☐ **THREE (3) LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION are required.** The Recommender completes, signs, scans, and emails the form (as a pdf file) **directly** to: communicationdisorders@utrgv.edu. Please let the recommender know to indicate **COMD Undergraduate Application** on the subject line of their email. The deadline for receiving letters of recommendation is the same as the application deadline. Late submissions will NOT be accepted.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the requirements and policies to be considered for acceptance to the Communication Sciences and Disorders Undergraduate Program. The information I have provided in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant's Name

Applicant's Signature

Date

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Notice of Non-Discrimination

Title IX of the U.S. Department of Education's Education Amendments of 1972 ("Title IX") prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex/gender in any aspect of a federally funded education program or activity. Such discrimination includes, but is not limited to: sexual harassment, sexual violence, sex or gender-based bullying, hazing, stalking, domestic violence, dating violence, and failure to provide equal opportunity in admissions, activities, employment or athletics. As a recipient of federal funds, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) complies with Title IX and has designated a Title IX Coordinator to oversee all complaints of sex discrimination. The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for identifying and addressing any patterns or systemic problems that arise during the review of such complaints. Additionally, other responsibilities include the coordination of training, education, and

communications regarding Title IX procedures for the University community.

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

Fall 2026 ADMISSIONS APPLICATION (pg. 2)

DEADLINE: Friday, February 20, 2026, no later than 5:00 p.m. Late applications will NOT be accepted.

PERSONAL DATA

First Name:	Last Name:	Middle Name:	ID#:
	Home Phone:	Cell Phone:	
Address:		City:	State: Zip Code:
Major (if applicable):	Classification:	UTRGV E-Mail Address:	

Please list in chronological order all college or professional schools attended:

Institution	Location	Dates	Major	Degrees

Do you already hold a bachelor's degree, or will you complete a degree prior to the start of the Program?

☐ Yes ☐ No Degree: _____ Graduation date: _____

Please indicate any other information regarding your qualifications which you would like us to consider.

IMPORTANT

ALL required coursework and prerequisites must be on the student's UTRGV Academic Record/DegreeWorks to be considered eligible to apply and to be considered for the COMD Undergraduate Program. Students are to refer to their degree plan year for admission requirements, as they are different for degree plans PRIOR to 2020-2021.

ALL applicants (including transfer students and those who hold a bachelor's degree from UTPA/UTB or another institution) must apply and be accepted to UTRGV for Spring 2026 **BEFORE** applying to the COMD Undergraduate Program (**Apply at <http://www.applytexas.org> by UTRGV admission deadline**).

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

Fall 2026 Undergraduate Admissions

EXAMPLE

EXAMPLE

RECOMMENDATION FORM

DEADLINE: Friday, February 20, 2026, no later than 5:00 p.m. Late applications will NOT be accepted.

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

Check one of the following and sign **BEFORE** scanning and emailing this form to your recommender/respondent.

- ☐ I waive my right to see this completed Recommendation Form. ☐ I do not waive my right to see this completed Recommendation Form.

Applicant Name (Print): _____ ID# _____ DATE: _____

Applicant Signature: _____ UTRGV Email Address: _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY RECOMMENDER/RESPONDENT

- Please complete, sign, scan and email (as a pdf file) the completed form to: communicationdisorders@utrgv.edu.
- Indicate **COMD Undergraduate Application** on the subject line of the email.

Name of Recommender/Respondent (Print) _____ Phone _____ Position _____

Agency _____

Address _____

Rate the applicant in the following areas.

NA=No basis for judgment; 1=Unacceptable; 5=Excellent	NA	1	2	3	4	5
Enthusiasm						
Intellectual Ability						
Creativity						
Initiative						
Emotional Maturity						
Maintains high standard of work						
Written and Oral Expression						
Follows instructions						
Responsible						
Professionalism						

1. What are two (2) positive qualities of the applicant that would help him/her to succeed in the field of Speech-Language Pathology?

a. _____

b. _____

2. What areas of improvement do you believe this applicant needs to succeed in the field of Speech-Language Pathology?

In what capacity have you known the applicant? _____

For how many years have you known the applicant? _____

Do you recommend this applicant? ☐ Not at all ☐ With Reservations ☐ Without Reservations ☐ With Enthusiasm

Recommender Signature (required): _____ Date: _____

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders
Fall 2026 Undergraduate Admissions

RECOMMENDATION FORM

DEADLINE: Friday, February 20, 2026, no later than 5:00 p.m. Late applications will NOT be accepted.

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

Check one of the following and sign **BEFORE** scanning and emailing this form to your recommender/respondent.

☐ I waive my right to see this completed Recommendation Form. ☐ I do not waive my right to see this completed Recommendation Form.

Applicant Name (Print): _____ **ID#** _____ **DATE:** _____

Applicant Signature: _____ **UTRGV Email Address:** _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY RECOMMENDER/RESPONDENT

- Please complete, sign, scan and email (as a pdf file) the completed form to: communicationdisorders@utrgv.edu.
- Indicate **COMD Undergraduate Application** on the subject line of the email.

Name of Recommender/Respondent (Print)

Phone

Position

Agency

Address

Rate the applicant in the following areas.

NA=No basis for judgment; 1=Unacceptable; 5=Excellent	NA	1	2	3	4	5
Enthusiasm						
Intellectual Ability						
Creativity						
Initiative						
Emotional Maturity						
Maintains high standard of work						
Written and Oral Expression						
Follows instructions well						
Responsible						
Professionalism						

3. What are two (2) positive qualities you have observed in this person that would help him/her to succeed in the field of Speech-Language Pathology?

a. _____

b. _____

4. What areas of improvement do you believe this applicant needs to succeed in the field of Speech-Language Pathology?

In what capacity have you known the applicant? _____

For how many years have you known the applicant? _____

Do you recommend this applicant? ☐ Not at all ☐ With Reservations ☐ Without Reservations ☐ With Enthusiasm

Recommender Signature (required): _____ **Date:** _____

COMD Undergraduate Admissions Application FAQs for Fall 2026 ADMISSIONS

DEADLINE: Friday, February 20, 2026, no later than 5:00 pm

1. Where do I submit my application packet?
 - Your application packet must be scanned and emailed to:
communicationdisorders@utrgv.edu
2. Can I submit screenshots, regular mail in or drop off my application packet to the Department office?
 - No, all packets must be scanned and emailed as a **PDF** file
 - **In the subject line of the email type:** COMD Undergraduate Application
3. How many completed Recommendation letter forms are required?
 - Three (3) Recommendation letter forms are required. One reference may be from someone unrelated to the applicant who can comment on the student's Academic Record. **The remaining two (2) must be from college instructors.**
4. If I have not been in school for more than two (2) years, who can I ask to be recommenders?
 - If you have been away from an academic institution for two (2) or more years, recommendation letters may be obtained from other persons able to comment on your academic qualifications or work experience.
5. When will I find out if I was accepted or not?
 - Students who are accepted will typically receive their letter by the end of April. Denial letters are sent after the accepted students have confirmed their acceptance.
6. Do I just scan and send the recommender the recommendation form without requesting a letter of recommendation first?
 - No, first contact a possible recommender and request if they will support you in your application to the COMD Undergraduate Program by completing a recommendation form for you.
 - If they accept, send them a copy of your academic record (unofficial transcript) from ASSIST and ask if any additional information is needed. If so, submit the documentation to the recommender requested along with the recommendation form.
7. Will each recommender need to scan and email the completed recommendation form by the indicated deadline above?
 - Yes, each recommender will need to scan and email the completed recommendation form to:
communicationdisorders@utrgv.edu
 - Yes, ALL recommendation letters must be received by the established indicated deadline above.