



**Office of the Dean of
Students**



WHAT DO WE DO?

We're here to help maximize student success. If a student's life gets complicated at UTRGV, we help to find a solution. If a student gets stuck in an administrative process; experiences an unexpected financial hardship, sudden illness or family situation; or in a complicated situation and are not sure where to start, WE CAN HELP.

>> MAXIMIZING STUDENT SUCCESS <<



STUDENT/ACADEMIC SCENARIOS



RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATIONS

Student emails you that an assignment's content is contrary to their religious practices/beliefs and is seeking to have the assignment waived.



ACADEMIC APPEAL

A student enrolled in your Spring 2022 course reached out to appeal their final course grade. Student indicates the grades were miscalculated and questioned the answer key on several questions on the final exam.

STUDENT ACCIDENT/EMERGENCY

Student in your course misses two class meetings and emails you that they were in an accident, experienced a death in family and needed to travel out of town, hospitalized, etc.....



MILITARY SERVICE

A student enrolled in your fall semester class receives military orders to report for service effective Nov. 1 and contacts you about options to complete your course.



VAQUEROS REPORT IT

- www.utrgv.edu/reportit

- Online reporting system for students, staff, and faculty who have concerns about a student, academic integrity, grievances, equity and Title IX, and student conduct.

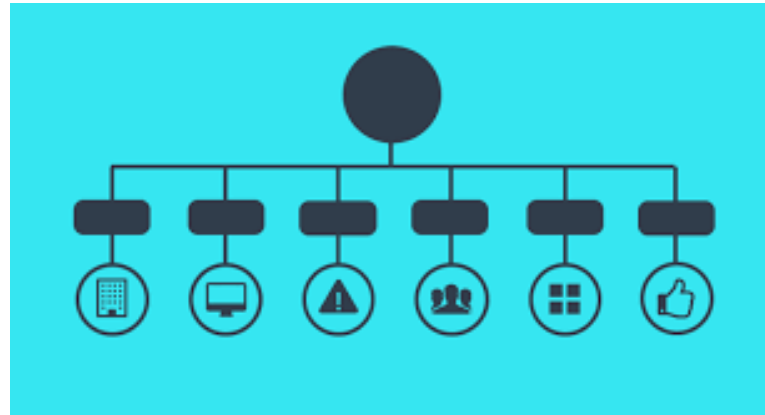


Types of referrals

- Written material containing alarming wording or out-of-context wording
- Statements that indicate the threat of harm to self or others
 - Injury/illness
 - Suicidal ideations or attempts
 - Threatening behavior
- A disregard for personal boundaries
 - Classroom and other behavioral issues
- A significant change in behavior
 - Alcohol/substance abuse
 - Classroom and other behavioral issues
 - Hospitalizations
 - Students in distress
- When in doubt, report any concerns to utrgv.edu/reportit.

What happens when you make a report?

- Assess risk and develop intervention plan
- Outreach to involved parties
- Coordinate case management among several departments
 - School of Medicine
 - Counseling
 - University Police Department
 - Residence Life
 - Reporter of the incident
 - Direct contact with student



SUPPORT FOR FORMER FOSTER YOUTH

- <https://www.utrgv.edu/fosteringssuccess/>
- Foster Care Liaisons
 - Dr. Douglas Stoves
 - Ms. Rebecca Gadson
- Each student's story, needs, and path are unique. It is our commitment to foster your success as you transition to the university and pursue your career goals. We offer support, advice, coaching, and information; connect you to a network of resources should you encounter a challenge or crisis; and help you navigate university processes.
- On campus, liaisons coordinate interactions between:
 - Foster care alumni; and
 - College and University professionals who serve the specific needs of foster care alumni (ex: financial aid, housing).

STUDENT FOOD PANTRY



- Provides nutritional education
- Helps students experiencing food insecurity
- Assists students with applying for food assistance and community resources

STUDENT RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

Informs students of their rights and responsibilities as UTRGV community members.

Educates campus partners and students on community standards and institutional policies.

Manage cases (student conduct, CARE, BIT)



CENTER FOR DIVERSITY & INCLUSION AND DREAM RESOURCE CENTER

- The purpose of the **Center for Diversity and Inclusion** (CDI) is to support culturally-based affinity groups, enhance programming that builds cultural competence and civil discourse, and provide direct support to students.
- The **DREAM Resource Center** (which functions within the CDI) provides support services and resources for undocumented and Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) students.





CENTER FOR STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

Students can participate in Fraternity and Sorority Life, Student Government Association, or in one or more of the over 250 other student organizations

Involvement Ambassadors help students get involved in various ways.

- Provides opportunities for students to strengthen their leadership skills:
 - Freshmen Leadership Academy
 - Student Leadership Academy
 - National Society of Leadership and Success
- Hosts diversity and intercultural programming and community service opportunities
- Provides transition services for parents and family members



STUDENT ACTIVITIES



Student Activities creates experiences which instill pride, by uniting students with the community through spirit, traditions, culture and social responsibility.

Coordinates the Distinguished Speakers Series, civic engagement initiatives, and events for students

Collaborates to plan campus traditions like UTRGV Madness, Homecoming, Welcome Week, and oversees cheer, dance, and mascot program

Campus Activities Board (CAB) – student organization plans engaging student events.

STUDENT MEDIA



- Produces The Rider newspaper, KVAQ TV, Pulse Magazine and Vaquero Radio
- Prepares students to be leaders in their future careers
- Prepares students for careers across diverse media platforms





STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

- Ensures students with disabilities are able to participate in the full range of college experiences
- Facilitates students' equal access to all university programs and services
- Students with disabilities (including temporary disabilities such as broken bones or recent surgery) are encouraged to contact the staff to discuss individual needs for academic accommodations and services
- Hosts a mentoring program for students receiving services



CHESS

BEST THING IN TEXAS

UTRGV Just Won Its Third Consecutive National Chess Championship

Down down to the greatness of the Vaqueros, who are the best in the nation (again).

By Ross Cochran | April 8, 2021



Illustration by Texas Monthly; Chess pieces: (Shashouse Images/Getty, Campus: David Pika/UTRGV)

The UTRGV Chess Team competes at the highest level at state, national and international tournaments and receives training from a prominent coaching staff. The Chess Program recruits students from across the globe, sharing their knowledge and culture with locals. The program offers outreach through local and international tournaments, camps, trainings, and presents community chess classes for local community members on a regular basis. We also support the Chess Club at UTRGV, a student organization reaching over 180 chess enthusiasts.



SUPERHERO PROJECT

- Promotes the idea that individual students have the power to prevent high-risk behavior and harm
- Student Assistants work to promote the project across campus through marketing and presentations
- Provides active bystander training across campus to students, faculty, staff

