



Adult Leader Guidelines

Share a copy of these guidelines with all adults attending the program.

Plan Your Visit Go to our website, www.utrgv.edu/csl. Look at the headings, and click on *Plan Your Visit*. If you have additional questions, call us at 956-761-2644 or email coastal@utrgv.edu.

Directions to the SPI Lab From Port Isabel: Continue east on TX-100/Queen Isabella Blvd toward South Padre Island. Continue on TX-100 E across Queen Isabella Causeway. Turn right on Padre Blvd/State Park Rd 100. Enter Isla Blanca Park through entrance kiosk. Take the first left onto Channelview Loop/Wallace L Reed Rd. Take an immediate right onto Padre Blvd. Turn left on Gulf Side Loop (first street after Greenland Sea, before Dodson St). SPI lab will be on your right.

Address for UTRGV South Padre Island Lab:
100 Marine Lab Drive
South Padre Island, Texas 78597

Parking Please come prepared to pay a park entrance fee of \$25 per bus and \$10 per private vehicle, payable to Cameron County Park System. This fee is separate from your tour fee. Cash payment is accepted at the entrance kiosk. If paying with a school check or credit card, you must go into the park office to pay in person. The park does not accept POs. Busses and private vehicles may park in the parking lot at the end of Gulf Side Loop. Please DO NOT park in the SPI Lab parking lot, as it is reserved for employees only. **For questions regarding parking fee or other park policies, please call the park office (956) 761-5493.**

Arrival Please plan to arrive about 15 minutes early. Upon arrival at the lab, please keep the students outside the building where we will greet your group and start the program. The leader will need to check-in at the SPI Lab office upon arrival to pay the balance of your program fee.

Programs Begin and End on Time Please allow plenty of travel and parking time. If your group is late, expect your program to be shortened. Call us at 956-761-2644 as soon as you think you might be late.

Bad Weather There are no bad weather cancellations. Please come prepared with rain gear to be outside. In case of more inclement weather, your group will participate in indoor activities.

Student Behavior Adults—teachers, parents, or chaperones—should plan to remain with the students throughout the program. Additionally, since the students invariably get very excited being on the beach, our marine science educators depend on teachers and chaperones to manage disruptive behavior so they can focus on providing students with a quality program. Please be sure to share this information with **all** the adults in your group. All participants are expected to respect wildlife (e.g. no chasing after birds, playing with touch tank organisms, or walking on dune vegetation).

First Aid Adult leaders are responsible for administering First Aid. You are welcome to use the supplies in the First Aid Cabinet at the lab or on the boat. Educators are also trained in First Aid.

How to Dress Participants should dress comfortably since they'll spend part of their time working in the lab, on the boat, or outside. Hats, sun block, pants, tee-shirts, and close-toed shoes are appropriate. Bring a jacket during cooler months and rainy days.

If you signed up for:

Dissections Pants and closed-toed shoes are required for all students and adults during dissections.

Beach Ecology Walk If your group is going on a Beach Walk, feet will get sandy. Flip-flops and slip-on shoes are discouraged as boardwalk surfaces can become slick. Please plan accordingly.

Fish Printing (Gyotaku) Participants should bring a light-colored, plain tee-shirt to print on. Alternatively, rice-paper will be provided for a more traditional fish-printing experience.

If you booked a Floating Classroom (Dolphin Discovery Marine Science EcoTour)

Directions and Parking

Go directly to the dock indicated in your reservation (South Shore Bait and Tackle or UTRGV PI Campus) – not the SPI Lab. If you are going to be late, please call the office at 956-761-2644 or Program Manager at 956-307-3663. All Floating Classroom fees must be paid to the SPI Lab.

South Shore Bait and Tackle Students may be dropped off at the dock, but please DO NOT park at South Shore Bait and Tackle, as towing is enforced. Vehicles may park along South Shore Drive

Address for South Shore Bait and Tackle:

Google Maps: 125 E South Shore Drive, Port Isabel, Texas 78578

Apple Maps and MapQuest: 125 S. Shore Drive, Port Isabel, Texas

Directions from Port Isabel TX-48/TX-100 Intersection: Continue on TX-100 E toward South Padre Island. Turn right on South Longoria Street. Turn right on South Shore Drive. South Shore Bait and Tackle will be on your left.

UTRGV PI Campus Our parking lot is not large enough to accommodate busses, but vans or cars may drop off students at the dock. All vehicles will need to park along Marina Drive.

Address of UTRGV PI Campus:

Google Maps: 901 W Garcia Street, Port Isabel, Texas 78578

Apple Maps and MapQuest: 901 S Garcia Street, Port Isabel, Texas 78578

Directions from Port Isabel TX-48/TX-100 Intersection: Continue on TX-100 E toward South Padre Island. Turn right on South Garcia Street. UTRGV PI Campus will be on your left just before the swing bridge.

Places to Eat

Pavilions

There are two Pavilions within the Isla Blanca Park. One adjacent to the lab and one further south, closest to the jetties. These Pavilions are connected by a recently build boardwalk along the beach.

Restaurants Check out *SoPadre.com* or call the South Padre Island Visitor Center at 956-761-6433.

Blackbeard's 103 E. Saturn Lane South Padre Island, Texas 956-761-2962	Dirty Al's at Pelican Station 201 S. Garcia Street Port Isabel, Texas 956-943-3344	Pirate's Landing 110 N Garcia Street Port Isabel, Texas 956-943-3663
BurgerFi 5001 Padre Boulevard South Padre Island, Texas 956-433-5502	Pizza Hut 1905 Padre Boulevard South Padre Island, Texas 956-761-1361	Whataburger 3509 Padre Boulevard South Padre Island, Texas 956-761-7862
D'Pizza Joint 2413 Padre Boulevard South Padre Island, Texas 956-761-7995	Subway 2100 Padre Boulevard South Padre Island, Texas 956-761-6700	Wing Stop 3900 Padre Boulevard South Padre Island, Texas 956-761-1300
Daddy's Seafood & Cajun Kitchen 1808 Padre Boulevard South Padre Island, Texas 956-761-1975	Lobo Del Mar Café 204 W. Palm Street South Padre Island 956-772-7256	Yummies Bistro 700 Padre Boulevard South Padre Island, Texas 956-761-2526
Dairy Queen 2401 Padre Boulevard South Padre Island, Texas 956-761-1072	McDonald's 908 Padre Boulevard South Padre Island, Texas 956-761-4999	
Denny's 1100 Padre Boulevard South Padre Island, Texas 956-761-1887	Pier 19 1 Padre Boulevard South Padre Island, Texas 956-761-7437	