



Counselor Update

2023-2024



Dara Newton

**Associate Vice President
Strategic Enrollment**

UTRGVTM
UT Health
Rio Grande Valley

#1
University
in Texas

2023 Washington Monthly Rankings

THE FUTURE OF TEXAS





Fall 2023

Cohorts



New Freshman Class by the Numbers

- 24 Luminary Scholars
- 28 Valedictorians
- 34 Salutatorians
- 341 Students Ranked 1-10 in their graduating class
- 1034 Students graduated Top 10%
- 2418 Students graduated Top 25%
- 4082 Students graduated Top 50%

As of 08/29/2023



New Freshman Class by the Numbers

Top Five Majors (43% of the class)

1. Integrated Health Science
2. Criminal Justice
3. Biology
4. Psychology
5. Computer Science

As of 08/29/2023

New Freshman Class



5,600+

As of 08/29/2023



Transfer Class by the Numbers

- 210 Students transferred with less than 30 hours
- 466 Students transferred with 30 – 59 hours
- 726 Students transferred with 60 or more hours
- 2.89 Average GPA for ALL transfer students
- 54.7 Ave Hours Earned vs 66.9 Ave Hours Attempted

As of 08/29/2023



Transfer Class by the Numbers (STC and TSC)

- 270 Transfer Students – Texas Southmost College
- 576 Transfer Students – South Texas College
- 464 TSC and STC Associate Degree Holders
- 2.97 Average GPA for STC & TSC
- 57.4 Ave Hours Earned vs 70.2 Ave Hours Attempted for STC & TSC

As of 08/29/2023



Transfer Class by the Numbers

Top Five Majors (36.3% of the class)

1. Criminal Justice
2. Interdisciplinary Studies
3. Psychology
4. Integrated Health Sciences
5. Kinesiology

As of 08/29/2023

New Transfer Class



1,300+

As of 08/29/2023



Andrea Yen

Director of Undergraduate Recruitment

Meet the Team

Andrea Yen – Director

Andi Scott – Associate Director

Jesus Buitron – Outreach Manager

April Gonzalez – Coordinator

Alejandra Riestra – UCentral Matamoros



Freshman Local Team

Led by Jesus Buitron



**Jesus
Buitron**

- Edinburg
- Hidalgo
- La Joya
- La Villa
- McAllen
- Mission
- Sharyland
- Starr County



**Gabriella
Azuara**

- Donna
- Edcouch Elsa
- Mercedes
- PSJA
- Progreso
- Weslaco

Open

- Harlingen
- La Feria
- Lasara
- Lyford
- Raymondville
- San Benito

Freshman Local Team

Led by Jesus Buitron



Noel Rangel

- Brownsville ISD
- Brownsville
- Los Fresnos
- Port Isabel

Mariana Paz

- South Texas
- Laredo
- Coastal Bend

Transfer Local Team

Led by Andi Scott



Veronica Flores

- Texas Southmost College
- Texas State Technical College- Harlingen



Aissa Rodriguez

- South Texas College

Regional Recruitment Team

Led by Andi Scott



Andi Scott

- North Texas
- Out of State



Mason Walker

- Greater San Antonio
- South Central Texas



Alejandro Mendivil

- Greater Houston
- Gulf Coast

UCentral Matamoros



Alejandra Riestra



Priscila Rendon

Campus Visit, Events, New Student Orientation



April Gonzalez

Connect with your Rep

- Classroom Presentation
- Application Drives
- FAFSA Drives
- Individual Student and/or Family Appointments
- Material Pick Up and/or Drop Offs



2023-2024 Overview

THE FUTURE OF TEXAS

New Academic Programs

- **College of Liberal Arts**
 - Medical and Health Humanities
- **College of Fine Arts**
 - Music Composition
 - Music Technology
- **College of Education**
 - BS Education and BS Special Education
 - These programs will replace the existing BIS EC-6 degrees

Marching Forward

Get **EXCITED** –
UTRGV is getting a
marching band!

[Interest Form](#)



2023-2024 Events

Counselor Briefings

- Monthly updates for all College Access Partners. Provide up-to-date information on Admissions, Scholarships, Financial Aid, events and more. Timely information is provided to partners to help assist incoming freshman and transfer students.

Counselor Appreciation Night @ UTRGV Baseball

- College Access Partners and their guests are invited to join the Office of Recruitment at a UTRGV Baseball Game for free. Opportunity to thank our high school counselors for all they do!
- *March*

2023-2024 Events

Discover UTRGV: Preview Day

- Discover is the main preview day/open house event for UTRGV. This event is conference-style and allows students and families to build their own agenda for the day. The program includes presentations from colleges, departments, admissions, financial aid, and scholarships.
- Specialized Days: Health Professions, Scholars, ISD

Application and FAFSA Workshops

- Open event to focus on application and FAFSA completion. General information is provided on the application process. Weekday partnerships with districts.
- Brownsville and Edinburg

Daily Campus Tours

Daily campus tours are led by a member of the V-Squad and are designed to give students a small group experience of the campus.

Tours are available Monday through Friday at 9 am, 11 am, and 2 pm, and select Saturdays.

Specialized combined campus and housing tours available

Spanish Tours available

Group Tours, Self Guided and Virtual

New Campus Visit Experience *Launched October 2022

Personalized Virtual Tours

Self Guided live or Virtual at home any time

Provides step-by-step navigation

Spanish coming soon!

Group Tours

New Self Guided options for large groups

Activity books available for younger ages (elementary/middle school)

Save the Date- Fall 23

Discover UTRGV Health Professions – Oct. 13

Discover UTRGV Brownsville – Nov. 3

Discover UTRGV Scholars Day – Nov. 11

Vaquero Connection

- www.utrgv.edu/recruitment
- Counselor Portal
- Find Your Recruiter
- Counselor Briefing Events and Materials

Preparing for RGV TACRAO Week

- Did you know you can print your student barcodes?

The screenshot shows the GotoCollegeFairs interface. At the top, there are navigation links: [Edit Profile](#), [Express Student Pre-Registration](#), [Print A Single Student Barcode](#), and [Print Your Counselor Barcode](#). Below these are two filter dropdowns: 'Filter By Event Date' set to 'All Dates' and 'Filter for Print Student Barcodes' set to 'All Years'. The main section is titled 'Student Registrations At Your High School' and includes 'CSV' and 'Excel' buttons. A table displays registration data with columns: CEEB, Registrations By Event Name, Start Date, Location, Total Reg, Attendees, EventId, and Print Student Barcodes. A red arrow points to the 'Print Student Barcodes' link in the table. Below the table, it says 'Showing 1 to 1 of 1 entries' and has 'Previous', '1', and 'Next' navigation buttons.

CEEB	Registrations By Event Name	Start Date	Location	Total Reg	Attendees	EventId	Print Student Barcodes
		10/15/2019		57	38		Print Student Barcodes

- Visit GotoCollegeFairs Help Center



Marybel Gonzalez

Director of Undergraduate Admissions

How to apply

First-Year Applicants

- ApplyTexas Freshman application (Domestic/International)
- Essay A or B (500 – 750 words) opportunities/challenges - tell us about yourself
- Official ACT/SAT scores (optional for admission)
- High School transcript (preferred TReX) or high school equivalency certificate (GED)
- Texas Private High School Certification form (if attending private HS in Texas)

**Recommended to submit official college transcript with dual credit along with application materials

How to apply

International Applicants (additional requirements)

- Foreign credential evaluation – SPANTRAN/FCSA/WES (if attended foreign school)
- English language proficiency – TOEFL/IELTS/Duolingo (waived after receipt of transcript if 3 years of high school in USA)
- \$50 application fee

Applications

- Applications for Fall 2024 available August 1st, 2023 <http://applytexas.org>
- Priority deadline for Fall 2024: February 1st, 2024
- Decision notifications will start going out in mid-October.
- Encourage students with Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate scores to send official scores to UTRGV. Scores can be considered in a holistic review, but credit will be available upon official enrollment at UTRGV.
- Encourage students who have Dual Credit to send official college transcripts to UTRGV, credit can be considered in a holistic review.

ApplyTexas

- When creating a profile, use personal email. Avoid using school email or email belonging to a family member.
- If the essay will be submitted later, have the student type something like “I will submit the essay later” to proceed with the submission of the application.
- Remind students to check Document Central to see pending items (utrgv.edu/documentcentral). Allow 4 business days after receipt of the application before checking the status online.

STC2UTRGV

- Joint admission agreement with South Texas College – Starting Fall 2023
- Information available on www.utrgv.edu/pathways
- Students who apply to UTRGV and are offered joint admission, are encouraged to transfer at the completion of 30 hours with a minimum 2.0 GPA (they may elect to stay at STC and complete their associate degree).
- Students who apply to STC and select to participate in STC2UTRGV begin their collegiate career at STC. Students following this path are encouraged to complete their associate degree and transfer to UTRGV the following term (students are eligible to transfer after the completion of 30 hours and with a 2.0 GPA or higher).

Appeals

- Appeal process available through www.utrgv.edu/appeals
- Appeal must be written by student and must be an explanation of high school performance and steps taken to remedy the situation. Additional academic information can be included.
- Appeal deadline for Fall 24 – June 1st (decisions by June 15th)

Transcripts

- High school transcript must contain GPA, ranking (if applicable), graduation plan (if applicable), junior year grades completed.
- TReX transcripts preferred. Allow 2-3 business days for the receipt of TReX transcripts.
- Non-TReX transcripts can be uploaded by counselor through the counselor portal or by student through the student portal. (www.utrgv.edu/documentcentral)
- Documents submitted through Document Central must be good quality and legible.
- If the school does not rank or the student hasn't taken the ACT or SAT exam, it is extremely important to send the Dual Credit official college transcript, if available.

Advanced Placement

- Scores must be received directly from College Board or on high school transcript
- Equivalency chart available: utrgv.edu/admissions
- Admitted student must meet with UTRGV advisor to request credit
- Credit will post to student's account after census day of their first enrollment term at UTRGV

Reminders

After admission, needed for registration:

- Proof of TSI assessment or exemption**
- Proof of vaccination against bacterial meningitis or exemption

**TSI scores are not considered during the admission decision process. These items are required as part of the enrollment process and are needed at time of orientation/registration.



Bumps on the road

- Transcript not containing GPA or containing an incorrect ranking
- Essays shorter than 500 words
- Students with two last names – multiple IDs in our system
- Incorrect high school graduation date
- Not submitting all academic information at once (ACT/SAT scores, dual credit transcripts, Advanced Placement scores 3+)
- Submitting application materials before the application is received



Communication to students

Applicants will receive:

- Email acknowledging application receipt
- Email with UTRGV credentials (for first time applicants)
- Email confirming application type
- Emails and Letter about missing documents
- Email and Letter about admission decision

Admitted students will also receive:

- Emails to RSVP for New Student Orientation
- Emails about Texas Residency to qualify for In-State tuition (if applicable)
- Emails to submit final high school transcript

Contact us



- For general questions:

Admissions@utrgv.edu

- To submit documents:

Application@utrgv.edu

Exciting news!!



Apply by Nov 15th and get the essay waived!

**When prompted for an essay, just type "Essay waived"



Counselor Update

2023-2024



Scholarship
Office



Scholarship Team

Brenda Cowart

Assistant Director of Scholarships

Email: brenda.cowart@utrgv.edu

Irene Cardenas

Assistant Director of Scholarships

Email: irene.cardenas@utrgv.edu

Scholarship Coordinators

Ashley Resendez

ashley.resendez@utrgv.edu

Agency Scholarship Checks

Departmental Scholarships

Lizeth Raya

lizeth.raya@utrgv.edu

Departmental Scholarships

Graduate Scholarships

Beatris Guzman

beatris.guzman@utrgv.edu

Scholarship Account Recons

Teresa Villarreal

teresa.villarreal@utrgv.edu

New Student Point of Contact



Online Application

- Types of Scholarships via this application
- UTRGV Excellence Scholarships Application
- Deadline: **December 1, 2023**
- VAMOS/UTRGV Endowed Scholarship
- 4-year renewable, valued up to \$10,000
- Deadline: **February 15, 2024**
- Log-in with UTRGV Credentials
- Students must be admitted to be considered

www.utrgv.edu/applyscholarships

Online Application



ScholarshipUniverse

Login

SCHOLARSHIPS
at UTRGV™



UTRGV Scholarship Application

Whether your first-semester applying or your last, the UTRGV Scholarship application opens doors to millions of dollars and provides a path to help pay for your education. Our UTRGV alums & friends, along with generous donors and foundations, who made the decision to invest their dollars in you, understand the importance of empowering the #FutureofTexas!

To be considered for one of the scholarships offered at UTRGV, you must complete the application(s) by the corresponding deadline.

High School Seniors: December 1st

Undergraduate and Graduate Students: February 1st

Disclaimer: External Scholarships are not managed by UTRGV all deadline information and criteria is subject to change and administered by the corresponding entity.

Take a few minutes, start and complete your application to take advantage of what UTRGV has to offer!

How to Apply:

1. Log in with your UTRGV Student Credentials - [Click the Login link on the Top Right.](#)
2. You will be matched to UTRGV and External Scholarships as you answer questions in the **Questions** tab.
3. Review UTRGV and External Scholarships available in the **Scholarships** tab.
4. Complete any Scholarship Applications available under the **Applications** tab.

Check out our "[How to use the New UTRGV Scholarship Application](#)" video for more detailed information.

Don't have UTRGV Student Credentials?

Online Application



The screenshot shows the ScholarshipUniverse dashboard for user Antonio Alvarez. The interface includes a navigation sidebar on the left with options like Dashboard, Questions, Scholarships, Applications, Awards, My Docs, and Feedback. The main content area features a green banner with the text "\$ Qualify for more scholarships by clicking here. \$". Below this, there are several key metrics and a funnel chart. The metrics are: 143 Scholarships Needing Questions Answered To Qualify (Partial Matches), 140 Scholarships You Can Currently Apply To (Matches), and 2 Scholarships With Applications In Progress (Applications In Progress). The funnel chart shows the distribution of 4712 Open & Future Scholarships: 140 Open & Future Matches, 34 Applied, and 0 In Review. An "Actions Required" section on the right shows a dropdown menu set to "All Types" and a message stating "No records available." with a pagination indicator for "0 - 0 of 0 items".

ScholarshipUniverse

Search Antonio

Dashboard

Antonio Alvarez

Scholarship Opportunities

ScholarshipUniverse
4712 Open & Future Scholarships

Your Universe

- Open & Future Matches: 140 Scholarships
- Applied: 34 Scholarships
- In Review: 0 Scholarships

Actions Required

All Types

No records available.

0 - 0 of 0 items

143
Scholarships Needing Questions Answered To Qualify
Partial Matches

140
Scholarships You Can Currently Apply To
Matches

2
Scholarships With Applications In Progress
Applications In Progress

Online Application



ScholarshipUniverse Search Antonio

Dashboard
Questions
Scholarships
Applications
Awards
My Docs
Feedback

Tell Us About Yourself

Matches **140**

Please update or confirm the following question(s).

Have you completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for this current academic year?

Yes
 No
 N/A

What is your current graduate school GPA? ⓘ

N/A

In which degree level are you currently enrolled?

N/A

[Leave Feedback](#) Skip Continue

Version 1.119.7661



Greater Texas Foundation Scholars

- Up to \$4,000 per year
- Eligible to retain for up to three years

- Be a graduate of a designated Early College High School in Texas
- Have earned a minimum of 30 college credits with a cumulative GPA of 2.7 on all college coursework
- Be a Texas Resident and be eligible to apply for FAFSA
- Must be admitted to UTRGV for Fall Semester immediately after HS graduation
- Application opens in February 2023

www.utrgv.edu/applyscholarships



Merit Based Scholarships

- Merit-based scholarships are awarded competitively and do not require the submission of a scholarship application.
- To be considered, students must be admitted to UTRGV by December 1st.
- Dual Enrollment students are required to submit their college transcript prior December 1st in order to be considered for these scholarships.

Awards are offered on a competitive basis



UTRGV Gateway Scholarship

Description:

- One-time award
- Award varies from \$1,000 to \$3,000
- Students must be admitted by December 1, 2023
- No application is needed, students will be selected on a competitive basis



Top 10% Scholarship

Description:

- Be in the Top 10% of class rank
- One-time award reserved for students who do not receive another UTRGV Scholarship
- Award \$1,000
- Students must be admitted by December 1, 2023 No application is needed, students will be selected on a competitive basis
- Must be within Cameron, Hidalgo, Willacy, Starr or Zapata counties



UTRGV Scholars Program

Description:

- 4-year renewable scholarship offered to new entering freshmen
- No application is needed, students will be selected on a competitive basis
- Students must be admitted by December 1, 2023

- UTRGV Presidential Scholarship – **Valued up to \$32,000**
 - \$8,000 per academic year

- UTRGV Meritorious Scholarship – **Valued up to \$20,000**
 - \$5,000 per academic year

- UTRGV Distinguished Scholarship – **Valued up to \$40,000**
 - \$8,000 per academic year
 - \$4,000 per academic year (Housing)

UTRGV Luminary Scholars



Fall 2023 Cohort of 24 students

- Approximately 700 Applicants
- 40 selected for Interview
- 12 Vals/Sals, 15 ranked among Top 10 of class, Avg. ACT 28



UTRGV Luminary Scholars



Step 1 - Apply for Admission

Complete the Freshmen ApplyTexas admission application and be admitted by **December 1** at goapplytexas.org

Step 2 - Apply for Scholarship

Complete the UTRGV Excellence Scholarship Application by **December 1** at utrgv.edu/applyscholarships

- Submit two letters of recommendation (one must be from a high school teacher, counselor, or school administrator)
- Luminary Scholar Essay
- Resume (extracurricular activities, leadership positions, community service, work experience, etc.)

Program Website: [UTRGV.edu/Luminary](https://utrgv.edu/Luminary)

Very competitive!!

Encourage students to submit all documents test scores/dual enrollment transcript before **December 1, 2023**



AWARD AMOUNTS



Luminary Undergraduate – Graduate Program Scholar

Tuition & Mandatory Fees	Years 1 – 4	\$10,000 x 4	\$40,000
Room & Board	Years 1 & 2	\$8,500 x 2	\$17,000
Graduate Tuition & Mandatory Fees	Years 5 & 6	\$9,000 x 2	\$18,000
Total			\$75,000

Luminary Undergraduate – School of Medicine Scholar

Tuition & Mandatory Fees	Years 1 – 4	\$10,000 x 4	\$40,000
Room & Board	Years 1 & 2	\$8,500 x 2	\$17,000
School of Medicine	Years 5 – 8	\$20,000 x 4	\$80,000
Total			\$137,000



Renewal Requirements

- Enroll in each fall and spring semesters in a minimum of 15 credit hours
- Must complete a minimum of 12 hours
- Complete a minimum of 30 credit hours per academic year
- Maintain a 3.0 Institutional GPA



Texas Leadership Scholars Program

- Aimed at keeping high achieving, low-income Texas Graduates in the state of Texas to continue their education at a Texas University
- 4 Year Full Tuition and Fees scholarship
- Plus, Housing Stipend
- Professional Development Program Opportunities
- Application Deadline February 1, 2024

www.texasleadershipscholars.org



www.starsscholarship.org

Scholarship Criteria

Application Period: January 1st – March 31st

- Be a U.S. citizen or a legal permanent resident with a permanent resident card or passport stamped I-551.
- Be a permanent resident (5 or more consecutive years) of and have a permanent South or West Texas address in one of our 30 counties.
- Have earned/completed at least 12 undergraduate credit hours at a U.S. accredited college or university before applying for the scholarship.
- Have a minimum college cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.7 on a 4.0 scale.
- Have completed a high school diploma or its equivalent prior to the Fall of the new academic year.
- Are enrolled in a U.S. accredited 2 yr. community college (enrolled part-time or full-time) in a degree-seeking program, or a 4yr. university undergraduate program (enrolled full-time) seeking a Bachelor's Degree, or a university graduate program (enrolled full-time) seeking a Master's, Law or Doctorate degree

www.TheDream.US



Application must be submitted online. If selected, student will need to renew each year.

Valued up to \$37,000 for tuition and fees and stipend.

Application will open November 1, 2023

Eligibility Criteria

- Have graduated or will graduate from high school by the end of the 2023-2024 academic year with a GPA of 2.5 or better on a 4.0 scale;
- Are not enrolled in college at any time in the 2023-24 academic year (excluding enrollment in a high school pre-college or dual enrollment program);
- Intend to enroll full-time in an associate's or bachelor's degree program at one of TheDream.US Partner Colleges no later than the Spring of 2025;
- Are eligible for in-state tuition at the Partner College they wish to attend;
- Have DACA or TPS or certify that you meet the immigration eligibility criteria set forth below;
- You came to the United States before reaching their 16th birthday; and
- Have significant unmet financial need.

Questions:



For more information

Call us: 956.665.2935

Or email: scholarships@utrgv.edu

Visit our website: www.utrgv.edu/scholarships



THE FUTURE OF TEXAS

Thank You

Show your completed evaluation at the table for a thank-you gift.

