



The University of Texas at San Antonio™
86th Texas Legislative Funding (2020-2021) Priorities

1) Tuition Revenue Bonds for expanding UTSA’s College of Business Building Downtown

UTSA seeks support to expand its nationally ranked College of Business through a new \$126 million state-of-the-art building located in downtown San Antonio. Addressing the College’s current and future space deficits based on rapid enrollment growth projections, the downtown location will enhance students’ experiential learning and fuel the city’s economic development.

2) New Exceptional Item Request, Leadership in Cybersecurity, \$2,500,000 / year

- Assist Texas government agencies through the Texas Department of Information Resources in implementing a “Culture of Security” and developing security preparedness.
- Help businesses meet state standards as vendors with cybersecurity guidelines and readiness level certification to include audits and assessments.
- Develop and train the state’s workforce through certification and degree programs.
- Support efforts to establish a National Security Collaboration Center (NSCC) at UTSA’s Downtown Campus - a government-university-industry partnership.

3) New Exceptional Item Request, Foster Care Pilot program, \$1,139,000 / year

- UTSA, TAMU-San Antonio, Alamo Colleges District, and Bexar County will collaborate to establish a national model that creates a pipeline for more than 600 foster care alumni, as well as for youth in foster care who aspire to attend college at one of the partner institutions.
- This Countywide partnership will increase access, retention, and graduation rates for students with a history of foster care.
- Additional critical partners to this pilot program include the Bexar County Children’s Court, Child Advocates of San Antonio (CASA), SAISD, and Child Protective Services (Region 8).

4) New Exceptional Item Request, College Completion UTSA, \$495,000 / year

The UTSA College Completion program will address these critical gaps in student experience with three activities:

- Experiential Learning through paid internships
- Faculty-Student Engagement Fund to increase student sense of belonging, leading to increased retention and career mentoring
- Chatbot – building an Artificial Intelligence System to increase matriculation rates for more first-generation students

5) The Non-Formula Support Items are critical to our academic and research enterprises:

- Institutional Enhancement - \$1,788,839 / year
- San Antonio Life Sciences Institute - \$1,388,570 / year
- Pre-Freshman Engineering Program (TexPREP) - \$285,729 / year

6) The Non-Formula Support Items are critical to our urban serving mission:

- Small Business Development Center - \$2,742,957 / year
- Southwest Texas Border SBDC (rural initiative) - \$877,750 / year
- Texas State Data Center - \$352,439 / year
- Institute of Texan Cultures (ITC) - \$1,001,572 / year

UTSA benefits greatly from the following state supported programs, fueling the university's ability to support Texas students and enhance the state's reputation as a research powerhouse.

7) Texas Research Incentive Program (TRIP), support for emerging research universities

Continued Legislative support to fund the \$182 million backlog of unmatched gifts under TRIP. UTSA has a \$10 million backlog. TRIP supports UTSA's transition from an emerging research university to a top-ranked, nationally recognized university. TRIP provides matching state funds for gifts UTSA secures. An example, H-E-B in 2013 invested \$5 million for UTSA's endowed academic positions. TRIP provided a \$3.75 million match, which helped attract an additional \$5 million in private dollars, resulting in a total \$13.75 million gift.

8) Core Research Support Fund (CRSF), support for emerging research universities

Core Research Support Funding provides resources to increase research capacity for the eight emerging research universities. This supports faculty, the purchase of equipment, outfitting labs, training for students, and support for proposals on external research funding. The request is to increase CRSF from \$105M / biennium in SB1 / HB 1 to \$146M / biennium.

9) National Research University Fund (NRUF), support for emerging research universities

UTSA is asking the Legislature to maintain the NRUF's momentum by investing more in the corpus, guaranteeing impactful payouts and bringing more universities to the national stage. Payouts per the eight universities will decline dramatically in the 2022/23 biennium without further investment in the NRUF corpus. The recommendation is to add \$400M to the NRUF corpus from the Rainy Day Fund. Provisions can be made for the State to return the \$400M whenever it is needed back into the Rainy Day Fund.

10) Texas Grants Program, support for our students

Texas Grants are important for first-generation students, with 68% of UTSA students being eligible to receive financial aid. We request the Legislature to increase the investment in the Texas Grants program to continue awarding as many eligible students as possible. In the 2017-2018 award year over 800 UTSA students were eligible but did not receive a Texas Grant award due to insufficient funds in the statewide program.

11) Formula Funding

UTSA's enrolment has grown by 6.5% and plans for future increases to the students we serve are integral to UTSA's institutional vision. UTSA requests the Legislature to provide funding to accommodate for enrollment growth and inflation. This is necessary in order for UTSA to move toward the goals outlined in the THECB's 60x30 Texas Plan.

12) Hazlewood Act benefits

UTSA has experienced an enormous growth of students utilizing Hazelwood Legacy exemptions reaching a record high of over \$14 million in fiscal year 2017, a projected \$16 million by end of fiscal year 2018, and \$19 million by end of fiscal year 2019. We encourage the Texas Legislature to continue providing funding relief to public universities for Hazelwood Legacy exemptions.