

UTA



LEGISLATIVE AGENDA 2021



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON



UTA PRIORITIES

FOR THE 87TH TEXAS LEGISLATURE

The University of Texas at Arlington (UTA) sympathizes with all of those in Texas and across the nation who have experienced economic hardship caused by this unprecedented global pandemic. As the Texas Legislature struggles with tough decisions and seeks ways to reinvigorate the economy, we encourage leaders to invest in the students at public institutions of higher education across the state as a long-term solution to reenergize our economy.

FORMULA FUNDING

Support primarily funding the state higher education formulas to support UTA's dedication to quality and excellence in our students and faculty, and to continue to help hold tuition costs down for students and their families.

TIER ONE RESEARCH FUNDING

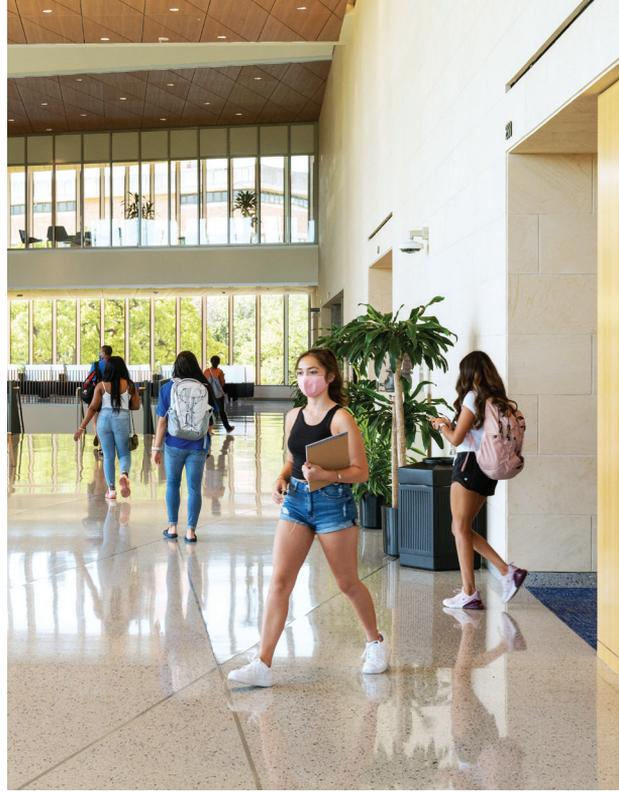
Support continued funding for the **National University Research Fund** for Tier One institutions, and consider increasing the distribution rate as more institutions, including UTA, become eligible. Continue to support funding for the **Governor's University Research Initiative** and the **Core Research Fund**, both of which support increased research activity and economic development around our Tier One research institutions. These institutions in turn increase the competitiveness of our state and strengthen the Texas economy.

FINANCIAL AID

During these hard economic times, financial aid and similar programs to retool the workforce will be the building blocks of our economy. We strongly urge that the state continue to invest in Texas grants and all financial aid programs.

THE TEXAS NURSING SHORTAGE REDUCTION PROGRAM (NSRP)

The NSRP has been vital to the growth of UTA's award-winning College of Nursing and Health Innovation. Through innovation in online education programs, UTA has dramatically increased capacity while maintaining exceptional quality standards. We urge the Legislature to continue to fully fund the Texas NSRP.



NEW REQUESTS

RESTORATION OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC LOSSES

For the biennium, UTA requests the restoration of revenue losses to restore a portion of the costs and revenue losses that the University has incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding would help UTA to maintain the quality of education and cutting-edge research that students expect from a Tier One institution that is contributing to the economic recovery of Texas.

RURAL HOSPITAL OUTREACH PROGRAM (CENTER FOR RURAL HEALTH AND NURSING)

UTA requests funding to expand an existing non-formula support item into a new **Center for Rural Health and Nursing**. As part of the state's pandemic response, this new center would improve nursing and health care in underserved rural communities by expanding partnerships, building tele-health infrastructure, and recruiting and training local residents of rural communities to become nurses.



UTA BY THE NUMBERS

Through the
Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and
Economic Security (CARES) Act

UTA distributed **\$15.5** MILLION
IN EMERGENCY GRANTS
directly to **10,775 STUDENTS**

UTA has annual
economic impact of **\$22.2**
BILLION
and **216,544** jobs in Texas

UTA produces
THE MOST
baccalaureate-degreed
NURSES of any public institution in Texas,
& has the **LARGEST**
NURSING PROGRAM
of any public institution in the country

UT Arlington is on track to become the
4th EMERGING RESEARCH
UNIVERSITY
to receive **TEXAS TIER ONE** status

UTA enrolled its **LARGEST FRESHMAN CLASS EVER** in fall 2020
3,820 STUDENTS | **6.8% increase** in first-time-in-college students

65% of UTA's
220,000 ALUMNI
live in North Texas, contributing
\$16.1 BILLION annually to the region

#1 in the U.S.
for **VETERANS** and their families
(Military Times, 2020)

UTA's College of Nursing and Health Innovation
is **17** NATIONWIDE
ONE OF named a
2020 CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
(National League for Nursing)

UTA conferred
228 PhDs in the
2019-20 academic year—
a growth rate of **78%** over the
past decade—and a record-setting
4,970 master's degrees

UT Arlington is **12** universities
ONE OF JUST nationwide
to receive the 2020 designation of
"EXCELLENCE IN ASSESSMENT"
(National Institute for
Learning Outcomes Assessment)



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