



The University of
Texas System

THE PATH TO A
WORLD CLASS
UNIVERSITY
IN **SAN ANTONIO**



The University of Texas System Board of Regents has authorized the Chancellor and UT System to work with The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) and UT Health Science Center San Antonio (UTHSA) to integrate both institutions as one premier university to maximize service to San Antonio, Texas, and the world through education, innovation, discovery, and healthcare.

SAN ANTONIO'S INFLUENCE ON TEXAS AND THE NATION

San Antonio is the second largest city in Texas and seventh in the nation. It is the state's major gateway to South Texas, composed of 41 counties and home to 5.5 million people and expected to grow to 6.1 million by 2040. San Antonio is also a gateway for the Americas—both culturally and economically—playing a leading role in accelerating Texas' economic and educational growth and world class healthcare delivery and serving as an axis of discovery and innovation advancements. San Antonio is the largest Hispanic-majority city in the United States and is the oldest municipality in Texas.

GREAT CITIES NEED GREAT UNIVERSITIES

San Antonio's two premier but distinct University of Texas institutions are keenly focused on excellence: UT Health San Antonio (UTHSA) and The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA).



UT Health San Antonio (UTHSA) is the largest academic health research institution in San Antonio and all South Texas. It is ranked in the top 3 percent worldwide for all organizations that receive NIH (National Institutes of Health) funding. Its comprehensive network of medical, dental, nursing, and other healthcare professionals manages almost 3 million patient visits annually at more than 60 clinical sites. With six schools educating more than 4,186 students, a workforce of 8,700 individuals, an annual expense budget of \$1.46B, and a clinical practice of 1,400 providers, UT Health San Antonio generates substantial economic impact across South Texas. It is central to the operation and success of the South Texas Medical Center, which serves 38 Texas counties. UT Health San Antonio has an annual portfolio of biomedical research expense of more than \$313 million. It is a primary driver of the city's \$44.1B healthcare and biosciences sectors.



The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) is a Top Tier (Carnegie R1) institution serving 35,000 undergraduate and graduate students across seven colleges and interdisciplinary schools with more than 188 degree programs. It has an annual research portfolio of \$154M and a direct economic impact of \$2.6B (FY23). The university has built a national reputation for prioritizing student success while creating new knowledge, growing the professional workforce pipeline, and deepening the positive economic impact on the city and state. Distributed across five campuses, UTSA, with 4,500 faculty and staff, is a principal driver for revitalization of the city, especially in the downtown core. The university also helps anchor the \$10B national security enterprise in San Antonio through its National Security Collaboration Center and School of Data Sciences. UTSA is home to CyManII, one of 16 federal manufacturing innovation institutes in the country focused on cybersecure digital manufacturing and will unveil a new college of AI (Artificial Intelligence), computing, cybersecurity, and data science—the first of its kind in Texas—later next year.

UNIFYING TALENT, ENERGY, AND RESOURCES TO BEST SERVE TEXAS, THE U.S. AND THE WORLD

In parallel with the ongoing growth of San Antonio and the South Texas region, both UTHSA and UTSA continue to outpace their national university peers with rapid, positive trajectories, making it a perfect time to come together as one powerhouse university with immense public benefit.

To meet demands and catalyze opportunities, the new, integrated university will engage, educate, and empower the next generation of innovators, discoverers, educators, and healthcare providers while delivering even greater significant value to the communities it serves.

Notably, UTHSA and UTSA do not have competing programs; they have complementary ones. Once integrated, these programs will be even stronger and achieve higher impact while creating significant, supercharged collaborations.

Among many promising outcomes, this strategic move will unlock significant benefits and support steep growth by:

- Expanding academic program offerings to attract more students and build a clear pathway from undergraduate to graduate programs for UTSA students, especially in the health sciences, and will include more joint degrees in health professions.
- Amplifying the clinical enterprise to catalyze new collaborations within the university, the new UT Multispecialty and Research Hospital, and the broader county health system.
- Bolstering the development of a skilled professional workforce in high-demand health and industry areas critical to the region and Texas and positioning the combined entities' new integration to bolster the number of essential healthcare, business, and technology professionals drawn to a city with a comprehensive academic and health center.
- Fostering more seamless collaboration among faculty in teaching, research, healthcare and service to facilitate maximum success in addressing health and technology challenges.
- Accelerating the research enterprise particularly in basic health sciences and engineering, applied sciences, and data sciences to build collaborations with industry and government partners, including the military, and to increase San Antonio's competitive edge.
- Multiplying technological advancements and commercialization to provide major economic development for San Antonio by driving education, employment, and biopharmaceutical infrastructure.
- Producing greater data-driven healthcare with focused research in integrating data science, informatics, AI, high-performance computing, and other areas to improve individualized diagnosis and treatment.
- Combining and accelerating fundraising appeal and success to present collaborative, not competitive, opportunities for donors, foundations, and agencies.
- Positioning the university well for future growth to build upon success within the San Antonio and Texas R&D landscapes, including the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H Texas) hub and many San Antonio nonprofit research partners including Texas Biomedical Research Institute (TBRI) and Southwest Research Institute (SwRI).
- Achieving recognition as a premier global university alongside new peers nationally and globally, including the best comprehensive research universities that are composed of health sciences, engineering, data science, and a full range of other disciplines. From the visual and performing arts to athletics, education, business, urban planning, behavioral sciences, medicine, and much more, this new comprehensive university plants a flag in San Antonio and Texas that will be recognized around the world.

Together, the integrated UT institution would immediately include six metropolitan campuses distributed across the city involving 40,000 students, more than 15,900 staff, almost 4,000 faculty and 1,400 healthcare providers, \$467M in research expenditures, a combined budget of \$2.2B, an endowment of \$1.1B, and more than \$6B in direct economic impact.

SCALING IMPACT FOR SOUTH TEXAS

The two UT institutions will build impact at scale—new multidisciplinary academic programs, collaborative transdisciplinary translational research, and expanded healthcare provisions that will reach even more San Antonians and South Texans. It is about activating growth, strengths, recognition, and achievement while building a national powerhouse with global impact. It would become one of the nation's premier Hispanic-serving institutions.

Over the last decade, collaborative efforts between UTHSA and UTSA have provided strong indications that many future opportunities are achievable after integration. Some efforts include:

- Creation of the nation's first joint Doctor of Medicine and Master of Science in AI.
- A joint School of Public Health offering master's and doctorate degrees in public health
- A biomedical engineering PhD program
- A PhD in translational science
- An accelerated undergraduate-graduate program that allows a student to spend three years at UTSA majoring in a science field and transition to a two-year graduate degree program in medical lab science, respiratory care, and physical therapy at UTHSA.
- A program allowing students to earn two B.S. degrees within a four-year period including a B.S. in nursing from UTHSA and a B.S. in multidisciplinary studies from UTSA.
- Collaborative R&D partnerships, particularly with the TBRI and SwRI and the Research Alliance for Bioscience
- Student health services and student counseling
- Sports medicine care, education and research collaboration
- Military health

The collaborations and partnerships that currently exist between UTHSA and UTSA are primed for the next logical step. The complementary trajectories of the two institutions have been steeply positive and create a unique opportunity to bolster and accelerate growth for the future. Moreover, the educational and healthcare landscape has changed significantly, and both UT institutions and the UT System are ready to launch this unique opportunity to serve the people of Texas with broader reach and greater impact, particularly given the growth demographics of South Texas.

The model of an academic research university merged with a health science center has demonstrated extraordinary successes over many years at some of the nation's top public universities such as University of California Los Angeles, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and the University of Michigan. Integration accelerates this progress towards even greater prominence, and it's in our sights.

Since 2000 alone, twelve health science center and university integrations have occurred in the U.S., bringing tremendous size and scale to their research enterprise, graduate student growth, and endowments to support university priorities and the communities they serve.



The University of
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UTSA®



UT Health
San Antonio