

The University of Texas of the Permian Basin

The \$10,000.00 Texas Science Scholar Talent Search and Degree

The University of Texas of the Permian Basin (UTPB) proposes to offer a \$10,000.00¹ Bachelor of Science degree to qualified students seeking to study on a full-time basis majoring in Chemistry, Computer Science, Geology, Information Systems and Mathematics. UTPB plans to search for outstanding physical science and mathematics students in Texas and provide these students with a high quality degree at a cost of \$10,000.00 in tuition and fees for the four-year curriculum.

1. Student Qualifications:

A. Freshman Students

- Students must be Texas residents.
- Students must be admitted unconditionally to the University.
- Students must be eligible to take Pre-calculus (MATH 2412 or its equivalent) and General Chemistry (CHEM 1311-1111) during their first year at the University.
- Students must not be placed in any developmental coursework.
- Students must apply, complete all placement exams, and register for their first semester by August 1 of the year.

B. Transfer Students

- Students must be Texas residents.
- Students must be admitted unconditionally to the University.
- Students must follow the appropriate UTPB curriculum for the selected major. See the UTPB/community college articulation agreements for details.
- Students must have a 3.0 overall G.P.A.
- Students must apply, complete all placement exams, and register for their first semester by August 1 of the year.

2. Once admitted the Texas Science Scholar student must:

- Register for up to 30 Semester Credit Hours at UTPB, including summer and pay \$2,500.00 at the beginning of the Academic Year.²

¹ The amount charged to students must be apportioned and clearly classified as statutory tuition, designated tuition and appropriate fees to ensure that the funds are in compliance with authorizing statutes. Pursuant to Sec. 54.5035, Tex. Educ. Code, laboratory fees cannot be waived and will be charged to the student.

² Students in the program will be allowed to pay the \$2,500.00 tuition/fee through the installment plan as authorized by Sec. 54.007, Tex. Educ. Code. Thus, the program may charge participating students on a semester credit hour basis at a rate of \$83.33 (\$2,500.00/30 hours).

- Maintain status as a full-time student.
- Meet with a UTPB Texas Science Scholar advisor and determine a degree plan for a major in Chemistry, Computer Science, Geology, Information Systems or Math with a minor in one of these programs or Biology.
- Complete 30 Semester Credit Hours per academic year, including summer, with a G.P.A. of 3.0 or better with all courses meeting degree requirements as outlined on the degree plan.³
- Live in UTPB housing with normal exemptions applicable to University funded scholarships.

3. Texas Science Scholars are eligible for Financial Aid:

- Texas Science Scholars remain eligible for non-UTPB financial aid, such as the Texas Grant, Federal Pell Grants, or privately funded scholarships.⁴

4. Expected Outcomes and Benefits of the \$10,000.00 Texas Science Scholar Program include:

- Access for Texas students with demonstrated ability in the sciences at an affordable price.
- More students majoring in fields identified by the THECB as critical fields in Texas.
- Increased retention and improved graduation rates at UTPB. Program encourages graduation in four years.
- Increased number of graduates from UTPB in physical, mathematical and computational sciences.
- Increased overall enrollment at UTPB.
- Improved efficiency at UTPB with better utilization of existing facilities and faculty.
- Increased revenue with minimal increase in cost.
- The UTPB plan is the first \$10,000.00 degree plan offered in Texas on one major university campus and does not require courses from several campuses.
- The UTPB plan is the first \$10,000.00 degree plan in Texas in Chemistry, Computer Science, Geology, Information Systems, and Mathematics.

³ Pursuant to Sections 54.006 and 54.009, Tex. Educ. Code, the program will allow for refunds for withdrawals or dropped courses, but that the student is not eligible to continue in the program if he/she fails to successfully complete 30 SCH per academic year. This determination would have to be made at the end of each academic year.

⁴ If the student successfully completes this program, the student would also be entitled to a \$1,000.00 rebate as set forth in Sec. 54.0065, Tex. Educ. Code. Generally, the statute awards a \$1,000.00 tuition rebate for students who obtain their baccalaureate degree with attempting no more than three hours in excess of the minimum SCHs required to complete the degree program. The rebate is to be paid from local funds.

Potential 4-Year Cost Savings of the \$10,000 Degree for Selected Programs of Study at UT Permian Basin						
UTPB Program of Study	Degree Cost at Current Resident Undergraduate Rates		Cost at \$10K Degree Resident Undergraduate Rates		Potential Cost Savings	
	Current 2011 - 2012 Academic Cost for Resident Undergraduates for 1 Academic Year (30 SCH)	Current 2011 - 2012 Academic Cost for Resident Undergraduates for 4 Academic Years (120 SCH)	\$10,000 Degree Proposal Academic Cost for Resident Undergraduates for 1 Academic Year (30 SCH)	\$10,000 Degree Proposal Academic Cost for Resident Undergraduates for 4 Academic Years (120 SCH)	Cost Savings Between Current Rate and \$10,000 Proposal for 1 Academic Year (30 SCH)	Cost Savings Between Current Rate and \$10,000 Proposal for 4 Academic Years (120 SCH)
Chemistry	\$6,452	\$25,808	\$2,500	\$10,000	\$3,952	\$15,808
Computer Science	\$6,452	\$25,808	\$2,500	\$10,000	\$3,952	\$15,808
Geology	\$6,452	\$25,808	\$2,500	\$10,000	\$3,952	\$15,808
Information Systems & Mathematics	\$6,452	\$25,808	\$2,500	\$10,000	\$3,952	\$15,808

Notes and Definitions: Current 2011 - 2012 rates are based on the rates for the average resident undergraduate student enrolled in 15 SCH per semester at UTPB in Fall 2011. Academic Costs include resident statutory tuition, designated tuition, mandatory fees, and average course fees. Potential cost savings could actually increase depending upon potentially approved academic cost rates for Fall 2012 and beyond. The cost savings potential is a conservative estimate since the comparison rate is held constant at the Fall 2011 rate and assumes no increase over time. Actual course fees could also vary by program of study.