

STUDENT SERVICES & CAMPUS LIFE

STUDENT SERVICES

Athletics

Gymnasium, 1st floor

882-8291

The Department of Intercollegiate Athletics provides student athletes with the opportunity to become part of intercollegiate athletics at the junior college level. UTB/TSC is a member of the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) and the Texas Junior College Athletic Conference (TJCAC), competing in men's baseball, women's volleyball and men's and women's golf. UTB/TSC has loans, grants, and scholarships consisting of tuition and fees, books, meals, and housing stipends available to its student athletes. Students are given the opportunity to attend tryouts for teams.

Club sports are also a part of the athletic program. Sports offered include men's soccer and men's volleyball. Club sports are implemented based upon the needs and requests of students.

Counseling and Career Services

Tandy Hall 205

882-8292

Extended office hours to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday

The Counseling Center offers an array of specialized services, through various components such as: ASPIRE/SSSP, CAMP, Career Services, Conflict Resolution, Disability Services, Project CIELO, International Student Services, Personal Counseling, STING Peer Mentoring Program, and Vocational Student Services.

ASPIRE/SSSP

North Hall 112

882-8250

ASPIRE/Student Support Services Program is a federally funded program under the U.S. Department of Education. The primary goal of the program is to increase graduation and retention rates among traditionally underrepresented populations. Eligible students are first generation college students, students with a disability, and/or students from low-income families. The students enrolled in the program receive tutoring, counseling, mentoring and advising.

CAMP

Camille Lightner Center

882-7871

College Assistance Migrant Program (C.A.M.P.) promotes higher-education opportunities for low-income, first-generation migrant students. Its primary goal is to encourage academic achievement and increase college retention through comprehensive university intervention services. The program goals are designed to provide-specific support services such as academic advising, personal counseling, career counseling, and peer mentoring

Career Services and Placement

Tandy Hall 205

882-8292

Career Services and Placement provides students with assistance in selecting a major, career exploration, writing a resume, job interview strategies, and ultimately with job search and placement. Its primary goal is to assist students in selecting a major and career field and ultimately strives to assist students in seeking employment before, during, or after graduation. Career Services and Placement offers on-campus recruiters, workshops, career fairs and presentations. It also provides information on careers, job trends, and future demand occupations.

Conflict Resolution

Tandy Hall 205H

882-7235

The conflict Resolution Center offers students confidential services that may help them solve their interpersonal conflicts in an objective and impartial environment. Through mediation, a process which promotes communication, the involved parties can explore alternatives for reaching a mutual agreement.

Disability Services

Camille Lightner Center

882-7374

Students with disabilities play an active and vital role in campus life. The disability services counselor works with each student individually to arrange for accommodations, volunteer note takers, adaptive technology training, sign language interpreting, recorded texts, and referrals to campus and community resources. The assistive lab is available for student use and is equipped with special computers and software to address the student's needs. A testing service is made available for students requiring testing accommodations.

All services are elective and must be requested by the students. To request services, students must register with the Counselor/Coordinator of Disability Services. It is advisable to make this contact well before or immediately after the semester begins.

International Student Services

Tandy Hall 205

882-8292

The International Student Services counselor assists international students in adjusting to their new environment and serves as a liaison between the foreign student, the University, and the community at large. Assistance is available regarding academic advisement, immigration, student employment, and referrals in the local community. Workshops are held during the semester to discuss a variety of issues and concerns common to all foreign students.

Personal Counseling

Tandy Hall 205

882-8292

UTB/TSC offers a variety of counseling services to students. In a confidential setting, students may address personal concerns. Individual, group and couples counseling is available. The personal counselors also provide several workshops and groups on topics such as eating disorders, women's issues, men's issues, self-esteem, assertiveness, parenting, stress management, and depression. The counselors are available for consultations with students, faculty, and staff and crisis management.

Project CIELO

Tandy Hall 205

882-8292

The C.I.E.L.O. program strives to increase retention through targeting academically "at-risk" students. The program provides intervention to students illustrating excessive absences, grades below passing standards, and/or unsatisfactory work assignments. C.I.E.L.O. provides confidential counseling with a personal counselor, a study skills assessment used to improve relevant study skills, a learning style assessment to assess a student's learning style: visual learner, auditory learner and/or kinesthetic learner to identify a student's studying strengths, and provides academic advising and registration assistance. Together, the student and the counselor develop a plan that will enable him/her to become more successful in college.

STING Success Mentoring program

North Hall 116

882-7200

The STING Peer Mentor Program is a semester-long freshman mentor and support program which provides an introduction to college life, campus resources, and learning at UTB/TSC. The program facilitates and enhances an incoming freshman's transition from high school to college by assigning a peer mentor to an NCB 1000 lab section. In each lab, a mentor meets with students on a weekly basis to deliver a series of presentations and foster the individual's development into a successful college student. Outside of the lab, mentors are available to work with students on an individual basis during office hours.

Vocational Students

Tandy Hall 205

882-8292

Students enrolled in vocational programs are eligible for day care and transportation assistance through funding provided by Carl Perkins. The vocational counselor also assists students with registration assistance, mentoring, career exploration, resume writing, and tutoring services.

Dean of Students

Student Union 1.20

882-5141

The role of the Dean of Students is to ensure that individual and collective student issues are properly addressed. Students are encouraged to have the most enriching college experience possible and prepare them with the leadership skills for life during their student careers and beyond UTB/TSC. This can be accomplished by offering meaningful educational, social, cultural, wellness and leadership programs which encourage self-fulfilling goals achievement and improve self-esteem. The Dean of Students Office provides a comprehensive offering of services and programs, and works with the offices of Student Activities, Student Publications, Student Health Services, Student Housing and Residence Life, Student Government, clubs and organizations and the Chess Program. The Dean of Students Office directly coordinates:

- Orientation
- Multicultural Programs
- Welcome Week
- BUS pass program
- Student discipline
- Volunteer programs

Student input is an important element and is strongly encouraged. For more detailed information, visit our website at <http://www.sa.utb.edu/DOS/>.

Orientation

Student Union 1.20

882-5115

Orientation is an informative and fun-filled day which will guide new students through the process of becoming a UTB/TSC student. Orientation is mandatory for all new students; a \$20 fee is assessed. Students are encouraged to bring family members to Orientation. For more information, contact the Dean of Students Office at the phone number above or visit the Dean of Students website at www.sa.utb.edu.

Student Publications (*The Collegian*)

Student Union 1.28

882-5143

Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday

E-mail: collegian@utb.edu

Students produce The Collegian newspaper, The Collegian Online and The Collegian News broadcast in the Office of Student Publications. The office provides professional guidance, a printing budget and other basic needs for student journalists. The senior editorial positions are chosen each year from an eight-member Student Publications Board, which includes at least two faculty members. Student editors are given latitude to select and cover topics of news and exercise final oversight on content, imposing the same restrictions found in the professional world such as avoidance of libel, invasion of privacy or copyright infringement.

Learning Assistance Center

North Hall 122

882-8208

Office hours: 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday

8:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday

The Learning Assistance Center serves as an academic resource for students, staff, and faculty. In a proactive manner, it responds to the needs of the population it serves and is committed to helping the general student population succeed in a college environment. Learning specialists and peer tutors assist students in many areas of study with emphasis on reading, writing, mathematics, language acquisition, test-taking and study skills.

The following is a brief outline of support services provided for students enrolled in credit-based courses:

Classroom presentations and workshops

Computer Lab with lab assistants

Supplemental Instruction

Language Lab

- English as a second language
- Spanish
- French (when requested by instructor)
- American Sign Language
- Conversational English and Spanish

Tutoring (by appointment or walk-in)

- Mathematics, English and Science
- Reading
- Statistics
- Writing (Brainstorming, APA, MLA, etc.)
- History
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Government
- Chemistry
- Geography
- Accounting
- Medical Terminology
- THEA
- GRE (tutoring and computer-assisted instruction)
- Other subject areas by request

Occupational Technology

- Reading, Writing, and Math
- Professional development skill development

Workshops

- THEA

- Watson-Glaser Critical Thinking Appraisal
- Mathematics and Chemistry Review Sessions, Reading, Writing
- Memory Techniques, Learning and Study Skills
- Relieving Test-Taking Anxiety
- Critical thinking and critical reading
- Writing Research Papers, APA and MLA

University Outreach

University Outreach is composed of several programs funded and supported by UTB and TSC, along with other affiliates.

The programs provide accessible, high quality, educational training and guidance to public school students and adults of the Lower Rio Grande Valley. It currently serves more than 1,200 participants in areas such as academics, tutorial, parental involvement, and economic self-sufficiency.

University Outreach advances economic and social development, enhances the quality of life, fosters respect for the community, provides for personal and career enrichment, and expands knowledge through academic and field trip experiences.

Through an integrated and comprehensive set of programs, individuals are identified and assisted in successfully completing high school and college requirements in preparation for their careers.

These programs include:

- Camp 2000: *Tandy 262 • 882-8243*
- Endowment Scholarship: *Tandy 206 • 882-8277*
- South Texas Engineering, Mathematics and Science (STEMS): *LHSB 1.816 • 882-5058*
- University Talent Search: *Tandy 262 • 882-8243*
- Upward Bound Classic: *Tandy 210 • 882-3846*
- Upward Bound Math & Science: *Camille Lightner Center • 882-7646*
- College Assistance Migrant Program (C.A.M.P.): *Camille Lightner Center • 882-7871*

C.A.M.P. Services

- Promotes higher education opportunities for low-income, first-generation migrant students
- Encourage academic achievement and increase college retention through comprehensive university intervention services
- Provide academic advising
- Personal counseling
- Career counseling
- Peer mentoring

Camp 2000 Services

- Parental workshops
- Job site visits
- Technology-based learning
- Community speakers
- Faculty workshops
- Career exploration

Endowment Services

- Presentations to public and private schools within the Southmost Union Junior College District
- Encourage students to take academically challenging courses
- Provide financial support for college tuition for students who obtain A's and B's in grade-level or above college prep courses
- Provide a transitional incentive between the school district school and Texas Southmost College

Mother/Daughter Program Services

- Positive self-image
- Career awareness
- Disseminate university standards
- Assistance with applications for admissions, financial aid & testing
- Improvement of academic skills
- Parental support

STEMS Services

- Awareness and career development in Science, Mathematics, Engineering and Medicine
- Improve study and test-taking skills
- Increase the level of preparation for SAT/ACT
- Improve critical and analytical thinking skills

University Talent Search Services

- Develop individualized education plans for participants
- Provide team-building and leadership training
- Expose students to the university community
- Provide academic and career related support
- Parental awareness and involvement
- Workshops and seminars to students, parents, and school personnel on the college admission and financial aid process

Upward Bound Classic Services

- Academic- and career-related support to complete high school and enter post-secondary programs
- Assistance in completion of bachelor's degree
- Summer academic bridge
- On-campus social and cultural activities
- Parent support

Upward Bound Math & Science Services

- Provide individual and specific tutoring sessions to all core curriculum subjects, cultural enrichment activities, and a parental involvement component
- Provide a six-week summer enrichment program
- Enroll students in dual/concurrent enrollment
- Assist students with high school graduation
- Assist students with the identification, selection and admission into the college of their choice
- Educate students on the college admissions and application process
- Facilitate students' exploration of career options
- Teach students test taking and study skills
- Teach students how to set goals and achieve them
- Facilitate students' personal growth and development
- Facilitate the development of communication and leadership skills

Veterans' Benefits

Tandy Hall 206

882-8980

U.S. veterans who are interested in applying for any educational benefits must contact the Veterans Affairs department located at the Office of Student Financial Assistance in Tandy 206 at least two months before the first day of class. Students will be advised of their eligibility, requirements for application for benefits, and the documents needed for the application process.

Students must be eligible under one of the following programs:

- Chapter 30 – Montgomery GI Bill-Active Duty
- Chapter 31 – Vocational Rehabilitation
- Chapter 32 – Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP)

- Chapter 35 – Survivors’ and Dependents’ Educational Assistance Program
- Chapter 1606 – Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve

If veterans apply for financial assistance, they are required to report expected benefits amount on their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Students receiving VA educational benefits must maintain the following cumulative Grade Point Averages to be making satisfactory progress:

Hours Attempted	Cumulative GPA	Minimal Last
1-30 Hours	1.60	2.00
31-59 Hours	1.75	2.00
60+	2.00	2.00

Hazlewood Act

Texas veterans who have no remaining Veterans Administration education benefits may be exempted from payment of tuition and fees excluding student service fees. To obtain the exemption of tuition under this act, an approved application must be on file with the Veterans Affairs Department of the Office of Student Financial Assistance three weeks prior to registration.

Also, the children of members of the armed forces who are or were killed in action, who die or died while in service, who are missing in action or whose death is documented to be directly caused by illness or injury connected with service in the armed forces of the U.S. may be aentitled to an exemption, if they are residents of Texas.

Student Health Services

Cortez Hall

882-8951

For after-hour emergencies, call Campus Police at 882-8233

Student Health Services provides the following services:

Free Services

- Nurse Practitioner, Registered Nurse, and Medical Assistant
- Basic First Aid: Non-emergency and injury stabilization
- Immunizations: T.d. MMR, Hepatitis B, TB test,
- Medical referrals
- Health screenings
- Health insurance applications
- Condom distribution
- HIV/AIDS testing and counseling (all testing and counseling is strictly confidential)

Fee for Services

Fees for these services are significantly lower than the fees charged in the medical community.

- Physical examinations/pap smear
- Family planning/birth control
- Diagnosis and treatment of minor illnesses and sexually transmitted diseases
- Pharmacy services
- Immunizations
- Flu Shots

Education and Health Programs

- Alcohol/drug abuse
- Human sexuality/reproductive health
- Safe Sex Counseling
- HIV/AIDS Education
- Family Crisis Intervention including abuse and sexual assault

- Nutrition/weight control

Basic laboratory testing is also available. Fees for services are significantly lower than the fees charged in the medical community.

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

SERVICES

Library

Library

882-8221

Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday

7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday

12 noon-10:00 p.m. Sunday

Hours subject to change during holidays and other special days

The Arnulfo L. Oliveira Memorial Library provides information and access to materials needed to fulfill the teaching, scholarship, and service goals of the university. The library houses more than 130,000 titles and has a substantial collection of newspaper and periodical titles in print, on microfiche and microfilm and via online services.

The library has a Circulation Department, a Reference Department with a computer lab, a Technical Service Department, an Interlibrary Loan Department, The Hunter Room for archival and genealogical research, study rooms, study areas and carrels, and copying machines to accommodate students. The library is also a depository for state and NASA publications.

The library offers outstanding computerized searching in all subject fields through more than 50 subscription databases, selected Internet sites, newspapers and journals. The Reference Department also provides individual and group tours and demonstrations of library resources in English or Spanish. Through a cooperative computer arrangement, students, faculty and staff also have access to libraries at other institutions.

Distance Education

SETB 2.312

882-6696

UTB/TSC provides education for learners who are unable to attend campus classes, or who prefer the advantage of learning where they work, in their homes and at other distant sites. Courses are provided through a variety of delivery systems. These include Interactive Video where two or more live classrooms may be connected via two-way closed circuit television. Or, some classes are delivered through broadcast television and may be watched at home either at scheduled broadcast times or with delayed videotape recordings.

The Office supporting faculty by providing design and development of new courseware for faculty and coordinates the delivery of instruction through a variety of media such as Interactive Video, broadcast TV programs and Internet-based instruction. Internet-based instruction is provided both at UTB/TSC and through the UT System supported TeleCampus program. Courses range from first-year English composition to complete masters’ degrees in Educational Technology and Business Administration.

Course schedules and other Distance Education information may be obtained through the UTB/TSC web site at www.de.utb.edu, or by calling 882-7600 or toll free at 866-654-4555.

Information Resources

Library 211

882-7453

The Information Resources Office supports and strengthens the institution's teaching, learning and research activities by providing faculty, staff and students with services and technologies that enable access to and use of information resources

Media Services

South Hall 125

882-8963

The Media Services Office assists academic, administration and staff by serving as a resource for technical and creative expertise in the field of audio-visual technology, by providing production services in the areas of satellite teleconferences, videotaping services, audio reproduction and photography. Services are extended to furnish instructional audio-visual equipment and instructional videos.

Services for students include making transparencies at no charge, but students must provide transparency film; instructional equipment training for classroom presentation at no charge; video viewing rooms at no charge; and video and audio dubbing for a fee.

Scheduling and Course Inventory Office

Library 234

882-6561

The Scheduling and Course Inventory Office schedules all Academic Affairs general-purpose classrooms and maintains an accurate course inventory. Duties include classroom inventory, faculty office inventory, produce course schedule reports, monitor course schedule enrollment to secure appropriate classrooms size, schedule special events, and manage all aspects of course inventory and reporting under the University's SIS.

CAMPUS LIFE

Student Housing and Residence Life

The Village at Fort Brown

548-8794

The mission of Student Housing and Residence Life is to promote a positive living and learning experience for the residents and housing staff at UTB/TSC. We will serve our students and UTB/TSC in a professional manner with high quality service, facilities, and programs that support our students' educational experience and the objectives of UTB/TSC. We offer:

- Clean, comfortable, affordable, safe and well maintained facilities;
- Competitively priced student housing;
- Developmental, social, and educational programs for professional and personal growth;
- Residential, educational, and workplace communities that reflect and value diversity;
- Support, training, and maintain a working professional staff of the highest caliber;
- Access to information and technology;
- Timely and quick responses to the needs of our students;
- Sincere appreciation for our students;
- An educational environment with learning communities and positive university experiences.

Intramurals/Recreation

Kinesiology Department, Gymnasium

882-8290

Extended office hours to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

A varied intramural program is provided to all students, faculty, and staff. Intramural tournaments are conducted in every individual, dual and team sport offered in the Kinesiology Department classes. There are no entry fees for participants and awards are given to first and second place winners. The intramural schedule is posted on signs around campus and listed in the calendar of events.

The Manuel Garza B. Gymnasium is open for student recreational use whenever there are no classes, intramurals, athletic department activities or special events scheduled in the facility. This includes the weight room, annex, and main gym floor. Recreation times vary, but generally are from 2:00 to 4:15 p.m. Monday through Thursday, from 7:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Friday, and from 8:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. on Saturday during the Fall and Spring semesters.

Information on summer hours and additional recreational hours may be obtained by calling the Kinesiology Department.

Four tennis courts are available for recreational use whenever there are no classes, intramurals, athletic department activities or special events on the courts. The tennis courts are generally available from 2:00 to 11:00 p.m. daily.

Office of Student Activities

Student Union 2.28

882-5111

The Office of Student Activities provides various opportunities to develop skills needed by students to succeed in college and in life by helping them identify and pursue their educational purpose, strengthen their character, overcome life's obstacles, and maximize their potential. More than 100 campus organizations are registered to give students the opportunity to develop leadership and organizational skills. The Campus Activities Board (CAB) coordinates various events such as Join A Club Day, Casino Night, Halloween Havoc, Posada, Mr. Amigo Ceremony and much more. The Office of Student Activities also sponsors recreational sports tournaments and leagues in various sports such as flag football, soccer, softball, basketball and more. Students are encouraged to take advantage of the programs offered. Students can view a calendar of events at the Student Activities link on the Student Affairs website at www.sa.utb.edu. For more information please call (956) 882-5111.

Student Government Association

Student Union 1.16

882-5033

The Student Government Association (SGA) is the voice of the students at UTB/TSC. The SGA meets at least twice a month in general meetings that are open to the public. The organization is led by six executive officers and representatives by college/school and by class. Officers and representatives are elected annually in April for the next school year. Elections are also held in September for any positions that are not yet filled. Students are encouraged to participate by holding a position in the organization or attending meetings regularly.

Student Union Services

Student Union 1.19

882-5144

The new Student Union and El Comedor Services are open for student use

from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Friday during the Fall and Spring semesters.

The TV Room is open to students during the Fall and Spring semesters during regular office hours. Stations available include ABC, CBS, NBC, PBS, XHAB, and channels on the Expanded Basic Cable.

Student Organizations

Students are strongly encouraged to become active in all campus activities and to become part of the active student body by participating in student organizations. The following list represents the registered student organizations on campus.

Departmental/Professional:

- Adult Education Club
- Advocates for Young Children
- Associate Degree Nursing Association (ADNA)
- Automotive/Diesel Mechanics Club
- Computer Technology Association (CTA)
- Criminal Justice Association
- Engineering Graphics Club
- English Advocates English Club
- Kinesiology Club
- Licensed Vocational Nursing Student Organization (LVNSO)
- Mathematicians Interested in Technology
- Music Club
- Society for Human Resource Management Club
- Student Council for Exceptional Children
- Student Film Club
- Students in Free Enterprise
- Young Masters Art Guild Art Club
- Accounting Society
- Brownsville Association for Education of Young Children (BAEYC)
- ASPIRE Club
- Behavioral Sciences Collegiate Organization
- Bilingual Student Leadership Association
- Chemical Agents
- Continuing Education Student Association
- Drafting and Engineering Club
- Gorgas Science Society
- Graduate Student Association
- Student Government Association
- Tip of Texas Nurses Association
- Vocational Nursing Student Organization

Social Greek Organizations

- Los Hermanos Unidos Latino Fraternity
- Sigma Psi Delta Sorority
- Tau Kappa Gamma Fraternity

Honorary:

- Alpha Chi
- Phi Theta Kappa

National Professional Societies:

- Alpha Beta Chi – Education Society
- Alpha Kappa Psi – Professional Business Fraternity
- Kappa Delta Pi – International Education Honor Society
- HOSA – Health Occupation Student Association
- Phi Alpha Theta
- Pi Sigma Alpha

- Sigma Delta Pi

Religious:

- Baha'i Club
- Baptist Student Union
- Chi Alpha
- Hearts on Fire
- Whatcha Looking For – Pentecostal Ministries
- Catholic Campus Ministry
- Lutheran Student Fellowship
- Re'Joy'ce in Jesus CF
- Wesley Foundation

Special Interest:

- Border Cultures
- Club Cultural Latinoamericano
- Collegian Press Club
- Disability Awareness Club
- Gay/Lesbian Student Association
- Republican Club
- Scorpio Yearbook
- Tizatlán Mexican Folkloric Dance Company Ballet Folkorico Tizatlán
- Weightlifting Club
- Young Democrats
- Veteran's Club
- Alliance Francaise Student French Club
- ANIME Viewing Club
- Cinema Club
- Edelweiss German Club
- Guitar Connection
- International Student Organization
- Pre Law Organization
- Rotaract Club
- Student Activities Programming Board
- Scorpion Scholar Club
- Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers
- Society of University Translators and Interpreters
- STEMS Mentor Club
- Students Towards Excellence in Medicine
- Texas Musical Educators Association Chapter at UTB/TSC
- Toast Masters Club

Sports:

- Tennis Club
- Martial Arts Club
- Lords and Ladies Fencing
- Athletic Booster Club
- Men's Volleyball Club
- Soccer Club

For more information, contact the Student Activities Office at 882-5143.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Patron of the Arts

Patron of the Arts features live musical concerts, art and sculpture exhibitions, and literary events. Internationally renowned performers and artists as well as talented area performers and artists are featured. Faculty and students also perform. An annual family membership is also available. For more information, contact the Fine Arts Department at 882-8247.

Arts & Entertainment

The Fort Brown Memorial Center established the Arts and Entertainment Season, which will bring 6-8 events throughout the academic year at the Jacob Brown Auditorium. The season represents a full spectrum of entertainment – from ballet and modern dance to standup comedy to musical theatre to children’s theatre – from gifted local, national, and international performers. For more information, contact the Fort Brown Memorial Center at 882-7945.

Rancho Del Cielo Biology Station Program

Rancho del Cielo is located about 70 miles south of Ciudad Victoria in Tamaulipas, Mexico. Situated in the Sierra Madre at an elevation of 3,750 feet, this area has for decades attracted scientists from all over the world.

They have often described this area as “unique,” a strong and accurate word. Rancho del Cielo is an enclave at the crossroads of many North and South American plant and animal species. The tropical and temperate mixture found there is believed to be a “relic” forest similar to those once covering North America 30-50 million years ago. It is an area of great diversity. Eight out of the 12 ecological zones of Mexico are represented within a radius of 12 kilometers.

Special Populations

Through various state and federally funded programs, qualified vocational students may receive day care assistance, tutoring, special course work in basic skills, ESL classes and career development workshops. Students who may be eligible include economically or educationally disadvantaged minorities, single parents, displaced homemakers, displaced workers, handicapped students, limited English speakers and students seeking nontraditional career training.

For more information, visit with a vocational counselor at the Counseling Center.

Tech Prep Program

Tech Prep is an educational process that blends the best of academic and vocational skills training education and produces workers who possess the skills needed for America to remain competitive in a global economy – workers who have both academic and technical “know-how” and are able to apply their learned skills in a the modern workplace of today and tomorrow. Tech Prep curriculum (developed collaboratively between public schools, colleges, business and industry) teaches students to think critically and perform specialized skills, but also fosters a desire for continuous and lifelong learning.

UTB and TSC programs implementing Tech Prep curriculum allows students earned credits toward a Certificate in eight skills areas, Certificates

in 12 programs of study and/or an Associate in Applied Science degree in 18 workforce programs.

Tech Prep students can earn up to 12 semester credit hours for work successfully completed in high school at no charge to the student. Students enrolled in the Tech Prep program at their high school will have a symbol “A” placed next to the courses appearing on the transcript they took in high school which may be applied toward meeting the requirements for the appropriate certificate or degree upon enrolling at UTB/TSC.

“The Challenge for Excellence” TSC Endowment Scholarship Program

The TSC Endowment Scholarship is a program designed to establish scholarship funds for the students in the TSC district; this includes regionally accredited public and private schools in Brownsville, Los Fresnos, and Port Isabel. The “Challenge for Excellence” Award program is 48 semester credit hours which is spread out over four consecutive semesters excluding summer sessions.

To qualify for the Endowment Scholarship, the high school student must:

- attend an eligible high school in the qualifying districts for at least three years;
- graduate from an eligible high school in the qualifying districts;
- graduate from the Recommended Curriculum or the Distinguished Achievement Curriculum, as defined by the school district;
- graduate with a cumulative “B” average or better, and
- enroll in college-level courses.

For the student to receive the full 48 semester credit hours, the student must also:

- enroll immediately after high school graduation;
- attend TSC full-time (12 semester credit hours or more);
- maintain a minimum cumulative 3.0 (“B”) grade point average each semester, and
- progress through four consecutive semesters enrollment at UTB/TSC (excluding summer sessions).

When students graduate, high school counselors must send a completed Endowment Scholarship Form with the school’s official seal and signature to the Office of Student Financial Assistance.