

TO: All Faculty

FROM: C. Mauli Agrawal, Ph.D., P.E. 
Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

SUBJECT: UTSA's Response to Undergraduate Students Impacted by Harvey

DATE: August 31, 2017

In recent days, several students planning to attend universities in areas hard-hit by Hurricane Harvey have contacted One-Stop Enrollment and Academic Advising with hopes of enrolling at UTSA starting this fall term. Vice President for Student Affairs Samuel Gonzales and I have approved an expedited process to assist these students with the admission process, academic advising and enrollment through census date, September 7, 2017. We anticipate 30-40 students will join UTSA between now and that time.

Late registration ended August 30, 2017. Beginning today, August 31, 2017, students normally would have to get course-add forms signed by faculty, department chairs, and deans prior to enrolling in a course. Instead, and similar to our response with students impacted by Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Academic Advising will work individually with these students to select courses applicable to their intended major and guide them through the registration process, including enrolling them in classes. This will eliminate additional challenges for these students by not requiring signatures at all levels.

Please be aware that new students may be enrolled in your classes beginning today, August 31, 2017. We ask that you work with each student to help them be successful in their classes during this difficult and stressful time. Also, should you have an attendance requirement or policy in place (e.g., COLFA attendance/faculty-initiated drop policy), we ask that these students not be penalized for joining your course late.

Additionally, some current UTSA students have been activated as part of the Texas National Guard in response to Hurricane Harvey. These students are required to deploy with their respective military units as a part of their service. Because the situation in our state is ongoing and damage has not been fully assessed, the duration of these deployments may be unknown. We ask for your understanding as these students help with humanitarian efforts, and to work with them to allow them to make up any coursework they may miss.

As a university, we are committed to helping students reach their educational goals, and I very much appreciate your support and flexibility particularly as Texas recovers from this disaster.