

# A PARENT'S GUIDE

*to the* UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS



in english

en español

**UNT**<sup>®</sup>

EST. 1890

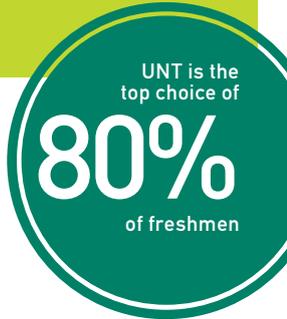
# WELCOME

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## WELCOME TO THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS

This is such an exciting time — not only for your family, but the UNT family of faculty and staff who are committed to your child’s success. This guide is a great source of information about UNT and is where you can learn more about everything from academics and support services to scholarships and security.

We’re so happy your student has chosen to learn, grow and achieve at UNT.



### UNT PROVIDES THE BEST BACHELOR’S DEGREE EXPERIENCE IN TEXAS.

The pursuit of knowledge and the personal growth of our students through an innovative, collaborative learning environment is at the center of UNT’s mission. UNT’s 218 high-quality degree programs in 12 colleges and schools attract some of the best and brightest students.

UNT has been named a Best in the West college by *The Princeton Review* for six years and one of *America’s 100 Best College Buys*® for 19 consecutive years.

Come see us! Our student-led tours are the best way to experience UNT and get all your questions answered. To schedule a tour, call 940-565-4104 or visit [tours.unt.edu](http://tours.unt.edu).

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# ACADEMIC SUCCESS

UNT students learn in an environment that combines academic excellence, hands-on training and thought-provoking research. We give students an educational experience that challenges and enriches them and gives them the power to compete with anyone, anywhere.

UNT's Honors College is the largest of its kind in the region.

## Choosing a major

UNT offers 99 bachelor's, 83 master's and 36 doctoral degrees so your student can find the degree they need. In most degree programs, students get considerable hands-on experience in their field before graduation. Employers appreciate UNT graduates because they're critical thinkers prepared to begin contributing their first day on the job. Explore our list of majors at [unt.edu/majors](http://unt.edu/majors).

## Honors College

Students of all majors can apply for the Honors College, which enhances the academic experience of talented, motivated and well-prepared students. Honors College benefits include smaller class sizes, opportunities to conduct ground-breaking research with leading faculty members and access to Rawlins Hall, our exclusive residence for scholars. Learn more at [honorsadvantage.unt.edu](http://honorsadvantage.unt.edu).

## STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)

Through pioneering programs and innovative initiatives, UNT is dedicated to addressing America's critical workforce shortages in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. UNT is helping students find pathways to success in STEM fields through new teaching approaches and research opportunities. Learn more at [research.unt.edu](http://research.unt.edu).

## Faculty excellence

Our faculty members are among the ranks of Fulbright Scholars; Grammy, Pulitzer and Emmy nominees; National Academy members; National Science Foundation and American Council on Education fellows. UNT faculty and staff are friendly and willing to help your student succeed. Many faculty members serve as mentors, sponsor student organizations, invite students to participate in their research projects and get involved with campus matters of importance to students.



# ACADEMIC SUPPORT

## UNT LEARNING CENTER

tutoring | reading labs  
study skills labs | speed reading  
[learningcenter.unt.edu](http://learningcenter.unt.edu)

## GENERAL ACCESS COMPUTER LABS

14 labs | 6 with macs  
one 24-hour lab  
2 labs with laptop checkout

## UNT CAREER CENTER

internships | on-campus jobs  
job shadowing program  
career counseling  
[careercenter.unt.edu](http://careercenter.unt.edu)

## MATH LAB

for students who need help with one of the common speedbumps on the road to academic success  
[math.unt.edu/mathlab](http://math.unt.edu/mathlab)

## 6 LIBRARIES 7 MILLION ITEMS

print and digital libraries  
innovative programs and services  
[library.unt.edu](http://library.unt.edu)

## UNT CENTER for LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

leadership workshops & classes  
career skill-building services  
[studentaffairs.unt.edu/center-leadership-and-service](http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/center-leadership-and-service)

UNT offers 144  
academic organizations and honor societies.

# AFFORDING COLLEGE

Your child's college education is one of the best investments you'll ever make. The Federal Reserve Bank of New York recently reported that the value of a bachelor's degree for the average graduate has held near its all-time high of about \$300,000. Furthermore, bachelor's degree holders can expect to earn 78 percent more over the course of a lifetime than those with only a high school diploma. Simply put, a college degree pays off.

## How do we afford it?

There are a number of options available to you and your student to manage college costs. About 74 percent of UNT students receive financial aid and scholarships totaling \$320 million annually. In addition to financial aid and scholarships, options include:

- Student employment: UNT employs 3,200 students through the Career Center's Eagle Network.
- Grants: Many federal, state and institutional grants are available at UNT. Grants are need-based and no repayment is required. Learn more at [financialaid.unt.edu/grants](http://financialaid.unt.edu/grants).
- Loans: Loans are available at low interest rates to students and parents of dependent students. Learn more at [financialaid.unt.edu/loans](http://financialaid.unt.edu/loans).
- Tuition and Fees: UNT offers two tuition plans, each with the option to pay in installments. You also may be eligible for an exemption or waiver available for veterans and their dependents. Learn more at [studentaccounting.unt.edu/payments](http://studentaccounting.unt.edu/payments).

## Eagle Express Tuition Plan

Tuition costs are a big part of planning for college. UNT offers you an innovative solution to rising college costs with our Eagle Express Plan, which is the most popular alternate tuition program in Texas. Eagle Express is more than a tuition plan, it's a plan for success.

- UNT's Eagle Express plan locks in total academic costs for four years.
- It pays to graduate on time. Your student can save up to \$3,000 in their last 15 hours (typically the last semester) by graduating in four years, and if your student qualifies for the statewide on-time \$1,000 tuition rebate, the savings total \$4,000.
- Your student will save time and money by knowing academic costs up front, graduating on time and earning a full-time salary sooner.
- More than half of incoming freshmen choose the Eagle Express Tuition Plan, but a traditional plan also is available.

## Staying on track

To help your student stay on track to graduate in four years without taking extra courses, UNT offers an online degree audit which lists all of your student's degree requirements in a graphic-friendly format. Learn more at [registrar.unt.edu](http://registrar.unt.edu).

## Applying for financial aid

You might be surprised to find out how much financial aid you can receive, regardless of your family's income level. You won't know what you're eligible for unless you apply! The best time to apply for financial aid is in January of the year your student plans to enroll. You must apply early to receive first consideration for awards. The first step is completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov).

## Scholarships

UNT annually awards more than \$36 million in scholarships to help finance student education. The first step is to ensure your student is fully admitted to UNT. Next, they'll need to complete and submit UNT's General Scholarship Application. Finally, make sure they submit a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), since many scholarships require the application. Learn more at [financialaid.unt.edu/scholarships](http://financialaid.unt.edu/scholarships).

Your student may apply for scholarships funded by the university, specific academic departments, alumni and staff members. Merit-based, need-based and athletic-based scholarships are usually available. Examples include:

- UNT Meritorious Scholarships for National Merit Scholars
- Terry Foundation Scholarships
- UNT Excellence Scholarships
- Academic Scholarships
- Department-sponsored Scholarships

# FINANCIAL SUCCESS

UNT's Student Money Management Center provides education and services to help your student manage money and gain financial independence.

► STUDENTS LEARN HOW TO:

**MANAGE CREDIT**    **ANALYZE JOB OFFERS AND BENEFITS PACKAGES**

**LIVE WITHOUT MOM AND DAD'S FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

# SUPPORT FOR SUCCESS

According to the National Survey of Student Engagement, more students are happy with their educational experiences at UNT, as compared to peer institutions, and would attend the university again.



## Transition programs

UNT wants to help your student make new friends and adjust to college life from the moment he or she steps foot on campus. Some of the programs we offer are:

- Mean Green Move-In, an annual event marking the opening of the residence halls
- First Flight, UNT's official welcome week program
- Eagle Camp, an optional three-day experience for incoming students to make new friends and learn more about life at UNT. Learn more about these fun freshman programs at [transition.unt.edu](http://transition.unt.edu).

## Activities

Students can choose from 400 organizations on campus; go to athletic events, concerts, plays and art exhibitions; attend lectures, film festivals and other cultural events; compete in recreational sports leagues; and work out in the Pohl Recreation Center. That's one of the chief advantages of attending a large university like UNT — there's something for everyone!

One of the nation's top 50 colleges graduating ethnic minority students, UNT works hard to create a welcoming environment and secure a reputation as a diverse institution. Many student organizations celebrate ethnic and racial heritage or support career networks such as the Hispanic Business Student Association and the National Association of Black Journalists. Learn more at [edo.unt.edu](http://edo.unt.edu).

## From athletics to the arts

For many, intercollegiate athletics is essential to the university experience not only for your child, but for you! Conference USA football and 16 NCAA Division I sports provide excitement and build affinity.

- With seating for 31,000 fans, UNT's Apogee Stadium provides the ultimate game day experience. The Mean Green competes in Conference USA with Louisiana Tech, Rice and UT-San Antonio.
- About 1,000 concerts a year are presented by UNT's world-renowned College of Music. Art exhibits, theatre and dance performances, films and other activities also abound.

## Campus security

UNT police patrol the campus 24 hours a day, seven days a week, in vehicles, on bicycles and on foot. At night, the campus is well lit, and students may ride the night shuttle, request pick up from e-ride or call the UNT police for an escort, if needed. Sixty-nine emergency phones located throughout campus provide direct access to the campus police dispatcher at all times.

Students should sign up for the Eagle Alert system for information about campus closings and emergency situations affecting the safety and well-being of people on and around the campus. Voice and text messages are sent to all students who have provided current contact information. Learn more at [unt.edu/eaglealert](http://unt.edu/eaglealert).

### Health care

UNT's Health and Wellness Center offers a full-service primary care clinic, with licensed physicians, nurse practitioners and nurses to manage your student's care and treatment.

- Basic diagnostic x-rays and lab testing
- Pharmacy
- Women's care exams and education
- Immunizations and allergy injections
- College Optical Express, the first optical office located on any college campus in the state of Texas. Learn more at [healthcenter.unt.edu](http://healthcenter.unt.edu).
- The UNT Dental Office, which opened in Spring 2015, provides dental services to the UNT community.

### Emotional support

The emotional well-being of your student is just as important as academic success. UNT's Counseling Center offers professional counseling, mental-health screenings, educational programs and self-help resources. Learn more at [studentaffairs.unt.edu/](http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/)

*counseling-testing-services.*

### Housing

UNT offers 15 residence halls, each with its own study groups, advisors, social life and personality. To meet the needs of our growing residence hall community, an additional Honors College residence called Rawlins Hall opened in Fall 2015.

Our living-learning communities, called REAL communities, bring students together who share the same major or interest. REAL communities include engineering, jazz studies, business, art and design and journalism. Freshmen who live on campus make friends easier and have higher GPAs than freshmen who live off campus.

*Learn more at [communityandlifesci.unt.edu](http://communityandlifesci.unt.edu)*

**12 REAL COMMUNITIES**  
call UNT home

### Dining

Students can eat balanced meals at any of UNT's five residence hall cafeterias. Meal plans are available and cafeterias are open at least 12 hours a day. A staff dietitian is available to work with students with food allergies or other needs.

Our cafeterias provide many nutritious selections including Mean Greens, a completely vegan dining option; Champs, which offers a wide selection of freshly made pizzas; and West Dining Hall, which specializes in southern home-style cooking. Learn more at [dining.unt.edu](http://dining.unt.edu).

UNT DINING SERVES

**2.2** MEALS  
**MILLION** ANNUALLY



### Transportation

Because of the many transportation options available, it is not necessary for your student to have a car while attending UNT. Students can use UNT Shuttle, e-ride, Hertz on Demand or Denton County Transportation Authority services to get around. Learn more at [unt.edu/transit](http://unt.edu/transit).

- Denton County Transportation Authority's (DCTA) A-train is a 21-mile corridor running from downtown Denton to Carrollton where passengers can connect to DART's Green Line at the Trinity Mills Station. Learn more at [dcta.net](http://dcta.net).
- If your student plans to bring a vehicle to campus, there are several parking permit options available. The parking fee is not included in tuition and fee costs. Learn more at [unt.edu/transit](http://unt.edu/transit).

### Students with disabilities

More than 900 students are served through the Office of Disability Accommodation, which helps students with hearing, mobility or vision loss; learning disabilities and brain injuries; cancer; and other conditions that are not obvious. Learn more at [disability.unt.edu](http://disability.unt.edu).

# PARENT SUCCESS

UNT has an office solely devoted to parent programs, offering many ways for parents to get involved in their student's college experience. One of the first things you can do to ensure your student makes a successful transition to college is to attend Parent Orientation, which is held concurrently with each Freshman Orientation session.

Parent Orientation allows you to meet faculty and administrators, become familiar with the campus and share ideas on your child's entry into college, even if this is not your first child to attend. Learn more at [transition.unt.edu/orientation/parent.html](http://transition.unt.edu/orientation/parent.html).

To remain active in your student's accomplishments and build friendships with other parents, consider joining the UNT Parent Association. Benefits include a Family Weekend discount, a monthly e-newsletter and a 10 percent discount on UNT Bookstore items. Learn more at [transition.unt.edu/parents/association.html](http://transition.unt.edu/parents/association.html).





# UNT BY THE NUMBERS

WE OFFER  
**400**  
student  
organizations

**1,400**  
TALENTED  
faculty members

**16**  
NCAA  
DIVISION I  
SPORTS

**380,000**  
ALUMNI

# STILL HAVE QUESTIONS? LET US HELP.

[unt.edu/parentsguide](http://unt.edu/parentsguide)

Parent Programs  
1155 Union Circle #311274  
Denton, TX 76203-5017

[parents@unt.edu](mailto:parents@unt.edu)  
940-565-4198

 join us at [facebook.com/northtexas](https://facebook.com/northtexas)

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