



University Of Texas At Tyler Innovation
Academy, Tyler Campus
T-STEM Renewal Application
2018-2019

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Background

District Affiliation

UT TYLER INNOVATION ACADEMY

DC #: 212804

Region: 07

Mailing Address (Line 1): 3900 UNIVERSITY BLVD INGENUITY CENTER

Mailing Address (Line 2):

City, State, Zip: TYLER, TX 75799

School Affiliation

UT TYLER INNOVATION ACADEMY - TYLER

CDC #: 212-804-001

Region:

Mailing Address (Line 1): 3900 UNIVERSITY BLVD

Mailing Address (Line 2):

City, State, Zip: TYLER, TX 75799

Academy Information

T-STEM Academy Name:

University Of Texas At Tyler Innovation Academy, Tyler Campus

What grade level range will your academy serve in the 2018-2019 school year?

6-12

Grade Level	Number of Students
6	50
7	50
8	25
9	50
10	25
11	25
12	25

Contacts

Business Partner

Affiliation: Discovery Science Place
Job Title: Executive Director
Full Name: Mr. Chris Rasure
Email: crasure@uttyler.edu
Phone Number: 903-533-8011

Superintendent

Job Title: Superintendent
Full Name: Dr. Jo Ann Simmons
Email: josimmons@uttyler.edu
Phone Number: 903-456-7832

Applicant

Job Title: University Faculty over Curriculum
Full Name: Dr. Michael Odell
Email: modell@uttyler.edu
Phone Number: 903-566-7132

IHE Liaison

Affiliation: University of Texas at Tyler
Job Title: Professor STEM Education/ Executive Director Ingenuity Center
Full Name: Dr. Michael Odell
Email: modell@uttyler.edu
Phone Number: 903-566-7132

Narratives

Model Implementation

Which T-STEM model does the district intend to implement at this time? Within these models, there are variations. For this purpose campus is defined as a CDC number not a physical location.

Stand Alone Academy - All students on the campus are enrolled in the T-STEM academy

Endorsements

Identify the current endorsements that are offered:

- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)
- Public Services
- Multi-disciplinary Studies

Industry Certificates

Identify all industry certificates offered to students.

Certificate	Description
Autodesk Inventor	Provided by autodesk to show expertise in CAD

Level One Certificates

Identify all level one certificates offered to students.

Certification	Description
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Level Two Certificates

Identify all level two certificates offered to students.

Certification	Description
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Key Elements for Success

Provide a link to the job description, roles of design team, leadership team, and advisory board.

<http://www.uttia.org/designation>

Provide a link to your mission statement.

<http://www.uttia.org/about/>

Provide a link to the final, signed, and executed MOU.

<http://www.uttia.org/designation>

Provide a link to the academy's master schedules.

<http://www.uttia.org/designation>

Provide a link to the academy's Student IGPs with CCRS and Performance Acknowledgement Plans.

<http://www.uttia.org/designation>

Provide a link to the academy's written admission policy and enrollment application.

<http://www.uttia.org/admissions/>

Provide a link to the academy's written recruitment plan including a timeline of recruitment and enrollment events, and recruitment materials for distribution at feeder schools and other appropriate locations in the community

<http://www.uttia.org/designation>

Provide a link to the academy's description of instruction practices.

<http://www.uttia.org/about/project-based-learning/>

Provide a link to the academy's STEM-focused extracurricular activities.

<http://www.uttia.org/designation>

Provide a link to the academy's internship and externship opportunities.

<http://www.uttia.org/designation>

Provide a link to the academy's Senior Capstone Project description.

<http://www.uttia.org/designation>

Provide a link to the academy's Student Portfolio Plans.

<http://www.uttia.org/designation>

Provide a link to the academy's Academic Literacy Plan.

<http://www.uttia.org/designation>

Provide a link to the academy's Assessment strategy.

<http://www.uttia.org/designation>

Free-Response

Describe how the Academy will recruit, support, and retain highly qualified teachers.

The UT Tyler Innovation Academy has developed a unique merit-based advancement system that has allowed us to recruit, support and retain highly qualified teachers.

Recruitment: Starting salaries are competitive with area school districts. In addition to salary teachers are in the Texas Teacher Retirement System and Social Security. We also provide free college tuition to all teachers, spouses, and dependent children. We also offer a health benefits package free to the teacher.

Support: Teachers receive 2 weeks of training beyond most school districts. We also follow the blueprint and provide additional planning periods and Professional Learning Community time. Each teacher has a dedicated instructional coach from the district.

Retention: Teachers have the opportunity to advance. In most districts teachers move up the pay scale based on years of service. We have modeled our system on the university professor model. We have different teacher ranks that include significant pay increases based on value added performance. The ranks are Teacher; Master Teacher; and Teacher Leader.

We have a 80% plus Retention Rate.

Describe the current STEM pathways available at the academy.

As a STEM Academy we place every student in a STEM Pathway. By code we have to offer the Multidisciplinary Pathway as well. We reserve the multidisciplinary pathway for transfer students who would be unable to complete an Engineering Pathway.

Our pathways start in 6th grade with PLTW Gateway. All students participate in Gateway. In addition all students complete 2 years of Computer Science.

Our current STEM Pathway is Engineering with Project Lead the Way as our curriculum. This is a CTE Pathway and students can also earn concurrent college credit for Introduction to Engineering and Visual Graphics at the university.

We also initiated the PLTW Biomedical program at UT Tyler. This will be a CTE Public Service Pathway for the Health Professions.

Describe how strategic alliances with industry partners and IHEs will support the Academy. The description should include details regarding the role of each IHE, business, and/or community partnership; along with parent/family partnerships and communication conventions with the Academy.

The Innovation Academy is a University Charter School located at each of the UT Tyler Campuses. As such our STEM Pathways, Dual Credit, and Advising is aligned with the UT Tyler STEM Majors. Unlike students in ECHS and most STEM Academies working with community colleges, we provide the Dual Credit Courses for STEM Majors, not the general core. This eliminates the issue of wasted college credits. We also provide students the opportunity to be "core complete" upon high school graduation. IA students are also eligible for scholarships through UT Tyler. UT Tyler will also offer seniors the opportunity to work in university Engineering and Health Science Labs as an internship experience.

Our current primary industry partner is the Discovery Science Place. The partner provides placements for student service projects and internships. There are limited Engineering opportunities but the Palestine IA has partnered with the NASA Columbia Balloon Facility for research projects and UCAR for participation in the GLOBE Program.

The Palestine IA has a seat on the school board and its own design team for the campus. The campus is also engaged in Rotary.

The Tyler IA communicates with parents through Parent Trainings, Parent Face to Face Conferences, Skyward Emails, Remind 101, Phone Calls, Bridge Meetings, monthly Parent Newsletters, and Haiku.

Describe the Academy's work-based and contextual learning in the curriculum.

The IA provides work-based learning experiences for students including facility visits, guest speakers, presentations, career information, and beginning in 2018-19 internships for seniors (first senior class). We have hired a coordinator for these experiences who will develop roles and responsibilities for supervisors, mentors, teachers, support personnel, and other partners

In addition, we provide students opportunities such as clubs, Career and Technical Student Organizations (TEAMS) , competitions, and special initiatives involving service learning.

As part of our academy model, our STEM pathways are aligned with UT Tyler STEM majors to assure seamless transition into their STEM major.

Describe the STEM-focused extracurricular activities (field experiences, clubs, and competitions) offered to students.

Each UT Tyler Innovation Academy offers a number of extracurricular activities and clubs. All campuses participate in the NASA sponsored GLOBE Student Research Symposium and competition. Each year we have competed and in May we will compete in the Southwest Regional competition in Boulder CO. We also compete in the Chevron Design Challenge in Houston, Vex Robotics Competitions, and UIL TEAMS competitions. The Tyler IA is engaged in TEAMS competition (going to nationals for the second year in a row), beginning a Key Club, Student Council, National Honor Society, and Debate.

In addition, all students visit colleges with an emphasis on UT Tyler. We want students to complete their undergraduate degree at UT Tyler. To build affiliation HS students take many of their dual credit courses at the UT Tyler main campus. Tyler students also have access to the university library and other university facilities.