



TEXAS A&M

HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

Why We Are Different

As an academic health-related institution, the Texas A&M Health Science Center possesses unique structural and academic characteristics that are part of its mission. These attributes differentiate it from traditional general academic universities.

The Texas A&M Health Science Center is an academic health-related institution that:

- stands independent as an academic health sciences center
- does not enroll first time, first year/freshman students
- has admission criteria which vary both among and within its six colleges
- utilizes lockstep curricula which do not generate credit hour data *per se*
- does not offer general education course work
- has class start dates which vary by program
- provides no on-campus housing
- does not provide career counseling or job placement services
- has few student organizations [e.g., clubs, service groups]
- sponsors no intercollegiate athletic programs
- charges tuition and fees that vary by academic program and year within program
- does not utilize student recruitment strategies
- rarely uses SAT/ACT scores for admission decisions
- exhibits low attrition and high graduation rates
- enrolls students who make career decisions prior to matriculation
- does not determine faculty workload by credit hour generation
- interprets “teaching” in distinctive and atypical contexts
- compensates faculty in unique ways
- has less than 20% of its annual graduates enrolled in undergraduate programs
- possesses an extraordinarily low student to faculty ratio
- finds CIP codes do not reflect faculty workload responsibilities and departmental affiliation
- rarely accepts transfer students [for undergraduate programs, student’s undergraduate work is evaluated for admission purposes but not entered on the Health Science Center transcript.]