

# 2023 TexPREP I

## Information Brochure

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### THE TEXAS PREFRESHMAN ENGINEERING PROGRAM CONDUCTED by THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS RIO GRANDE VALLEY

In Collaboration with the  
College of Science and Engineering

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June 5, 2023 - July 19, 2023

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: MAY 12, 2023**

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV), in cooperation with the College of Engineering and Computer Science, is one of several institutions in Texas offering the Texas Prefreshman Engineering Program, which provides educational enrichment opportunities for high ability 6th grade through 11th grade students interested in pursuing mathematics, science, or engineering careers.

Target students for TexPREP include female and other students who have been traditionally underrepresented in the sciences, mathematics, and engineering professions. All qualified and interested students are urged to apply. In selecting individuals for participation and otherwise in the administration of this project, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley will not discriminate on the grounds of race, creed, color, age, handicap, or national origin of any applicant.

Approximately 70 first year students from 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade in the Rio Grande Valley will be selected to participate in a six (6 1/2)-weeks summer program, and six (5) follow-up meetings for during the school year at UTRGV Brownsville Campus.

### ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

1. **Logic-** Statements, compound statements, truth tables, and rules of inference, quantifiers, paradoxes, and elementary set theory, Boolean algebra.
2. **Topics in Problem Solving-** Problems assigned in the above courses; mathematical formulation of word problems; selected problems in subject areas of number pre-algebra, geometry, trigonometry, physics, and engineering; practice SAT examinations.
3. **Introduction to Engineering-** Historical perspective, service to society, professional responsibilities, development of good study habits, spoken and written communication, technical calculations, use of electronic hand calculators, statistics and graphical analysis, the metric system, basic laws governing the behavior of physical systems and their applications to mechanical and electrical systems.
4. **Career Opportunities Awareness-** Invited speakers from local and state high technology industries will discuss current and future professional engineering scientific opportunities, their own work, and a biography of the professional development. Career counseling and such topics as resume preparation, college preparatory expectations, college financial aid.

## **SCHEDULE AND ACADEMIC STANDARDS**

All program participants will be expected to spend the hours between 1:00 p.m. and 5:50 p.m., Monday through Friday, engaged in class work, seminars, or research work from June 5, 2023, to July 19, 2023, and five-monthly follow-up meetings during the school year. There will be no classes on June 19, July 3 & 4.

Homework assignments and examinations will be given in all classes. All participants are expected to do the work required to maintain a C (75) average in the TexPREP Programs. Students who fail to maintain a 75 or better average will attend tutoring instead of competition on Fridays.

## **ATTENDANCE AND BEHAVIOR**

Absences from the program or other acts of misconduct will result in immediate dismissal from the program. Students with more than two absences which include excuse and unexcused will be advised he/she are no longer eligible for the TEA credit. The student at this time can withdraw from the program. The student can always waive the program at this point which means student can remain in the program but will not receive the TEA Credit or advise to the next year. Absences can be, but are not limited to: cheerleading, football, band practice, or vacations.

## **ACADEMIC CREDIT**

The Texas Education Agency has approved up to one innovative Career and Technical Educational (CTE) state elective credit to participating students who successfully complete the summer program. The TexPREP courses are not substitutes for any courses in the junior high school or senior high school program. For additional information concerning credit, a program applicant should consult his/her counselor.

## **PROGRAM COST**

For Summer 2023, the cost that must be covered either by the school district or by the student's parent is \$425 per student. Interagency contracts will be sent after March 1 to the offices of Superintendents from whose school districts TexPREP student applications have been received. These contracts must be signed for UTRGV to be able to invoice school districts that agree to cover the \$425 cost per student. Note that applicants from school districts that do not enter an Interagency Contract with UTRGV for TexPREP services will be invoiced directly for the \$425 and will not be able to attend the program if payment is not arranged. For any further questions concerning costs, please contact your school counselor, or call, UTRGV TexPREP Program 665-3794.

## **STAFF**

1. Dr. Jesus Gonzalez; TexPREP Director
2. Dr. Eleazar Marquez, TexPREP Assistant Director
3. Anna Ramos; TexPREP Program Coordinator
4. Teachers from various Valley high schools
5. Professors from the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
6. Undergraduate college students with majors in engineering, science, or math

## **FACILITIES**

All program activities and classroom sessions will be held in classrooms on the UTRGV campus.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

Parents are expected to provide transportation between home and UTRGV.

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY**

1. All program applicants must be current full-time sixth, seventh or eighth grade students.
2. Submit one nomination form from his/her mathematics teacher
3. Submit one nomination form from either science teacher or counselor.
4. All applicants must have a B or better from their first semester final average in their mathematics courses during their current school year.
5. All applicants must have a cumulative B or better from their first semester final academic course averages during their current school year.
6. Students must score a 70 or better on the Math Placement Exam provided by TexPREP in order to be considered an eligible applicant.
7. Each applicant must submit *a copy of grade reports for the current academic year.*
8. Each applicant must submit a short essay between 100 and 200 words, which presents the reasons for wanting to participate in the TexPREP program.

## **MANDATORY MATH PLACEMENT EXAM**

Every applicant must take the Math placement exam. Students will have two hours to complete the exam. Students should arrive 30 minutes before the exam to sign-in, bring a pencil. Only students who have submitted a completed application will be allowed to take the Math Placement Test. We recommend calling the office and verify if we have a complete application for the student prior to the test date. The test consists of basic math and pre-algebra.

**FAILURE TO ATTEND THE PLACEMENT EXAM** will be ground for rejection of the application. If you cannot attend any of the dates indicated, please contact the office, and decide to test. Students can take the test as soon as a completed application has been submitted to the TexPREP office. **THERE WILL BE NO TESTING AFTER MAY 13, 2023.**

## **STUDENTS / PARENTS:**

**It is your responsibility to be aware of the important deadlines in which you must submit your paperwork and attend the Math Placement Test date.**

**Please submit the entire application as one packet. An incomplete application will not be considered for selection to the program.**

## **SUBMIT APPLICATION TO:**

TexPREP Office  
The University of Rio Grande Valley  
ELCTR 164  
1201 W. University Drive  
Edinburg, TX 78539-2999  
Telephone:(956) 665-3794

# TEXAS PREFRESHMAN ENGINEERING PROGRAM (TexPREP)

June 5, 2023 – July 19, 2023

## TexPREP I APPLICATION

DEADLINE: MUST BE SUBMITTED ON OR BEFORE: May 12, 2023

**PART 1 – ONLY 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> GRADERS MAY COMPLETE THE APPLICATION – ALL QUESTIONS MUST BE ANSWERED. PLEASE PRINT IN BLACK OR BLUE INK. NO PENCIL. THE CURRENT REPORT CARD MUST BE ATTACHED TO THE APPLICATION. NO EMAIL OR FAX APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
LAST FIRST M.I.

STUDENT'S SCHOOL ID# \_\_\_\_\_ GENDER: \_\_\_\_\_ FEMALE \_\_\_\_\_ MALE

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
Where you receive your mail APT. #

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ CURRENT GRADE LEVEL: \_\_\_\_\_ 6<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ 7<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ 8<sup>th</sup>

ETHNICITY: \_\_\_\_\_ AMERICAN INDIAN \_\_\_\_\_ ANGLO \_\_\_\_\_ AFRICAN AMERICAN \_\_\_\_\_ HISPANIC \_\_\_\_\_ ASIAN \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER

FIRST GENERATION: \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO (Note: If parents did not graduate from a university, student is first generation)

NAME OF SCHOOL ATTENDING: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL DISTRICT (Circle One): Brownsville, Donna, Edcouch-Elsa, Edinburg, Harlingen, IDEA, La Feria, La Joya, Lasara, Lyford, McAllen, Mission, Monte Alto, PSJA, San Benito, San Perlita, Sharyland, South Texas, Vanguard Academy, Valley View, Weslaco, Other:

### **PART 2 - TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT OR GUARDIAN (Please No Mexico numbers)**

MOTHER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

FATHER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY AND WE CAN NOT REACH THE PARENT(S)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ RELATIONSHIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

### **PART 3 - PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT**

THE TUITION OF \$425 WILL BE PAID BY? (CHECK ONE) \_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_ PARENT

AS THE PARENT/GUARDIAN OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED STUDENT, I CERTIFY THAT MY CHILD HAS MY PERMISSION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PREP PROGRAM. HE/SHE IS COMMITTING TO ATTEND PREP MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY FOR EIGHT WEEKS. IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT HE/SHE WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE REGULATIONS OF THE PREP SITE WHICH HE/SHE WILL ATTEND.

PARENT'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_



**NOTE: Parents, please make a copy of this page or take a picture of this page after you select a date.**

**PART 5: CHECK ONE: MANDATORY MATH PLACEMENT TEST DATES**

A \_\_\_\_\_ MAY 18, 2023 (THURSDAY, 6:00PM): LIFE & HEALTH SCIENCES BIOLOGY 1.104(#7 IN MAP): PARKING LOT B2

**TEST INSTRUCTIONS:**

- **THERE WILL BE NO TESTING AFTER MAY 18, 2023.**
- **IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT AND PARENT TO INFORM THE TEXPREP OFFICE IF THE ABOVE DATES COINCIDE WITH UIL COMPETITIONS TO MAKE ADDITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND BE AWARE OF THE TESTING DATES.**
- **OUR OFFICE WILL NOT BE NOTIFYING YOU OF THE TEST DAY YOU SELECTED. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO COME ON THE DAY YOU SELECTED.**
- **PLEASE ARRIVE 15 MINUTES BEFORE THE TEST TIME SELECTED. IF YOU ARE NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE CAMPUS, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE A DAY BEFORE TO GET INSTRUCTIONS.**
- **WE WILL NOT BE IN THE OFFICE THE DAY OF THE EXAM TO ANSWER THE PHONE.**
- **PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE TO CONFIRM THAT WE RECEIVED THE APPLICATION ONE DAY BEFORE YOUR TEST DATE.**
- **WE WILL NOT TEST ANY STUDENT THAT WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED OR HAVEN AN INCOMPLETE APPLICATION.**
- **STUDENTS, PLEASE BRING A PENCIL.**

**PART 6: MANDATORY ORIENTATION**

**Parents will be having program orientation while the student is testing. Please accompany the student to the test.**

**PART 7: TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNSELOR**

- A. NAME OF TEXPREP COUNSELOR: \_\_\_\_\_
- B. COUNSELOR'S TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_
- C. NAME OF SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_
- E. E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_
- D. COUNSELOR'S COMMENTS SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL THE ENTIRE APPLICATION PACKET TO:

**TexPREP Office  
The University of Rio Grande Valley  
ELCTR 164  
1201 W. University Drive  
Edinburg, TX 78539  
956-665-3794**

**TEXAS PREFRESHMAN ENGINEERING PROGRAM (TexPREP)**

June 5, 2023, to July 19, 2023

**MATHEMATICS TEACHER NOMINATION FORM**  
**DEADLINE: MUST BE SUBMITTED ON OR BEFORE May 12, 2023.**

**DIRECTIONS: TO BE COMPLETED BY MATHEMATICS TEACHER.** All parts of the Application must be completed, or the application will not be considered. Incomplete or late applications will not be processed. Please type or print clearly.

APPLICANT'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CURRENT GRADE LEVEL: \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR EVALUATION OF THE STUDENT'S DESIRE TO WORK HARD AND TO LEARN DURING THIS SEVEN-WEEK PROGRAM IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT. WITHOUT THIS NOMINATION FORM, A STUDENT'S APPLICATION WILL BE CONSIDERED INCOMPLETE. PLEASE COMPLETE THE EVALUATION BELOW AS HONESTLY AS POSSIBLE. YOUR ASSISTANCE IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

A. PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE COLUMN FOR EACH CHARACTERISTIC LISTED.

CHARACTERISTIC	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE				
CONDUCT IN CLASS				
WILLINGLY PARTICIPATES IN CLASS				
RESPECTS OTHERS AND THEIR PROPERTY				
ABILITY TO FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS				
COMPLETES ASSIGNED WORK ON TIME				
ANALYTICAL THINKING SKILLS				
MATURITY				
PUNCTUALITY				
EAGER TO LEARN NEW THINGS				
STUDENT IS SUFFICIENTLY MOTIVATED TO COMPLETE A 6 1/2-WEEK SUMMER PROGRAM				

B. INDICATE CURRENT MATH COURSE (S) YOU ARE TEACHING THE APPLICANT: \_\_\_\_\_

C. PLEASE PROVIDE COMMENTS ON MOTIVATION, AMBITION, BEHAVIOR, PERSONALITY, ETC., WHICH YOU FEEL ARE PERTINENT TO THE STUDENT'S PERFORMANCE IN PREP. IF THE STUDENT FAILS TO SATISFY SOME ACADEMIC REQUIREMENT, PLEASE EXPLAIN IN DETAIL. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS MAY BE WRITTEN ON THE BACK.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRINTED NAME/TITLE

\_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE NUMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
TEACHER'S SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

June 5, 2023 to July 19, 2023

**OTHER SCHOOL OFFICIAL NOMINATION FORM**  
**DEADLINE: SUBMITTED ON OR BEFORE May 12, 2023.**

**DIRECTIONS: TO BE COMPLETED BY SCIENCE TEACHER OR COUNSELOR.** All parts of the application must be completed or the application will not be considered incomplete. Incomplete and late applications will not be processed. Please type or print clearly.

APPLICANT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CURRENT GRADE LEVEL: \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR EVALUATION OF THE STUDENT'S DESIRE TO WORK HARD AND TO LEARN DURING THIS SEVEN-WEEK PROGRAM IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT. WITHOUT THIS NOMINATION FORM, A STUDENT'S APPLICATION WILL BE CONSIDERED INCOMPLETE. PLEASE COMPLETE THE EVALUATION BELOW AS HONESTLY AS POSSIBLE. YOUR ASSISTANCE IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

A. PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE COLUMN FOR EACH CHARACTERISTIC LISTED.

CHARACTERISTIC	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE				
CONDUCT IN CLASS				
WILLINGLY PARTICIPATES IN CLASS				
RESPECTS OTHERS AND THEIR PROPERTY				
ABILITY TO FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS				
COMPLETES ASSIGNED WORK ON TIME				
ANALYTICAL THINKING SKILLS				
MATURITY				
PUNCTUALITY				
EAGER TO LEARN NEW THINGS				
STUDENT IS SUFFICIENTLY MOTIVATED TO COMPLETE A 6 1/2-WEEK SUMMER PROGRAM				

B. INDICATE CURRENT COURSE (S) YOU ARE TEACHING THE APPLICANT: \_\_\_\_\_

C. PLEASE PROVIDE COMMENTS ON MOTIVATION, AMBITION, BEHAVIOR, PERSONALITY, ETC., WHICH YOU FEEL ARE PERTINENT TO THE STUDENT'S PERFORMANCE IN PREP. IF THE STUDENT FAILS TO SATISFY SOME ACADEMIC REQUIREMENT, PLEASE EXPLAIN IN DETAIL. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS MAY BE WRITTEN ON THE BACK.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRINTED NAME/TITLE

\_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE NUMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
TEACHER'S SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE