

Diversity Statement

As the state's flagship health science center, UTHSC aims to improve human health through education, research, clinical care and public service. A variety of professional programs are offered through the six colleges that comprise the health science center: Allied Health, Dentistry, Graduate Health Sciences, Medicine, Nursing and Pharmacy. These programs prepare skilled and ethical health care professionals to meet the health care needs of the state of Tennessee and surrounding communities. To this end, the campus welcomes applications from women and men of all races, creeds, and cultures, who can pursue their studies in an environment that values intellectual curiosity, the pursuit of knowledge, excellence, compassion and integrity. Admission committees select highly qualified applicants from across Tennessee, seeking to enroll students from all regions of the state and from a variety of backgrounds, so as to provide access to a broad range of students and to serve the needs of the state's diverse communities for skilled health care providers.

Diversity Plan:

Admission criteria for professional programs will continue to emphasize academic excellence. However, in order to serve the needs of the state for health care professionals in rural, urban and suburban environments. Additional factors will also be considered and some preference will be given to applications from individuals who are underrepresented in the health care professions, from non-traditional students and from students who represent the first in their families to pursue higher education. Admissions officers will create metrics to address the goals of diversity and statewide access for students. Scholarship allocation will take into account both need and merit, with some additional preference given to the individuals targeted above in order to increase the access for the broadest possible range of students across the state.

Metrics for Diversity Plan:

The demographics of students will be tracked. We will monitor the composition of the student body with respect to race, gender, ethnicity, location of 'home town', family finances, family educational background. We will also track the success of all students, both with respect to graduation rate and with respect to their site of practice after graduation.