

'24-'25 UT STUDENT GOVERNMENT (SG)

UT Student Government (SG) (<u>@ut_sg</u>) is recruiting students from all years, majors, and backgrounds to join our New Member class! SG is the official voice of the student body, tackling important issues like mental health, food insecurity, voting accessibility, and more.

SG Agencies: SG has 11 distinct agencies, each focusing on specific student needs. As a New Member, you'll join one of these agencies to contribute to its mission. Learn about each agency's mission, leadership, and new member expectations below!

Who Can Apply: Any UT student, regardless of year, major, or background, is welcome to apply:)

Ranking Process: You will rank your top three agency choices. Typically, you'll join the highest-ranked agency that accepts you. Interested in joining two agencies? You can opt for dual involvement, allowing you to contribute to two areas!

Application Deadline (EXTENDED): The application will close on MONDAY, September 16th at 11:59 PM. Submissions will be reviewed on a rolling basis. There will be no interview rounds (except for the Longhorn Legislative Aides (LLA) Agency). Decisions will follow in late September for all agencies.

APPLICATION (CLOSED)

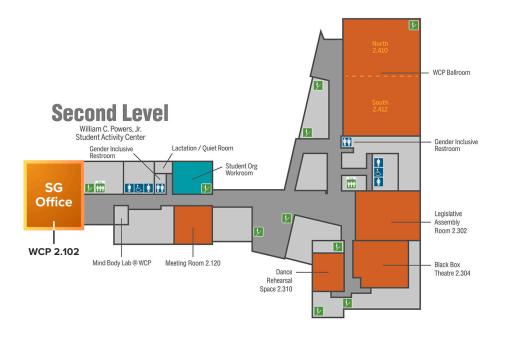
Have any application questions? Reach out to the Chief of Staff: Isaiah Rodriguez, <u>idr339@utexas.edu</u>

NEW Recruitment Events Dates:

- Monday, 9/9, 5-6pm, Info Session + Application Workshop (WCP 2.102)
- Tuesday, 9/10, 5-6pm, Agency Meet & Greet (WCP 2.102)
- Thursday, 9/12, 6-7pm, Info Session + Application Workshop (WCP 2.102)
- Monday, 9/16, 5-6pm, Final Application Workshop w/ Agency Directors (WCP

2.102)

Monday, 9/16, 11:59pm, New Member Application Due (On <u>HornsLink</u>)



Student Government Agency Overviews:

Community Engagement and Advocacy Agency (CEA)

Disabilities Inclusion Agency (DIA)

First-Year Leadership Organization (FLO)

Food Security Agency (FSA)

<u>Governmental Relations Agency (GRA)</u> <u>Hook the Vote Agency (HTV)</u> <u>International, Out of State, Transfer Student Agency (IOTSA)</u> <u>Longhorn Emergency Medical Service Agency (LEMS)</u> <u>Longhorn Legislative Aides Agency (LLA)</u> <u>Mental Health Agency (MHA)</u> <u>Women's Resource Agency (WRA)</u>

Community Engagement and Advocacy Agency (CEA)

Current Directors:

Tabitha Verdugo, <u>Tabithaverdugo@gmail.com</u> Ezinne Osemene, <u>osemene.ezinne@gmail.com</u>

CEA's Mission:

The Community Engagement and Advocacy Agency (CEA) enhances interaction between Student Government and the student body through organizing various activities, events, and social initiatives! We lead outreach efforts to increase Student Government's presence and engagement across campus life. Additionally, we aim to educate Student Government, campus, and student communities about the value of belonging and to promote advocacy initiatives. Follow CEA on Insta! <u>@utsgcea</u>

- Organize events, social gatherings, and activities that connect and engage Student Government with the student body.
- Encourage and facilitate student participation in events organized by Student Government agencies and branches.

Community Engagement and Advocacy Agency (CEA)

- Work with campus agencies, organizations, and external partners to promote the value of belonging and support advocacy initiatives, and amplify the impact of Student Government on campus life.
- Assist in efforts to educate Student Government, students, and campus communities about the importance of creating a welcoming environment.

Disabilities Inclusion Agency (DIA)

Current Directors:

Ashley Goforth, <u>ashleygoforth16@gmail.com</u> Hrishika Marakani, <u>hrishika.marakani@gmail.com</u>

DIA's Mission:

The Disabilities Inclusion Agency (DIA) serves as a platform for students with disabilities, amplifying their voices and advocating for a more inclusive, accessible campus. We are committed to breaking down barriers and ensuring that every student can thrive, regardless of ability! Follow DIA on Insta! <u>@utsg.dia</u>

- Create a welcoming environment by helping students with disabilities feel supported and included, ensuring that their voices are heard through active outreach and engagement.
- Amplify the voices of students with disabilities by advocating for policy changes that promote accessibility across campus. This involves representing their needs and concerns in discussions with university administration.

Disabilities Inclusion Agency (DIA)

- Educate the student body by organizing panels and workshops, like the Disability Advocacy & Accessibility in Student Organizations panel, which discusses how student organizations can better support accessibility, or Professor Roundtable which connects faculty with disability-centric experts to enhance classroom accessibility.
- Host impactful events such as the ASL Workshop, where students learn basic American Sign Language and how to communicate with deaf and hard-of-hearing peers. Additionally, events like Disability History Night celebrate the journey of disability advocacy at UT.
- Collaborate with campus and external organizations to strengthen advocacy efforts. This involves working closely with organizations like Disability and Access, University Health Services, and other key stakeholders to ensure support for students with disabilities.

First-Year Leadership Organization (FLO)

Current Directors:

Hibbah Amin, <u>hibbah.amin@gmail.com</u> Kiera Dixon, <u>kieradixon05@gmail.com</u>

FLO's Mission:

The First-Year Leadership Organization (FLO) is focused on building freshmen leaders through advocacy, service, and leadership! FLO helps first-year students become familiar with UT, Student Government, and the City of Austin through projects designed and led by our new members, fostering friendships and leadership skills. Follow FLO on Insta! <u>@ut_flo</u>

First-Year Leadership Organization (FLO)

New Member Expectations:

- Engage in the mentor/mentee program to connect with upperclassmen, past FLOers, and campus leaders, guiding you through your leadership journey.
- FLOers collaborate with peers on projects focused on community service, like sustainability initiatives, volunteering, and raising awareness for important causes. In the past, FLO participated in volunteer activities such as organizing clothing drives, raising funds for low-income schools, and volunteering with local nursing homes.
- Participate in leadership activities by hosting events, working with other student government committees, and building connections within and beyond the FLO community. FLO has hosted sustainable clothing swaps, creek and park clean-ups, and canned food drives for shelters.

Food Security Agency (FSA)

Current Directors:

Dat Duong, <u>datduong2025@gmail.com</u> Sweccha Guntamukkala, <u>swecchag@gmail.com</u>

FSA's Mission:

The Food Security Agency (FSA) promotes advocacy, action, and awareness of food insecurity on campus through gathering and sharing data on food insecurity and collaborating and advocating with key stakeholders on and off campus on expansion of food access for the student body. Follow FSA on Insta! @foodsecurityagency

Food Security Agency (FSA)

New Member Expectations:

- Raise awareness of food insecurity on campus, and assess the needs of students who are food insecure.
- Collect food for UT Outpost, and build and promote a database on free food events/resources on or off campus.
- Fundraise money through events, grant writing, and more for large food purchases.
- Organize monthly Community Food Distribution events in a centralized campus location. This event will involve giving out free food and drinks to students, garnering informal feedback on food insecurity, and collaborating with on campus organizations and groups.
- Build strategic partnerships with offices and departments such as University Housing and Dining, Longhorn Wellness Center, etc. FSA may coordinate with Austin-Travis County Food Policy Board, Feeding Texas, UT Outpost, Forty Acres Food Alliance, etc.
- Create the biennial State of Food Insecurity Study, analyzing qualitative and quantitative data, assisting with grant and abstract writing, and consolidating data collection efforts concerning food access in partnership with the Office of the Dean of Students.

Governmental Relations Agency (GRA)

Current Directors: Leah Tharakan, <u>leahtharakan@utexas.edu</u> Sara Allen, <u>saraallen@utexas.edu</u>

Governmental Relations Agency (GRA)

GRA's Mission:

The Governmental Relations Agency (GRA) raises student awareness and involvement in government at the city, state and federal level, to interact with governmental entities and policy groups. We also work in conjunction with the Student Government executive and legislative branches to relay the official voice of the student body as expressed in official Student Government policies, positions, and stances to government entities. Follow GRA on Insta! <u>@utsg.govrelations</u>

- Raise student awareness and involvement in government at the federal/state/city level and work in conjunction with the Executive and Legislative branches to represent students to government entities.
- Engage students through events, forums and town halls, with local, state, and federal officials. In the past, GRA has organized discussions with Texas House Representatives, addressing pressing issues like housing, campus safety, and education funding, or speakers such as City Council Members and Commissioners, who discuss urban development and public transportation.
- Provide a formal channel of communication between students, the federal government, the state legislature, city government, organizations, county officials, UT Parking and Transportation Services, and the University's Office of Governmental Relations and Federal Relations.
- Educate and mobilize the student body by hosting forums, town halls, and campaigns that address issues like public transportation, campus safety, and housing
- <u>Coordinate</u> with various governmental initiatives such as Invest in Texas, a student-led, non-partisan lobbying campaign with the Senate of College Councils and the Graduate Student Assembly that lobbies the Texas Legislature on behalf of UT students.

Hook the Vote Agency (HTV)

Current Directors:

Kayla Manteca, <u>kaylamanteca@gmail.com</u> Elise De La Fuente, <u>elise.delaf@utexas.edu</u>

HTV's Mission:

The Hook the Vote Agency (HTV) informs and engages students in the democratic process through events, projects, and programs for voter registration, student mobilization, and political education at the university, local, state, and federal level! Follow HTV on Insta! <u>@hook_the_vote</u>

- Build a nonpartisan coalition by partnering with various student organizations to encourage voter registration, educate students on important issues, and mobilize student participation in elections. You'll collaborate with these groups to foster a campus culture of civic engagement.
- Organize and lead educational events such as voter registration drives and educational workshops. You'll inform students about election candidates and key issues, ensuring they are well-prepared to vote.
- Organize interactive events like Registration Round-Up, the Midnight Madness Concert and Rally, and Trick or Vote. These events are designed to engage students in the democratic process through creative and interactive experiences, such as election night watch parties and debates.
- Collaborate with University Housing and Dining and the University Residence Hall Association to distribute voter registration information and resources directly to students living on campus.

International, Out of State, Transfer Student Agency (IOTSA)

Current Directors:

Arantxa Espinosa Rivera, <u>arantxa@utexas.edu</u> Ezinne Osemene, <u>Sreeja.arora@gmail.com</u>

IOTSA's Mission:

The International, Out of State, and Transfer Student Agency (IOTSA) advocates and provides support and a community space for students from other states, international students, and students who have transferred from other universities. We also ensure students from these communities are given a platform to advocate for university policies, programs, and initiatives that best serve them! Follow IOTSA on Insta! <u>@iotsa.agency</u>

- Offer personalized support to new students from out-of-state, international backgrounds, and transfer students, helping them navigate campus life and connect with essential resources.
- Connect with students and assess their needs through regular interactions and feedback sessions, ensuring that out-of-state, international, and transfer students have a voice in campus matters.
- Coordinate subcommittees focused on the specific needs of out-of-state, international, and transfer students, encouraging more student involvement in the agency's initiatives.
- Plan and host events that build a supportive community such as orientation workshops, information panels, mentorship programs, and the first-semester kickoff fair to foster community and provide essential information and support.
- Collaborate with university offices such as the Office of Admissions, Texas Global and New Student Services to advocate for policies and services that address the unique challenges faced by out-of-state, international, and transfer students.

Longhorn Emergency Medical Service Agency (LEMS)

Longhorn EMS requires an orientation session from all prospective members. Learn more below!

Current Directors:

Annette Velasco, <u>velasco.annette@utexas.edu</u> Arti Madan, <u>artimadan03@gmail.com</u>

LEMS's Mission:

The Longhorn Emergency Medical Service Agency (LEMS) offers stand-by basic emergency medical services at UT events and promotes campus safety through health education initiatives. Our mission is to create a safer, well-informed university environment through active outreach and educational programs. Follow LEMS on Insta! <u>@longhornems</u>

- Engage in healthcare-related volunteer work during events such as Longhorn Run and Austin City Limits. As an EMT certified member, you'll provide direct patient care, while non-certified members assist as Support Team members, helping with logistical needs and ensuring smooth event operations.
- Educate the student body through public health initiatives like Stop the Bleed, CPR + First Aid, and Harm Reduction workshops. As an instructor, you'll teach crucial skills such as emergency response, proper CPR techniques, and administering Narcan for opioid overdoses.
- Foster a safer campus environment by collaborating with university offices, including the UT Police Department, University Health Services, and the Counseling and Mental Health Center. You'll work on initiatives to improve campus safety, such as advocating for the establishment of Longhorn EMS as a First Responder Organization (FRO), aiming to provide emergency medical services before transport arrives.

Longhorn Emergency Medical Service Agency (LEMS)

• Build community within LEMS by participating in social events like paintball, potlucks, and team-building activities, where you'll connect with peers who share an interest in emergency medical services and public health advocacy.

In order to be considered for membership in LEMS, New Member applicants must attend a LEMS orientation session (see orientation dates below), meeting information can be found on LEMS' Instagram @longhornems.

All orientation times are from 7:00pm - 8:00pm (Save Zoom link: https://bit.ly/LEMSOrientation24)

August 30th (Zoom)

September 2nd 4th (Zoom)

September 6th (in-person, room TBD)

September 9th - 11th (Zoom)

September 16 (in person, room JGB 2.324)

Longhorn Legislative Aides Agency (LLA)

Current Directors:

Jet Tran, <u>jetvtran3@gmail.com</u> Kayla Pearl, <u>kaylapearl14@icloud.com</u>

Longhorn Legislative Aides Agency (LLA)

LLA's Mission:

The Longhorn Legislative Aides Agency (LLA) is designed to immerse first-year students in the workings of UT Student Government. Through mentorship with executive and assembly members, students gain hands-on experience in our legislative processes, community service, and leadership development! LLA provides a platform for students to engage in service projects, legislative writing, and social events while fostering connections within the university community. Follow LLA on Insta! <u>@utsg_lla</u>

New Member Expectations:

- Collaborate closely with executive, assembly, and alumni mentors to gain insights into the legislative or executive process and develop leadership skills.
- Engage in community service activities, such as volunteering for charities like Caritas of Austin and Hungry Souls, and raising donations for local causes.
- Learn to write and co-author Student Government legislation, contributing to meaningful advocacy at UT.
- Build friendship with other LLAs through retreats, potlucks, mixers, and other social gatherings, including the annual weekend camping trip and day trips to locations like the Alamo.
- <u>Attend workshops</u> focusing on networking, legislation, and leadership to enhance personal and professional growth.

Mental Health Agency (MHA)

Current Directors:

Krystal Zhong, <u>vanzh0ng@utexas.edu</u> Vipin Eapen, <u>veapen05@gmail.com</u>

Mental Health Agency (MHA)

MHA's Mission:

The Mental Health Agency (MHA) furthers advocacy, action, and awareness of mental health issues on campus. Through student-led initiatives, events, and legislation, MHA aims to promote mental health advocacy, ensuring that every member of the UT Austin community has access to the necessary resources for individualized mental health support! Follow MHA on Insta! <u>@utsgmentalhealth</u>

New Member Expectations:

- Assist in initiatives to raise mental health awareness through campus events and social media campaigns such as distributing Speedway Sleep Kits and hosting Divine Canines sessions where students can unwind with therapy dogs.
- Collaborate with student organizations to promote mental health education.
- Advocate for accessible, inclusive mental health services on campus, supporting the university's efforts to provide comprehensive care for all students.
- Work in partnership with such entities as University Health Services, Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC), and other university offices and organizations to advance efforts of advocacy, action, and awareness surrounding mental health and mental illness.

Women's Resource Agency (WRA)

Current Interim Directors:

Sydney Lewis, sydney.lewis@utexas.edu

Sara Beasley, sarabethbeasley@gmail.com

Women's Resource Agency (WRA)

WRA's Mission:

The Women's Resource Agency (WRA) serves as a centralized hub for resources and outreach programs. We are dedicated to promoting the success of women on campus through educational initiatives and advocacy, addressing key issues affecting them! Follow WRA on Insta! <u>@utsg.wra</u>

- Engage in community-building and empowerment efforts through events like the HustleHER Series—a supportive fitness program that includes yoga, running, and weightlifting, designed to create a safe space for all gender minorities; or events like Women's History Month, which celebrates women's achievements, and sessions like Know Your Rights: Reproductive Care in Texas, Sex Ed Talk, and the Girl Math Workshop.
- Collaborate with UT departments and student organizations to host educational workshops on topics such as self-defense, resume building, and financial literacy, ensuring women are equipped with essential skills.
- Assemble and distribute care packages and reproductive health kits in partnership with organizations like WiC; or distribute free resources on Speedway like condoms, drinks covers, plan B, and pregnancy tests!
- Advocate for women's resources on campus like period products in bathrooms, promote reproductive and sexual health, and collaborate with groups like EC4EC and Students 4 Planned Parenthood to expand WRA's outreach on campus.