

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Aspiring Health Care Professionals to Virtually Converge on TTUHSC

Area students of all ages and backgrounds who are interested in pursuing careers in health care and the health sciences will have an opportunity to ask questions and learn more about their specific discipline of interest when the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) hosts its 2021 Future Healthcare Professionals' Experience (FHPE) from 9 a.m. – noon March 6 via Zoom.

Doris Hereford, TTUHSC's director of student diversity and inclusion, is facilitating the annual event for the fourth consecutive year. She said the FHPE program is intended for prehealth students of all ages, including high school, undergraduate and post-graduate students. The free event, which will be conducted virtually in 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions, also is open to high school and college advisors, parents and anyone else who may feel drawn to a career in health care.

"We provide an avenue for students that are interested in pursuing a health care-related field to receive valuable information on the types of programs TTUHSC offers," Hereford explained. "The ultimate goal is to let the attendees know that applying at TTUHSC is an option, and we want to give students, and others interested in health care, the tools necessary to make an informed decision."

Because of the pandemic, the event virtual for the first time, Hereford said the program has been shortened to three hours.

"We'll have short, 20-minute sessions and then a 30-minute virtual vendor fair," Hereford said. "We're trying to ensure that the sessions are engaging and provide some fun activities for the attendees."

Though the format is virtual, Hereford said some of the sessions would still take place in the SIM Labs and other areas on campus so the students can still get a glimpse of the campus.

"Students, staff and faculty will be on hand to answer any questions the attendees have," Hereford added. "Our goal this year is to just be short and sweet and really engaging, and to provide opportunities for prizes so the students have something to look forward to. There will be fun, interactive, informative sessions that focus on what it's like to be a student at TTUHSC. Staff, faculty and students will be on hand to answer all of your questions."

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To attend the 2021 FHPE, register at www.eventbrite.com/e/future-healthcare-professionals-experience- tickets-136828729413. Prior to the event, Hereford said she will provide to all registrants via email the Zoom links, a schedule of events and other pertinent information.

For more information, visit <u>www.ttuhsc.edu/student-life/future-healthcare-experience.aspx</u>.