Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL)

List of Campus, UT System, and State-Level Teaching Awards for University of Texas-Dallas (UTD) Faculty, Teaching Assistants, and Advisors

Below is a list of all Campus, UT System, and State-Level Teaching Awards for UTD Faculty, Teaching Assistants, and Advisors. Generally, calls for nominations for the awards are made each year by the units responsible for administering the awards process. Nominators and candidates are encouraged to contact those units or visit their websites regarding questions and other concerns. Some past winners of the awards above are listed on the CTL website (https://www.utdallas.edu/ctl/awards/), CTL yearly reports, and award programs for UTD's annual Celebration of Teaching Excellence, held in April.

In addition to the awards listed below, UTD faculty and teaching assistants are eligible for teaching awards given by schools, programs, and professional associations. Please consult those entities for information.

Campus-Level

1. *Instructional Improvement Awards (IIA)*:

   Responsible University Unit: Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL)
   Eligibility: All UTD Faculty
   Process: Two cycles of competition, with calls for proposals in October and February each academic year. Awards announced in December and April/May
   Selection: CTL Personnel and invited faculty consultants
   Number Awarded: Variable
   Description: IIAs enable recipients to design, implement, and assess instructional innovation projects that enhance teaching and learning at UTD. Projects and activities that may be supported by IIA grants include, but are not limited to (1) projects that improve existing courses or create new courses or curriculum, with the expectation that viable improvements include the incorporation of innovative educational technologies or the development of community-engagement opportunities, and (2) research that examines the effectiveness of some aspect of instructional practice or that develops methods to measure instructional effectiveness. Awards are capped at $7,500.

2. President's Teaching Awards

Responsible University Unit: Committee on Effective Teaching (CET) and Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL)
Eligibility: Varies by Category (see below)
Process: Nominations Solicited from All Faculty and Graduate Teaching Assistants as well as Deans and Program Heads in January each year; Nominees invited to submit materials by early March; Recommended winners selected by late March. Awards announced in April.
Selection: CET selected committee, facilitated by CTL; faculty on all selection committees; student representatives on all committees except for the online/blended award. Recommendations to UTD President.
Number Awarded: Five annually; one per category.
Descriptions and Specific Eligibility
- President's Teaching Excellence Award in Undergraduate Instruction for tenure-system (those with tenure or those eligible for tenure) faculty members: this award recognizes sustained excellence in undergraduate instruction, including innovation in approaches to teaching and the overall impact on student learning. To be eligible, faculty members must have taught on the UTD campus for a minimum of 5 years and have not won this award in the previous 10 years. Winners of the Regents' Outstanding Teaching Award (ROTA) in the previous ten years are not eligible.
- President's Teaching Excellence Award in Undergraduate Instruction for non-tenure-system faculty members: this award recognizes sustained excellence in undergraduate instruction, including innovation in approaches to teaching and the overall impact on student learning. To be eligible, faculty members must have taught on the UTD campus for a minimum of 3 years and have not won this award in the previous 10 years. Winners of the Regents' Outstanding Teaching Award (ROTA) in the previous ten years are not eligible.
- President's Teaching Excellence Award for Teaching Assistants: this award recognizes exceptional instructional performance by a graduate teaching assistant. To be eligible, graduate students must have served as a teaching assistant for a minimum of 2 semesters on the UTD campus.
- President's Teaching Excellence Award in Graduate/Professional Instruction: this award recognizes sustained excellence in graduate or professional program instruction, including innovation in approaches to teaching and the overall impact on student learning. To be eligible, faculty members must have taught on the UTD campus for a minimum of 5 years (including at least one graduate or professional course for four semesters) and have not won this award in the previous 10 years.
- President's Teaching Excellence Award in Online/Blended Instruction: this award recognizes excellence in the design and delivery of courses in online or blended formats, including innovation in course development, effective use of technology and media, and overall positive impact on student learning. To be eligible, faculty members must have taught at least 3 courses in an online (course delivered 85-100% online) or blended (course delivered 50-84% online) format in the last 3 years and have not won this award in the previous 10 years.

Recipients receive cash awards that vary by category, currently $5,000 for faculty awards and $1,500 for the teaching assistant category.

3. *President's Undergraduate Advisor of the Year Award*

Responsible University Unit: Office of Undergraduate Education (OUE)
Eligibility: Full-time undergraduate academic advisors within either one of the eight schools or the Office of Undergraduate Education. Must be employed as a professional academic advisor for at least two years at UT Dallas. Individuals who received an advising award within the last three years are not eligible.
Process: Faculty, staff and students are eligible to nominate an undergraduate academic advisor; self-nominations are not accepted. The deadline for submitting nominations is early March. Awards announced in April.
Selection: Committee of invited faculty, staff, and students.
Number Awarded: One per year.
Description: The award recognizes academic advisors who display a welcoming, caring and helpful demeanor, demonstrate knowledge of institutional policies and procedures, demonstrate knowledge of degree plan(s) and specific school/department policies, connect students to campus resources, engage in student advocacy, assist students in setting academic goals in connection with future career objectives, monitor student progress, and help students identify and plan their course of study." Recipient receives a cash award.

4. *Provost Award for Faculty Excellence in Undergraduate Research Mentoring*

Responsible University Unit: Office of Undergraduate Education (OUE)
Eligibility: UTD faculty who taught at UT Dallas for a minimum of two years, engaged in mentoring UT Dallas undergraduate students for a minimum of two years, and engaged in research at any UT Dallas campus for a minimum of three years
Process: Anyone may nominate a faculty member. Nominations due in late March, awarded in May.
Selection: Committee of faculty members. Recommendation to the Provost.
Number Awarded: One per year.
Description: This award recognizes faculty who exemplify a commitment to personalizing the undergraduate student research experience through involving students in hands-on projects, encouraging scholarly publication and presentation, and mentoring researchers one-on-one. Recipient receives a cash award, currently $5,000.

5. *Provost's Award for Faculty Excellence in Graduate Research Mentoring*

Responsible University Unit: Office of Graduate Education (OGE)
Eligibility: UTD tenured faculty members in any discipline.
Process: Nominations may be submitted by deans, department/program heads, promotion or award committees, or individual faculty members. Nominated candidates will be contacted and

invited to submit a portfolio of materials for consideration by the selection committee. Nominations due in late March, awarded in May.

Number of Awards: One per year. Recipient receives a cash award, currently $5,000.

Selection: Faculty committee. Recommendation to the Provost.

Description: The award recognizes tenured faculty members who are outstanding research mentors of doctoral students and who foster intellectual, creative, scholarly, and professional growth. Recipient receives a cash award, currently $5,000.

UT-System Level

1. *Regents Outstanding Teaching Awards (ROTA)*

    Responsible University Unit: Committee on Effective Teaching (CET) and Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL)

    Eligibility: UTD Faculty – tenure system and non-tenure system - with at least 10 semesters teaching on this campus.

    Process: Nominations solicited from Deans, Program Heads, and Previous ROTA winners in October each year; Nominees invited to submit materials by early January; Recommended nominees for UT System competition selected by late January. Application file due in March. Awards announced in June by UT System.

    Selection: CET selected all faculty committee, facilitated by CTL. Recommended nominees subject to President and Provost approval. Final selection by UT System.

    Number Awarded: Determined by UT System; UTD and other UT System campuses currently limited to two nominees each -one from among the tenure system faculty and one from the non-tenure system respectively.

    Description: These are awards for faculty members in UT System institutions and are exclusively for excellence in undergraduate teaching. Awards are given in two categories: tenure system and non-tenure system respectively. "The awards are a symbol of the importance placed on the provision of teaching and learning of the highest order. The awards are offered in recognition of those who serve our students in an exemplary manner and as an incentive for others who aspire to such service." Recipients receive a cash award, currently $25,000.

2. *University of Texas System Academy of Distinguished Teachers*

    Responsible University Unit: Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL)

    Eligibility: UTD Faculty who are previous ROTA recipients, either tenure system or non-tenure system.

    Process: Campus nominees selected in September/October; Application due in early January; Winners selected and announced in February.

Selection: UTD nominee selected by committee consisting of Provost, CTL Director, and current Academy members on the UTD faculty. Final selection by Academy members across the UT System.

Number Awarded: Variable each year and determined by UT System; UTD and other UT System campuses currently limited to one nominee each.

Description: "The Academy recognizes educators who have demonstrated leadership in education and are committed to improving learning across the UT System. Members of the Academy serve as the System-level advisory and advocacy group dedicated to fostering classroom innovation, promoting interdisciplinary educational perspectives, and catalyzing the sharing of best practices across campuses in the UT System."

State-Level

Piper Professorships

Responsible University Unit: Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL)

Eligibility: UTD Faculty, either tenure system or non-tenure system.

Process: Campus nominees selected in September/October; Application due in December; Winners selected in March and announced in May.

Selection: UTD nominee selected by committee consisting of Provost, CTL Director, and current Piper Professors on the UTD faculty. Final selection by Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation.

Number Awarded: 10 per year across the state of Texas. Institutions currently limited to one nominee each.

Description: Awarded "for superior teaching at the college level." Each community college, four-year college, or university in the State of Texas may submit nominations, by invitation from the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation. Recipients receive a cash award of $5,000 and are permitted to use the title "Piper Professor" for the rest of their academic careers.