Enrollment Requirement to Qualify For University Housing

This month, the enrollment hours for each student contract holder is checked by a computer generated report.

Undergraduates are expected to be enrolled for at least 12 hours, Master’s level students for at least 9 hours, And Doctoral/Dissertation level for at least 6 hours.

Any student not enrolled for these minimum required hours will be asked to enroll for additional hours before registration deadlines. The deadline for undergraduate and graduate students to register without approval of the registrar or graduate dean is January 23.

If the student fails to register for the required hours, their contract will be canceled and they will be expected to vacate immediately.

If you have any questions, please contact the University Apartments Office at 512-232-5299.
Looking for a job?

Apply to be an ESL Tutor or Beginner Spanish Tutor with UT Apartments!

The Division of Housing and Food Service is looking to hire students for two job opportunities: teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) Classes, and Beginner Spanish Classes for our residents at University Apartments. This program allows for students to gain experience creating their own syllabus and lesson plans. Tutors will be responsible for teaching a once a week, two hour class which pays $8.93 per hour. The opportunity is flexible so that you can set a time that works with your schedule.

Classes will run from the week of January 25 through the week of May 27, 2016.

Interested students should email their resume to the Apartments Coordinator at JLekstutis@austin.utexas.edu no later than Sunday, January 10, 2016 at 11:00pm. To be considered, applicants must be enrolled at the University.
The orange 2014-15 parking placards expired on December 31, 2015. The new purple parking placards are ready to be picked up at the UT Apartments office during regular business hours.

To obtain a new placard or placards:

- Come to the office during regular business hours (Monday to Friday 8am-4pm)
  - Bring your photo ID card
  - You must bring in your expired parking placard(s)
- If you have bought a new vehicle, bring proof of ownership for the new vehicle
  - Only the contract holder may exchange the placard(s)

The UT Apartments main office will be closed for the winter break starting 4:00pm on Tuesday, December 22nd and will reopen at 8:00am on Monday, January 4th.
The Tenant Advisory Board (TAB) is comprised of 2 residents from each complex (Brackenridge, Colorado & Gateway) and one representative from the Apartments Office. TAB meets twice a month during the semester to discuss resident concerns and ways to improve life within University Apartments.

Join us at our Tenant Advisory Board Meetings
All residents are encouraged to attend!

- Thursday, January 14th, 7pm-8:30pm — Colorado Community Room
- Thursday, January 28th, 7pm-8:30pm — Colorado Community Room

Tenant Advisory Board representatives will propose changes and amendments to the TAB Constitution at their meeting on January 28th at 7:00pm in the Colorado Community Room. Hear what TAB has to say and give your own feedback!

~ Food will be served! ~
TAB Photo Contest Winners

Thank you to all of our residents & guests who submitted their photographs to TAB’s Fall 2015 JOYFUL SEASON Photo Contest! Below, enjoy the two winners of the contest who won Amazon gift cards. Keep an eye on the UT Apartments Facebook page for TAB’s next photo contest!

Caption:
No fall lasts forever
No spring skips its turn
While I wait for shores to rise,
Let us embrace this moment of joy

Place: Kenosha, IL
Submitted by Abhishek from Colorado Apartments
“Popular Vote” Winner on UT Apartments Facebook Page

Caption:
Flights of Joy.

Location:
Bay Area,
San Diego, CA

Submitted by William from Gateway Apartments
“Popular Vote” Winner on UT Apartments Facebook Page
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
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<td>8am: UT Apartments Office Opens</td>
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<td>10am-12pm: Free Photo Shoot @BRK&lt;br&gt;Sign Up For Your Spot via email with JLeKstutis @austin.utexas.edu</td>
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<td>6pm: Free Yoga Class @ GAT</td>
<td>7pm: Tenant Advisory Board Meeting</td>
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<td>Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</td>
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<td>UT Apartments Front Office is Closed</td>
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<td>7pm: TAB Meeting, Constitutional Revisions @BRK</td>
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BRK = Brackenridge Community Room  COL = Colorado Community Room  GAT = Gateway Community Room
How long have you worked at UT Apartments and with DHFS?

I’ve worked fulltime for UT Apartments since 2001— that’s 14 years! But I’ve been working for UT’s Division of Housing & Food Service for 23 years. I started out as a plumber and worked up to Assistant Supervisor, then Supervisor and then Manager.

What do you enjoy about your job?

I enjoy solving problems: construction, staff concerns and working with residents to solve their problems. I like helping to the best of my ability within our policies.

Also, I really like working with people with a desire to learn, who aren’t just focused on getting a solution. It’s always more interesting when we have the back and forth talking, and you can see them learning and soaking everything in. I have fond memories of working with one of our CAs Jeff, who loved learning about facilities and how to solve issues.

I also enjoy working with contractors when we have projects going on. Playing a part in helping to plan the best way to build something that best suits our residents while maintaining the long-term integrity of the buildings has been fulfilling.

Working on landscaping projects is always great as well. It’s fun to plant trees!

Providing good drainage systems to our residents is also enjoyable. Brackenridge Apartments were put here in the 1980’s, and prior to that, they were supposedly military barracks that were bought and transported here to the complex! The soil here has changed a bit in that time, so sometimes it’s a challenge to get the drainage to move away from residents’ homes, and keep the water moving without causing issues.

What are some facilities projects that you are proud of accomplishing during your time here?

My participation in the Colorado Community Room renovations. I had an idea to improve the small room and build an outdoor, covered area. I was thinking about the Little Field Café that had outside dining, and thought that would be a great thing to bring to our residents.

I gave a lot of input to the Brackenridge HVAC remodeling project, giving residents apartment options with central heating and air conditioning. So many residents enjoy this feature and it was great to see them benefitting from the final work.

I like working with the Colorado and Brackenridge Community Gardens. They bring a wonderful community to the residents. It provides a space for students’ parents and children to meet their neighbors and learn gardening skills. Sometimes, residents will pick up their garden key from me and will mention that they don’t know what to plant. I enjoy giving them a planting guide handout which shows them what to plant during the 4 seasons. They seem so happy to receive this and I enjoy talking them through it.

What are your plans for retirement?

For the first couple months, I don’t plan to do anything! After that, I plan to volunteer at a few hospitals. Then I plan to volunteer with the County Extension Service, so I can gain some more knowledge about gardening and agriculture. The Extension Service has a lot of information to share with the public, and I enjoy participating in this kind of work.

I’m also looking forward to traveling throughout the United States in my RV and advancing my photography hobby throughout my retirement. I enjoy photographing people, places and things. This photograph is from a shoot I did in Corpus Christi.

Thank you, Richard, for your years of dedication to our community. Happy retirement!
Allergies in Austin

Airborne allergens are common in Central Texas and may cause various symptoms such as a stuffy nose, eye and throat irritation, cough, and sometimes even a low grade fever up to 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

Plant pollen
Plant pollen is a common trigger, with Ragweed pollen often high in August and September and Cedar pollen high in December and January. Allergies in early spring are most often caused by tree or early grass pollen while symptoms during the summer is likely from grass.

Mold
Another common allergy in the Austin area is a mold allergy. Since mold cannot exist for long in the sunlight, mold tends to grow more at night in moderate to high humidity and temperatures between 70-80 degrees. In rare cases, house plants can provide a breeding ground for mold as well. This means that nasal stuffiness and asthma may become more of a problem for us in the middle of the night, if conditions are right in our apartment for mold to sporulate.

Mold Prevention
You can reduce the possibility of mold in your apartment by allowing sunlight into your apartment, and assuring that the apartment is well ventilated. See tips below from the Living Guide. In some cases when someone has a severe mold allergy, their physician may recommend use of a mold light or ozone generator to help kill the mold.

From the Apartments Living Guide:
Humidity inside buildings in Central Texas is often too high for good health and comfort. It needs to be controlled. You may feel hot and sticky or cold and clammy. You may see water vapor condensing on cold surfaces (e.g., on mirrors and windows). High humidity encourages the growth of mold and mildew. To help control humidity in your apartment:

- Run exhaust fans during and after bathing and when doing the laundry and cooking.
- Reduce moisture-causing activities.
- Choose house plants that don’t require a lot of water.
- Take shorter showers.
- Use the microwave and outdoor grill instead of the stove (especially gas stoves, since combustion produces water vapor).
- Keep the toilet lid closed.
- Reduce absorbent items in your home (e.g., avoid overstuffed furniture and heavy drapes; the less carpet, the better).

If you have a mold or mildew problem, contact the Apartments Office immediately. Residents whose lifestyles contribute to the presence of mold and mildew are subject to damage charges (for cleanup) and possible contract cancellation.
2015-2016 Apartment Monthly Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Apartment Type</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brackenridge &amp; Gateway One Bedroom</td>
<td>$558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado One Bedroom</td>
<td>$588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brackenridge &amp; Gateway Two Bedroom</td>
<td>$638</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado Two Bedroom</td>
<td>$668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brackenridge Three Bedroom</td>
<td>$814</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Keep up with University Apartments on Facebook!
Search for “UT Apartments” and like us. Check our page daily to for important information and a chance to win prizes!

Vacancy Notices
- A 60 day written notice is required for all vacancies.
- If you give 30 to 59 days written advance notice you will pay a 50% penalty.
- If you give 1 to 29 days written advance notice you will pay an 85% penalty.
- To view the terms & conditions of your contract in its entirety go to: www.utexas.edu/student/housing/index.phpsite=0&scode=2&id=518

Grande Service Request
- All service requests for your cable or internet service must go through the office via an online maintenance request. A paper version of the request may also be submitted to the main office.
- Please DO NOT contact Grande for service directly. Grande will be turned away if we do not have a maintenance request on file for you.
- You may contact Grande directly if you want expanded services.
- Grande will not be given keys to your apartment if you did not submit a maintenance request for the work.

Rent
- Rent is always due on the 1st of every month and late after the 5th of every month regardless of whether you receive a courtesy bill reminder email or not.
- Bookmark https://utdirect.utexas.edu/apps/dhfs/aptsapp/ for reference if you do not receive the courtesy bill reminder email.

Pest Control Requests
- All routine pest control requests must be submitted via maintenance request.
- All routine pest control requests will be scheduled each Tuesday & Thursday between 8 am and 4 pm.
- If you request pest control, please remember that you are required to leave your apartment when pest control staff arrive and remain gone for 2 hours.
- Due to a heavy workload, the tech cannot return that day.
- Emergency pest control situations should be reported to the office.
University Apartments  
3501 Lake Austin Boulevard  
Austin, TX, 78703  
Open Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 4:00pm  
Phone: 512-232-5299  
Email: dhfs.apartments@austin.utexas.edu

Hook ‘Em Home  
Guided by our values and commitment to support the University mission, our vision is to provide first-class housing and food service while embracing an inclusive, nurturing, community where students and staff realize dreams while achieving goals.

Maintenance Requests:  https://utdirect.utexas.edu/apps/dhfs/aptsapp/  
Log in and click on maintenance. Request form in the left hand column.

University Apartments Staff

Associate Director  
Sheril Smith  
sasmith@austin.utexas.edu

Apartments Coordinator  
Julie Lekstutis  
jlekstutis@austin.utexas.edu

Facilities Maintenance Manager  
Richard Hestand  
r.hestand@austin.utexas.edu

Technical Trades Supervisor  
Gilbert Acosta  
gila@austin.utexas.edu

Administrative Associate  
Denise Zuniga  
dzuniga@austin.utexas.edu

Administrative Associate  
Paul Previte  
pprevite@austin.utexas.edu

Brackenridge CAs:
- Ben Crestel, 3457-E  
  ben.crestel@utexas.edu
- Hillel Ofek, 3573-A  
  hillel.ofek@utexas.edu
- Gabe Venegas, 3370-A  
  gvenegas@utexas.edu

Colorado CAs:
- Daria Pus, D102  
  daria.pus@utexas.edu
- Ahmad Agbaria, G103  
  agbaria@utexas.edu

Gateway CAs:
- Bruno Chiquini, 1624-B  
  bchiquini@utexas.edu
- Colin Koutney, 1642-B  
  koutney@utexas.edu

Tenant Advisory Board Members

Brackenridge Representatives:
- Motolani Ogunsanya, Chair  
  tmadedipe@utexas.edu
- Justin Power  
  justin.power@utexas.edu

Colorado Representatives:
- Mohsen Babazadah  
  mbabazadeh@utexas.edu
- Shuning Lu  
  shuning.lu@utexas.edu

Gateway Representatives:
- Nagaraja Revanna  
  nagaraja.revanna@utexas.edu
- Ya-Ching Huang  
  yaching.huang@utexas.edu