



Medical District PK-8 Biomedical School

Frequently Asked Questions

When is the school opening?

The school will open in August 2022 for the 2022-2023 school year.

What grades will the school serve?

In 2022-2023 the campus will serve scholars in prekindergarten through first grade, expanding one grade level each year up to eighth grade.

What is the school's instructional model?

The Medical District PK-8 Biomedical School will offer students a program focused on biomedical sciences, which will stimulate curiosity about the wonders of science and also provide children a foundation for future discovery. This unique partnership with UT Southwestern provides opportunities for firsthand exposure to real-world science for students, as well as professional learning and educator preparation for staff. The learning experience will include Design Thinking, exploratory lab experiments, and guest lecturers.

Will children be going into operating rooms and labs?

Students will not be allowed in the hospital, nor operating rooms or labs for safety reasons. However, students will have the opportunity to visit the [Simulation Center](#) which carefully mimics important aspects of a hospital, such as operating rooms.

Where is the school located?

The school is located on the UT Southwestern campus. The address is 6516 Forest Park Road, Dallas, TX 75235.

What areas of town does the Medical District PK-8 Biomedical School serve?

Do you have to be a resident of Dallas?

The campus is open to students living inside and outside of Dallas ISD district boundaries.

Is there tuition?

There is no admission cost for students in grades kindergarten and above. In the event a Pre-K student does not meet any of the free or scholarship [eligibility criteria](#), tuition-based Pre-K is offered. The tuition cost this school year is \$4,100. Tuition cost may be adjusted each year, and deposits and fees may apply.

What are the school hours of operation?

Most Dallas ISD full-day elementary schools have instructional hours from 7:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. This schedule has not been finalized.

Will there be options for early drop-off, late pickup and after-school programs? What is the cost for extended care?

Campus administrators will explore options with onsite partnerships for before- or after-school hours. These offerings and schedules will be communicated prior to the start of the school year by campus administration. Additional costs are dependent upon selected program(s).

Is transportation provided?

Transportation is provided to Transformation schools for students living within Dallas ISD boundaries. Bus stops are designated per Transformation school.

When do I apply?

The application window is open from Nov. 1, 2021 - Jan. 31, 2022.

Submit the online application and the required documentation at <https://www.dallasisd.org/choosedallasisd>.

What is a 50/50 Transformation school?

A 50/50 Transformation school is a choice school with no academic entry requirements or attendance boundaries. Of the total seats available, 50% are reserved for economically disadvantaged students and 50% are reserved for non-economically disadvantaged students.

How is the lottery conducted?

FDB(REGULATION) details the lottery process for Transformation schools.

For this campus, students are entered into either the economically disadvantaged lottery group or the non-economically disadvantaged lottery group, based on the student's socioeconomic status. Half of the seats will go to students designated as non-economically disadvantaged and the other half will go to students designated as economically disadvantaged. Offers are generated via a randomized lottery, based on the number of seats available in each grade level and the student's priority group. Students who are not offered a seat are placed on a wait list.

Will the children of UT Southwestern employees and learners receive preference in the lottery?

Yes.

Will grandchildren of UT Southwestern employees be eligible for admission?

If the grandparent is the legal guardian of the child, he/she will receive the appropriate UT Southwestern priority in the lottery. The grandchildren of UT Southwestern employees who are not legal guardians are encouraged to apply.

What if two or more siblings apply for the same lottery and one is accepted, will the other/s automatically be accepted too?

No. However, as soon as one of the siblings receives their enrollment offer, the other sibling will be promoted on the selection list to the "Sibling" priority group. This will maximize the chances of the siblings both receiving an enrollment offer.

How many seats are available for the 2022-2021 school year?

There are 128 seats available during the first school year.

Pre-K3	Pre-K4	K	1
18	22	44	44

What is the student/teacher ratio?

- Pre-K3: 1 teacher & 1 teacher’s assistant, 18 students
- Pre-K4: 1 teacher & 1 teacher’s assistant, 22 students
- Kindergarten - 1st Grade: 1 teacher, 22 students

How will the curriculum differ from a daycare program? Is the curriculum accredited?

The Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) are the [curriculum standards](#) adopted by the State Board of Education. The state standards are the instructional foundation. The Dallas ISD [Curriculum Overview site](#) outlines what is expected of students in every subject at every grade level. Additionally, all students will engage in robotics, coding, and biomedical activities.

What is the hiring process for the principal and staff?

The School Leadership Executive Director will lead stakeholders in developing a principal profile that includes the desired qualifications and characteristics. The campus principal will lead the development of the teacher profile. Dallas ISD Human Capital Management engages in focused recruitment and effective communications with external partners, utilizing the Dallas ISD Selection Model to retain the highest-quality teachers and administrators.

What is the educational background and experience of the teachers?

All public school teachers in the state of Texas are required to become teaching certified, which includes completion of a teacher program and passing certification exams. Teachers hold a bachelor's degree at minimum.

Will UTSW faculty be teaching at this school?

Eligible candidates are welcome to initiate the application process for an opportunity to be hired by campus administration. UTSW staff and students are invited to be guest lecturers/speakers.

Will meals and snacks be available? What is the cost?

Food and Child Nutrition Services participates in a variety of programs that allow us to offer nutritious school meals to all students at no cost regardless of family income. We provide students with breakfast and lunch that meets or exceeds the requirements set forth by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Texas Department of Agriculture. Snacks are provided with some after-school programs.

How is discipline handled?

Dallas ISD fosters a climate of mutual respect for the rights of others. It handles discipline matters to ensure the district remains in compliance with federal guidelines, state statutes, Texas Education Agency regulations, and local board policies in the areas of student discipline. The goal of a positive learning environment can be achieved with the partnership of students, families, and campus staff.

What does parent communication include?

Parent voice is vital to the success of the school and student achievement. Family engagement includes parents and staff working in collaboration to coordinate events or activities to ensure meaningful partnerships.

For additional information, please visit the Office of Transformation and Innovation [website](#).
Questions can be submitted to Dallas ISD via the [Let's Talk!](#) online portal.