

A new class of physicians takes the next step

On **Friday, May 15**, at 11 a.m., 242 UTSW Medical School graduates will transition from students to physicians, ready to lead, heal, and transform the future of medicine. The commencement ceremony at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center will feature keynote remarks from **John M. Zerwas, M.D.**, Chancellor of The University of Texas System, the conferral of degrees, the administration of the Physician's Oath, and the presentation of the Southwestern Medical Foundation's Ho Din Award.

Ahead of commencement, the Hooding Ceremony will be held on **May 14** at 7 p.m. in the Tom and Lula Gooch Auditorium.

As a reminder, commencement is a ticketed event, and the UT Southwestern community is encouraged to tune in via livestream. Guests attending in person should allow extra time for arrival due to construction around the Meyerson.

Join us in congratulating these graduates as they embark on the next chapter of their medical training.

[Be part of commencement](#)

A campus celebration honoring standout colleagues

Mark your calendars to spend a truly special summer afternoon and evening celebrating some of the people who make UT Southwestern exceptional.

The second annual [UT Southwestern Pinnacle Awards](#) take place **Wednesday, June 17**, hosted by President **Daniel K. Podolsky, M.D.**, and featuring remarks from our Executive Vice Presidents and other institutional leaders.

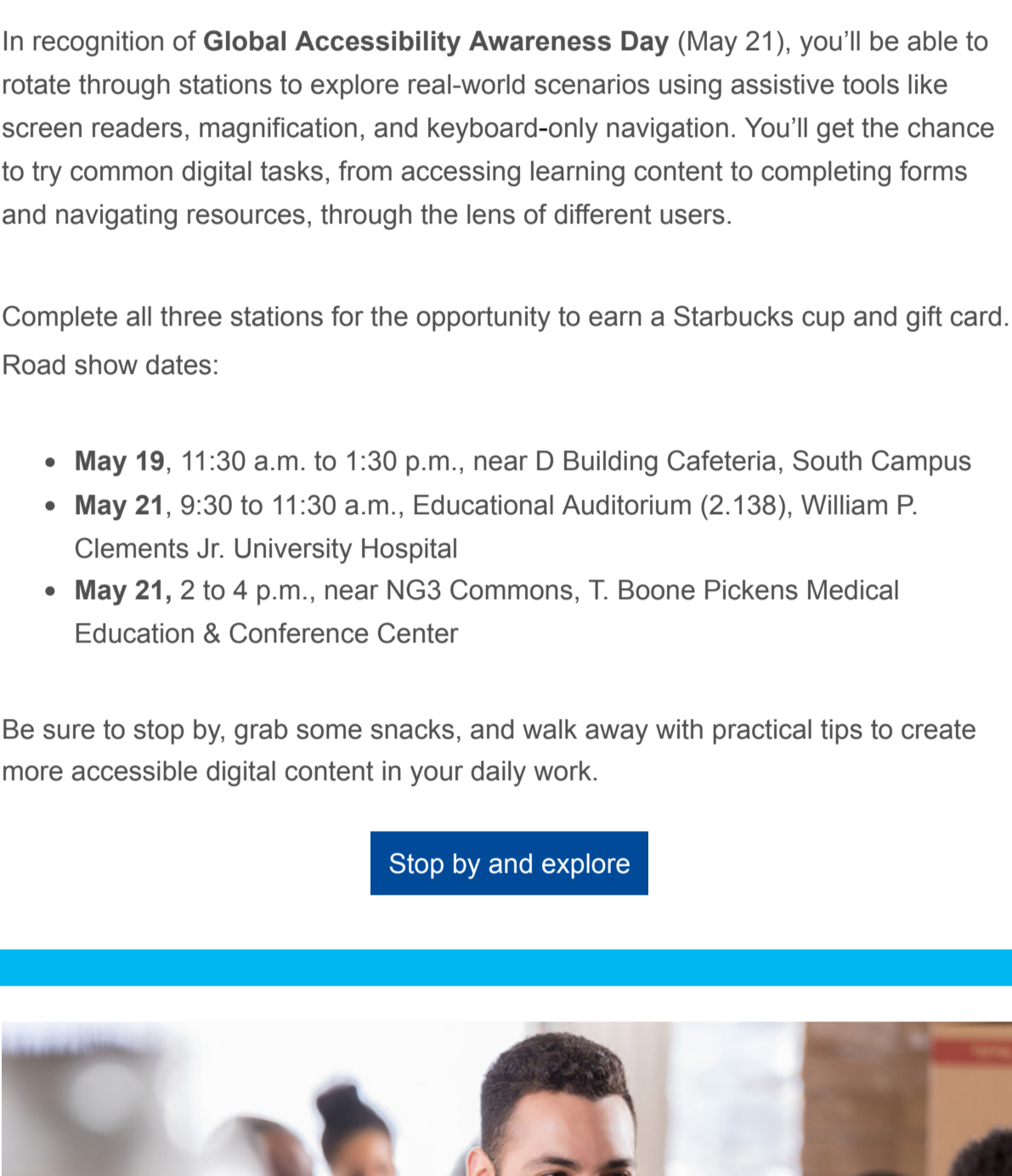
The ceremony honors the outstanding contributions of staff members whose work advances and supports our mission in education, research, and clinical care. The awardees represent our core values of excellence, innovation, teamwork, and compassion, each making a meaningful and lasting impact on our community. The five individuals and one team are: **Jose Flores, Darren Fleming, Hugo Lopez, Chelsea Landon, Priscilla Olivares, and the Office of Student Financial Aid**. Collectively, their contributions help keep our campus cool and running smoothly – literally – and they support our employees, patients, and learners as they navigate complex but essential moments in their lives.

After the awards program, all attendees are encouraged to stay and enjoy a reception on McDermott Plaza, with a delicious spread of food, drinks, and music in a relaxed, festive atmosphere.

The formal program begins at 4 p.m. in the Tom and Lula Gooch Auditorium on South Campus. To ensure there is enough food and drink for all attendees, please register in advance. If you are unable to attend in person, you can still show your support by watching the [livestream](#) of the ceremony, which will also be recorded for later viewing.

For more information about the awards, please visit the [Pinnacle Awards website](#).

[Register to secure your spot](#)



Digital accessibility, up close – a hands-on road show across campus

What does digital accessibility actually look like in day-to-day work? This interactive road show will bring accessibility closer through hands-on learning across campus.

In recognition of **Global Accessibility Awareness Day** (May 21), you'll be able to rotate through stations to explore real-world scenarios using assistive tools like screen readers, magnification, and keyboard-only navigation. You'll get the chance to try common digital tasks, from accessing learning content to completing forms and navigating resources, through the lens of different users.

Complete all three stations for the opportunity to earn a Starbucks cup and gift card. Road show dates:

- **May 19**, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., near D Building Cafeteria, South Campus
- **May 21**, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Educational Auditorium (2.138), William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital
- **May 21**, 2 to 4 p.m., near NG3 Commons, T. Boone Pickens Medical Education & Conference Center

Be sure to stop by, grab some snacks, and walk away with practical tips to create more accessible digital content in your daily work.

[Stop by and explore](#)



Apply now: Health Equity Scholars Program

Applications for the [Health Equity Scholars Program](#) are open through June 19 for the October 2026-2028 program.

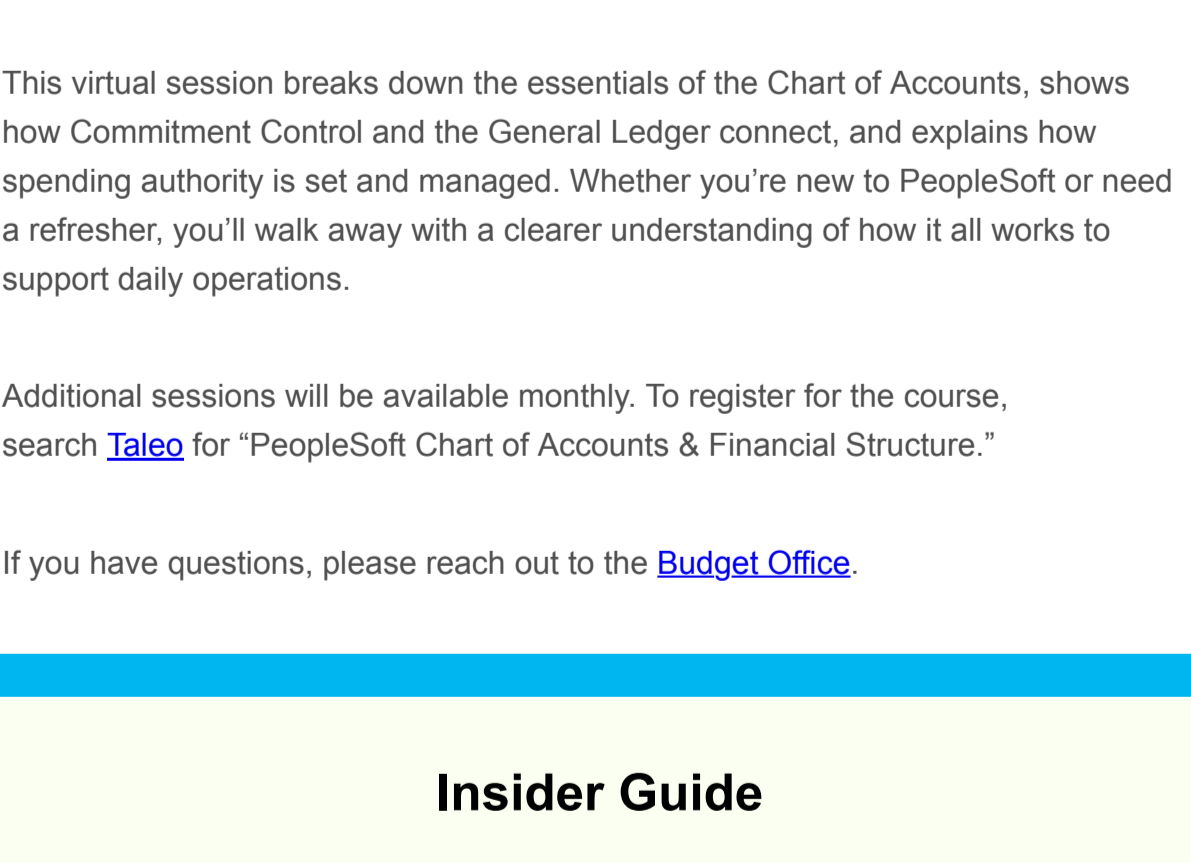
The program supports initiatives to advance community health for both UT Southwestern and Parkland Health through efforts to strengthen clinical practice and research. It was designed to recruit, develop, and retain faculty with an interest in health equity.

Each of the five scholars accepted will receive financial support and professional mentorship for two years. Through this program, they will gain experience to engage the community in activities that promote health and wellness.

Participants will also be invited to join the UTSW Office of Faculty Development's Leadership Emerging in Academic Departments (LEAD) cohort. Scholars will have 20% of their salary supported so they can dedicate work time to a mentored health equity/community outreach project.

Email the [Office for Institutional Opportunity](#) with any questions.

[Learn more and apply today](#)



Put Microsoft Copilot to work for you: Webinars and in-person training sessions

Microsoft 365 Copilot Chat supports everyday work, from organizing and storing files to collaborating in Teams. In this Office of Clinical Research-sponsored series, you'll explore how OneDrive, SharePoint, and Teams work together to enable shared file ownership, version control, and real-time collaboration.

You'll also see how Copilot Chat builds on this foundation to summarize information, interpret documents, support meetings, and generate content – all with built-in data protection. Educators and staff will learn practical ways to collaborate more efficiently, communicate more clearly, and work with greater confidence.

Webinars (noon-1 p.m.)

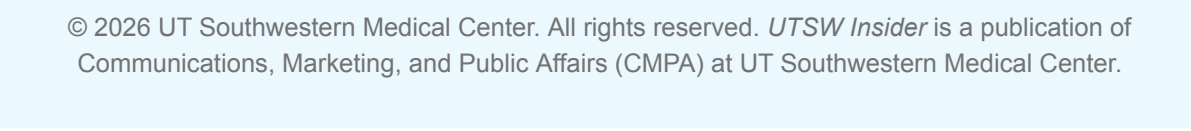
- [May 19](#)
- [May 26](#)
- [June 9](#)
- [June 26](#)

In-person sessions (six per day, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.)

- [May 28](#)
- [May 29](#)
- [June 11](#)
- [June 12](#)

[Email](#) with any questions.

[View all Copilot trainings](#)



Inside PeopleSoft: Chart of Accounts training

Get a behind-the-scenes look at how UT Southwestern's financial system comes together in this introductory PeopleSoft training offered on **Wednesday, June 3**, from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

This virtual session breaks down the essentials of the Chart of Accounts, shows how Commitment Control and the General Ledger connect, and explains how spending authority is set and managed. Whether you're new to PeopleSoft or need a refresher, you'll walk away with a clearer understanding of how it all works to support daily operations.

Additional sessions will be available monthly. To register for the course, search [Taleo](#) for "PeopleSoft Chart of Accounts & Financial Structure."

If you have questions, please reach out to the [Budget Office](#).

Insider Guide

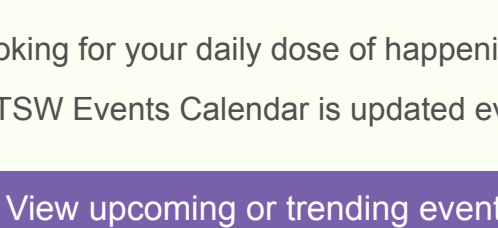


UTSW Toastmasters

5:30-6:30 p.m., May 14
Woodview Tower, LE8.110

Develop competencies in public speaking and communication in a supportive, fun, and self-paced environment by joining UTSW's Toastmasters chapter. The club is open to employees and students and meets on the second Thursday and fourth Tuesday of the month in the Woodview Tower (1349 Empire Central Drive, Eighth Floor, Room LE8.110). To join or visit as a guest, please contact [Lisa Farmer](#).

[Get the details](#)

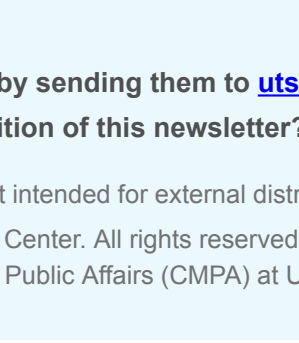


Crohn's & Colitis Foundation 2026 Take Steps Walk

9 a.m., May 16
2801 E. Spring Creek Parkway, Plano

Join UT Southwestern's team to help advance research, improve treatments, and support patients living with inflammatory bowel disease. Choose a 1-mile or 5K route, both of which are paved and accessible for wheelchairs, strollers, and bikes. UTSW employees, family, and friends can participate for free.

[Register](#)



UTSW Events Calendar

Looking for your daily dose of happenings?
The UTSW Events Calendar is updated every day.

[View upcoming or trending events](#)

Share your *Insider* suggestions by sending them to utswinsider@utsouthwestern.edu. Looking for an item in a past edition of this newsletter? Check out our [Insider archive](#).

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