

PATHWAYS TO THE DOCTORATE PROGRAM: A TEXAS A&M SYSTEM INITIATIVE

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The Pathways to the Doctorate is a program dedicated to increasing the number, quality, and diversity of master's and doctoral graduates across all disciplines within The Texas A&M University System. Consisting of nine universities as well as the Health Science Center, the System spans the State of Texas. This enables the System to recruit top students from a variety of geographical, socio-economic, racial, ethnic, and cultural environments. The Pathways to the Doctorate is one approach to Closing the Gaps Program in Texas. The goal of the Pathways to the Doctorate Program is to attract high achieving students within The Texas A&M System to pursue careers in higher education. This program will help produce some of the next generation of faculty.

Through a variety of activities such as seminars and workshops, inter-institutional exchange programs, a mentoring program and an annual research symposium with System-wide participation, the Pathways program aims to:

- create a pathway for talented students to pursue graduate education;
- foster opportunities for faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students to collaborate and to foster innovative research and interpersonal communication skills;
- enlighten and encourage students and teachers (K-12 through college) to see that science and technology are essential to lead a life of discovery and fun;
- and helps meet faculty needs as post-secondary enrollment grows and current faculty retire.

Additional information can be found at <http://www.tamus.edu/pathways>.