



## **UHD/HEART Continuing Education Certification Program**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

**Is there a fee or do we have to pay tuition to enroll into the  
UHD/HEART Continuing Education Certification Program?**

*Not during this session. Tuition fees will be covered through a UHD and HEART collaborative grant provided by the Houston Galveston Area Council.*

**What subject courses are offered?**

*The Course Details and Description is attached to this packet.*

**Is there a minimum reading grade level required for acceptance?**

*No. Subject matter will be adapted to the student's abilities.*

**Is a screening test required for acceptance?**

*No. An interview may be required.*

**What are you looking for in a student?**

*We are looking for a student interested in being on a university campus in downtown Houston who possesses an eagerness to learn and a focus and determination on obtaining meaningful employment during and after completion in the program.*

**What will the on-campus internship and off-campus externship consist of?**

*The on-campus internship will be in different departments within the university allowing the students to gain entry level work experience under supervision before they go on their off-campus externship.*



**Will the student's area of interest be considered when selecting on-campus internships and off-campus externships?**

*The student's area of interest will be considered. However, the interest they have at the beginning of the course may not be what they are interested in at the time of internships/externships. The first UHD course they will take is Career Exploration and Research. One of the goals of this program is to expose them to various opportunities for future employment. Additionally, the staff may notice an area in which they excel and may guide them towards that area.*

**Will this be a paid internship/externship?**

*Yes, during this session. With the grant provided by Houston Galveston Area Council the UHD/HEART Continuing Education Certification Program students will be paid the regular UHD student work rate.*

**Will the students work a full week during their internship/externship?**

*The hours for the internships and externships may vary due to placements at different departments or companies. In general, the average **On-campus internship** is modeled after a 10-week paid internship, 15 work hours per week for 10 weeks. The **Off-campus externship** is modeled after a 5-6 week off campus paid internship, 20-30 work hours per week.*

**Is transportation provided to UHD and the off-campus externship?**

*No. Those accepted into the UHD/HEART Continuing Education Certification Program will be responsible for their own transportation. Financial aid may be available to assist with transportation, this will be discussed during the enrollment period.*

**Are meals provided?**

*No.*

**Is a nurse or nurse-practitioner available for medication?**

*No. Participants must be able to self-medicate.*



### **What is the role of the student mentor?**

*Student mentors are UH-D students who are attend classes along with the UHD/HEART Continuing Education Certification Program students and assist with completing assignments. They are not tutors or educational aides.*

### **What is a developmental disability?**

*According to the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (DD Act) of 2000 (P.L.) 106-402), a developmental disability is defined as: (A) IN GENERAL The term developmental disability means a severe, chronic disability of an individual that: i. Is attributed to a mental impairment or condition of mental and physical impairment; ii. Is manifested before the individual attains age 22; iii. Is likely to continue indefinitely; iv. Results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following areas of major life activity: a) Self-care; b) Receptive and expressive language; c) Learning; d) Mobility; e) Self-direction; f) Capacity for independent living; and g) Economic self- sufficiency; and v. Reflects the individuals need of a combination and sequence of special, interdisciplinary, or generic services, individualized supports, or other forms of assistance that are lifelong or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated. (B) INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN An Individual from birth to age 9, inclusive, who has a substantial developmental delay or specific congenital or acquired condition, may be considered to have a developmental disability without meeting 3 or more of the criteria described in clauses (i) through (v) of subparagraph (A) if the individual, without services and supports, has a high probability of meeting those later in life.*

### **What documentation do you accept for the developmental disability?**

*We will need a written medical diagnosis from the applicant's physician. Additionally, we can also accept a DID, psychological evaluation, or a school ARD.*



**Can students in this program take additional courses while at UHD?**

*Students in this program may apply to take additional courses from the Continuing Education program, and would need to register and pay for those courses separately from this program. Students wishing to take academic courses would have to apply to UHD and be accepted for admission before being able to enroll in those courses.*

**Does it matter if they have attended another program such as VAST?**

*No. This is a different type of program and the student will gain additional skills.*

**Can a student attend more than 1 session of the program?**

*No. There are very limited slots available for this program.*



## **For Current Participants in Other H.E.A.R.T. Programs:**

### **Can a HEART Trainee be enrolled at the HEART Program AND the UHD/HEART Continuing Education Certification Program?**

*No. A person can only be enrolled in one of program at a time. Those accepted into the UHD/HEART Continuing Education Certification Program will not be able to also attend the HEART Program.*

### **Can a HEART Trainee attend the HEART Program on the days they do not have classes at the UHD/HEART Continuing Education Certification Program?**

*No. Those accepted into the UHD/HEART Continuing Education Certification Program will not be able to participate in the HEART Program while they are also enrolled in the UHD/HEART.*

### **Can a HEART Trainee return to the HEART Program after leaving the UHD/HEART program?**

*Readmission to another HEART Program is not guaranteed once a participant leaves the program. The goal for this UHD/HEART Certification Program is for individuals who complete the Certification Program to pursue independent employment or additional post-secondary education following completion of the program. If it is determined that returning to HEART is the desired option for the individual, they would need to re-apply and demonstrate that all eligibility information is still accurate. The Director of Programs would evaluate each re-application on a case by case basis and would consider all factors, including whether there is a space available at the HEART Program at that time.*