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[**Weekly Relays User Guide**](https://ispace.utmb.edu/xythoswfs/webview/_xy-12470404_1)

**TOPICS LEGEND**

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| C:\Users\krhensle\Desktop\SMALL LOGO (2).jpg | | WEEKLY RELAYS | | **August 19, 2021** |
| **YOUR DEPARTMENT NEWS** | | | **UTMB NEWS** | |
|  | | | **Monthly Financial Update—Results as of July 31, 2021:**  For the month of July, UTMB’s adjusted margin was $8.5 million, which was $7.3 million favorable to planned results. Year-to-date, UTMB’s adjusted margin was $49.7 million, which was $65.3 million favorable to planned results. Thank you for your ongoing efforts to manage expenses and improve the efficiency of our work to ensure the long-term success of UTMB’s mission.  **COVID-19 UPDATES**  Delta variant cases continue to rise significantly throughout the state—in many cases exceeding the levels seen in previous surges. All faculty, staff and students must continue to remain vigilant and practice safety protocols to protect themselves and others. To read the latest Incident Command Update, visit <https://utmb.us/5xo>.  **Updated guidance:**   * **COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Shots Available for Eligible Immunocompromised individuals:** COVID-19 vaccine booster shots are available from the Galveston County Health District in partnership with UTMB and Galveston County for fully vaccinated immunocompromised individuals who meet eligibility criteria, under an Emergency Use Authorization announced by the FDA and CDC. Learn more here: <https://utmb.us/5xl>. * **GALVESTON CAMPUS—Alumni Field House institutes social distancing changes effective immediately:** As a result of the recent surge in COVID-19 cases, UTMB’s Alumni Field House has instituted a number of changes effective immediately, including a 25 percent capacity limit, suspended in-person classes and more. To see the full list, visit <https://utmb.us/5xm>**.**   **Quick Link and Reminders:**   * **Vaccines now available from Employee Health:** In addition to appointment options on the [vaccine page](https://www.utmb.edu/covid-19/vaccine/), vaccines are now available in UTMB Employee Health clinics on the Galveston and League City campuses, Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 4 p.m. Vaccine appointments for Employee Health clinics are not required, but can be made through MyChart to expedite the process. * [**Emergency Paid Leave**](https://utmb.us/554): UTMB has reinstated its enhanced emergency paid-leave benefit to assist employees impacted by COVID-19. For more details, visit (<https://utmb.us/554>) and for frequently asked questions see (<https://utmb.us/555>). * [What to do if you are exposed to COVID-19](https://liveutmb.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/collaboration/webfiles/ERMz0L23NL5AikjkStbRZeIBvt5IfqTYT_lRcDU8tS2FQw?e=0RsiSl). | |
| OPICS  LEGEND | PATIENT CARE EDUCATION & RESEARCH INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT CMC | | | |
| **AROUND UTMB** (Use the legend above to quickly find items of interest to your team) | | | | |
| **UTMB’s first graduating class of Limited Medical Radiography Technologists:** UTMB wants to recognize our first graduating class of Limited Medical Radiography Technologists (LMRTs) for successfully passing their Texas State Boards! **Congratulations to Caitlin Navarro, Selena Sauceda, Frank Murphy and Katina Hodges.** UTMB is the first system in the U.S. to offer an employer-sponsored scholarship of this type. Working with the Medical Technology Management Institute (MTMI), we took our own medical assistants and created an abbreviated bridge program to build upon their current knowledge in order to become LMRTs! Our LMRTs will fill critical needs in our ambulatory settings. Once again, congratulations to all and thank you for being the brave first cohort. We look forward to building upon this program. For more information, please contact Angie Bush at [apbush@utmb.edu](mailto:apbush@utmb.edu).  **Maximum Tuition Reimbursement Amount Increasing to $5,250:** UTMB is increasing the educational assistance available through its Tuition Reimbursement Program to aid employees seeking to advance their career with an undergraduate or graduate degree. Effective Sept. 1, 2021, the maximum reimbursement amount will be $5,250 per fiscal year for course credits and related fees from nationally accredited colleges and universities. Employees interested in the program will need to complete an application and sign an agreement asserting they will remain in the employment of UTMB for a certain period of time after the completion of each semester/course. For more details on the program’s eligibility criteria and application process, please see <https://utmb.us/5xq>. **IN CASE YOU MISSED IT**  **Aug. 18 Health Care Unmasked episode**: UTMB’s chief medical officer Dr. Gulshan Sharma and Dr. Janak Patel, director of infection control and healthcare epidemiology at UTMB, joined host TJ Aulds on the Aug.18 edition of Health Care Unmasked to discuss and provide updates on the Delta variant of the COVID-19 virus. The episode aired at 5 p.m. on the i45 Now Facebook channel and can be viewed in its entirety at <https://www.facebook.com/i45NOW/videos/366730718141654>. **Recording of the Aug. 18 Q&A session on current COVID-19 conditions and mental health and wellness:** On Aug. 18, UTMB’s chief medical officer, Dr. Gulshan Sharma, and other key members of the COVID-19 Clinical Task Force presented a COVID-19 update and question and answer session that covered the Delta variant, vaccination rates and updates, hospitalization rates, clinics and testing. A special presentation on mental health and wellness tips was also included. The recording is available at <https://utmb.us/5xk>.  **REMINDERS**  **Diversity Engagement Survey:** UTMB is conducting a Diversity Engagement Survey to evaluate the university’s diversity and inclusion climate. All faculty, staff and students are invited to take part in the survey, which will be available at <https://des.surveystar.com/utmb/> until Aug. 27. The survey has been developed in conjunction with the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and the University of Massachusetts Medical School, and it is completely confidential. Your feedback will help identify challenges to diversity and inclusion and leverage opportunities for improvement; enhance UTMB’s policies, practices, and programs related to diversity and inclusion; and raise awareness of diversity-related efforts across the university. For questions or more information about the survey, please email [tjdagost@utmb.edu](mailto:tjdagost@utmb.edu) or [culture@utmb.edu](mailto:culture@utmb.edu)  **New Dave Bleakney Building now open in Angleton:** Aug. 16 marked the seventh anniversary of the UTMB Health Angleton Danbury Campus, and it’s also the day that UTMB Health opened the doors to the region’s newest Primary and Specialty Care Clinic, the Dave Bleakney Building. Located at the intersection of Highway 288 and Highway 35 (Angleton), the following clinics are now seeing patients in their new locales:   * UTMB Health Family Medicine Angleton, (979) 849-6467, relocating from 135 E. Hospital Drive * UTMB Health Orthopedics, Angleton, (979) 849-9557, relocating from 2327 E. Mulberry, Angleton * UTMB Health Stark Diabetes Clinic (Endocrinology), (979) 848-9110, relocating from 146 E. Hospital Drive, Suite 208 * UTMB Health Neurology, Angleton, (979) 319-3001, relocating from 146 E. Hospital Drive, Suite 103 * UTMB Health Urgent Care, Angleton, (979) 849-6467, relocating from 2327 E. Hospital Drive (as well as the COVID-19 pandemic location at 135 E. Hospital Drive, Angleton)   The Urgent Care Clinic has a separate entrance, located on the east side of the building, allowing for extended hours of 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., seven days a week. For more information about the staff and clinics at the Bleakney Building, visit [www.utmbhealth.com/bleakney](http://www.utmbhealth.com/bleakney). | | | **Weekly Wellness Recap:**  This month's theme is all about resilience and understanding how to build skills to help us get through setbacks.   * Present yourself authentically today. * Know that you possess “grit”- the passion and perseverance to get through. * Use one of your strengths to overcome a challenge today. * Focus on communicating powerfully and effectively today. * Be open to feedback and coaching—use it for growth. * Practice forgiveness. It is a process and takes time but heals you and others. * Often through adversity comes stronger team and personal connections. Remember this.   **Aug. 31 virtual lecture will explore challenges in medical education**: The Office of Student Diversity, Health, Inclusion and Equity will host a lecture that is geared toward students but open to all members of the UTMB community. Napoleon Higgins, MD, will present “Facing Racial Headwinds in the Intense Environment of Medical Education” on Tuesday, Aug. 31, at noon. This talk aims to prepare diverse student populations to face challenges in medical education, to stay focused on their goals while in intense educational situations, and to combat issues of imposter syndrome and microaggressions. Dr. Higgins is a Houston-based child, adolescent and adult psychiatrist. Join via Zoom: <https://utmb.us/5x7>. | |
| **DID YOU KNOW?** The School of Health Professions held its commencement ceremony on Friday, Aug. 13, with 285 graduates in 6 different disciplines receiving their degrees. The Distinguished Alumnus Speaker was Wendy B. Katzman, PT, DPTSc, OCS, 1973 Physical Therapy graduate, and the Grand Marshal was Rajkumar Rajendran, DCLS, MS, MLS(ASCP), assistant professor of instruction in the Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences.  The school conferred the following degrees:  · Bachelor of Science in Clinical Laboratory Sciences: 43  · Master of Science in Clinical Laboratory Sciences: 17  · Master of Science in Transfusion Medicine: 10  · Master of Science in Pathologists’ Assistant: 8  · Doctorate in Clinical Laboratory Sciences:  16  · Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Care: 25  · Master of Science in Health Professions: 13  · Master of Science in Nutrition and Metabolism: 39  · Master of Occupational Therapy: 20  · Doctorate of Occupational Therapy: 16  · Doctorate of Physical Therapy: 78  **The Joint Commission Questions of the Week**:  **What is the purpose of the Rapid Response Team (RRT)?**   * To improve recognition of and response to a change in a patient’s condition. To provide rapid and early intervention to promote improved outcomes for patients who experience a change in their condition.   **Who can request an RRT?**   * A patient or the patient’s family may request the RRT to evaluate changes in a patient’s condition. Information about the RRT is provided to patients/families in designated areas. * Any healthcare provider may activate the RRT. No healthcare provider should discourage or prohibit the use of the RRT.   **When do you activate the RRT?**   * See [IHOP 9.13.31 Activation of the Medical Surgical Rapid Response Teams](https://www.utmb.edu/policies_and_procedures/IHOP/Clinical/General_Clinical_Procedures_and_Care/IHOP%20-%2009.13.31%20-%20Activation%20of%20the%20Medical%20Surgical%20Rapid%20Response%20Team%20(RRT).pdf) for criteria. Basically, staff can activate the RRT for any concern or worry about the patient.     **How do you activate the RRT?**   * Each campus should dial their specific phone number or extension below to request a Rapid Response Team. The caller should provide the Operator with the following information:   + Precise location (unit and building)   + Caller’s name and extension * The phone number for your campus is:   + Galveston Campus, dial 409-772-4000 or x2-4000   + Angleton Danbury Campus dial, x3333   + League City Campus, dial 409-772-4000 or x2-4000   + Clear Lake Campus dial, x15200 or 832-632-6367 * In the event medical attention is needed for an individual who is not an inpatient, employees of those areas should either:   + Call a code, or   + Arrange for transportation to the Emergency Department (when applicable)     **Note:** The RRT is committed to providing critical care resources to patients who may be in crisis. A physician order is not required for a Rapid Response Activation, but all treatments and interventions require a physician’s order. See [IHOP 9.13.31 Activation of the Medical Surgical Rapid Response Teams](https://www.utmb.edu/policies_and_procedures/IHOP/Clinical/General_Clinical_Procedures_and_Care/IHOP%20-%2009.13.31%20-%20Activation%20of%20the%20Medical%20Surgical%20Rapid%20Response%20Team%20(RRT).pdf) for additional information | |