
Heart to Heart Belize International Program

Sunday, December 29 – Friday, January 3, 2025

General Information:

A TTUHSC-sponsored international program for students has been planned for Belize for course and/or clinical credit for TTUHSC students. Designation of course credit will be dependent upon the individual student's program of study.

Upon completion of the international program, students will be able to:

- Describe key events shaping the history of Belize and articulate the primary challenges to Indigenous populations in Belize.
- Describe the structure of the Belizean healthcare system, including its organization, funding sources, and delivery mechanisms.
- Summarize the social, economic, and cultural factors contributing to global health disparities and the impact on patient outcomes, drawing comparisons between Belize, Texas, and the United States as a member of an interprofessional team.
- Develop patient-centered interventions and communication styles that respect the patient's cultural and religious beliefs.
- Compare and contrast the roles of healthcare practitioners across various settings, evaluating the scope of practice and systemic influences.
- Reflect on personal and professional growth, including the development of interprofessional competencies and the integration of structural and cultural competence into one's practice.
- Evaluate interdisciplinary strategies and cultural competency, proposing improvements for future practice.

Applicants will be notified of acceptance by Monday, September 23, 5:00 PM CT. A \$350 deposit is due to Heart to Heart Belize by Tuesday, October 15. Full payment is due by Friday, November 29.

Application:

The application for participation in the program can be found at:

<https://student.ttuhsu.edu/global-health/belize.aspx>

Eligibility Requirements:

To be eligible to participate in an International Program for Students, a person must be a student at the University. For the purposes of an International Program for Students, a student is defined as all persons taking courses at the University, either full-time or part-time, pursuing undergraduate, graduate or professional studies, specifically excluding School of Medicine House Staff. Persons who are not officially enrolled for a particular term but who have a continuing relationship with the University or who have been notified of their acceptance may be considered students.

For the purposes of an International Program for Students, a person is considered to have a continuous relationship with the University if the person was enrolled at the University for the preceding semester and:

- Is registered or preregistered for the following semester; or
- If the person has not completed the person's degree program, is eligible to continue the degree program in the following semester; or
- If the person completed a degree program in the preceding semester and is admitted to another degree program at the University for the following semester.

In addition, person must be in good academic and disciplinary standing as determined by the person's school at the time the person applies for an International Program and at the time of the dates of travel. Good disciplinary standing is defined as relating to a student not currently on disciplinary probation; or, a student, whose disciplinary suspension, expulsion or conditions and/or restrictions imposed, if any, have been totally fulfilled in a timely manner.

Per TTUHSC OP 10.29, International Programs for Students, International Programs are part of a degree program. As such, schools will determine course credit being awarded for an International Program in accordance with TTUHSC OP 60.05.

Withdrawal/Refunds:

TTUHSC is not liable for funds paid for travel to airlines or the host institution/organization or other fees of any kind or character related to the travel if a person is no longer eligible or can no longer participate in the international program. As such, the person is responsible for any and all financial losses that may be incurred.

More information will be provided to program participants about Cancel For Any Reason (CFAR) Insurance.

Selection of Participants:

The TTUHSC leadership team will select approximately 12-24 students to participate. If necessary, a rubric will be utilized to determine participants from the applicant pool. Selected participants will be notified after eligibility has been determined (1-2 weeks after application close date). A waitlist will be in effect if needed.

Cost:

The program fee is \$1,900 and includes all lodging, most meals, supplies, administrative costs, cultural excursion, and transportation while in Belize. Additional expenses not included in the program fee include airfare & spending money.

Funding information can be found on the OGH website: <https://www.ttuhs.edu/global-health/funding.aspx>.

Team Meetings:

There will be 6-8 mandatory pre-trip planning meetings between September 30, 2024 and the team's departure for Belize on December 29 that all students are required to attend. Each meeting will be scheduled via Zoom and is anticipated to last approximately one hour.

Pre-departure Requirements:

All students selected to participate in the international program are expected to complete TTUHSC International Program pre-departure requirements. Additional information about the pre-departure requirements can be found at the TTUHSC Office of Global Health website: <https://www.ttuhs.edu/global-health/requirements.aspx>.

Program Specific Questions:

Please contact Carrie Shaver, DHA, IHE, FACHE at Carrie.Shaver@ttuhs.edu.

General Questions about International Programs at TTUHSC:

Please contact the Office of Global Health at globalhealth@ttuhs.edu.