



Semester Federal Compliance and Student Consumer Information

In compliance with federal law, the following notification is sent each semester to all students and employees. This notice contains information the University is legally required to convey to you and strongly encourages you to read it. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

1. Availability of Institutional and Financial Aid Information

[Availability of Institutional and Financial Aid Information](#)

The Student Financial Aid Office provides a comprehensive program that includes academic-based scholarships and need-based scholarships, as well as grants, loans, and part-time campus employment designed to help eligible students meet expenses while enrolled at Hardin-Simmons University. Additional information can be found at the HSU Financial Aid website at <https://www.hsutx.edu/tuition-aid/financial-aid-checklist/> or by email at financialaid@hsutx.edu

2. Hardin-Simmons University Annual Fire Safety and Security Report

[Hardin-Simmons University Annual Fire Safety and Security Report](#)

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act or Clery Act requires colleges and universities across the United States to disclose information about crime on or around their campuses on Clery geography and produce an annual report available to the public on October 1.

Hardin-Simmons University's 2021 Annual Fire Safety and Security Report includes crime statistics that have been reported over the past three years and have occurred on HSU owned or controlled properties.

This report also serves as an important guide and resource to the HSU community regarding:

- Access to Campus Property
- Alcohol and Drugs
- Campus Security
- Crime Prevention
- Crime Reporting
- Emergency Notifications, Timely Warnings and Safety Alerts
- Safety Tips
- Response to Sexual Violence, Domestic/Dating Violence and Stalking
- Student Discipline
- Victim's Assistance Programs

All enrolled students, campus employees, prospective students, and prospective employees are entitled to request a copy of the Hardin-Simmons University Annual Fire Safety and Security Report. This year's report is available online <https://www.hsutx.edu/student-life/campus-safety/>. Printed copies may also be requested via e-mail to police@hsutx.edu or in person from the HSU Police Department and by calling 325-670-1461

3. Hardin-Simmons University Equity, Civil Rights, and Title IX

[Hardin-Simmons University Equity, Civil Rights, and Title IX](#)

Civil Rights Policy and Sexual and Interpersonal Misconduct Policy



Hardin-Simmons University does not tolerate unlawful harassment or discrimination on the basis of sex, gender, race, color, disability, national origin, ancestry, age (over 40), citizenship, genetic information, or the refusal to submit to a genetic test, past, current, or prospective service in the uniformed services, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal, Texas, or local law (collectively referred to as Protected Characteristics).

To report:

a. Sexual or gender-based harassment, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, intimate partner violence, or retaliation for reporting one of these types of prohibited conduct, please see the HSU Title IX page at <https://www.hsutx.edu/title-ix/>. Students and HSU Faculty/Staff can file an anonymous report at <https://appweb.stopitsolutions.com/> or contact the Title IX Coordinator at 325-670-1077/325-671-2272 or tera.gibson@hsutx.edu or smartin@hsutx.edu

b. Harassment (excluding those issues listed in A) or discrimination based on Protected Characteristics, or retaliation for reporting one of these types of prohibited conduct, please contact 325-670-1077 or tera.gibson@hsutx.edu

4. Drug Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA)

[Drug Free Schools and Communities Act \(DFSCA\)](#) HSU Webpage

[Drug Free Schools and Communities Act \(DFSCA\)](#) (Section 2)

The Drug Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA) requires that HSU notify each student and employee of its programs to prevent the illicit use of drugs and the abuse of alcohol by students and employees. Hardin-Simmons University has several programs to combat the misuse and abuse of alcohol and other chemical substances. Please visit Hardin-Simmons [Student Handbook](#) policies, Section 2, Alcohol and Drugs or contact 325-670-1077/325-671-2272 or tera.gibson@hsutx.edu or smartin@hsutx.edu.

5. Ethics Reporting

[Ethics Reporting](#)

Hardin-Simmons University has selected StopIt to provide individuals with a simple, risk-free anonymous and/or confidential way to report activities that may involve criminal, unethical, or otherwise inappropriate behavior in violation of HSUs policies. You may report via Stop!T online at <https://appweb.stopitsolutions.com>.

6. Student Rights Related to Educational Records (FERPA)

[Student Rights Related to Educational Records \(FERPA\)](#)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of, and limits access to, student education records. The law affords students certain rights with respect to their education records. The full text of the annual notification can be found at <https://www.hsutx.edu/academics/registrars-office/ferpa/> or by calling the Registrar's Office at 325-670-1368.

7. Notification of Penalty for Making a False Alarm or Report

[Notification of Penalty for Making a False Alarm or Report](#)

Hardin-Simmons University is notifying you of the penalty for the offense of making a false alarm or report involving a public or private institution of higher education. Pursuant to Texas Education Code **51.219** <https://texas.public.law/statutes/tex. educ. code section 51.219>



Penal Code Sec. 42.06. FALSE ALARM OR REPORT.

[texas.public.law/statutes/tex. penal code section 42.06](https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/DocS/penal_code_section_42.06)

a. A person commits an offense if he knowingly initiates, communicates or circulates a report of a present, past, or future bombing, fire, offense, or other emergency that he knows is false or baseless and that would ordinarily:

1. cause action by an official or volunteer agency organized to deal with emergencies;
2. place a person in fear of imminent serious bodily injury; or
3. prevent or interrupt the occupation of a building, room, place of assembly, place to which the public has access, or aircraft, automobile, or other mode of conveyance.

b. An offense under this section is a Class A misdemeanor unless the false report is of an emergency involving a public or private institution of higher education or involving a public primary or secondary school, public communications, public transportation, public water, gas, or power supply or other public service, in which event the offense is a state jail felony.

Education Code Sec. 51.219. NOTIFICATION OF PENALTY FOR FALSE ALARM OR REPORT.

([texas.public.law/statutes/tex._educ._code_section_51.219](https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/DocS/educ_code_section_51.219))

c. In this section, "institution of higher education" and "private or independent institution of higher education" have the meanings assigned by Texas Education Code Chapter 61

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/ED/htm/ED.61.htm>

d. Each institution of higher education and private or independent institution of higher education shall notify all incoming students, as soon as practicable, of the penalty for the offense under Section 42.06 [texas.public.law/statutes/tex. penal code section 42.06](https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/DocS/penal_code_section_42.06), Penal Code, of making a false alarm or report involving a public or private institution of higher education.

Additional information can be obtained by calling HSU Police Department at 325-670-1461.

8. Professional Licensure Notice

[Professional Licensure Notice](#)

If considering an academic program that leads to a professional license or certification in your state, it is highly recommended that you first seek guidance from your HSU program advisor or the appropriate licensing agency in your home state BEFORE beginning the academic program. Some online programs may not be available in some states or may not be designed to prepare a student for professional licensure. For additional information see <https://www.hsutx.edu/academics/academic-resources/professional-licensure-disclosures/>

9. Criminal History and Occupational License Notice

[Criminal History and Occupational License Notice](#)

Texas law requires that HSU notify you of your potential ineligibility to obtain a license due to prior criminal convictions. If you are applying for admission to a program or enrolling in a program that may prepare you for an initial occupational license issued by a Licensing authority and/or if you later decide to change to a program that prepares you for an occupational license, please be advised of the following:

1. An individual who has been convicted of an offense may be ineligible for issuance of an occupational license upon completion of the educational program.



2. Licensing authorities that issue an occupational license to an individual who completes the educational program issue guidelines stating the reasons a particular crime is considered to relate to a particular occupational license and any other criterion that affects the decisions of the licensing authority.
3. A state licensing authority that issues guidelines, files those guidelines with the secretary of state for publication in the Texas Register.
4. Local or county licensing authorities that issue an occupational license to an individual who completes the educational program issue guidelines related to criminal history and post the guidelines at the courthouse of the county in which the licensing authority is located or publish them in a newspaper having countywide circulation in that county.
5. Applicants should contact their respective local or county licensing authority for more details.
6. An individual may request a criminal history evaluation letter regarding the personal eligibility for a license issued by a licensing authority as required by Texas Occupation Code § 53.102.

Please note that Texas Occupations Code Chapter 53 does not apply to licenses issued:

- Under the authority of the Supreme Court of Texas
- Peace Officer licenses under Texas Occupations Code Chapter 1701
- Emergency Medical Services licenses under Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 773
- Licenses issued by the Texas Medical Board, the Texas State Board of Pharmacy, the State Board of Dental Examiners, and the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners involving criminal convictions related to controlled substances.

All applicants to and enrollees are encouraged to review all applicable eligibility requirements related to the respective occupational license. Questions related to eligibility requirements should be directed to the applicable licensing authority. For detailed information the Occupation Code Chapter 53 at statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/OC/htm/OC.53.htm.

10. Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act (EADA)

[Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act \(EADA\)](#)

By October 15th of each year, each coeducational institution of higher education that participates in any federal student aid program and has an intercollegiate athletics program must prepare an Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act (EADA) report and make it available upon request to students, potential students, and the public. HSU's EADA is managed by the Director of Athletics and/or the HSU Institutional Research staff. The report is available upon request via HSU Athletics or can be found at: <https://www.hsutx.edu/tuition-aid/affording-hsu/student-consumer-information/>

11. Student Right to Know Data

[Student Right to Know Data](#) (Graduation and Retention Rates)

Hardin-Simmons University is required to report the overall graduation rate, also known as the “Student Right to Know” or IPEDS graduation rate. Graduation rates and retention rates are available through [College Navigator](#) (Retention and Graduation Rates) and on the HSU Student Achievement page <https://www.hsutx.edu/about-hsu/student-achievement/>



12. Success Data

[Success Data](#)

Students interested in learning more about HSU student success should reach out to the HSU Career Services Office. Career Services has been utilizing Handshake, a student employment platform since 2019 and have been aggregating success data from this platform. They are able to pull information upon request. Students can reach Career Services by calling 325-670-1166 or email them at careerservices@hsutx.edu.

13. Disbursement for Books and Supplies

HSU does not differentiate between students receiving Title IV financial aid and those who do not. All HSU students are permitted to charge books and supplies at the HSU Bookstore up through the 8th class day or the first disbursement of aid.

14. Textbook Information

[Textbook Information](#)

Information regarding required and recommended textbooks and supplemental material for courses may be found in a couple of ways.

1. Required materials may be found on specific course syllabi provided by a student's instructor.
2. Required textbooks and materials can be found online through the student's self-service, detailing into student planning and their specific courses.
3. Students can also learn about their textbooks online at the HSU Bookstore
<https://www.bkstr.com/hardin-simmonsstore/shop/textbooks-and-course-materials>

15. Higher Education Opportunity Act Required Disclosures

[Higher Education Opportunity Act Required Disclosures](#)

In August of 2008, Congress enacted the Higher Education Opportunity Act (the "Act") to reauthorize the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. Several of the Act's provisions require the University to make specific information available to students and the public. Additional disclosures can be found at the HSU Student Consumer Information page webpage at <https://www.hsutx.edu/tuition-aid/affording-hsu/student-consumer-information/> or by calling the HSU Financial Aid Office at 325-670-1050 or emailing financialaid@hsutx.edu

If you need a written copy of this entire notification, please contact the HSU Financial Aid Office at 325-670-1050 or emailing financialaid@hsutx.edu