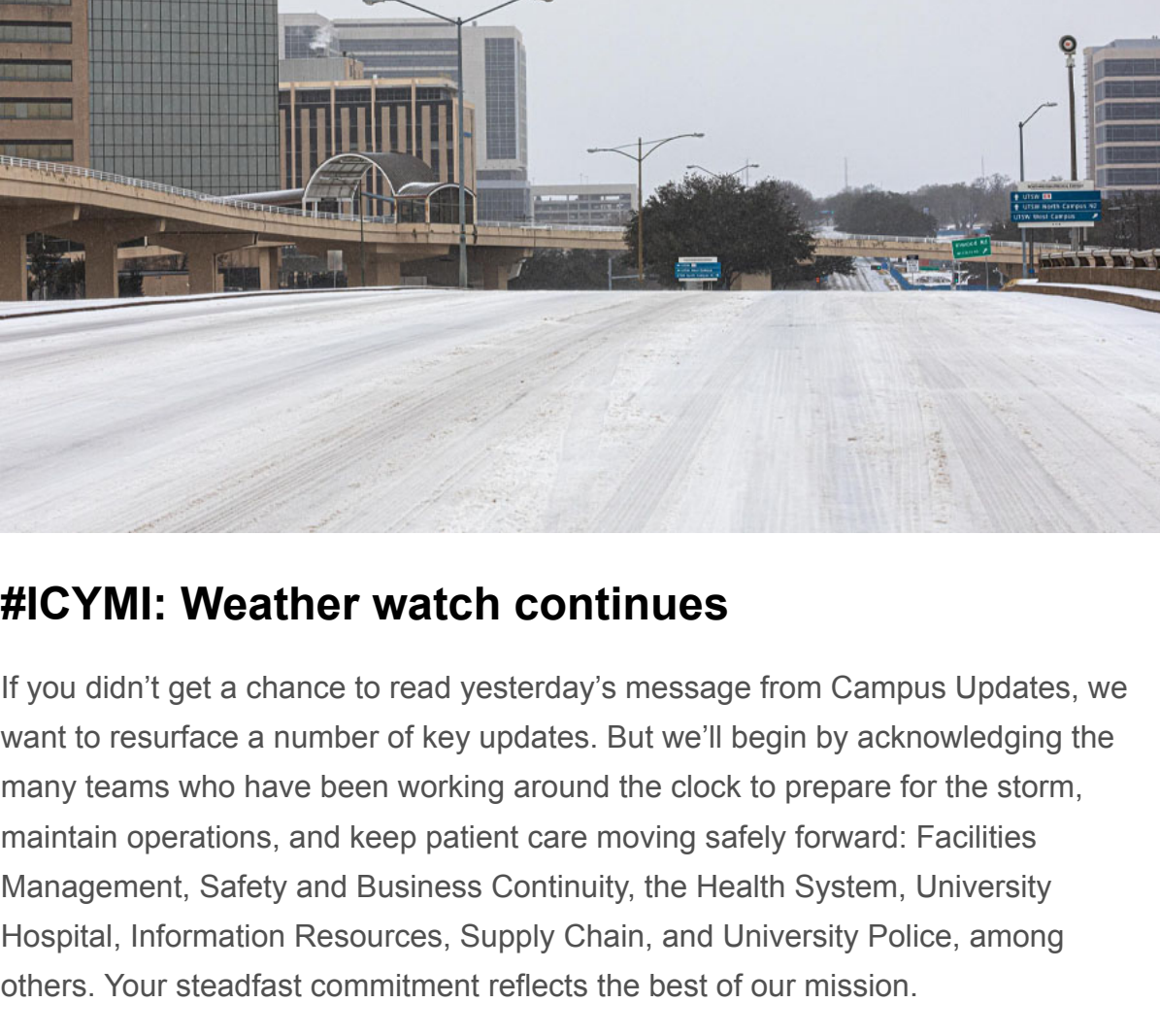




#ICYMI: Weather watch continues

If you didn't get a chance to read yesterday's message from Campus Updates, we want to resurface a number of key updates. But we'll begin by acknowledging the many teams who have been working around the clock to prepare for the storm, maintain operations, and keep patient care moving safely forward: Facilities Management, Safety and Business Continuity, the Health System, University Hospital, Information Resources, Supply Chain, and University Police, among others. Your steadfast commitment reflects the best of our mission.

In case you missed it:

- This [page on Campus Updates](#) will continue to be updated with the latest need-to-know information.
- As previously communicated, this winter storm qualifies as inclement weather days related to policies [EMP-267](#) and [HSC-156](#). Per these policies, an employee in an essential position who, during an emergency, does not report for work or refuses an authorized request to remain on duty beyond their scheduled shift ending time, may have that time recorded as an unexcused absence, subject to any departmental time and attendance policies. Absences due to inclement weather will be charged to an employee's available, applicable leave accruals, and the employee may be subject to disciplinary action. In addition, if you are a Health System employee, you would accrue points for a "High Impact" occurrence, in addition to using Unscheduled PTO.
- Anyone who holds a position **not designated as essential** during inclement weather or other emergencies should communicate with their supervisor to confirm **remote work options** for the duration of the weather event. These include individuals involved in educational, research, clinical, administrative, and other institutional roles.
- In-person classes for students across all four UTSW schools have shifted to virtual learning for today. Learners and trainees should continue to watch for additional updates from Associate Deans/Academic Affairs.
- For those working remotely, remember that Information Resources' [Working Off Campus webpage](#) offers helpful tools and guidance.
- William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital, Zale Lipshy Pavilion, and the Outpatient Surgery Center remain open and operating as normal.
- UT Southwestern's outpatient clinics and regional medical centers are closed for in-person visits today. Providers are continuing with telehealth appointments where possible.
- Given a forecast that calls for improving conditions, we anticipate resuming normal campus operations and clinic hours on **Tuesday, Jan. 27**. Institutional and Health System leaders continue to closely monitor weather conditions and will adjust as needed to ensure the safety of our workforce and our patients.
- Researchers who are not designated as essential during inclement weather are strongly encouraged to work remotely today if at all possible.
- Please be patient with our shuttle drivers.** They are operating in hazardous conditions and have been instructed to keep speeds to 5 mph out of an abundance of caution. We ask riders not to direct frustrations at drivers – they are doing their jobs to keep themselves, passengers, and others on the road as safe as possible.
- Although roadways have been treated, please drive safely and watch for any icy conditions due to melted snow refreezing.

If you are facing challenges – whether it's traveling icy roads, arranging child care with schools closed, or simply adjusting to the disruptions caused by the severe weather – our post on Campus Updates features a [list of available resources](#) to help you navigate the impact of this weather event.

[More information](#)

UTSW receives ARPA-H award to create functioning artificial liver

UT Southwestern has received an award of up to \$25 million from the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) to develop 3D-printed livers on demand that can be used for transplant.

The project – known as Vascularized Immunocompetent Tissue as an Alternative Liver (VITAL) – could significantly reduce the gap between supply and demand for donor livers, negate the necessity of lifelong immunosuppression for liver transplant patients, and create artificial livers for in vitro drug testing and research.

"Over the last two decades, researchers have made remarkable progress toward the goal of creating lab-made organs, including innovations in biomaterials, stem cell differentiation, and bioprinting. UT Southwestern is an ideal environment to bring together the recent advances that have never been combined before," said the project's principal investigator, **Muhammad Rizwan, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering and Ophthalmology.

[Discover more about this exciting project](#)

Your 2025 tax forms are ready: Here's how to access them

With tax preparation season beginning, our Human Resources (HR) team wants to ensure you know how to access your 2025 tax forms:

W-2 Federal Wage and Tax Statement

All active employees can download their electronic W-2s through PeopleSoft:

- Log in to [PeopleSoft](#) (on-campus network or VPN connection required).
- On the top left of the page, click on the drop-down menu and select "Employee Self Service (ESS)."
- Click the "Payroll" tile.
- Click "View W-2/W-2c Forms."

Please note: If you previously chose to only receive an electronic copy of your W-2, you will not receive a paper copy in the mail.

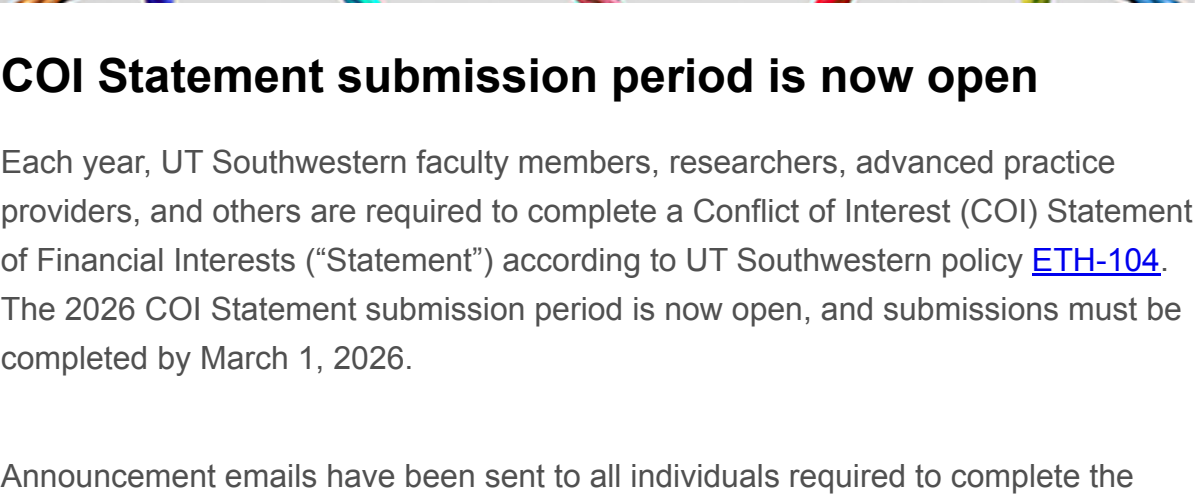
Form 1095: Employer-Provided Health Insurance Offer of Coverage

[Form 1095-C](#) is no longer required for filing federal income taxes, and you will not receive this directly from UTSW. However, all active employees can download it through our benefits portal:

- Log in to our [benefits portal](#).
- Click "Quick Links" at the top of the page.
- Download your Form 1095-C.

Please note: If you live in California, New Jersey, Rhode Island, or Washington, D.C., you will receive a mailed copy of your Form 1095-C.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please reach out to our HR team by [email](#) or call us at 214-648-9810.



COI Statement submission period is now open

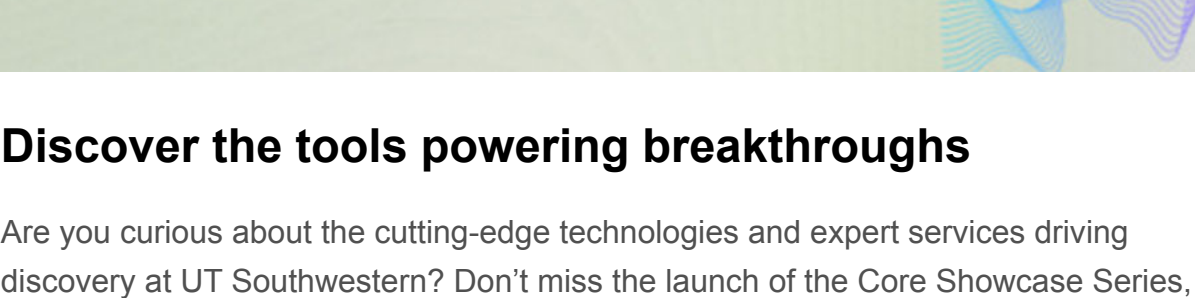
Each year, UT Southwestern faculty members, researchers, advanced practice providers, and others are required to complete a Conflict of Interest (COI) Statement of Financial Interests ("Statement") according to UT Southwestern policy [ETH-104](#). The 2026 COI Statement submission period is now open, and submissions must be completed by March 1, 2026.

Announcement emails have been sent to all individuals required to complete the annual COI Training and submit a 2026 COI Statement. Please check your inbox and plan to complete your Statement by March 1. If you do not receive an email requesting submission, no action is required.

If you are not required to submit a 2026 COI Statement but are planning to participate in an Outside Activity as defined in UT Southwestern policy [EMP-158](#), you must submit a new Outside Activity form.

To make things easier, the [COI-Info Portal platform](#) (on-campus network or VPN connection required) provides both the COI Training module and COI Statement of Financial Interests in one convenient location.

If you have questions, [email](#) the COI Office or visit the [Conflict of Interest page](#) on the UTSW intranet (on-campus network or VPN connection required). The COI Office is hosting virtual office hours each Monday during the disclosure period for any submitters who need assistance. Information about virtual office hours is also on the Conflict of Interest intranet page.



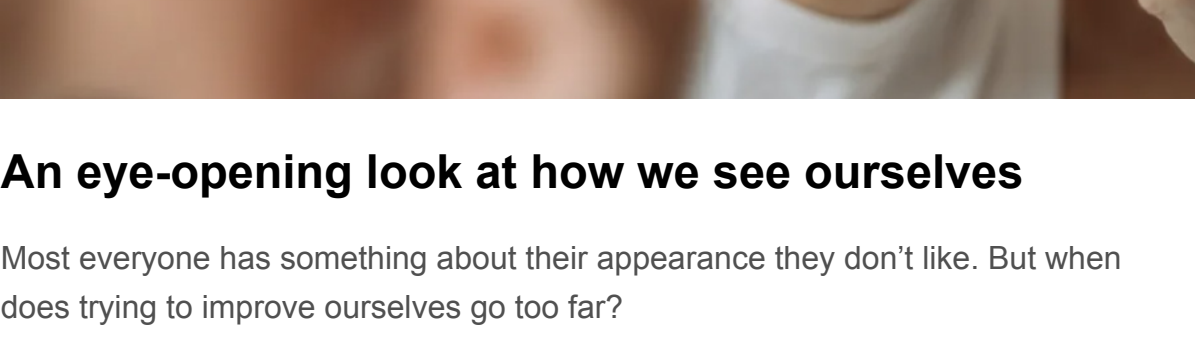
Discover the tools powering breakthroughs

Are you curious about the cutting-edge technologies and expert services driving discovery at UT Southwestern? Don't miss the launch of the Core Showcase Series, a dynamic new event designed to help UTSW researchers unlock the full potential of our campus core facilities.

Join us for an engaging session, and hear from directors of the [Macromolecular Biophysics Resource](#), [Proteomics Core](#), and [Cryo-Electron Microscopy Facility](#). Each session will highlight the capabilities that support scientific discovery and will include opportunities to ask questions and connect with colleagues across departments.

Details: Thursday, Feb. 5., noon-1 p.m.

[Join the Showcase](#)



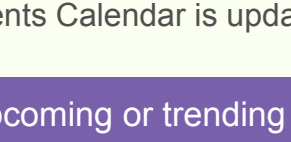
An eye-opening look at how we see ourselves

Most everyone has something about their appearance they don't like. But when does trying to improve ourselves go too far?

Collin Vas, M.D., Clinical Associate Professor in Psychiatry, explores the phenomenon of body dysmorphic disorder (BDD). That's what occurs when a person becomes critical of a certain part of their body – be it a few extra pounds around the middle, a nose they don't like the shape of, or any other feature they find to be flawed or unattractive – to the point that it becomes an obsession.

The condition can be overwhelming, consuming the sufferer's thoughts every waking hour. It carries one of the highest suicide rates of any psychological disorder, but it often goes undiagnosed. The good news is that it's highly treatable. Learn more about the warning signs of BDD and what can be done to help those who suffer from it in Dr. Vas' MedBlog linked below.

[Get a closer look at this condition](#)



UTSW Events Calendar

Looking for your daily dose of happenings?

The UTSW Events Calendar is updated every day.

[View upcoming or trending events](#)

Share your *Insider* suggestions by sending them to utswinsider@utsouthwestern.edu.

Looking for an item in a past edition of this newsletter? Check out our [Insider archive](#).

This is an internal email and not intended for external distribution. Please do not forward.

© 2026 UT Southwestern Medical Center. All rights reserved. *UTSW Insider* is a publication of Communications, Marketing, and Public Affairs (CMPA) at UT Southwestern Medical Center.