



UT SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL CENTER

PINNACLE AWARDS

Nominations open for the UTSW Pinnacle Awards

Last week, UT Southwestern President **Daniel K. Podolsky, M.D.**, [announced](#) the inaugural UT Southwestern Pinnacle Awards, a new campuswide recognition program designed to honor and celebrate exceptional contributions by staff across all areas of UT Southwestern's mission – education, research, and clinical care.

The Pinnacle Awards stemmed from feedback from employee engagement surveys and our Employee Advisory Council.

“UT Southwestern's strength is rooted in its people – individuals who embody our core values of excellence, innovation, teamwork, and compassion and make a meaningful difference in the lives of others,” Dr. Podolsky said.

The awards will be presented in six categories:

- UT Southwestern Distinguished Service Award
- Spirit of UT Southwestern Award
- Pinnacle Award for Excellence
- Pinnacle Award for Innovation
- Pinnacle Award for Teamwork
- Pinnacle Award for Compassion

Find details, criteria, and nomination information on the [Pinnacle Awards website](#).

Nominations are open through April 8.

A ceremony to recognize the recipients will be held on **June 17** at the Tom and Lula Gooch Auditorium, with a reception to follow on Seldin Plaza.

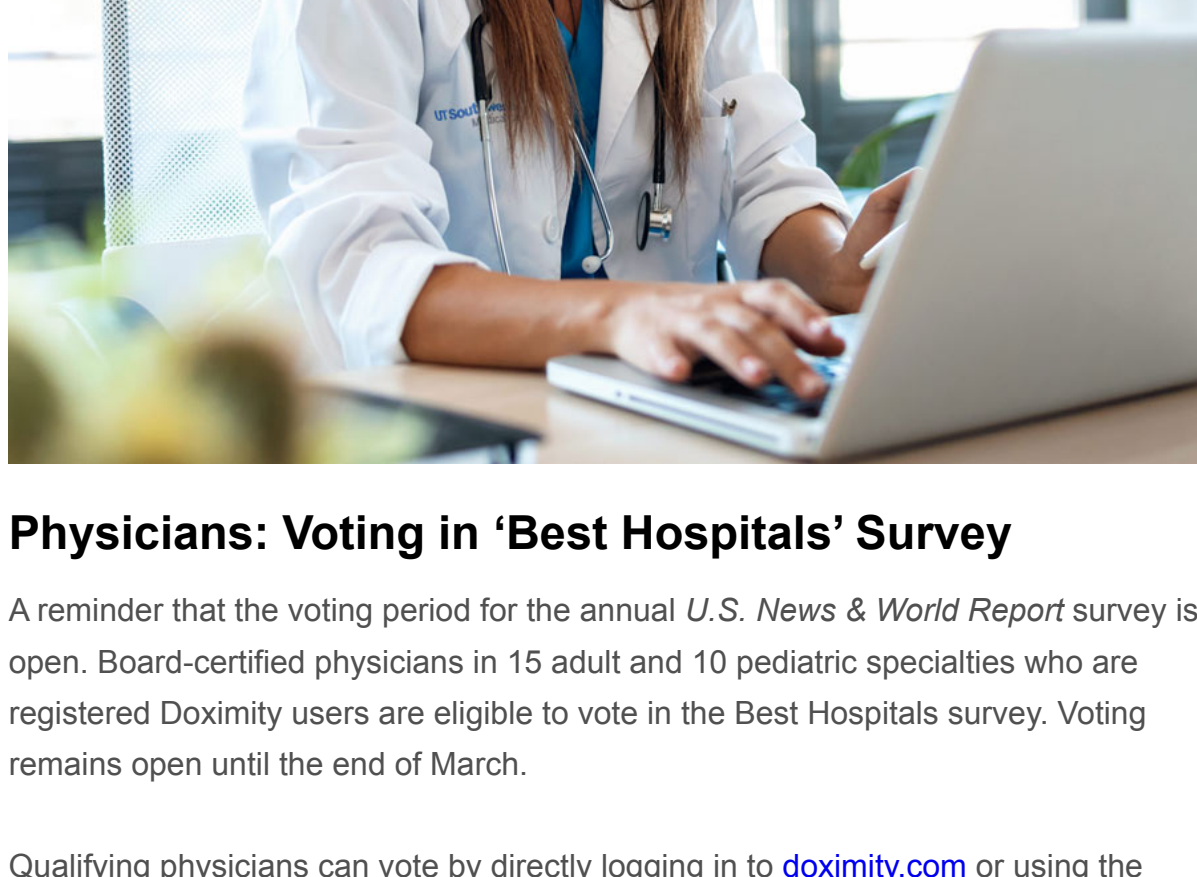
[UT Southwestern Pinnacle Awards](#)


Match Day: The countdown begins

This Friday, the Medical School's Class of 2025 will join soon-to-be physicians nationwide in celebrating [Match Day](#), a highly anticipated milestone where they'll discover where they will continue their medical training.

From a Navy veteran who developed a passion for emergency medicine to a future neurosurgeon inspired by her brother's condition, and even a medical student who delivered his own child, each member of the class of 2025 showcases the dedication, scholarship, and passion for medicine that defines UTSW. Learn about these extraordinary scholars, plus follow a couple experiencing Match Day together, in the *Center Times Plus* article linked below.

The festivities will be at 11 a.m. in the Bryan Williams, M.D. Student Center gym! You can stream the celebration [live](#) and follow the latest coverage [@UTSWedu](#) on [Instagram](#) and [X](#).

[Student Spotlights](#)


Physicians: Voting in 'Best Hospitals' Survey

A reminder that the voting period for the annual *U.S. News & World Report* survey is open. Board-certified physicians in 15 adult and 10 pediatric specialties who are registered Doximity users are eligible to vote in the Best Hospitals survey. Voting remains open until the end of March.

Qualifying physicians can vote by directly logging in to [doximity.com](#) or using the Doximity app. If you don't have an active Doximity account, you have until the end of the survey period in late March to activate your account and cast your vote.

If you have questions about the rankings process, please email usnwrvotingquestions@utsouthwestern.edu.

Last year, *U.S. News* recognized William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital as the No.1 hospital in Dallas-Fort Worth for the eighth consecutive year. Eleven UT Southwestern specialties – the most in Texas – ranked in the top 50 nationally.



UTSW Off the Clock: Finding peace in pottery

Away from the world of public health genetics, **Sukh Makhnoon, Ph.D., M.S.**, indulges her creative spirit through pottery. Shaping clay into beautiful works is a symbiotic balance to her research, proving that science and artistry literally go hand in hand.

"I did not know this when I first started pottery, but apparently there are quite a lot of medical benefits to doing pottery and doing artwork that involves both of your hands," she shared. "There is evidence about how it improves mental well-being, reduces stress, and reduces cortisol."

Dr. Makhnoon's passion for pottery is a reminder that we should make time to explore new skills and hobbies.

What brings you joy outside of your career? If you have a cool hobby or fun interest you'd love to share, [email](#) our social team so they can tell your story and celebrate the amazing talents of our UTSW family!

[LinkedIn](#)
UT Southwestern
Medical Center


UTSW Mom and Dad crewnecks are here!

Stay warm and show your UT Southwestern pride with our latest apparel: UTSW Mom and Dad crewneck sweatshirts!

These cozy crewnecks are available in a range of sizes and make the perfect gift for Match Day, Mother's Day, and Father's Day – or as a treat for yourself.

Snag yours today online or at any of our three campus store [locations](#).

[UTSW Store](#)

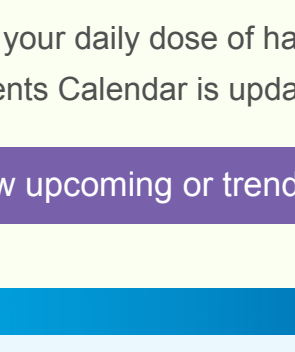
Insider Guide



Women's History Month Celebration

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., March 19 | South Campus, D1.602

Come celebrate Women's History Month at the "She Talks 2" forum, featuring several UT Southwestern leaders sharing inspiring stories, experiences, and advice. The second annual event is hosted by the Office for Institutional Opportunity. Registration is required. To attend in person or virtually, please use the link below.

[Details](#)


UTSW Events Calendar

Looking for your daily dose of happenings?
The UTSW Events Calendar is updated every day.

[Click to 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](#).

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