

Consider approval of the UTSA Prefreshman Engineering Program (PREP) MOU for the 2025-2026 school year

1. Background:

Southwest Independent School District is requesting the approval of the 2025-2026 MOU with the UTSA Prefreshman Engineering Program (PREP). PREP is an educational program provided by UTSA for middle and high school students, held annually during the summer, which takes place on a college or university campus or other site.

2. Process:

PREP's goal is to identify students, particularly from underrepresented groups, with an interest and potential for careers in, science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) related areas and to support and prepare these students in the pursuit of STEM fields. The PREP curriculum emphasizes the application of mathematics and engineering design to diverse disciplines and stresses the development of abstract reasoning and problem-solving skills through coursework, Project Based Learning, teamwork, class presentations, and career awareness seminars.

3. Fiscal Impact

The cost of the program will be paid with local funds and not to exceed \$10,000. The cost per student is \$500 and the maximum number of students accepted by UTSA will be 20.

4. Recommendation

That the Board approves the UTSA Prefreshman Engineering Program (PREP) MOU for the 2025-2026 school year

5. Required

Board Action.