

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
A Brief Profile

Texas Southern University was established on March 3, 1947, by the fiftieth Texas Legislature. Originally designated Texas State University for Negroes, it became the first state-supported institution in the City of Houston. In 1951 the institution was renamed Texas Southern University (TSU). Although the University was initially established to educate African Americans, it has become one of the most ethnically diverse institutions in the state. Additionally, its focus and mission has significantly evolved since those early years from a comprehensive generalist focus to a focus on the unique needs of an urban clientele. As a result, in 1973 the Texas Legislature recognized TSU's involvement in programs and services particularly suited to the needs of urban residents by designating the institution "a special purpose institution for urban programming."

Thus, TSU has undergone significant change throughout the years. Nevertheless, it has remained a special attraction for African Americans. The institution now distinguishes itself as one of the leading producers of African American scholars that obtain collegiate various higher education degrees. The University offers a vast array of baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral programs. The University also offers two professional degrees (the Doctor of Pharmacy and the Doctor of Jurisprudence). In keeping with the growing job market demands and student diversity, TSU also offers online degree programs, namely the eMBA & eMPA. More information regarding the types of degrees offered may be found at the following website <http://em.tsu.edu/registrar/catalog.php>

TSU's campus includes two professional schools; a music recital hall, acclaimed for its acoustics; a performance theater; the University Art Museum; a health and physical education complex, a student center, recreation center; and dormitories. Additionally, the University owns a FM radio station that serves as a teaching and learning laboratory and as an educational link to the community at large.



Texas Southern University

Historical Highlights

- 1947** Texas Southern University became the first publicly supported University in Houston. The University was originally founded as Texas State University for Negroes.
- 1948** Dr. R. O'Hara Lanier, U.S. Minister to Liberia, was appointed as the first president of Texas Southern University.
- 1950** Texas Southern University awarded its first Law degree from the School of Law.
- 1951** By legislative enactment, Texas State University for Negroes was renamed Texas Southern University.
- 1955** Dr. Samuel M. Nabrit was appointed the second president of Texas Southern University.
- Texas Southern University obtained accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, the Texas Education Agency, and the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education.
- The School of Law was approved by the State Board of Law Examiners and by the American Bar Association.
- The School of Pharmacy was accredited by the American Council on Pharmaceutical Education.
- 1966** Dr. Joseph A. Pierce was appointed acting president. Dr. Pierce later became the third president of Texas Southern University.



Texas Southern University
Historical Highlights
(Continued)

- 1968** Dr. Granville M. Sawyer was appointed the fourth president of Texas Southern University.
- 1973** Because of its continuously evolving urban focus, the Texas Legislature designated Texas Southern University as a “Special Purpose Institution for Urban Programming”.
- 1978** The College of Education awarded Texas Southern University’s first Doctor of Education degree.
- 1979** Mr. Everett O. Bell was appointed the fifth president of Texas Southern University.
- 1980** Dr. Leonard H. O. Spearman was appointed the sixth president of Texas Southern University.
- 1986** Dr. Robert J. Terry became the interim president of Texas Southern University.
The College of Pharmacy awarded Texas Southern University’s first Doctor of Pharmacy degree.
- 1987** Dr. William H. Harris was appointed the seventh president of Texas Southern University.
- 1993** Dr. Joann Horton was appointed the eighth president of Texas Southern University and its first female president.
- 1995** Mr. James M. Douglas, Esq., was appointed acting president. He was later appointed the ninth president of Texas Southern University
- 1998** Texas Southern University awarded its first Ph.D. in Environmental Toxicology.
- 1999** Dr. Priscilla Slade was appointed acting president of Texas Southern University. She was later appointed the tenth president of Texas Southern University.
- 2006** General James T. Boddie, Jr. was appointed interim president of Texas Southern University.
- 2008** Dr. John M. Rudley was appointed the eleventh president of Texas Southern University.



Texas Southern University

Mission

Texas Southern University is a comprehensive metropolitan university. Building on its legacy as a historically black institution, the university provides academic and research programs that address critical urban issues and prepare an ethnically diverse student population to become a force for positive change in a global society.

In order to achieve this mission, Texas Southern University provides:

- quality instruction in a culture of innovative teaching and learning
- basic and applied research and scholarship that is responsive to community issues
- opportunities for public service that benefit the community and the world.

Vision

Texas Southern University will become one of the nation's pre-eminent comprehensive metropolitan universities. We will be recognized by the excellence of our programs, the quality of our instruction, our innovative research, and our desire to be a contributing partner to our community, state, nation, and world.



TSU Now.

