

# news THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT DALLAS

southwestern medical school ■ graduate school of biomedical sciences ■ school of allied health sciences

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Contact: Ellaine Clay

*\*\*\*\*\*Cooperation between UTHSCD and Dallas  
Independent School District provides  
opportunity for employes to obtain  
high school certificate.*

DALLAS--Thirty men and women at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas have made a decision that they believe will change the direction of their lives. They are going back to school to complete their high school education.

Center president Charles C. Sprague recently signed an agreement with William J. Edmond, director of the Dallas/Rockwall Co-Op Adult Basic Education program, allowing the Dallas Independent School District to conduct classes on campus.

The adult education program provides classroom instruction for UTHSCD employes and their spouses who wish to obtain their high school equivalency certificate, said James Cheeks, assistant to the president for minority affairs and equal employment opportunity.

The program will also provide staffing, instructional materials and supplies, educational equipment and the administrative assistance of the adult basic education director for instructional services.

Instruction is being offered in general mathematics and science, correctness and effectiveness of expression, interpretation of reading materials in the social studies and interpretation of reading materials in literature.

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Cheeks organized the cooperative effort between personnel director Johnnie Reynolds and associate director Ted Michaels and representatives of the campus Women's Action Group, Dr. Mary E. Gaulden, Dr. Kathy Taubert and Ann Robinson.

"We have to give the credit to Ann Robinson for coming up with the original idea to have the G.E.D. program on campus," said Cheeks.

Ms. Robinson, technical staff assistant in continuing education, had taught in a similar program for the Prince Georges County Board of Education in Maryland and wanted to continue teaching here.

"We're really excited about the response," said Ms. Robinson. Of the 125 employes located by a computer search, more than 30 have signed up for the classes.

"This was just the push that we needed," said one of the class members, Lynn Eden, an accounting clerk in physical plant.

It was only recently that Ms. Eden had seen any reason for getting her high school diploma. She came to work for the health science center in the housekeeping department and worked her way up to accounting clerk. For this position the high school educational requirements had to be waived.

It was then that she realized that her career might be hampered by not having the diploma.

"I knew that I might be overlooked for a promotion or turned down for a raise. I wasn't going to let that piece of paper stand in the way of my advancement," said Ms. Eden. "I have always believed that the only limitations are the ones that you impose on yourself."

To help get the program started on campus, she actively helped recruit employes she knew did not have a high school diploma and encouraged them to sign up "because it was free and convenient."

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