



## UT EIDs, Passwords and Confidentiality

At UT Austin, students are expected to take ownership of many of the tasks that you possibly completed for them, like filling out forms, checking grades and paying bills. While some parents would like access to all of this information, the university recognizes the importance of students becoming self-sufficient so they can prepare for life beyond the Forty Acres.

One of the ways the university reinforces the importance of students becoming self-sufficient is by entrusting them with access to the institution's highly confidential websites. And in turn, students give their word of honor to respect the importance of that confidential access and not share their access information with anyone...even their parents and family.

There are many reasons that parents and family justify their need to have access to their student's UT EID and password. And, for the most part, the reasons are all rooted in the parents' and families' desire to help their student.

Rather than placing your student in an awkward situation that could lead to him or her breaking the University Code of Conduct, we encourage you to consider another alternative. Before arriving to campus, have a discussion with your student. Clearly lay out your expectations in this new dynamic.

For example, if you want to know your student's grades, let him or her know why and then, together, determine how and when you'll receive the information.

We recognize these changes in accessibility at the collegiate level can be an adjustment for our parents and families. We also know the opportunities they present for dialogue with your student will be important steps as your student establishes him or herself as the independent young adult you are excited for him or her to become.

### A few quick definitions to help you understand the UT lingo:

**UT EID:** When students apply for admission, they receive a University of Texas Electronic Identity (UT EID) that is a unique combination of their initials and a series of numbers. The UT EID paired with a password created by your student secures access to his or her information. The combination of UT EID and password allows your student to conduct university business online, such as paying tuition, registering for classes, checking grades, accessing online course information, paying other bills, etc. In a nutshell, think of your student's UT EID as an electronic identifier or "user name" that must have the password to work.

**UT Password:** All secure UT websites are password-protected due to the highly confidential information that can be accessed. While your student's UT EID is public information, his or her password is **not** and should **never** be shared with anyone, including parents, family, friends, advisors, professors, administrators, etc. When students set up their UT EID and password, they entered into an agreement with UT that stated they will not share their password. It is important to understand that if your student shares his password with you or anyone else, he or she is in violation of the University Code of Conduct.

**eProxy:** This is an electronic permission your student can give the university to grant you access to a limited set of actions on his or her behalf. Specifically, eProxy allows you to view and make payments on tuition and housing bills as well as add funds to Dine-In Dollars and Bevo Bucks. It will **not** give you access to grades, course schedules or class registration. In the *New Parent Guide* being mailed to your home in May, you'll find more information on how to set up eProxy.