

Valeria, Tamayoo Barron

Respiratory Care, Class of 2024

Hometown: Mexico City, Mexico

SPOTLIGHT QUESTIONS

What advice do you have to someone who is interested in this program or someone who is just starting out in this program?

It's not easy, but it's so worth it.

What has been the most impactful course you have taken? If you cannot identify one-- what is a lesson or message that has stuck with you?

My first anatomy and physiology class. My teacher had such a strong passion for what he was teaching that I loved. Learning more about the human body made me realize that's what I wanted to do.

What has been your favorite/most memorable moment in the program?

Being able to practice hands on in labs. It feels like everything I'm learning in the classroom, and at home, is being applied towards my future profession.

What first prompted your interest in your chosen academic program and future health care profession?

Respiratory therapy was never really in the plans for me until 2021 when I got COVID. Not being able to breath was the scariest thing I've ever experienced and I am so grateful for amazing respiratory therapists. I hope one day I can provide life saving treatments and therapies.

Why did you choose to attend the School of Health Professions at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB)?

Il had toured several universities when applying to schools and UTMB felt instantly like home. I loved the campus, the history, and the feeling I got when I visited UTMB.
