



UTTyler[™]
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER

Behavioral Health Administrator

Leadership Profile

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The Opportunity

The University of Texas at Tyler (UT Tyler) and UT Health East Texas seek an accomplished leader to serve as their next Behavioral Health Administrator (Administrator) to provide strategic, operational, and clinical leadership for a growing behavioral health enterprise. This is a unique opportunity to help define the future of behavioral health care, education, and clinical innovation across one of Texas's most dynamic academic health systems.

Serving as the senior administrative leader for Behavioral Health services, the Administrator will provide enterprise-wide oversight of operations, strategy, growth, financial performance, and quality initiatives across the behavioral health service line. Working in close partnership with the Chair of Psychiatry and institutional leadership, this individual will help advance an integrated vision that aligns clinical care, training, research, and community engagement while expanding access to high-quality behavioral health services throughout East Texas.

UT Tyler serves as one of the most important educational, healthcare, and research anchors in East Texas. Combining the resources of a major public university, an academic health center, and a regional healthcare network, the institution has developed a distinctive model focused on student success, regional transformation, and public service.

Established through a landmark partnership with The University of Texas System, UT Tyler, and Ardent Health Services, UT Health East Texas is the leading integrated health network in the region. The system includes hospitals, ambulatory and specialty clinics, graduate medical education programs, and a broad range of community-based services that collectively provide advanced, patient-centered care across a large and diverse geographic area.

Together, UT Tyler and UT Health East Texas are building one of the most comprehensive behavioral health programs in East Texas. The service line encompasses more than 15 clinical faculty, four clinical divisions and sections, over 30 residents and fellows, and multiple inpatient and outpatient clinical sites. Significant opportunities exist to strengthen care delivery models, expand access across the region, enhance academic and clinical integration, and further establish the organization's reputation as a leader in behavioral health services, education, and research.

The successful candidate will be a collaborative and results-oriented healthcare executive with a demonstrated record of operational excellence, strategic leadership, and program growth. Candidates should possess at least ten years of progressively responsible healthcare leadership experience, including substantial experience in behavioral health services. Experience partnering effectively with physician leaders and faculty within an academic medical center, integrated health system, or similarly complex healthcare environment is highly desirable. While experience in behavioral health nursing is valued, UT Tyler is equally interested in exceptional candidates from a broad range of behavioral health, healthcare administration, and clinical leadership backgrounds.

Organization Overview

University of Texas at Tyler

The University of Texas at Tyler (UT Tyler) is a comprehensive public research university and member of the University of Texas System, serving as the primary academic and health sciences institution for East Texas. Located in Tyler, Texas, midway between Dallas and Shreveport, Louisiana, UT Tyler has evolved into a regional powerhouse for higher education, healthcare, research, and economic development across East Texas. The university's mission centers on improving educational attainment, advancing healthcare outcomes, driving innovation, and serving as a catalyst for regional prosperity.

UT Tyler occupies a distinctive position among Texas institutions due to its integration with the UT Tyler Health Science Center and UT Health East Texas, creating a unified academic health enterprise that combines education, research, clinical care, and community engagement. This alignment enables the institution to serve students, patients, and communities through an integrated model that advances workforce development while addressing critical healthcare needs across the region.

Research efforts are focused on improving quality of life through innovations in health sciences, sustainability, entrepreneurship, community development, environmental stewardship, and regional economic growth.

UT Tyler offers a broad portfolio of academic programs designed to meet workforce needs across Texas while supporting student success and upward mobility. The university provides more than 90 undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs, including:

- 49 bachelor's degrees
- 37 master's degrees
- 6 doctoral degrees

The institution is organized into five colleges and three schools:

Colleges

- Ben and Maytee Fisch College of Pharmacy
- College of Arts and Sciences
- College of Education and Psychology
- College of Engineering
- Soules College of Business

Schools

- School of Health Professions
- School of Medicine
- School of Nursing

Health Sciences and Clinical Impact

A defining strength of UT Tyler is its academic health infrastructure. Through the integration of the UT Tyler Health Science Center and UT Health East Texas, the university serves as the academic medical center for Northeast Texas. This partnership supports:

- Advanced patient care
- Medical and health professions education
- Clinical research

- Regional healthcare workforce development
- Community health improvement initiatives

The academic health enterprise provides an important platform for advancing healthcare access and outcomes across a largely rural service area while creating significant opportunities for interdisciplinary education, clinical training, and translational research.

UT Health East Texas

UT Health East Texas combines the scale of a multi-hospital network, the resources of a major public university, the capabilities of an academic medical center, and the operational expertise of a national health system partner.

Supported by Ardent Health Services and The University of Texas System, UT Health East Texas encompasses a broad network of healthcare resources, including 9 hospitals, more than 90 physician clinics and ambulatory locations, an expansive EMS/Air 1 service with more than 50 ambulance and 3 helicopters, and the only Level 1 Trauma Center in East Texas. The system is supported by more than 630 medical providers and extends home health services across 41 Texas counties, providing access to care for both urban and rural populations. As one of the region's leading healthcare organizations, UT Health East Texas plays a critical role in delivering high-quality care while supporting economic development, workforce training, and healthcare access throughout East Texas.

[UT Health North Campus Tyler](#) serves as the academic flagship of UT Health East Texas and the principal clinical training site for UT Tyler Psychiatry Residency Program. The campus functions as the hub for graduate medical education, clinical research, and specialty care across the health system, integrating patient care, physician training, and academic programs in support of UT Tyler's mission as East Texas' academic health center. As a key component of the region's healthcare infrastructure, North Campus Tyler serves as a major center for behavioral health, pulmonary medicine, infectious disease, and other specialized clinical services.

Behavioral Health Services

[Behavioral health services](#) at UT Tyler and UT Health East Texas encompass a broad clinical, educational, and community-focused mission designed to address the mental health needs of East Texas. The service provides the full continuum of behavioral health care, including inpatient psychiatry, outpatient behavioral health services, consultation-liaison psychiatry, geriatric psychiatry, telepsychiatry, substance use treatment, and community-based mental health programs. Clinical services are anchored at UT Health North Campus Tyler, where all inpatient psychiatric services are located, while additional outpatient programs extend into rural communities through dedicated clinics and telehealth initiatives. The team of mental health professionals includes psychiatrists and psychologists, as well as specialized physicians and nurses.

The inpatient behavioral health enterprise includes four distinct units serving different patient populations and funding models. A 14-bed state-funded unit with admissions coordinated through the local mental health authority; and a 30-bed subacute residential unit, a 21-bed acute adult psychiatry unit and a 10-bed geriatric psychiatry unit serving patients covered through traditional Medicare, Medicaid, and commercial insurance plans. Together, these programs provide an important regional safety net while addressing the complex behavioral health needs of both acute and chronically ill populations.

Behavioral health service extends its reach beyond Tyler through a growing network of outpatient and rural behavioral health services. A consultation-liaison presence is also maintained across UT Health East Texas where faculty psychiatrists and residents provide psychiatric support for medically hospitalized patients.

The partnership also serves as a critical academic and workforce development resource through UT Tyler's Robert M. Rogers Department of Psychiatry and Psychiatry Residency Program, nursing students and other health profession learners. Residents train across the UT Health East Texas network and through affiliations with Rusk State Hospital, Terrell State Hospital, and regional substance use treatment providers, gaining experience in inpatient, outpatient, geriatric, child and adolescent, forensic, addiction, and rural psychiatry. In addition, the

system offers specialized neuropsychology services for patients with dementia, Alzheimer's disease, stroke-related cognitive impairment, traumatic brain injury, and other neurological conditions.

Position Summary

This role is responsible for developing a comprehensive, patient-centered Behavioral Health service line that integrates multidisciplinary care, research, and community outreach while driving excellence and quality, innovation, and financial sustainability. The Behavioral Health Administrator collaborates with physicians, administrators, researchers, and community partners to enhance Behavioral Health care delivery across East Texas, ensuring UT Health East Texas and UT Tyler are recognized as regional leaders in Behavioral Health services.

Responsibilities

- Assumes responsibility for the development, implementation, monitoring, and adherence of the fiscal budgets for all behavioral health clinical services.
- Partners in the recruitment and retention of all Behavioral Health Faculty and Staff.
- Represents Behavioral Health Services when networking with all departments, hospitals, services of UT Health East Texas, UT Tyler and community partners.
- Approves all purchases, personnel requisition, salary adjustments, capital equipment requests and authorizes all other purchases outside department budget.
- Administers the internal function of the Behavioral Health Service Line and assures compliance with regulatory standards as well as Federal and State law.
- Oversees the development of policies and procedures to assure appropriate and cooperative functioning of The Behavioral Health Service Line.
- Supports and assures performance improvement activities that promote increased quality of services providing improved satisfaction and outcome for patients.
- Assures any complaints of patients, families, outside agencies, professionals, or other departments are addressed with mutual satisfaction obtained.
- Oversees all state and local contracts regarding inpatient units.
- Coordinates with practice plan leadership to recruit and retain clinical faculty.
- Works with Graduate Medical Education (GME) leadership to ensure quality training and practice sites for residents, fellows, interns and students.

Goals and Objectives

The following goals and objectives have been identified as priorities for this position:

- Develop and lead an integrated behavioral health care delivery model that promotes seamless coordination across the continuum of care, including inpatient, outpatient, emergency, consult-liaison, telebehavioral health, and community-based services.
- Partner with academic and physician leadership to create innovative training experiences that advance UT Tyler's academic mission while supporting the workforce development throughout the region.
- Advance the visibility and reputation of behavioral health services throughout the region while identifying opportunities for strategic collaboration and partnership. Serve as a trusted leader in addressing community behavioral health needs, reducing barriers to care, and developing coordinated approaches that improve access, outcomes and population well-being.
- Develop a comprehensive, forward-looking strategic plan that aligns behavioral health programs, services, resources, and growth initiatives with organizational priorities and community needs. Evaluate the existing portfolio of services and identify opportunities for expansion, integration, innovation, and operational improvement.
- Foster a highly collaborative relationship between UT Health East Texas and UT Tyler by aligning operational, clinical, educational, and strategic priorities across both organizations. Work closely with executive leadership, faculty, physicians, and operational leaders to ensure shared goals are clearly defined and effectively executed.
- Lead efforts to improve access to behavioral health services through the development and implementation of innovative care delivery models that meet patients where they are.
- Establish a close and highly collaborative partnership with the Department Chair to create a shared vision and strategic direction for behavioral health services across the enterprise. Align academic, clinical, operational, and financial priorities while fostering a culture of teamwork, transparency, accountability, and innovation.

Candidate Qualifications

Education/Certification

- Master's degree in health care administration, business administration, nursing or a related field is required.
- Registered Nurse (RN) or clinical degree preferred but not required.

Knowledge and Work Experience

- Ten (10) years' experience in healthcare with three (3) years in a psychiatric setting.
- Experience in a leadership position is preferred.
- May accept a combination of education and experience.

Leadership Skills and Competencies

- **Strategic leadership:** Ability to set a vision and execute long-term growth strategies.
- **Operational excellence:** Proven track record of improving efficiency, quality, and patient outcomes.
- **Financial acumen:** Experience with budgeting, revenue cycle management, and business development.
- **Physician engagement:** Strong ability to collaborate with and lead multidisciplinary teams.
- **Innovation mindset:** Understanding of emerging trends in Behavioral Health research, AI, and digital health.
- **Community focus:** Commitment to addressing health disparities and rural healthcare challenges.

The Community

Tyler, Texas

Located in Tyler, Texas, approximately 100 miles east of Dallas, UT Tyler serves a regional population of more than one million residents.

Renowned as the Rose Capital of the United States, Tyler is a growing mid-size city located less than 100 miles east of Dallas. As a regional focal point for entertainment, retail, healthcare, dining, arts, and outdoor recreation, Tyler offers small-town affordability with the comforts of a big city. Whether you want to take an afternoon to hike through Tyler State Park, shop at the Village at Cumberland Park, or eat your way through all the local Tex-Mex joints, Tyler is a vibrant place to live and work. Plus, it was named the no. 1 city in Texas to move to by USA Today. So, beat the crowd and discover Tyler for yourself.

For more information about UT Tyler and East Texas visit: [About | The University of Texas at Tyler](#) and [ut-tyler-profile.pdf](#)

Procedure for Candidacy

Please direct all applications, nominations, and inquiries to the WittKieffer consultants assisting the University of Texas at Tyler with this recruitment, via e-mail, to rwoudstra@wittkieffer.com.

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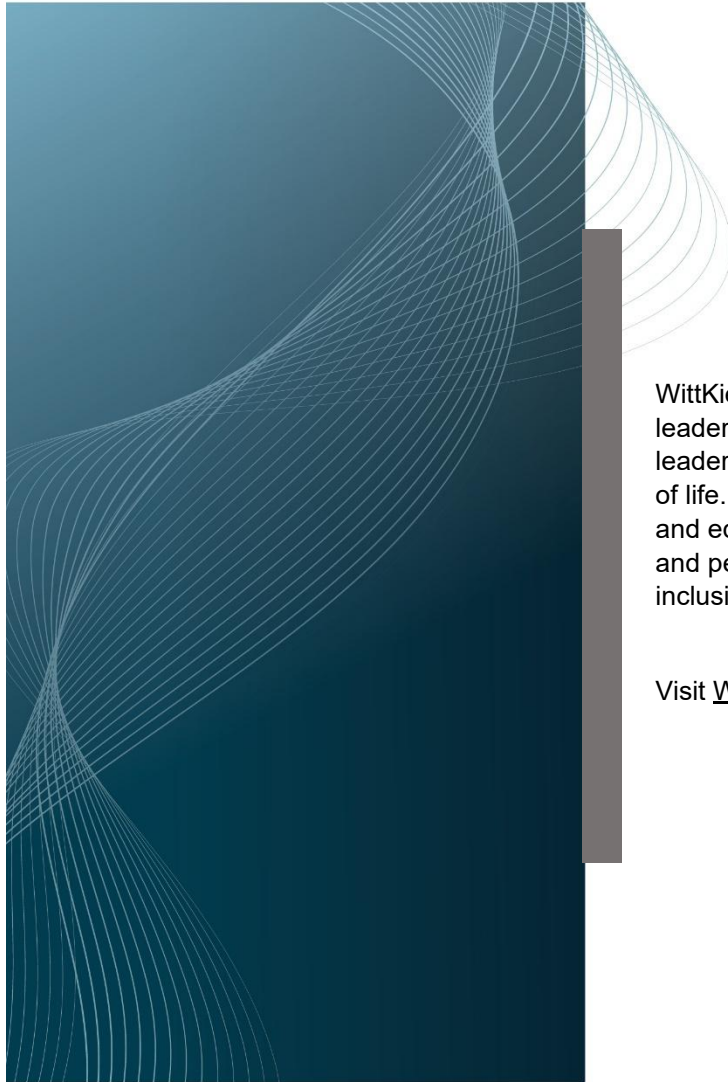
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