

Sam Houston State University

Sam Houston State University (SHSU) is located in Huntsville, Texas, 70 miles north of Houston . The university was founded in 1879 and is a Carnegie designated Doctoral Research University with 79 undergraduate degree programs,54 masters programs and 5 doctoral programs. Although SHSU is located in a predominantly rural area , it offers offsite classes at the University Center in The Woodlands. The facility is 50 miles south at a satellite location classified as urban and within the Extra Territorial Jurisdiction of Houston.

As of Spring 2009, there were approximately 17,000 students enrolled in both locations. Of these 14% are African-American and 13% are Hispanic . Additionally 58% of the students are female and **53% are first generation college students**. Most of the students are from low to moderate income households and 25% receive Pell grants. The university also has a strong International Programs initiative with 53 countries represented on campus .

SHSU receives approximately \$15 million in extramural research funding and all NSF grants include the component of undergraduate research experiences. The university has invested \$250million in new buildings ,research laboratories and facilities in the past three years and it currently is proceeding with a master plan to build additional new building s and research facilities for Agriculture, Biology, and Forensic Science.