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# Marketing and Communications Plan

# Contents

- 3 Introduction
- 4 Goals and Strategies
- 11 Primary Audiences
- 13 Key Messages
- 15 Media Methods
- 22 Plan of Action
- 28 Integration Tools
- 30 Appendices

Appendix 1: Strategic Enrollment Communication Plan Appendix 2: Audiences Appendix 3: Advertising Return On Investment



# Introduction

The University of Arkansas Hope-Texarkana marketing and communications plan supports the Institutional Advancement Department as they create and implement marketing activities to help increase student enrollment; inform prospective students; build external awareness of college events, activities, courses, programs, and services; and enhance the image of the college through design, multimedia, photography, online, and written projects. The plan is reviewed biennially to keep abreast of current marketing trends and tools, guide marketing and communications decisions, and provide a course of action that fits within specified budget parameters.



# Goals and Strategies

# GOAL

# Develop and implement marketing and communication activities to help increase student enrollment

# Strategies:

**1.1** Identify appropriate traditional and non-traditional media vehicles to reach proper target market segments

**1.2** Identify appropriate communication methods to market college programs, offerings, events, and activities

**1.3** Identify appropriate traditional and non-traditional media vehicles to market continuing education, industry training, and workforce development

**1.4** Collaborate with the Office of Enrollment Management (EM) to help generate leads and engage audiences along the EM funnel





Promote brand identity to increase college awareness and establish UAHT's reputation as a higher education leader in the service area

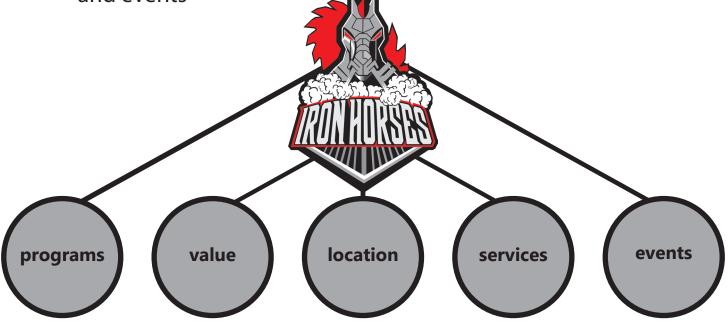
# Strategies:

**2.1** Strengthen the unified voice and visual identity of UAHT through consistent branding

**2.2** Evaluate collateral materials on a continual basis

**2.3** Develop and establish key messages to market the college

**2.4** Communicate effectively with external audiences (prospective students, parents, schools, donors, alumni, businesses, media, community-at-large) to build awareness of college programs, value, location, services, and events





Implement an integrated approach to marketing and communication across divisions, departments, and/or groups of the college

# Strategies:

**3.1** Establish consistency of message between print and electronic media

**3.2** Integrate design elements between external and internal methods





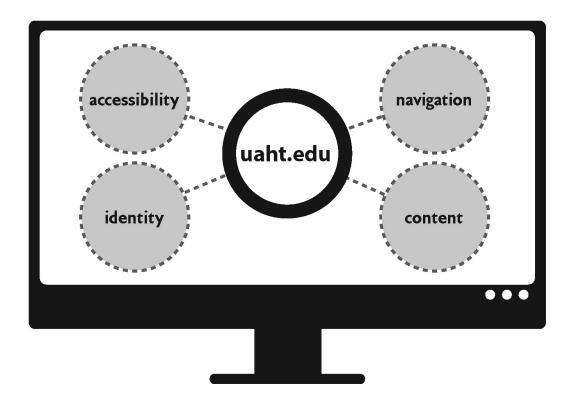
Maintain an informative and userfriendly college website (www.uaht.edu)

# Strategies:

**4.1** Adopt best practices of third-party vendor (Modern Campus) for user needs, experiences, and usability

**4.2** Maintain and update website content as needed. Individual departments are responsible for sending webpage updates to the College Relations team.

**4.3** Initiate website redesign when needed based on user data, current design trends, and ability to function across multiple platforms if budget allows





Maintain and/or increase the college social media presence and social media marketing

# Strategies:

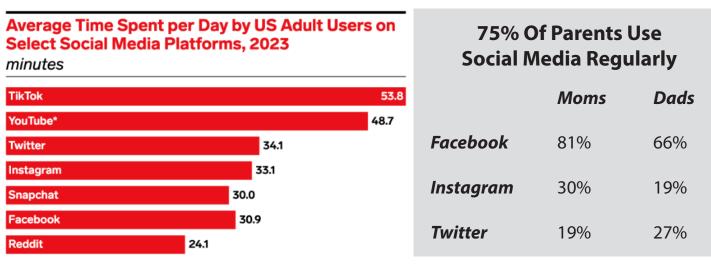
**5.1** Maintain and/or expand social media reach of the college through appropriate methods and channels

**5.2** Maintain and/or increase engagement with external audiences through social media platforms

**5.3** Monitor and track social media through analytics dashboards

# Which social media platforms are most popular?

YouTube 84% Facebook 68% Instagram 47% TikTok 33% Snapchat 27%



Sources: <u>https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2024/01/31/americans-social-media-use/</u> <u>https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2015/07/16/parents-and-social-media/</u> <u>https://sproutsocial.com/insights/new-social-media-demographics/</u>



Evaluate the effectiveness of marketing and communication activities through data-driven research and monitoring methods

# Strategies:

**6.1** Conduct research to support marketing and outreach decisions through data

**6.2** Analyze data to support marketing and outreach decisions

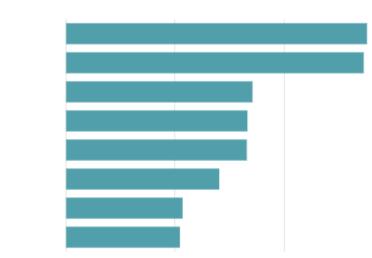
**6.3** Assess paid media buys through post-campaign analysis to the extent possible

**6.4** Monitor and track news coverage of UAHT through online media monitoring via Google Alerts

9. What is the most important information to include in advertisements about UAHT? Use arrows to the right of choices to rank.

### More Details

- 1 Cost, financial aid, and scholars...
- 2 Available degrees and programs
- 3 Class scheduling times and form...
- 4 Length of time to complete deg...
- 5 Job salaries in fields related to d...
- 6 Support services (tutoring, coun...
- 7 Student activities
- 8 Testimonials from graduates



\*Source: Student Survey Fall 2023

# Primary Audiences



# Key Messages

The messages below are applied to the college marketing and communication efforts to establish a unified voice for UAHT. Key attributes have been identified to guide the marketing messages.



# **Key Selling Points**

Free College | Affordable Tuition | Arkansas Transfer Achievement Scholarship Foundation Scholarships | In-Demand Programs | UA System Education Close To Home | Multiple Locations | Personal Attention | Book Rentals

# The UAHT tagline used in conjunction with key messages is: *"Your Bridge to the Future"*

# Media Methods

The college uses a variety of methods to market and communicate with primary and target audiences.

# **Advertising (paid)**

### Precision Targeting/Website Retargeting Flex360 (ABPG)

Search Engine Optimization Google SEO (WEHCO Media/Flypaper)

## **Electronic Billboards**

Shipp Outdoor Advertising (TXK)

## **Radio Spots**

Spotify POWER 95.9 KKYR 102.5 KZHE Magnolia

## **Online News Outlets**

TXKtoday.com SWARK.Today

## **Social Media Advertising**

YouTube Facebook Instagram Snapchat

## **Magazine & Specialty Publications**

Four States Living Texarkana Magazine Texarkana City Guide Hope-Hemp. County Relocation Guide Texarkana USA Chamber Guide Texarkana Football Magazine Arkansas Next

### Newspapers

HopePrescott News HopePrescott Spanish Paper Amigo News SWARK Tabs





# **ATTENTION PARENTS!**

Did you know your high school junior or senior can take career & technical classes for **FREE** at UAHT?

Try out different job options to see what you like.
Be career ready as soon as you graduate high school.
Gain skills that give you the competitive advantage to get high-paying jobs.

For more information, visit uaht.edu/academics/career-center.php.



# **Advertising (paid)**

## **High Schools**

Hempstead Guarantee Posters Hope High Sports Posters & Tabs Hope High Football Program **HPSD** Pocket Folder Ads Spring Hill Football Tab & Banner Spring Hill Football Program Spring Hill Basketball Livestream Arkansas High Video Board Sponsor Arkansas High Football Program Prescott Football Program Yearbook Ads Local Special Section Ads SCC Posters in High Schools T-shirts Other

## **Sponsorships**

Four States Fair Arena Chute Sponsor Prescott-Nevada County Golf Tournament Prescott Fall Festival & Trade Days Hope Watermelon Festival Hope Booster Club Prescott Booster Club United Way Gala Texarkana USA Chamber Annual Banquet Bowie Heritage Festival Pitch It Texarkana Girl Power to the MAX CTE Event Hope Chamber Banquet Prescott Chamber Banquet SWARK Football Player of the Week TASD Razorback TV Chambers of Commerce

## **Promotional Items**

## **Campus Banners**

**Direct Mail Postcards** 

## **Special Campaigns As Needed**





University of Arkansas Hope-Texarkana Sponsored · @

Clases de construcción en español impartidas en la UAHT. Para más información o para registrarse 870-722-8122 o visite uaht.edu.







uaht.edu CLASES DE CONSTRUCCIÓN EN...

r∱ Like

Learn more

🖸 📿 🐝 51 2 comments 10 shares Share Comment



# DO THE MATH!

At UAHT, you save

\$34,658

on your first two years of college with the Arkansas Lottery Scholarship!

Apply at sams.adhe.edu/Scholarship/Details/ACST UAHT tuition & fees for Arkansas resident rate for 60 hours; 2024-25. Average 4-year university cost based on 2024-25 ADHE schedule 18-1. Room & adra average based on UAF-a rad Solu; 2024-25.



COST TO ATTEND AN ARKANSAS 4-YEAR UNIVERSITY WITH THE LOTTERY SCHOLARSHIP

 \$19,738 Average cost to attend 2 years at an Arkansas 4-year university
 \$19,920 Average room & board for 2 vears

- \$5,000 Lottery Scholarship amount

\$34,658 Cost to student



# **Publications & Design**

College Guide (Viewbook)

**Program Spotlight Magazine** 

Iron Horse Cutout (Fast Facts)

**College Catalog** 

**Graduation Program** 

Scholarship Ceremony Programs

**Parking Sticker** 

Secondary Career Center Brochure

**Collegiate Academy Brochures** 

Maps

Postcards

**Brochures/Flyers/Posters** 

Vehicle/Trailer Wraps

Banners

Invitations

Bookmarks

Photographs

All Advertising & Miscellaneous

## **UAHT Foundation Materials**

The marketing department works with departments across campus to produce designed material in a timely manner. We ask that you give at least two weeks notice for design work. All student organizations are responsible for their own design work and printing.

# Web & Electronic

## **College Website**

www.uaht.edu

## **Secondary Website**

www.chancellorsearch-uaht.info

## **Social Media**

Facebook (@uahopetexarkana) Instagram (@uahtironhorses) YouTube (@uahopetexarkana) Twitter (@uahopetexarkana) Snapchat (@uahopetexarkana) \*Monitor all other departmental channels.

## **Iron Horse News Blog**

www.uaht.edu/news/news-listing.php

## Video

Testimonials Instructional Informational Various Projects as Needed

## **The Bridge Email Newsletter**

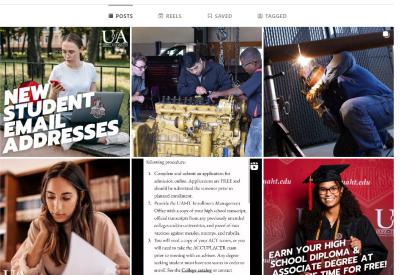
## **Student Email**

## **Campus Electronic Signs**





Free Clas



ACCUPLACER exams are given a



Build your bridge to the future at the University of Arkansas Hope-Texarkana!

IULY 15, 2024

#### Current News

Home / News / News Listing



#### New Student Orientation Events Scheduled

New Student Orientation is designed to prepare new, first-time UAHT students for the college experience by reviewing academic expectations, financial aid, student account information, and more.



Ford Selected as New Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration at the University of Arkansas Hope-Texarkana JULY 9, 2024

iherri Ford was recently selected as the new Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration at the University of Arkansas



#### THE BRIDGE NEWSLETTER | JANUARY-APRIL 2024



### Spring Enrollment Increases Over 10%

The University of Arkansas Hope-Texarkana welcomed 1,183 students this semester. This spring enrollment number represents a 10.4% increase from last spring and the largest spring enrollment since 2020. **Read More** 



#### Hope Collegiate Academy Senior Receives Arkansas Governor's Distinguished Scholarship

Axel Yhoss, a senior at the Hope Collegiate Academy, has received the Arkansas Governor's Distinguished Scholarship. Read More



Dean of Secondary Programs Named Educator of the Year



### Unveiling the Spark: Caden Hall's Welding Journey

Caden Hall Welding Journey Uaht Secondary Career Technical Education



#### HOPE/TEXARKANA, AR - June 25, 2024

Caden Hall embarked on his journey to become a welder two years ago, during his junior year at Arkansas High School. His decision to enroll in the welding program at the <u>University of Arkansas Hope-Texarkana Secondary Career and Technical</u> <u>Education Center</u> was a turning point in his career journey. Hall earned a Technical Certificate in Welding before graduating high school, making him workforce-ready upon graduation in 2024.



Home > Arkansas News > UAHT Collegiate Academies Graduate Fourth Clas

Arkansas News News Education

# UAHT Collegiate Academies Graduate Fourth Class

By Press Release - May 15, 2024



Farmers Bank and Trust Workforce Center grand opening was standing room only

 Listen to truis article now
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# **News & Public Affairs**

**News Releases** 

**Feature Stories** 

**Success Stories/Testimonials** 

**Progress Editions** 

**Special Editions** 

**Awards & Recognitions** 

**Media Pitches** 

**Media Inquiries** 

**Media Relations Efforts** 

Graduations

Ceremonies

**Special Events** 

Announcements



#### UAHT forms transfer partnership with UA Grantham

HOPE, Ark. -- University of Arkansas Hope-Texarkana has formed a partnership with one of its sister schools to facilitate easier transferring for students.

By Gazette Staff

01:15

April 29, 2024

#### University of Arkansas Hope-Texarkana hires new vice chancellor

TEXARKANA, Ark. -- University of Arkansas Hope-Texarkana has selected a new vice chancellor for finance and administration.

By Mallory Wyatt

July 9, 2024

#### University of Arkansas Hope-Texarkana names new dean

TEXARKANA, Ark. -- University of Arkansas Hope-Texarkana is moving one of its own up the ranks.

By Gazette Staff June 24, 2024



# **Media Distribution List**

## Television

KTAL 6 (NBC) KTBS 3 (ABC) KSLA 12 (CBS) KMSS 33 (FOX)

## **Online News**

TXKToday.com Texarkana Gazette Texarkana FYI HopePrescott.com SWARK.Today Magnolia Banner News Arkansas Online

### Newspaper

Texarkana Gazette HopePrescott News Lafayette County Press Atlanta Citizens Journal Cass County Now Nashville Leader Arkansas Democrat Gazette

### Radio

Townsquare Media Southwest Arkansas Radio KZHE Magnolia KZRB New Boston AMI Radio Group

## Magazine

Texarkana Magazine Four States Living Crossroads Magazine Her Magazine

## Miscellaneous

Hope-Hempstead County Chamber Texarkana USA Chamber Prescott Nevada County Chamber AR-TX REDI Leadership Texarkana Representatives Board Members Arkansas Business Arkansas Community Colleges



















# Plan of Action

Creative and design strategy, communications/public affairs strategy, web communication strategy, and social media strategy

# **Creative & Design Strategy**

Design, photography, and color selection all contribute to the branding and visual identity standards of the college.

**Design:** Marketing materials adhere to a design that provides uniformity across materials and platforms. This consistency extends to print and electronic methods.

**Photography:** The college aims to capture lively, exciting and diverse photographs of UAHT students, events, activities, and locations. When appropriate, stock photography may be used to represent students and programs but is not preferred.

**Color palette:** A color palette of Cardinal Red, Apple Blossom, Quartz, Gray Squirrel, Spoofer's Stone, and Black Whetstone connects the creative strategy, visual identity, and official logo and mascot of UAHT. These six colors bring consistency to the brand. Other colors may be used depending on the project. See next page for color values.

*Fonts:* Times New Roman, Minion, Myriad Pro, and Arial are the approved fonts.

# **APPROVED COLORS AND FONTS**

Cardinal Red #9D2235

PMS: 201 C CMYK: 0 | 100 | 63 | 31 RGB: 157 | 34 | 53 Apple Blossom #FFFFFF

PMS: Opaque White CMYK: 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 RGB: 255 | 255 | 255 Quartz #F2F2F4

PMS: 663 C CMYK: 5 | 6 | 0 | 0 RGB: 242 | 242 | 242

Gray Squirrel #C7C8CA

PMS: 428 C CMYK: 21 | 13 | 8 | 0 RGB: 199 | 200 | 202 Spoofer's Stone #424242

PMS: 446 C CMYK: 71 | 53 | 55 | 53 RGB: 66 | 66 | 66 Black Whetstone #000000

PMS: Black C CMYK: 65 | 66 | 68 | 82 RGB: 28 | 21 | 17

# Times New Roman Minion

Myriad Pro Arial

**Communications/Public Affairs Strategy** 

The college has implemented a strategy to maintain, facilitate, and enhance communication about UAHT with external audiences. Components include:

ACAD

- Create and distribute news & events to local, state, and national media
- Generate features that highlight successful students, alumni, and staff
- Pitch stories to the media
- Respond to media inquiries for information, interviews, photographs, etc.
- Organize and execute news conferences
- Advise administration, faculty, and staff who are contacted by the media
- · Identify and execute key media relations efforts

# Web Communication Strategy

The college website, <u>www.uaht.edu</u>, serves as the primary source of information for the college. Further, the website provides an important marketing tool, since most advertising and communication efforts encourage and direct individuals to the website.

The college homepage and secondary pages of the website must conform to branding and identity guidelines established by the college.

In an effort to keep information up-to-date, all levels of the website have been assigned to departments and/or divisions to review throughout the year.





# **Social Media Strategy**

The college uses the most current and relevant social media tools, including Facebook, YouTube, Instagram and Snapchat to communicate, interact, and engage with internal and external audiences.

The official UAHT social media sites are maintained and operated by the Office of Institutional Advancement. Departments and/or areas of the college interested in creating social media sites must be granted permission through the Institutional Advancement Department and provide the IA Department with administrator credentials.

# Integration Tools

In an effort to implement a cohesive brand across the college, a variety of tools have been created. These tools are accessible online, via SharePoint, or upon request for college faculty, staff, administrators, and students:



# Appendices

# **Appendix 1:** Strategic Enrollment Communication Plan

The UAHT Office of Institutional Advancement seeks to aid the Office of Enrollment Management to move potential students from leads to enrolled students. This includes help generating leads through advertising with landing pages with information request forms and targeting groups at various points along the enrollment funnel.

# **Goals:**

**1.)** Create and send 'Call to Action' targeted communications to potential new students based on where they fall in the admissions/enrollment process funnel

2.) Determine what type of communication is best suited for each category in each funnel phase Ex: postcards, emails, letters (or packets), text messages, & phone calls

**3.)** Discuss responsibilities for sending each communication item as well as tracking and updating corresponding student information as students migrate through the funnel

4.) Estimated implementation time

# **Admissions Enrollment Funnel**

POTENTIAL STUDENT: Any student identified as a 'lead' with potential to enroll. Leads can be collected by the following: College Fairs, High School Visits, Website Information Requests, Website Campus Tour Requests, & Email. \*Call to Action: (1) Submit a free application for admission on our website (2) Request a campus tour or set up a time to visit our campus(es) to meet with an EM Office member

APPLICANT: A student that has submitted an admissions application. There are 2 main types of applicants: (1) Returning students who require no additional admissions information {these students need to be checked for account holds prior to registration} (2) Students who need to submit all remaining admissions information prior to being admitted and registering \*Call to Action (returning students): (1) Advising and registration info \*\*Call to Action (first time students): (1) Submit all admission items (2) Request a campus tour or set up a time to visit our campus(es) to meet

> ADMITTED: submitted all admission materials to enroll. \*Call to Action: (1) Opening registration date reminder (2) Make an appointment with Academic Advisor to register/enroll (3) Submit free application for foundation or institutional scholarships (4) Share your UAHT acceptance status with friends/ family on social media

ENROLLED: registered for classes. \*Call to Action: (1) Attend Orientation (depending on the semester/term) (2) Send degree audit & fin. aid info (3) Don't forget ID card & park. pass (4) Campus login information

**CURRENT STUDENT: "Re-Enroll" Campaign** 

# **Admissions Enrollment Funnel Actions**

EVENT	STATUS	COMMUNICATION	METHOD
		College Guide, Program Guide,	
College Fair	Inquiry	Iron Horse Handout	Handout
		College Guide, Program Guide,	
Classroom Visit	Inquiry	Iron Horse Handout	Handout
	Inquiry	Follow up communication	
Financial Aid Night	Applicant	based on contacts from FA	Email
		A "Nice to Meet You" follow up	
'Thanks for your Interest'	Inquiry	for fairs or classroom visits	Email
		(Application & Campus Tour)	
		Links to:	
Information Request	Inquiry	Application, Tuition Calculator,	Email
		Specific Program Information	(unless requested mail)
		Confirmation Date & Campus	
Tour Request	Inquiry	Map	Email
		"What's Next" Graphic,	Email
Application	Applicant	Important Dates/Deadlines	SV Text (follow up)
Application		Official Acceptance Letter	
(Acceptance)	Applicant	(printed from Poise)	Mail
Application		Links to: "Make Online	
(Business Office Hold)	Admitted	Payment" & Contact C.L.	Email
Application		Links to:	Email
(Admitted/Readmitted)	Admitted	PAC Contact & Student Login	SV Text (follow up)
	Admitted		Email
Registration	Enrolled	Registration Call to Action	SV Text (follow up)
		Application for	Mail
Scholarship Eligibility	Admitted	Institutional Scholarship	Email (follow up)
		Personalized Folder with	
Concurrent Students	Admitted	Degree Plan/Audit	Handout
	Admitted	Application link for	Email
Foundation Scholarships	Enrolled	Foundation Scholarships	SV Text (follow up)
		Link to register for NSO &	Mail
New Student Orientation	Enrolled	Parking Sticker/ID Reminder	Email (follow up)
		Individualized data for	
Counselor Follow Up	<counselors></counselors>	applicants from each school	Email

All communications are tracked via the Enrollment Management Master Spreadsheet (by date of communication) and are continually revised and reviewed for follow up. \*This plan does not currently include social media correspondence.

For the full Strategic Enrollment Plan, contact the Office of Enrollment Management.

# **Appendix 2:** Audiences

In accordance with Goal 1 on page 5, the Office of Institutional Advancement seeks to develop and implement marketing and communication activities to help increase student enrollment.

# Service Area

Advertising is in the UAHT service area. Primarily a 65-mile radius of Fulton, Arkansas.

# **Nontraditional and Parents**

- Ages 24-33 and 34-65
- Newspaper, Radio, Social Media, Magazines, TV, Online News, Display, Website Re-Targeting, Email, Look-a-Like Audience Targeting, High School Program Ads at Games, Sports Broadcast Sponsor, Billboards
- Specific targeting based on campaign (e.g., no bachelor's degree, household incomes, behaviors, etc.)
- Key selling points: Cost (tuition, Arkansas Transfer Achievement Scholarship, UCan, Grants, etc.), Location, Programs, Jobs, Job Training, Career Enhancement, Continuing Ed.

# Traditional

- Ages 18-23
- Social Media, Spotify, Magazines, Streaming TV, Online News, Display, Website Re-Targeting, Look-a-Like Audience Targeting, High School Program Ads, Geofencing, Sports Broadcast Sponsor, Billboards
- Key selling points: Cost (tuition, Arkansas Transfer Achievement Scholarship, UCan [ages 22+], Grants, etc.), Location, Programs, Jobs

# **High School/Concurrent**

- Ages 13-17 (age target is below concurrent age on purpose)
- Social Media, Spotify, Yearbook, High School Program Ads, Posters in Schools, Video boards in schools, Arkansas Next, Texarkana High School Football Magazine, Football Game Broadcast Sponsor, T-shirts
- Key selling points: Cost, Get Ahead, Earn Credentials, Location, Programs, Jobs, Arkansas Transfer Achievement Scholarship, Career Center, Collegiate Academy

## Notes:

Many of these audiences overlap.

Special advertising projects arise as needed based on enrollment numbers among various audiences or programs and special funding (e.g. Perkins funding).

# **Appendix 3:** Advertising Return On Investment

Total return on investment is based on advertising dollars spent and income made from tuition and fees at UAHT.

# Advertising Dollars Spent: \$150,000

# Profit From Tuition and Fees AY24: \$3,533,940

**ROI Result** Investment Gain: \$3,383,940 ROI: 2,255.96%

