The Terry Foundation, based in Houston, Texas, is the largest provider of private scholarships in the state of Texas having awarded scholarship funding to 5000 scholars state-wide. It was established in 1986 by philanthropists Howard & Nancy Terry to help students attain their higher education goals. The Terry Foundation's mission is to improve and develop the State of Texas by assisting Texas students to attend the state's finest public universities. Currently, the Terry Foundation supports over 1600 students at 13 affiliated institutions.

In order to maintain a Terry Foundation Scholarship there are three annual required events each scholar must attend including:

The Terry Foundation Orientation - Scholars get to know one another and learn about the requirements to maintain their scholarship. It also provides the opportunity to meet the Terry Foundation staff.

Annual banquet - While enjoying an elegant sit down meal, scholars will network with UTD faculty, staff, alumni and Terry Foundation administrators including the President and members of the Board of Directors and Advisory Board.

Annual spring picnic - divided into the northern, eastern, western, and southern regions of Texas, UT Dallas participates in the north picnic which brings together scholars from UT Dallas, University of North Texas, University of Texas at Arlington, and Texas Woman's University. The picnic enables graduates to thank the Terry Foundation for their support and to receive the much anticipated gold pen which has been given to every graduate since 1991. Additionally, each student organization President reports on the student organization annual activities.