

Dear Campus Community:

Thank you for your continued support of our service areas, including: UH Dining Services and Fresh Fork Catering; UH Campus Store; UH Vending; Cougar Card; Copy, Print and Delivery Services; Cullen Performance Hall; Public Art of the University of Houston System; and Parking and Transportation Services. I value our partnership with our campus community, and thought it important to share some critical economic updates that are and will continue to impact our on-campus services immediately and through the long term. You have likely seen these situations as you shop off-campus, and these impacts are also being experienced by our on-campus providers and departments.



Nation-wide truck-driver shortages are impacting and will continue to impact availability of products on campus.

What does this mean for me? There may be times when your favorite menu item or product is not available in our dining commons, catering, vending machines, or campus retail. We are working closely with our campus business partners and service providers to mitigate and stock popular items as quickly as possible. We will communicate specific updates through our advisory committees and other campus communication channels, such as social media and signage.



Nation-wide impacts to the hospitality labor industry.

What does this mean for me? The hospitality labor market (food service, parking, and shuttles) is still rebounding from pandemic impacts, and there may be times where we are making service adjustments to accommodate schedules and number of employees. We will communicate specific updates through our advisory committees and other campus communication channels, such as social media and signage.



Higher shipping costs and impacts of new United States Postal Services standards.

What does this mean for me? We will be adding lead times on orders for promotional items, course materials, and out-bound print and mail projects to account for these disruptions. Please note that additional lead times by auxiliary and service units are included to help us meet the campus need for timely goods and services, and accommodate the academic calendar. We appreciate your understanding!



Shortages of products nationwide (some that we have seen to date include halal chicken, specific beverage types, custom paper, yarn for apparel, and drinkware).

What does this mean for me? There may be times when your favorite or desired item or product is not available in our dining commons, vending machines, campus retail, or Copy & Print Services. These shortages are also impacting prices that business partners and service departments are paying for their inventory. These price increases may translate to price increases to individual and departmental customers. We are working closely with our campus business partners and service providers to mitigate and stock popular items as quickly as possible. We are also working to understand the long-term impacts to pricing on the services we provide to the campus. We will communicate specific updates through our advisory committees and other campus communication channels, such as social media and signage.





IMPACTED ITEMS/SERVICES

Snack/Beverage Vending Product Shortages:

- Smartfood Popcorn
- Baked Cheetos Flamin'
- Baken-Et's Pork Rinds
- Famous Amos Cookies
- Oreo Chocolate Cookie
- Skittles
- Topo Chico

UH Dining

- Bottled beverages and Fountain Soda
- Aluminum and Metal – affecting canned beverages and equipment lead times
- Milk
- Disposable and paper goods including masks
- Shortages of fried items, such as cream cheese rangoon and spring rolls
- Starbucks – drink bases, lemonade, pastries and sandwiches as well as paper goods and supplies
- Einstein cream cheese options are still limited.
- Wheat bread/tuna/turkey are experiencing shortages continually
- Staffing in manufacturing and distribution as well as front line workers in food service

