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Austin, Texas

Christina Melton Crain, Chairman
R. Steven Hicks
Jodie Lee Jiles
Janiece Longoria
Nolan Perez
Stuart W. Stedman

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1. **U. T. System Board of Regents: Discussion and appropriate action regarding Consent Agenda items, if any, assigned for Committee consideration**

RECOMMENDATION

The proposed Consent Agenda items assigned to this Committee are [Items 30 - 48](#).

2. U. T. Medical Branch - Galveston: Approval to establish a Doctor of Nursing Practice in Nurse Anesthesia degree program and discussion and appropriate action regarding proposed tuition and fee rates

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs and the institutional president that authorization, pursuant to Regents' *Rules and Regulations*, Rule 40307, related to academic program approval standards, be granted to

- a. establish a Doctor of Nursing Practice in Nurse Anesthesia degree program at U. T. Medical Branch - Galveston;
- b. approve its corresponding tuition rates of \$780 per semester credit hour (SCH) for residents and \$1,300 per SCH for non-residents; and
- c. submit the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for review and appropriate action.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Program Description

U. T. Medical Branch - Galveston proposes to establish a new specialty track within its existing Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) program in Nurse Anesthesia. The proposed specialty track is designed to prepare baccalaureate nurses seeking advanced practice positions as Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNA). The D.N.P.-Nurse Anesthesia track will educate future CRNAs in accordance with the standards established by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Education Programs (COA) to perform within the full scope of nurse anesthesia practice. The D.N.P.-Nurse Anesthesia offering will be a three-year full-time program awarding the D.N.P. degree to students who successfully complete all requirements.

The proposed D.N.P.-Nurse Anesthesia track will align with other School of Nursing (SON) graduate curricula. Nurse anesthesia graduate students will meet the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's The Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice and COA requirements specific to the academic, clinical, and professional requirements for eligibility to be certified as a CRNA by the National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists. The program will be delivered in a hybrid format congruent with the SON's existing B.S.N. to D.N.P. program for other advanced practice specializations. All nurse anesthesia specific courses will be taught by CRNA faculty. Students will complete 2,200 faculty-supervised clinical hours. Ten students are planned to enroll in the inaugural cohort, slated to launch in Spring 2024 with a stepwise approach to increasing enrollment with a plan for eventual cohorts of twenty per academic year by 2026.

Need and Student Demand

Employment of CRNAs is expected to grow faster than average across geographic regions. In Texas, positions should expand by 22.3% through 2031 compared to the average of all occupations at 13.6%. The same is true for the Southwest with employment of CRNAs increasing by 20.3% and the nation, which should increase by a rate of 11.9%. UTMB plans to focus on attracting students from rural and/or underserved areas of Texas, which has the largest rural population of any state. Recent studies and publications suggest that recruiting Registered Nurses from within local communities and training them to be advanced practice nurses has been successful in increasing the number of advanced practice nurses within such communities. U. T. Medical Branch - Galveston has contacted several rural health systems to form partnerships for nurse anesthesia experiential learning opportunities to foster graduates remaining in the community.

Over the last six months, over 400 CRNA positions were posted for CRNAs across the state. Many of these postings are for areas such as Lubbock, Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth, and Waco. Area health centers, universities, and anesthesia management companies are the largest employers of CRNAs. The creation of a nurse anesthesia program at U. T. Medical Branch - Galveston will also allow the institution to fill its own vacancies with graduates.

Conferrals for nurse anesthesia D.N.P. programs in Texas have grown at an annualized rate of 4.0% through 2016 to 2020, faster than the state's average of 1.9% for all degree programs. This is also true in the Southwest and the nation which experienced increases of 7.9% and 35.35% during that same timeframe. Nationwide, conferrals jumped from 249 in 2016 to 835 in 2020. This suggests that student interest in these types of programs is high.

Beginning January 1, 2022, all nurse anesthesia students matriculating into a COA-accredited program are to be enrolled in a doctoral program. This requirement will further heighten and strengthen an already robust job market for CRNAs. Each year there has been a steady increase in the number of candidates applying for positions in nurse anesthesia schools, greatly outnumbering available seats. In a recent COA Summary of Annual Report Data, supply and demand data includes the following:

- 6,891 applications were received for 1,633 available positions (2018)
- 10,615 applications were received for 2,020 available positions (2019)
- 13,525 applications were received for 2,096 available positions (2020)

There are currently four COA-accredited nurse anesthesia programs in the State of Texas as well as the U.S. Army Graduate Program that partners with other universities to offer the terminal degree for active-duty nurses. There are limited programs in the bordering states, which further drives the need for a program at U. T. Medical Branch - Galveston.

A market saturation forecast utilizes supply and demand metrics to predict the likelihood a program will meet a crucial need. Currently, the market saturation for nurse anesthesia education is low, approximately 7.5%, which supports competitive conditions to offer an additional doctoral nurse anesthesia program in Texas.

Program Quality

The fifteen D.N.P. core program faculty at U. T. Medical Branch - Galveston's SON will provide instruction for the D.N.P. core courses for the nurse anesthesia students. The SON currently has two CRNAs on faculty that serve in other administrative roles and will contribute to the program's instructional needs. Additionally, one doctoral prepared CRNA faculty will be hired as track administrator prior to submission of the COA self-study for accreditation consideration. Two additional CRNA faculty will be hired in years one and two to provide instruction in nurse anesthesia specific courses. All faculty are doctorally prepared and possess experiential knowledge to support the D.N.P. program terminal objectives.

The nurse anesthesia curriculum will be delivered in a hybrid model for a combination of online and in-person classroom instruction. Clinical simulation and experiential clinical experiences will be in-person with either a CRNA or physician anesthesiologist providing instruction. The clinical experiential component of this program requires clinical partnerships in a variety of settings to meet all the required COA clinical requirements and prepare the graduate for anesthesia practice. The institution's SON received affirmation from clinical partners including U. T. M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, UTMB Health, U.S. Anesthesia Partners, and NorthStar Anesthesia, to collaborate in the support of the clinical experiential learning needs.

The SON is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), which requires a five- and ten-year self-study survey that addresses program quality indicators. All graduate programs must demonstrate the ability to meet four specific CCNE standards including governance, resources, curriculum and learning practices, and achievement of program outcomes.

Revenue and Expenses

Costs include nurse anesthesia specific faculty and administrators, equipment, and support for infrastructure and operations. Additional track support options being explored with the clinical partners referenced earlier include faculty practice and student supported stipends.

As noted previously, the nurse anesthesia curriculum includes a much more extensive clinical educational model than other graduate nursing tracks. The nurse anesthesia track includes 2,200 clinical hours with anesthesia faculty supervision which is more costly than other graduate nursing offerings. The proposed tuition of \$780 per semester credit hour (SCH) for in-state students and \$1,300/SCH for out-of-state students aligns with the operational cost to offer a superior quality nurse anesthesia educational program. Existing mandatory fees will also be assessed for students enrolled in this proposed program. The table below summarizes the five-year projection of revenues and expenses.

Projected Enrollment	5-Year Total
Number of Students Used for Formula Funding Calculation	65
Total Number of Students	65
Expenses	5-Year Total
Faculty	
Salaries	\$2,703,357
Benefits	\$675,840
Staff & Administration	
Administrative Staff Salaries	\$261,058
Staff Benefits	\$104,423
Other Expenses	
Supplies and Materials	\$10,400
New Faculty Recruitment	\$5,000
Travel and Development	\$22,400
Accreditation	\$44,715
Total Expenses	\$3,827,193
Revenue	5-Year Total
From Student Enrollment	
Formula Funding	\$851,116
Tuition and Fees	\$4,596,700
Total Revenue	\$5,447,816

Coordinating Board Criteria

The proposed program meets all applicable Coordinating Board criteria for new doctoral degree programs.

3. **U. T. Medical Branch - Galveston: Approval to establish a Doctor of Clinical Nutrition degree program and discussion and appropriate action regarding proposed tuition and fee rates**

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs and the institutional president that authorization, pursuant to Regents' *Rules and Regulations*, Rule 40307, related to academic program approval standards, be granted to

- a. establish a Doctor of Clinical Nutrition degree program at U. T. Medical Branch - Galveston;
- b. approve its corresponding tuition rate of \$475 per semester credit hour (SCH) for Resident and Non-resident Tuition; and
- c. submit the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for review and appropriate action.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Program Description

U. T. Medical Branch - Galveston proposes to establish a Doctor of Clinical Nutrition (DCN) degree program, as a post-professional degree for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDN) with a bachelor's or master's degree and minimum of 3 years, preferably 5 years, of professional experience. The program aims to provide professionals with the knowledge and skills necessary to be leaders in the profession and to advance their understanding of human nutrition in clinical and public health settings. RDNs who possess the degree will be prepared to engage in collaborative work, to think critically within the context of complex health systems, and to engage in a variety of research practices, to produce evidence for standards-of-care, best practices, and innovative approaches to improving human health and quality of life.

The proposed degree plan will be comprised of 48 semester credit hours (SCH) and is expected to be completed part-time in 3-4 years (3 semesters/year) while the student works as an RDN full-time. The program anticipates enrollment for the first five years to be 10 students in the cohorts of Years 1 through 3, then increased enrollment to be a maximum of 20 students in the cohorts of Years 4 and 5. The program will be designed for 100% online course delivery with primarily asynchronous faculty-student interactions, allowing students and faculty to engage in learning and feedback at optimal times, especially with the expectation of national enrollment. As with most graduate programs, a minimum 3.0 grade point average will be required for admission. The degree plan consists of core courses in nutrition and research, electives, and a doctoral project. In addition to enhancing the skills of these practitioners, a niche for the program will be significant exposure to evidence-based practice and research, which will prepare graduates to serve as advanced clinicians, organizational leaders, researchers, industry scientists, and faculty in entry-level nutrition programs.

Need and Student Demand

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of dietitians and nutritionists is projected to grow by at least 8% between 2019 and 2029. Changes in technology, growing complexity in health care, burgeoning demands of chronic care associated with aging, increased sedentary lifestyles and public health issues, such as food insecurity and access, highlight the need for leaders in the field of dietetics who are equipped with doctoral level knowledge and skills. Providing the necessary training for dietitians practicing at the doctoral level will contribute to improved health care delivery through evidence-based clinical practice, systems improvement in health care delivery, and impact both private and public policy. Dietitians with doctoral degrees will be needed to provide the targeted combinations of skills and knowledge expected of future dietetics professionals.

In a move consistent with other health professions, the autonomous accrediting body of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND) raised the educational degree requirements for entry into the dietetics profession from the baccalaureate degree level to the master's degree level effective January 1, 2024. Increasing the degree level required for practicing individuals may encourage some students to seek additional advanced degrees to differentiate themselves in the job market. For example, after the American Occupational Therapy Association and the Accreditation Council of Occupational Therapy Education increased the criterion for entry into the job market to a master's level, doctorate programs in occupational therapy experienced a large growth rate. Similarly, the higher credentialing required for athletic trainers for entry into the profession also stimulated an increase in doctoral level degrees. A recent market analysis indicated a low volume of doctoral degrees in nutrition relevant fields and a low program saturation in Texas and the Southwest. Nationally there are three programs offering a similar post-professional distance (online) DCN program.

Texas ranks #3 in the U.S., behind California and New York, for the highest employment level of dietitians and nutritionists at nearly 4,500. The unique skillset and knowledge of the RDN adds immense value to multidisciplinary teams, enhancing health care delivery through improved health care outcomes, patient safety, and increased efficiency. An RDN with doctoral-level training in metabolism, leadership, mentoring, and quality improvement could provide even more value.

Currently, no DCN programs are available in Texas or in any of the states that border Texas. Thus, qualified applicants are likely to leave Texas to pursue DCN degrees at one of the three current out-of-state programs. The existing programs are at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, the University of North Florida, and the University of Kansas Medical Center. The proposed DCN degree program aims to provide practicing RDNs with the knowledge and skills necessary to be leaders in the profession and to advance their understanding of human nutrition in clinical and public health settings.

Based on the AND benefits and compensation survey published in 2019, only 4% of the over 110,000 RDNs in the United States possessed a doctoral degree. The capacity of the three existing programs is unable to meet the current demand. An interest survey was emailed to over 75 recent U.T. Medical Branch Master of Science and Dietetic Internship (MS/DI) graduates, current students, and clinical preceptors. A total of 28 surveys were returned. The results of the survey showed that 61% of individuals surveyed were actively researching DCN programs or had been considering a DCN degree in the near future, 37% of respondents were interested in enrolling into a DCN program within the next 12 months and another 37% were interested in

enrolling within 2-3 years. Over 43% of respondents were interested or very interested in pursuing a DCN degree at UTMB. Thirty-eight percent of respondents reported living outside of the state of Texas. In addition, the current MS/DI program director at UTMB has received multiple inquiries from interested RDNs at local networking events and state conferences. Forty-six percent of survey respondents requested to receive information about the DCN program and its development.

The proposed DCN degree program is expected to fill a major need at the state and national levels for doctoral prepared advance practice dietitians who can serve as uniquely qualified health care providers equipped to address the needs of evidence-based disease management and to address the cost effectiveness of health care.

Program Quality

The Department of Nutrition, Metabolism, and Rehabilitation Sciences (NMRS) currently employs 11 faculty members. Five are designated core faculty and six support faculty. The NMRS core faculty display a wide range of knowledge and skill sets in the fields of nutrition and rehabilitation sciences. The faculty are dedicated to supporting the proposed DCN program and advising students within the program. In addition, the department has six support faculty that will assist with teaching responsibilities, including teaching, co-teaching, supervising doctoral projects, and guest lecturing. Increased funding through increasing and accumulating enrollment in the new program will be used to expand faculty as needed in successive years. Specifically, two additional core faculty are proposed and included in the budget with the intention to hire three additional supporting faculty within the next five years to provide teaching and doctoral project oversight effort in the program.

Faculty teaching loads will be distributed according to topic area expertise, with additional faculty with overlapping expertise acting as co-instructors and/or guest lecturers, as necessary. In the first year of the DCN program, 14 credits will be taught by the core 5 faculty and the planned additional core faculty member to be hired in 2022 (an approximate workload increase of no more than 15% for existing faculty). The UTMB NMRS department has accounted for the first two years of the program in the faculty workload. Other courses will be added each year to diversify the program to ensure a complete curriculum.

All teaching material will be delivered primarily asynchronous, with occasional synchronous portions of the program where appropriate (e.g., guest lectures, problem-based learning sessions, etc.). Face-to-face videoconferencing will be used to assist with academic advising. U. T. Medical Branch - Galveston has been actively involved in distance education and off-campus instruction for over a decade in support of the changing requirements of the student population. The institution continues to focus on a high-quality educational experience using advanced distance education delivery methods. Current programs offering distance education opportunities are the School of Nursing (B.S., M.S., Ph.D.), the post-professional Occupational Therapy Doctorate, and the Clinical Laboratory Sciences program in the School of Health Professions (certificates and D.C.L.S.). U. T. Medical Branch - Galveston has a well-developed telecommunications infrastructure that supports distance education – both online and broadcast courses – established with a combination of grant and state funds.

Revenue and Expenses

With the faculty, space, and technology already available within the School of Health Professions, the start-up costs are anticipated to be minimal. As the program continues to grow, faculty support will need to be added. The cost of program faculty, training, and additional supply costs will be covered by the DCN tuition dollars. The program will offer an executive fee structure of \$475/SCH (regardless of in-state or out-of-state designation) to fall in line with similar DCN and Ph.D. programs in the market. Existing mandatory fees will also be assessed for students enrolled in this proposed program. No General Revenue will be collected for students in the DCN program. The table below summarizes the five-year projection of revenues and expenses.

Projected Enrollment	5-Year Total
Total Estimated Number of Students	70
Expenses	5-Year Total
Faculty	
Salaries	\$725,134
Benefits	\$130,524
Other Expenses	
Supplies and Materials	\$5,900
Faculty Recruitment /Moving Expenses	\$10,000
Faculty Development and Travel	\$9,600
Institutional Overhead on Operations	\$231,391
Total Expenses	\$1,112,549
Revenue	5-Year Total
From Student Enrollment	
Tuition and Fees	\$1,140,000
From Other Revenue Sources	
Interest from Sodexo Endowment	\$22,500
Total Revenue	\$1,162,500

Coordinating Board Criteria

The proposed program meets all applicable Coordinating Board criteria for new doctoral degree programs.

4. U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio: Approval to establish a Graduate Certificate in Dental Clinical Specialties Foundations program and discussion and appropriate action regarding proposed tuition and fee rates

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs, the Executive Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, and the institutional president that authorization, pursuant to Regents' *Rules and Regulations*, Rule 40307, related to academic program approval standards, be granted to:

- a. establish a Graduate Certificate in Dental Clinical Specialties Foundations program at U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio;
- b. . approve new tuition and fees of \$671 per semester credit hour (SCH) for Resident Tuition and the rate of \$1,079/SCH for Non-Resident Tuition, effective July 2023; and
- c. submit the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for review and appropriate action.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Program Description

U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio proposes a new Graduate Certificate in Dental Clinical Specialties Foundations program to be offered by the Department of Comprehensive Dentistry within the School of Dentistry, beginning in Academic Year (AY) 2023-2024.

This one-year, full-time graduate certificate program will enhance the capacity of U.S. and international dental school graduates to compete successfully for advanced dental education training positions at the institution's School of Dentistry and other universities. The program will provide course work and clinical training to build participants' capacity in skills that are essential for admission and successful performance in an advanced dental education program and career evolution in contemporary dental practice. Some essential skills include research methods, scientific writing, critical appraisal of scientific evidence, application of evidence-based practice in educational and dental practice settings, capacity to apply basic science foundations for oral health care in patient assessment management, and capacity to apply knowledge of precipitating factors interlinking oral health conditions and general health disorders in patient assessment and management.

The program is designed to improve the competitiveness of U.S. and international dental school graduates for advanced dental education training. This 12-month program, totaling 24 graduate semester credit hours, will provide students with customized clinical learning and preparatory application experiences through course work, including Teaching and Clinical Assisting Methods I, Foundations and Advancements in Clinical Dentistry I, Teaching and Clinical Assisting Methods II, and Foundations and Advancements in Clinical Dentistry II. The construct of the

graduate certificate program enables individualized teaching and mentoring aligned with the specific dental specialty area (e.g., endodontics, periodontics, orthodontics) for which the student seeks further preparation to compete for advanced dental education training positions.

The graduate certificate program will provide an educational pathway to enhance the number of dentists with careers in primary care or specialty care dentistry.

Need and Student Demand

The U.S. Department of Health Resource and Services Administration (HRSA) analyzes current and projected dental workforce needs for the nation and individual states. Nationally, growth in workforce supply over the next decade will not meet the increased public demand for dentists. Approximately 190,000 dentists were active in the U.S. in 2015. Balancing new graduates and practitioner retirements, the national supply of dentists is expected to grow by 14,000 reaching 204,000 in 2025. However, the national demand for dentists is projected to grow by more than 10 percent through 2025, leaving a national workforce deficit of nearly 20,000 dentists. (*National and State-Level Projections of Dentists and Dental Hygienists in the U.S., 2012-2025. HRSA, Administration Bureau of Health Workforce, National Center for Health Workforce Analysis. February 2015*).

In Texas, the issue of workforce demand is more acute. A recent review of the oral health and dental workforce in Texas reported that within the next decade, more than 33% of the state's general dentists will be at or past retirement age, and recommended expansion of dental workforce development efforts to address the growing deficits in oral health providers, particularly in areas of the state with profound health care disparities.

The proposed Graduate Certificate in Dental Clinical Specialties Foundations Program is to provide an educational pathway to enhance the number of dentists who can build careers in either primary care or specialty care dentistry. There is a high demand among dental school graduates for admission into advanced dental education programs at the School of Dentistry at U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio and other Texas and U.S. dental schools. The American Dental Education Association Survey of Dental School Seniors is completed by approximately 3,000 graduating seniors at U.S. dental schools each year. Recent reports indicate that 45% of these students desire to complete advanced training in a dental discipline. The American Dental Association reports that nearly 60,000 applications are submitted annually for 3,700 advanced dental education residency positions, with an acceptance rate of 6.3%. At the U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio's School of Dentistry, an analysis of advanced dental education admissions data from the past 10 years indicates that nearly 6,000 candidates applied annually for 320 advanced training positions in nine primary care and specialty care training programs, resulting in a 5.5% acceptance rate.

A market scan of statewide dentistry programs identified no comparable certificate programs similar in goals or content to the proposed program. U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio's program design, functioning as a leveling curriculum to prepare dental school graduates for advanced dental education, is unique in U.S. dental education. Each year, thousands of recent dental school graduates and/or practitioners seeking to expand their clinical capacities are unable to attain admission into advanced dental training. The curriculum of the proposed program will strengthen the knowledge and skills of potential advanced education candidates in these areas.

Program Quality

U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio is the predominant provider of clinicians working in dental practices and community health clinics in San Antonio and South Texas. The proposed graduate certificate program, designed as a leveling program, will leverage the success of U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio's highly ranked Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.) and post-professional programs to enhance the capacity of participating students to compete successfully for the highly selective post-professional training positions at U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio and other universities. The proposed certificate program will provide a mechanism for the much needed addition of dental practitioners in the state's numerous dental health provider shortage areas.

A competitive advanced dental education applicant must be highly competent in clinical practice. A skilled clinical practitioner must possess cognitive psychomotor, and affective abilities. In addition to the classroom knowledge and clinical skills will acquire in this leveling program, students will receive expert knowledge and clinical strategies from practitioners who are board-certified in dental specialty areas of practice to help these learners become optimally competitive for dental specialty training programs. As part of the program, students will receive individualized coaching in patient management. Students will also gain other specific strategies to close clinical gaps and strengthen their academic and clinical attributes as they apply to advanced education programs.

Revenue and Expenses

The tuition and fee structure for this program is structured on market demand. As a comparison, international dental education programs wherein foreign dental program graduates seeking to attend accredited U.S. dental schools have tuition and fee rates averaging \$65,000 a year or higher. Starting in AY 2023-2024, the proposed resident tuition is requested at \$671/SCH, and the non-resident tuition rate is requested at \$1,079/SCH.

Costs for the program include one new faculty plus effort across existing faculty, as well as a program administrator, graduate assistant, and clerical staff. Other costs include supplies, equipment, recruitment costs, establishment and maintenance of a program website, and marketing and advertising of the program (brochure/trifold for promoting at recruitment events, graphic design, printing, short videos, media announcements and pitches, website search engine optimization).

Tuition and fees for a resident student would be \$34,424 for the full program, and \$44,216 for a non-resident student. Existing mandatory and additional delegated fees will also be assessed for students enrolled in this proposed program. The table below summarizes the five-year projection of revenues and expenses.

Projected Enrollment	5-Year Total
Number of Students Used for Formula Funding Calculation	55
Total Number of Students	55
Expenses	5-Year Total
<i>Faculty</i>	
Salaries	\$1,951,515
Benefits	\$ 390,303
<i>Graduate Students</i>	
GRA Salaries	\$ 100,000
<i>Staff and Administration</i>	
Program Directors Salaries	\$ 312,242
Administrative Staff Salaries	\$ 82,500
Staff Benefits	\$ 93,673
<i>Other Expenses</i>	
Library, Supplies and Materials	\$1,007,600
Marketing, Graphic Design, Printing, Short Videos, Website SEO	\$ 5,000
Total Expenses	\$3,942,833
Revenue	
<i>From Student Enrollment</i>	
Formula Funding	\$ 219,228
Tuition & Fees	\$1,893,320
Reallocated Funding	\$1,487,591
Total Revenue	\$3,600,139

Coordinating Board Criteria

The proposed program meets all applicable Coordinating Board criteria for a new graduate certificate program in Dental Clinical Specialties Foundations.

5. U. T. Health Science Center - Houston: Approval to create the School of Behavioral Health Sciences

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs, the Vice Chancellor and General Counsel, and the institutional President that approval be granted to create the School of Behavioral Health Sciences (SBHS) at U. T. Health Science Center - Houston.

A PowerPoint presentation is set forth on the following pages.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

U. T. Health Science Center - Houston's SBHS will address the severe shortage of behavioral health providers and related workforce needs in Texas. Over the past year an estimated 45% of adults with mental illness did not receive the treatment needed. There are only 745 child and adolescent psychiatrists in Texas, and 213 of Texas' 254 counties lack a single child and adolescent psychiatrist. According to the American Psychological Association (APA), just 4,000 out of a total of approximately 102,000 psychologists nationwide (around 4%) are clinical child and adolescent practitioners. And one-third of Texas Health and Human Services Commission's (HHSC) state hospital beds are closed due to the lack of behavioral health staffing. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), only 32.5% of Texas has sufficient mental health care practitioners (June 2022, Designated Health Professional Shortage Area Statistics).

With tremendous legislative support, U. T. Health Science Center - Houston opened the new John S. Dunn Behavioral Sciences Center in 2022 adjacent to the existing UTHealth Houston Harris County Psychiatric Center. Combined, this Texas Medical Center campus is home to the largest academic behavioral health center in the U.S., with 538 beds. U. T. Health Science Center - Houston has also developed an integrated behavioral health care model across its primary care and multispecialty services through its U. T. Physicians and Harris Health clinics across the greater Houston area, serving several medically underserved populations. In addition to the integrated clinical services, U. T. Health Science Center - Houston participates in the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium, providing telehealth visits for 19 independent school districts for the Texas Child Health Access Through Telemedicine program, and includes 671 enrolled primary and pediatric care providers through the Child Psychiatry Access Network. U. T. Health Science Center - Houston also provides telehealth services to 15 hospitals statewide, including some state hospital sites. The clinical sites already serve to provide the clinical training hours for thousands of students annually through agreements with more than 34 institutions of higher education, including medical residencies and fellowships, clinical psychology internships, social work, nursing, pharmacy, and post-doctoral research.

The proposed SBHS is the result of several years of planning and development and will build upon the strengths of the institution's education and research programs. Modeled after the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology, and Neuroscience at King's College London, the new SBHS will provide quality degree programs, including master's degree and doctoral level programs in clinical psychology, clinical neuropsychology, pediatric and adolescent psychology, forensic

psychology, addiction, geriatric psychology, and other programs in the clinical sub-fields of psychology to be accredited by the APA. U. T. Health Science Center - Houston will continue to build on its current medical residencies and clinical fellowships in psychiatry, provide new graduate certificate programs to address the workforce's need for well-trained psychiatry and psychology technicians, partner with its Cizik School of Nursing on joint and dual degree programs for psychiatry and psychology nursing needs, and provide opportunities for research training on integrated clinical neurosciences and treatment, mood and anxiety disorders, trauma, grief, childhood disorders, biochemical markers, genetics, treatment resistant depression, and other areas to enhance the needed research workforce.

The continued development and implementation for the new SBHS will include a phased approach, with Phase 1 (years 1 – 3) including faculty recruitment and the development of its first master's degree and doctoral program in clinical psychology, along with a graduate certificate for psychiatry and psychology technicians, as these are critical workforce needs for not only the U. T. Health Science Center - Houston's campus, but across the state. The initial phase will also include program accreditation under the APA, as needed. Phase 2 (years 4 – 6) will expand the degree offerings within the clinical sub-fields of psychology based on workforce needs analysis as determined by several ongoing reports, including data and statistics from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, the HRSA's Bureau of Health Workforce, the APA, the Association of American Medical Colleges, the National Center for Health Workforce Analysis, HHSC, and other state and federal agency reporting. Specific degrees identified during Phases 1 and 2 will follow the approval process, as required by Regents' *Rules and Regulations*, Rule 40307.

U. T. Health Science Center - Houston has a unique opportunity to enhance the mental health workforce across the state of Texas through the new SBHS.

Following approval by the Board of Regents, the Office of Health Affairs will notify the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board of the change so that the U. T. Health Science Center - Houston administrative unit structure can be updated.

Texas Education Code Section 65.11 authorizes the Board of Regents to provide for the "...administration, organization, and names of the institutions and entities in The University of Texas System in such a way as will achieve the maximum operating efficiency of such institutions and entities...".

U. T. Health Science Center - Houston School of Behavioral Health Sciences

Giuseppe N. Colasurdo, M.D.
President and Alkek-Williams Distinguished Chair

Jair Soares, M.D., Ph.D.
Chair, Faillace Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, McGovern Medical School
Executive Director, U. T. Health Science Center - Houston Behavioral Sciences Campus
Vice President, Behavioral Sciences

U. T. System Board of Regents Meeting
Health Affairs Committee
November 2022



THE UNIVERSITY of TEXAS SYSTEM
THIRTEEN INSTITUTIONS. UNLIMITED POSSIBILITIES.

Behavioral Health at U. T. Health Science Center - Houston

Faillace Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences

- 2,000 students, 125 faculty educators, 365 employees
- 37 community clinics, 50 clinics and hospitals across the state
- Telemedicine services to 15 hospitals statewide
- Training programs: residency, fellowships, psychology, and social work
- Research platform: 5 centers, 11 programs, 7 labs, 19 subspecialty clinical services, including adult and child/adolescent
- Participants in the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium with more than 671 pediatrician/primary care offices enrolled into Child Psychiatry Access Network and 19 school districts participating in the Texas Child Health Access Through Telemedicine program



Behavioral Health at U. T. Health Science Center - Houston



John S. Dunn Behavioral Sciences Center

- Supported by the Texas Legislature, opened in 2022 with state-of-the-art design—11 units, 264 beds
- Operated and staffed by U. T. Health Science Center - Houston faculty; owned by the State



UTHealth Houston Harris County Psychiatric Center

- Established in 1986—12 units, 274 beds, more than 9,000 patients admitted annually
- Operated and staffed by U. T. Health Science Center - Houston; jointly owned by the State and Harris County



Behavioral Health Workforce Shortage

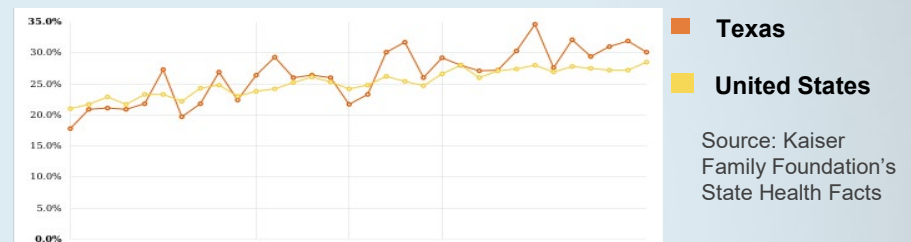
- One-third of Health and Human Services Commission’s (HHSC) state hospital beds are closed due to a lack of behavioral health staffing
- The wait list for competency restoration* continues to grow with an average wait time of more than 237 days (in county jails) for non-maximum security beds
- The total wait list for both maximum and non-maximum security beds was 2,400 persons in June 2022—a 58% increase compared to June 2021

* “Competency restoration services are designed for people with a mental health disorder or co-occurring psychiatric and substance use disorders who are found incompetent to stand trial and are court-ordered to participate in competency restoration treatment.” Source: HHSC



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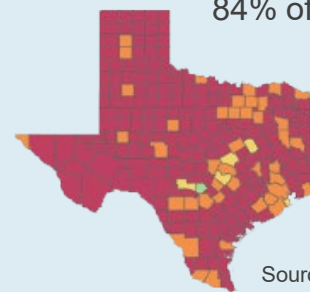
Unmet Need for Counseling or Therapy
Among Adults Reporting Symptoms of Anxiety and/or Depressive Disorder During the COVID-19 Pandemic



Timeframe: Phase 2: 8/19/2020-8/31/2020 to Phase 3.4: 3/30/2022-4/11/2022

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation’s State Health Facts

There are only 745 practicing child and adolescent psychiatrists (CAPs) in Texas
84% of Texas counties do not have a single CAP



- Mostly Sufficient >47 per 100,000 children
- High Shortage 18-46
- Severe Shortage 1-17
- No CAPs

Source: American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

U. T. Health Science Center - Houston School of Behavioral Health Sciences

Modeled after King's College London's Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology, and Neuroscience, the School of Behavioral Health Sciences will:

- Leverage significant Texas Legislature-funded resources to increase the workforce of Texas and improve behavioral health education and treatment
- Provide unique, quality degree programs, including master's degree and doctoral level, in addition to new certifications, postdoctoral fellowships, and clinical internships
- Create a robust pipeline of mental health providers with varied mental health specialties to help close the gap and meet the needs of Texans' behavioral health needs



6. **U. T. System: Discussion and appropriate action related to allocation of \$2.5 million from the Internal Lending Program (ILP) to support a partnership between U. T. institutions, the U.S. Department of Defense, and other federal agencies for a new U. T. Trauma Research and Combat Casualty Care Collaborative**

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs with the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs, the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Executive Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, and the Presidents of U. T. Southwestern Medical Center, U. T. Medical Branch at Galveston, U. T. Health Science Center - Houston, and U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio that the U. T. System Board of Regent approve allocation of \$2.5 million from the Internal Lending Program (ILP) to support a new U. T. Trauma Research and Combat Casualty Care Collaborative (TRC4) for the benefit of all U. T. institutions, in partnership between the U. T. institutions, the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD), and other federal agencies through a center of excellence based at the U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The requested \$2.5 million will support the new U. T. TRC4 executive leadership and administrative team based at U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio, develop the TRC4 strategic plan, establish the peer review process, and provide initial research funding for projects based on six combat casualty care pillars as developed by the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research (USAISR). U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio will administer the TRC4 initiative for the benefit of all U. T. institutions.

Through collaborations with the DoD and other federal agencies, the TRC4 will benefit a broad number of U. T. institutions. All U. T. institutions have signed a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) and an Educational Partnership Agreement (EPA) with USAISR, and multiple U. T. institutions have developed joint research projects with USAISR. Examples of these initial projects include: (1) cold stored whole blood research by U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio; (2) the development of novel treatments of traumatic brain injury at U. T. Southwestern Medical Center's Peter O'Donnell Jr. Brain Institute and U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio; (3) anti-shock drug development work by U. T. Health Science Center - Houston; (4) wound and burn therapeutics development by U. T. Southwestern Medical Center, U. T. Medical Branch - Galveston, and U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio; and (5) novel pain research by U. T. Southwestern Medical Center and U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio. These research projects are already producing promising results and are resulting in numerous peer review publications.

No more than 10% of funds will be used for overhead expenditures, with the remaining funds flowing directly into research to improve clinical care. TRC4 will be robustly governed through an advisory committee comprised of researchers and leaders across U. T. institutions, among others. TRC4 will provide annual written reports of its progress to the Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs.

TRC4 will build on the legal framework of CRADA and EPA and continue collaborative efforts that currently exist between U. T. institutions and the USAISR. To support its founding and facilitate collaborations which enhance the opportunity for additional federal funding, USAISR has committed to invest research equipment valued at \$2.5 million in the proposed center locations and will make their trauma research laboratories available to U. T. institution researchers through research proposals.

U. T. System further proposes to seek an appropriation from the state of Texas during the 88th Texas Legislative session through the supplemental funding vehicle.

The Executive Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs has determined that, following distribution of funds based on Board approval of this item, revenues generated through the ILP will exceed amounts needed to maintain a sufficient interest rate buffer, to meet principal and interest due on external debt, and to provide necessary liquidity.