

Supplemental Materials

Committee on Academic and Workforce Success

AGENDA ITEM V-C (3)

Consideration of adopting the staff recommendation to the Committee relating to the request from the University of North Texas Health Science Center for a Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree with a major in Medicine

RECOMMENDATION: Approval with recommendations

Rationale:

The University of North Texas Health Science Center (UNTHSC) proposes to offer a program leading to the MD degree beginning in summer 2019. The proposed program would be offered at the main campus in Fort Worth and require students to complete 185 semester credit hours (SCH). The institution proposes to enroll 60 students in the program. UNTHSC has awarded the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) degree since 1974 and its entering class size would remain at its existing level of approximately 220 medical students.

The proposed MD program would be offered in partnership with Texas Christian University (TCU), a private university located in Fort Worth. The partnership builds on the strengths of UNTHSC's well-recognized osteopathic medical school, and the strengths of TCU in liberal arts. UNTHSC would provide administration, facilities, faculty, and expertise from its existing DO program, and TCU would provide facilities and a significant portion of the initial financing. TCU is drawing upon its community and donor support network to contribute financing for the program, including student support. The proposed MD program would be jointly governed by the two institutions.

The UNTHSC and TCU's proposed medical school's mission is to transform health care by inspiring empathetic scholars through an innovative curriculum focused on developing physician leaders. The vision is for the proposed program to be a leader in medical education, delivery of care, and scholarship. In order to become nationally competitive, UNTHSC has designed the program using best educational practices and innovative pedagogies from medical schools across the country. These pedagogical innovations include an integrated first-year curriculum that prepares students for their clinical practice with a blend of basic science content and clinical application, a longitudinal integrated clerkship framework that promotes continuity of care while including experience with multiple specialties, and a flipped classroom approach that encourages students to apply concepts from their self-directed learning to patient care situations with the goal of training "empathetic scholar" graduates. The concept of an "empathetic scholar" focuses on the development of communication skills, including active listening. Physicians prepared as empathetic scholars would focus attention on individual patient needs and work as leaders/collaborators in interprofessional teams.

Funding for the program would come primarily from donations and student tuition and fees. Students would pay tuition and fees of \$58,599 in Year 1 of the program. Tuition would increase in each following year by 3.5 percent, while fees would remain constant at \$699.25 for all students. Tuition and fees for the first cohort of students are estimated at \$245,557, and tuition and fees in Year 5 would generate an estimated \$16,027,637 to support the proposed program. UNTHSC will not request formula funding to support the program, relying instead on a combination of the institution's Higher Education Fund, student tuition and fees, community donations, and financial support from TCU.

Recommendations

Recommendation 1: UNTHC/TCU commit to providing financial support to cover 50 percent of tuition and fees for students with demonstrated financial need

Recommendation 2: UNTHSC will not seek formula funding for the proposed program

University of North Texas Health Science Center (*Accountability Peer Group: Health-Related Institutions, Sector: Public Health-Related Institutions*)

Completion Measures		Institution	Sector
<i>Graduation Rate</i>	Master's 5-Year	66.8%	74.1%
	Doctoral 10-Year	40.9%	59.8%
	Medical Program 5-Year	95.7%	89.6%
<i>Status of Recently Approved Doctoral Programs</i>	The institution has met its projected enrollments for all new doctoral program(s) approved in the last five years:	Yes	No <u>N/A</u>
	Recently Approved Doctoral Programs: UNTHSC has no recently approved doctoral programs		
	The institution has met its resource commitments for new doctoral program(s) approved in the last five years:	Yes	No <u>N/A</u>

Proposed Program:

UNTHSC proposes to offer an MD program beginning in summer 2019 with an incoming class of 60 students at the main campus in Fort Worth. The proposed program would require students to complete courses in the scientific foundations of medicine, followed by clinical clerkships. The proposed program would require students complete a total of 185 SCH, including 145 hours of required course work and 40 hours of electives, which is comparable to other Texas medical programs. Requirements would not vary for students entering with a master's degree versus a bachelor's degree.

UNTHSC has awarded the DO degree since 1974. The MD would be offered in partnership with TCU. UNTHSC would provide administration, facilities, faculty, and expertise from its existing DO program, and TCU would provide a significant portion of the initial financing. The proposed MD program would be jointly governed by the two institutions.

UNTHSC has strong related and supporting programs, including a strong track record of employment for graduates of its DO and Physician Assistant (PA) programs. From 2007 to 2017, about 63 percent of its DO graduates went into primary care residency training after graduation. One hundred percent of UNTHSC's 2016 PA graduates were employed in their field after graduation.

National and state job projections for physicians show increasing demand for their services over the next 10 to 15 years, with particular need for primary care doctors in rural areas of the state, which are historically underserved. Since 2004, the number of students entering Texas medical schools increased 52 percent, from 1,346 to 2,052. From fall 2012 to fall 2017, an additional 292 first-year medical students entered Texas medical schools.

UNTHSC has 32 core faculty and 80 support faculty currently in place, with plans to hire 230 additional support faculty by Year 1. Both UNTHSC and TCU have designated existing facilities to accommodate the proposed program's labs, faculty, and students. The institution will pursue national accreditation through the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME).

UNTHSC provided clear and comprehensive plans for clerkships, and offered specific plans to develop graduate medical education (GME) positions that satisfy statutory requirements of Texas Education Code 61.05221. The institution would utilize a distributed model for its clinical education. Both large and small physician groups, and hospital-owned outpatient clinics, would serve as training sites with the majority of teaching taking place in the ambulatory setting. The institution has signed agreements with 17 hospitals and ambulatory practices for its clinical placements. The institution has an agreement with Hospital Corporation of America (HCA) Medical City Healthcare to develop new GME programs. The institution anticipates that by 2023, the year of the first graduating class, they will have an additional 130 to 200 first-year GME positions. UNTHSC continues to work with health systems in the North Texas area to develop additional clinical opportunities.

Although student financial support is not a typical feature of medical schools, the UNTHSC and TCU partnership has made provisions for tuition assistance. A donation of \$3.2 million would cover the first-year tuition for the inaugural class of MD students. Additional fundraising efforts by TCU, UNTHSC, and the local community for student scholarships are underway, and are intended to offset at least 15 percent of tuition for future medical students.

The institution estimates that five-year costs would total \$185,629,698.

Existing Programs:

Texas has 12 medical schools that currently offer programs leading to either the MD or DO; 10 are located in public institutions of higher education and two are in private or independent higher education institutions. One additional institution was approved by the THECB in August 2018 with an anticipated start date of fall 2020. Ten institutions award the MD degree, and three award the DO degree.

State Funded Programs:

Baylor College of Medicine (Houston) (MD)

Texas A&M University Health Science Center, College of Medicine (College Station, Temple, Dallas, Round Rock, and Houston) (MD)

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, School of Medicine (Lubbock, Amarillo, and Odessa) (MD)

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso, Foster School of Medicine (MD)

The University of Texas at Austin, Dell Medical School (MD)

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, McGovern School of Medicine (MD)

The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, Long School of Medicine (MD)

The University of Texas Medical Branch Galveston, School of Medicine (MD)
 The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, School of Medicine (Edinburg, Harlingen, and Brownsville) (MD)
 The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, School of Medicine (Dallas) (MD)
 University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth, Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (DO)

Non-State Funded Programs:

University of the Incarnate Word, School of Osteopathic Medicine (San Antonio) (DO)
 Sam Houston State University, School of Medicine (Conroe) (DO)

In addition to the UNTHSC, Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, one existing MD program is within a 60-minute drive of the proposed program. The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center's MD program is located 36 miles, about an hour drive, from the proposed program.

The Dallas/Fort Worth Metropolitan area (DFW) grew faster than any other metropolitan area in the United States in 2017, adding 146,000 residents. Overall, DFW ranks as the fourth-largest metro area with 7,399,662 residents. Based on growth trends, DFW's population is projected to grow to approximately 10 million residents by 2030.

<i>Start-Up Projections:</i>	<i>Yr. 1</i>	<i>Yr. 2</i>	<i>Yr. 3</i>	<i>Yr. 4</i>	<i>Yr. 5</i>
<i>Students Enrolled</i>	60	120	180	240	240
<i>Graduates</i>	0	0	0	60	60
<i>Avg. Financial Assistance¹</i>	\$57,500	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
<i>Students Assisted</i>	60	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
<i>Core Faculty (FTE)</i>	32	32	32	32	32
<i>Total Costs</i>	\$31,636,130	\$37,370,258	\$37,700,149	\$39,571,453	\$39,351,708
<i>Total Funding</i>	\$31,636,130	\$37,370,258	\$37,700,149	\$39,571,453	\$39,351,708
<i>% From Formula Funding</i>	0	0	0	0	0

¹ Student support covers tuition and fees for the first year of the inaugural class.

FIVE-YEAR COSTS		FIVE-YEAR FUNDING	
Personnel		Formula Funding (Years 3-5)	\$ 0
Faculty	\$ 85,729,777	Higher Education Fund	\$ 22,000,000
Program Administration	\$ 3,318,650	Reallocation of Existing Resources	\$ 5,000,000
Clerical/Staff	\$ 57,277,623	Federal Funding (In-Hand Only)	\$ 0
Student Support	\$ 3,200,000	Tuition and Fees	\$ 53,522,173
Supplies and Materials	\$ 904,508	Donations	\$ 57,140,335
Library & IT Resources	\$ 270,615	TCU Funds	\$ 44,767,190
Facilities & Equipment	\$ 24,426,290	Student Support Funds	\$ 3,200,000
Travel	\$ 2,477,900		
Organizational Development	\$ 4,375,500		
Professional Services and Memberships	\$ 3,648,835		
Total	\$ 185,629,698	Total	\$ 185,629,698

Major Commitments:

The institution will seek accreditation for its MD degree program from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education.

The institution will submit five Annual Progress Reports confirming institutional commitments and assessing the progress of program implementation.

Dr. Rex C. Peebles, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Quality and Workforce, will present this item and be available to answer questions.