

# Request to Establish a New Academic Organizational Unit

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University: University of Arizona

# Name of Organizational Unit:

Department of Clinical Health Professions

### Academic Department:

College of Health Sciences (pending ABOR approval)

### Geographic Site:

Tucson - Main

# Proposed Inception Term:

Fall 2023

## **Brief Description:**

The Department of Clinical Health Professions will work with the College of Health Sciences in meeting UArizona strategic pillars including initiatives to strengthen a commitment to equity and support of diverse communities by recruiting, educating, and graduating students from underrepresented backgrounds that may contribute to health disparities experienced in their communities. It also includes a commitment to advancing Native Americans and tribal engagement. A commitment to community engagement through experiential learning is another focus of the university. The programs in this proposed department are poised to serve these initiatives with excellence by providing leadership to support these efforts, while identifying opportunities for new degree programs within the department. The department will provide leadership to support their ongoing efforts, while identifying opportunities for the programs within the state. The department will also serve the faculty to provide support related to their teaching and mentorship, recruitment and retention, research activities, faculty appointments and promotion efforts in alignment with the new college structure and goals.

## Reason for Establishing the Organizational Unit:

The *Department of Clinical Health Professions* is proposed to house the Genetic Counseling, Midwifery, Physician Assistant, and Physical Therapy programs that are moving from their respective academic homes into the newly proposed College of Health Sciences. The department will be located at the University of Arizona main campus in Tucson, and it will support the activities of these current and future health professional programs.

The decision to create this department was both strategic and necessary. Strategically, it is designed to support the strong interprofessional focus of the health science and professional programs that will reside within this new college and their respective accreditation requirements related to interprofessional education. It is also strategically related to ongoing health workforce challenges in Arizona that limit access to health care for our communities and the similarity of these health professional programs. Each of these programs require similar institutional support related to clinical training sites, faculty appointments, faculty development, student affairs, and support related to equity, diversity, and inclusion. Having all these health professional degree programs within the same department provides a level of support that can speak to the challenges of clinical training programs.

### Resources



ASU + NAU + UA

Start-up funding for the department includes a combination of State appropriations for development of New Economy Initiatives (NEI), Strategic Investment funds, general operating funds and other University unrestricted funds.

Budgeted expenditures include faculty and staff, operations, travel, continuing education, capital equipment, educational software, costs for clinical rotations, and fees for accreditation and society memberships. Revenues and expenditures increase annually, from FY2024 through FY2027 as the various programs become fully established.

The College will receive activity-based revenue through the University's Activity Informed Budget (AIB) model. Based on financial proformas, the College will require startup funding of just under \$9 million over the first four years and will generate a positive net income starting in FY28. State funds will be provided from New Economic Initiative appropriations.

The College is expected to generate future funding streams from research activity, philanthropy and new educational programs, but those revenues and associated expenses are not included in the initial budget.

Shared support services, including marketing and communications, finance and accounting, human resources, information and educational technology management, research administration, and philanthropy are provided through the Office of the Senior Vice President for Health Sciences. Memorandum of Understanding to affect service level agreements and the expense assigned to the College will be developed for each administrative function. Renovation to the lower level of the Health Sciences Innovation Building to provide teaching space for the Physician Assistant and Physical Therapy program was funded in FY2023. In addition to that space, the programs will utilize other already existing teaching and study facilities, including the simulation center and clinical skills labs, libraries and educational technology hardware available in Health Sciences.