

TOPIC: PROPOSAL TO OFFER A MASTER OF SCIENCE IN DENTISTRY PROGRAM, SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER

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I. SUMMARY

This agenda item requests approval for the University of Colorado Denver (UCD), School of Dental Medicine to offer a Master of Science in Dentistry (MSD). This program is intended primarily for residents who have received a doctorate in dentistry (D.D.S./D.M.D.) and wish to practice a clinical specialty, teach or conduct research in a dental discipline.

II. BACKGROUND

The following is summarized from the University of Colorado Denver's proposal to offer a Master of Science in Dentistry:

ROLE AND MISSION SUPPORT

The statutory mission states:

The role and mission of the several campuses of the university of Colorado shall be as follows: The health sciences center campus of the university of Colorado shall offer specialized baccalaureate, first-professional, masters, and doctoral degree programs in health-related disciplines and professions. It shall be affiliated with the university of Colorado hospital and other health care facilities that offer settings for education, clinical practice, and basic and applied research. It shall have exclusive authority in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, and physical therapy. C.R.S. 23-20-101(1)(d).

As part of the University of Colorado Denver, Anschutz Medical campus, the School of Dental Medicine is an essential component for providing complete, integrated health care to the citizens of the State of Colorado. The addition of a Masters Degree in Dentistry program will demonstrate the School's commitment to encouraging critical thinkers and lifelong learners.

EVIDENCE OF NEED/DEMAND

UCD anticipates that all Orthodontic and Periodontic residents (fifteen and three, respectively) will participate in the MSD program. In addition, one or two Pediatric residents may participate.

Graduates of the proposed MSD program will assuredly secure employment in existing practice locations or will establish their own practice sites. UCD anticipates that many of the graduates will stay and help address the shortage of health care providers across the state.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

The residency programs that will grant the MSD degree are already at full capacity and are functioning within the institutional physical environment. No additional needs are projected at this time.

III. DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION REVIEW

The Department staff has reviewed this proposed program to ensure that the degree program meets the State's performance measures outlined in C.R.S. §23-5-129(6)(b). The program meets all performance measures set forth by the state.

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Department staff recommends that the Commission approve the Master of Dentistry Program submitted by the University of Colorado Denver.

VI. SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Copies of all relevant statute and policy are on file in the Academic Affairs Office.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

C.R.S. §23-5-129(6)(b)