

Legislative Appropriations Request FY 2016 and FY 2017

Dan R. Jones, President
September 12, 2014





Major Accomplishments



Successful SACSCOC Compliance Certification

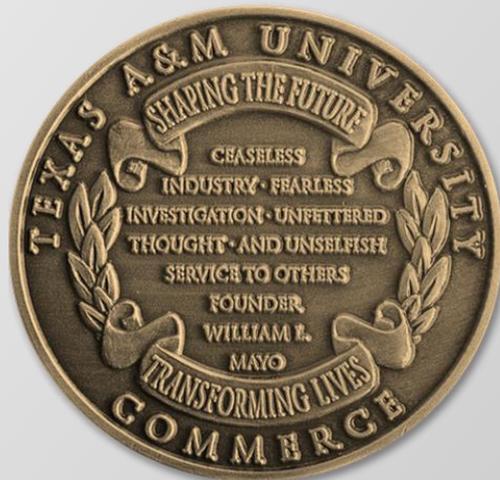
Designated an Emerging Hispanic-Serving Institution

New Nursing, Rodeo and Equine Programs

Guaranteed Tuition Plan

Sustained Enrollment Growth

Academic Innovation





Texas Affordable Baccalaureate (TAB) Degree

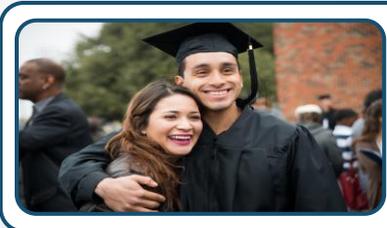


Texas A&M University-Commerce is the state's only public university to offer a competency-based degree, approved by the SACSCOC. Total cost of the degree for students will range from \$7,000 - \$14,000, depending on the number of credits transferred.

This high-quality, affordable program has the potential to provide a pathway to a baccalaureate degree for more than three million Texans who have some college credit but no credential.

A statewide marketing effort in collaboration with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) began in August.

Exceptional Item Requests (Biennium)



Institute for Competency-Based Education
\$1,487,000



Nursing-Expansion of BSN and
Development & Implementation of MSN
\$1,593,000



Mesquite Metroplex/Northeast Texas
(Educational Partnership) STEM Academy
\$500,000



BS in Electrical Engineering Program Development
\$1,000,000



Institute for Competency-Based Education

Funding Use

\$1,487,000

- Establishes an institute to conduct research and promote innovation with universities and community colleges in Texas.



Funding Benefit

- To achieve the state's *Closing the Gaps* goals, it is imperative that we develop innovative models to help more Texans earn a college degree.
- Beginning in the spring of 2014, A&M-Commerce began offering the Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences in Organizational Leadership with an initial seven students. The university anticipates rapid growth with 150 students projected for the fall. The Institute would promote the adoption of online education and a shift to competency-based models rather than the traditional credit-hour model to reduce time-to-degree and limit costs to students and families.
- A grant proposal was submitted to the Department of Education for \$3.4 million to establish a research institute and partnerships with three DCCCD campuses to expand the delivery of competency-based degree completion programs.

Nursing-Expansion of BSN and Development & Implementation of MSN

Funding Use

\$1,593,000

- A&M-Commerce seeks to promote excellence in healthcare by improving the quality and accessibility of health care in rural Northeast Texas. Funds will be used to drastically increase the capacity of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program while developing and implementing a Master of Science in Nursing program with the emphasis on Nurse Educator and Family Nurse Practitioner.



Funding Benefit

- This exceptional item request will enable A&M-Commerce to respond to the continuing nursing shortage as well as insufficient access to primary care. Annually, more than 40% of qualified applicants are denied admission to nursing programs due to lack of clinical facilities and/or faculty per the Board of Nursing and the Workforce Commission.
- An additional 80 students can be admitted to the A&M-Commerce program yearly if funded. We currently have almost 900 students who intend to apply to the nursing program in the next two years. Due to the limited capacity, we will have to turn away 100-200 qualified students per year.



Mesquite Metroplex/Northeast Texas (Educational Partnership) STEM Academy

Funding Use

\$500,000

- Funds are requested to establish a STEM Academy for rural school districts so that students will receive up to 60 hours of undergraduate credit.



Funding Benefit

- The STEM Academy will provide a model for rural school districts to meet H.B. 5 requirements.
- A model for addressing *Closing the Gaps* goals regarding improving the State's degree completion agenda for critical shortage areas is needed, particularly to address the latest research regarding rural students.



Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering Program Development

Funding Use

\$1,000,000

- Funding is requested to support the implementation of a new Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering (BSEE) program.



Funding Benefit

- The BSEE will be the third undergraduate engineering program in the Department of Engineering & Technology and will build upon the success of the existing programs.
- The engineering programs at A&M-Commerce were implemented in direct response to the urging and needs of regional technology-based companies in Northeast Texas and the Dallas/Fort Worth (DFW) Metroplex.
- Texas Workforce Commission forecasts an employment growth rate of 17.2% over the next decade for electrical engineers in Texas.

Capital Project Request – Priority 1

Nursing & Health Sciences Building

\$60 Million Total Cost

\$54 Million Requested

- The new building will house the departments of Nursing, Health and Human Performance, and Biology and Environmental Sciences.
- By having an opportunity for collegial interdisciplinary education housed in a central facility, graduates will develop a sense of community with other students engaged in related health science disciplines promoting further collaboration in teaching and research.





Capital Project Request – Priority 2

Library & Center for Educational Innovation & Faculty Development

\$60 Million Total Cost
\$54 Million Requested

- The traditional library is no longer adequate to support the needs of students and faculty.
- The library of the future must provide a technology-enriched environment where students can continue the learning that begins in the classroom.
- Featuring collaborative spaces as well as quiet areas, with technology infused throughout the building, the library will empower students to manage their own learning with the right environment and assistance to meet their needs.





Legislative Priorities



Base Funding through Formulas

Outcomes-Based Funding Initiatives

Capital Projects

Group Health Insurance

Student Financial Aid

Higher Education Fund (HEF)

Hazlewood Program



Celebrating 125 Years



ENRICHED *history.*
ENRICHED *future.*