



Budget Request Form FY2015

Department should complete one form for each individual request

Department: Student Counseling Service

Program, Service, or Operation Requested

Professional Counselor I

SAFAB Use Only	
YES	NO

General Description:

A Professional Counselor I is an entry level professional who typically has recently finished coursework for a master's degree. This person would provide individual, couple, and group counseling to currently enrolled TAMU students. Additionally, outreach, consultation, crisis intervention, and supervision are typical job duties.

Request Type: Full Increase One-Time Partial/Matching

Type of Funds Requested UAF Other

General Questions:

Why is this important to your department? How does this increase impact students, and what motivated this request?

The student population of Texas A&M University has increased every year for the past several years. Each increase in student population brings an increase in the number of student requests for service from the Student Counseling Service. Because many students are also coming with significant histories of psychological or psychiatric services, more mental health professionals are needed to handle these existing needs. Essentially, we are trying to provide services to more and more students without an increase in staff. Current utilization rate for the first 13 days of this semester stands at 94%, which is historically high and unusual at the beginning of fall semester.

Is it part of your strategic plan? What will be the impact if it is not funded?

As stated previously, doing the most good for the most number of students is part of the SCS strategic plan and our number one goal is to provide service to students. Without adequate staffing, this will not be possible. If this request is not funded, proportionally fewer students will be served.

How do other sources of funding (fundraising, sponsorship, reserves, etc.) been considered? Please explain.
 Because this is a core function of the SCS, no other funding has been explored.

What sort of input did you receive (student, faculty, staff, other) to determine this need?
 Students have repeatedly requested less waiting time to a first appointment as well as the ability to schedule more frequent appointments.

What actions have you implemented internally to address the identified need?
 Staff typically provide more counseling hours of direct service per week than is the national average (60%). They have also routinely added more initial appointments and more ongoing appointments to their schedules as the semester has progressed. These additional time slots are still not enough.

Generally, what assessment tools will you use to evaluate this program/service?
 The SCS plans to initiate an outcomes assessment measure to assure quality services in the future. In the meantime, we will look at time-to-first-appointment as a measure of how well needs are being met.

Funding Description:

	Dollar Amount
Total Estimated Cost	
Salary	\$46,000
Benefits	\$16,478
<i>Less Estimated Partial/Matching Funds (if applicable)</i>	
TOTAL UAF INCREASE REQUEST	\$62,478

SAFAB Comments/Notes: