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Student Affairs Fee
Advisory Board
DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

Funding Request Form FY2026

Department should complete one form for each individual request

Department:

Disability Resources

Program, Service or Operation Requested:

Spectrum in Aggieland Graduate Assistant

General Description:

Graduate Assistant Non-Teaching to coordinate the Spectrum in Aggieland student group. The Spectrum in Aggieland program is a non-funded student focused initiative providing support for autistic students on campus focusing both on transition to college and future employment skills.

Request Type:

Full Increase One-Time Partial/Matching

Type of Funds Requested:

UAF Other

General Questions

How does this address an important need and/or positively impact students?

Texas A&M has an increasing number of autistic students enrolling in degree seeking programs. The transition to college, especially a huge university like Texas A&M can be very challenging for these students. In addition, unemployment and underemployment rates are disproportionately high for autistic individuals. Disability Resources began the Spectrum in Aggieland program to address these challenges and it is currently run by Access Coordinators which takes time away from other student needs.

What department/Division strategic plan item does this support?

Inclusive & Caring Communities, Student Learning through Engagement

Please provide data, evidence, and/or input (student faculty, staff, other) you gathered to help you determine the need for additional resources.

Students involved in the Spectrum program indicate that they appreciate the program, however, the number of students participating is small. The ACs involved in the program have large caseloads and are not able to spend as much time planning and reflecting on how

to improve the program and increase involvement due to their required responsibilities with their caseloads.

What actions have you implemented or discontinued internally to address the identified need?

Currently, Access Coordinators coordinate this program. However, with the increasing number of students with disabilities registering with Disability Resources, it is challenging to devote time to this program.

If funding is granted, what metrics will you use to evaluate success of this program/service/operation?

Increasing numbers of students involved with the program. Survey of students involved in the program to determine what was beneficial.

Have other sources of funding (fundraising, sponsorship, reserves, etc.) been considered? Please explain.

Development funds have been identified as another avenue for funding this position but have not come to fruition to this point.

Total Estimated Cost

Funding Description	Amount
Spectrum in Aggieland Graduate Assistant	\$17,000
<i>Less Estimated Partial/Matching Funds (if Applicable)</i>	
TOTAL INCREASE REQUESTED	\$17,000