

PROGRAM FEE REQUEST

University: **University of Arizona**

College/School: **College of Medicine - Tucson**

Department: **Pharmacology**

Program: **MS in Pharmacology/Perfusion Sciences**

Graduate X Undergraduate Upper Division Lower Division Both

New \$ 500 **Aug 2016 (Incoming Class)**
(Proposed) (Effective Date)

Existing \$ \$
(Proposed) (Current) (Year Approved)

Proposed fee to be applied as:

X Per Term or Per Unit, Total of ___ Units per Program

Proposed fee to be applied:

X Fall X Spring Summer Winter

Date Submitted: 10/30/15

Rationale for Request (~100 words)

Perfusionists are highly specialized, mid-level allied health professional members of medical teams. Perfusionists are trained to employ mechanical circulatory devices in order to keep patients alive and stable during and after cardiac surgery. Perfusion graduates at the UA are also trained to maintain the viability of transplant organs and limbs. In recent years high-fidelity simulation has been used to enhance medical training in many specialties including perfusion training at other programs. The UA's program, one of only 16 in the nation, does not currently have the resources to set up and maintain the specialized equipment necessary to conduct such training and thus the main justification for this special program fee is to build the funds needed to do so.

Compliance with Board Guidelines (~250 words)

Student Experience: High Fidelity simulation training has been demonstrated to provide students with a realistic and safe environment in order to develop their basic skills and confidence before transitioning to the clinical phase of training. Realistic training with simulation will also provide learning opportunities in managing low frequency, high-risk scenarios that are less likely encountered during clinical rotations.

Access and Affordability: The financial aid set-aside will be used to provide need-based assistance to students enrolled in the program so that they are able to benefit from all available learning opportunities during their training. In considering the additional burden of these program fees, it should be noted that new perfusion graduates can anticipate earning \$75,000 to \$100,000 after the two years of training. Furthermore, as discussed below, the UA's program is extremely competitive in terms of cost-of-attendance in comparison to most other programs in the country.

Enhanced Marketability of Program Graduates: As perfusion training programs universally adopt high-fidelity simulation training, graduates without such training and experience will be at a disadvantage. Perfusion graduates who are familiar with running such training sessions will be desirable for future clinical practices using simulation to maintain competencies. UA perfusion students currently receive employment offers well before graduating and we intend to ensure they continue to do so in future.

Student Consultation (~100 words)

A survey was conducted and the eight currently enrolled students unanimously agreed that 1) the implementation of this fee in order to establish high fidelity simulation training and need-based student aid was justified; 2) they would have continued to apply to this program if this fee had been implemented before their application; and 3) they believed that candidates will continue to apply to this program with this fee in place. One out-of-state student asked if his higher tuition rates directly benefited the program (which it does not), but he agreed with the effort to implement program fees if it directly supported simulation training. Another (in-state) student commented that this was one of the best programs in the nation, that it was especially affordable for in-state students and that a simulation system would help students tremendously.

MARKET PRICING (~200)

The 16 programs in the US are each very different, making direct pricing comparisons difficult, particularly via the AAUDE-UA comparison chart which does not include the cost of summer training required at all perfusion schools. Many programs do not offer Master's level training. Table 1 below lists public universities that offer perfusion training, but they are not at the Master's level. Other private universities offering training at the Master's level are listed in Table 2. As can be seen, even with the addition of the proposed fees, the total first-year cost of attendance at the UA is comparable or less than other perfusion programs listed. Many other programs also have higher total cost of attendance due to their heavy reliance on external (out-of-state) rotations for clinical training. This is not reflected in the market pricing analysis below but is a factor weighed heavily by prospective students.

Table 1: Full first year (including summer) cost at peer public university-based perfusion programs.

Perfusion Program, Degree Offered (students enrolled/year)	Resident Tuition and Fees	Tech / Program Fee	Total	Non-Resident Tuition and Fees	Tech / Program Fee	Total
Med Univ S. Carolina, BS (14)*	\$22,752	N/A	\$22,752	\$34,773	NA	\$34,773
University of Arizona, MS (4)	\$12,048	\$1,000 (proposed)	\$13,048	\$30,370	\$1,000 (proposed)	\$31,370
The University of Iowa, Certificate (3-5)*	\$11,645	\$400	\$12,045	\$41,324	\$400	\$41,724
SUNY Upstate Med Univ, BS (8)*	\$10,664	\$276	\$10,940	\$25,689	\$276	\$25,965

Table 2: Full first year (including summer) cost at comparable private university-based Master perfusion programs.

Perfusion Program, Degree Offered (students enrolled/year)	Tuition and Fees	Tech/Program Fee	Total
Rush University, MS (8)*	\$41,280	NA	\$41,280
Midwestern University, MS (32)*	\$37,288	\$ 700	\$37,988
Milwaukee Sch Of Eng, MS	\$30,612	NA	\$30,612

* Programs that already utilize high-fidelity simulation training.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Financial Aid Set-Aside Amount: 14%

Proposed Annual Revenue

Annual Program Fee Amount	\$	1,000
Number of Students Enrolled Annually	#	8
Total Annual Revenue	=	\$8,000

Proposed Annual Expenditures

Financial Aid Set Aside (14%)	\$	1,120
Institutional and Advising Personnel	\$	0
Support Staff Expense	\$	0
Operating Expenses	\$	6,880
Total Program Costs	=	\$8,000