

Board Meeting  
January 21, 2016

ESTABLISH THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MEDICAL PHYSIOLOGY,  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AND THE GRADUATE COLLEGE, CHICAGO

**Action:** Establish the Master of Science in Medical Physiology, College of  
Medicine and the Graduate College

**Funding:** No New Funding Required

The Chancellor, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Vice President,  
University of Illinois with the advice of the Chicago Senate, College of Medicine, and the  
Graduate College recommends the establishment of the Master of Science in Medical  
Physiology.

The M.S. in Medical Physiology is a one-year program that provides  
students with advanced training in the physiological sciences and preparation for future  
professional studies in the health sciences, particularly in medicine, and Ph.D. programs.  
The program was conceived and developed both to utilize existing expertise and  
resources in the Department of Physiology and Biophysics, and in response to inquiries  
received every year about the availability of a preparatory graduate degree for medical  
school. The degree will provide graduate-level education in one of most important basic  
areas of the health sciences, and enhance the academic credentials of students seeking  
admission to professional schools in the health sciences. The program will be the third of  
its type offered in the State of Illinois, but the only such program at a public institution.

Students will enroll for two semesters of full-time study, and complete 32-hours of graduate coursework in human physiology, clinical applications of physiology, gross anatomy, cell physiology, stem cells, and special topics in physiology and biophysics. No thesis is required. The program has a projected enrollment of 15 students in the first year, and 25 once fully implemented.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respect with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes, The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The Vice President for Academic Affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further Senate jurisdiction is involved.

The President of the University recommends approval. This action is subject to further review and approval by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.