

Board Meeting
March 26, 2008

ESTABLISH THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PATIENT SAFETY LEADERSHIP,
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, CHICAGO

Action: Approve the Establishment of the Master of Science in Patient Safety Leadership, College of Medicine, Chicago

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Interim Chancellor at Chicago with the advice of the Chicago Senate, the Graduate College, and the College of Medicine, recommends the establishment of a new degree program, the Master of Science in Patient Safety Leadership.

The landmark document *To Err Is Human: Building a Safer Health System*, a 2000 report from the Institute of Medicine, was a resounding indictment of the educational preparedness of health professionals in the United States. The shortcomings that exist in the education of health care professionals are barriers to the improved quality of medical care provided in the United States. The M.S. in Patient Safety Leadership program seeks to break the cycle of medical error and improve the safety of patients who participate in the health care system. The overall goal of this primarily online program, to be administered through the Global Campus, is to facilitate dynamic educational opportunities in a learner-centered environment for practicing clinicians, students, and health care administrators who wish to become leaders in the quest for patient safety and the delivery of quality health care. The program is designed for both clinical and non-

clinical health care professionals interested in taking health care quality and patient care services to a higher level of excellence. This will be the first online patient safety graduate program in the State of Illinois, and, based on the market analysis, anywhere within the United States.

The curriculum is a 36-credit-hour program including course content in patient safety and health care quality, leadership, inter-professional collaboration, organizational management, communication, global health, legal/policy issues, error science, simulation, information technology and health services research. A five-day onsite residency requirement at the Chicago campus will provide the opportunity for learners to practice and apply the tools and principles introduced in the preceding online courses, and to participate in active learning with cohort members in a face-to-face format. Finally, a capstone project will provide the opportunity for students to design, implement, and evaluate the impact of a patient safety/quality care improvement project in a self-selected area of interest.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects 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.

