

Board Meeting
May 16, 2019

ESTABLISH THE PROGRAM IN REHABILITATION SCIENCES, COLLEGE OF
APPLIED HEALTH SCIENCES, CHICAGO

Action: Establish the Program in Rehabilitation Sciences, College of Applied Health Sciences

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 and the College of Applied Health Sciences, recommends the establishment of the Program in Rehabilitation Sciences.

The College of Applied Health Sciences has offered the Bachelor of Science in Rehabilitation Sciences since Fall 2015. The degree is an interdisciplinary program that brings together student interest and faculty experience from all of the college's departments: Disability and Human Development, Biomedical and Health Information Sciences, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Kinesiology and Nutrition. In Fall 2018, the degree enrolled 240 students and it is ranked 8th in the U.S. The Program in Rehabilitation Sciences will function as an independent unit led by a director who reports to the dean of the college. It will house the B.S. in Rehabilitation Sciences, and serve as tenure home for a critical mass of anticipated new faculty and a

stable disciplinary home for 14 existing non-tenure system faculty. Formalizing a Program in Rehabilitation Sciences will increase clarity and eliminate the confusion that often occurs when hiring faculty with disparate degrees and areas of expertise.

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 Executive Vice President and 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.