

<b>Board of Governors Goal(s) and Objective(s)</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Narrative</b>	<b>Dollar Amount Sought</b>	<b>Priority</b>
<b>I-b: Meeting Statewide Professional and Workforce Needs</b>	Nursing Program	<p>This request would support the expansion of current programs at the University of North Florida in baccalaureate nursing and graduate nursing.</p> <p>The baccalaureate nursing program has consistently been expanded over the past 3 years. This new expansion would allow the program to admit 24 additional students and graduate them within 2 years instead of 2 ½ years, as is currently the case. UNF’s nursing program currently graduates 120 nursing students each year. This number can increase to 144 each year, given the expansion of the program.</p> <p>The current graduate nursing program prepares nurses to be nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists. This request proposes an additional track, that of the nurse anesthetist. This request includes a full-time 28 month track leading to eligibility of successful students to take the certification exam offered by the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists, culminating in the award of the credential Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist.</p>	\$1,194,400.	1
	Education	As identified by the Florida Board of Education, a substantial number of teachers are needed to fulfill the K-12 workforce need over the next several years. The K-12 student population in Florida has grown by 10% in the past 4 years. This trend, along with mandatory reduction in class size (Class Size	\$1,100,000	2

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		<p>Amendment) and large numbers of retirements in the current teaching force, has created a critical need for teachers. It is projected that 30,000 new teachers will be needed by the state for the 2006-2007 academic year. Consistent with BOG Strategic Imperative #1, the College of Education and Human Services is committed to acquiring, retaining, and developing qualified, effective teachers.</p> <p>In addition to its traditional teacher education programs, the College of Education and Human Services proposes creation/expansion of a number of options for providing alternative entry of qualified, effective teachers into the workforce:</p> <p><i>Implementation of Specialty Coursework and M. Ed. Programs for Bachelor's Holding Second Career Candidates.</i> This initiative is the seed for development of an Educator Preparation Institute (EPI) at the University of North Florida in conjunction with the FBOE initiative to create approved alternative teacher certification sites at state universities and colleges. Funding would support scholarships for persons holding bachelor's degrees in content areas, but who have no certification training as teachers. While the audience would be quite broad, special efforts will be devoted to recruiting discharged military personnel and homemakers re-entering the workforce. The</p>		

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		<p>coursework would be offered in community-based sites, providing opportunities for master teachers to co-teach the courses and for students to participate in onsite field-based and tutoring experiences. The project should serve 50 students.</p> <p><i>Expansion of Professional Development School Partnerships to Support Secondary Level Teacher Training.</i> Statewide, only two-thirds of students completing state-approved teacher preparation program teach in Florida public schools after graduation. Of those, 50% will leave the teaching profession within the first 5 years. UNF's experience documents that students in elementary education and special education who engage in field experiences in professional development school settings are (a) more likely to enter the profession at the time of graduation, and (b) more likely to remain in teaching. This partnership has been the focus of much attention, including two national recognitions over the past 4 years. The partnership supporting the secondary level teacher training program would allow UNF to replicate for secondary education majors the types of field-based programs which have proven effective in training elementary school and special education teachers. Funding would allow the hiring of two clinical faculty positions to facilitate the program in two Duval County middle/high schools.</p>		

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		<p><i>Expansion of a Special Education Apprenticeship Program.</i> This program is a joint effort between UNF and Duval County Public Schools. Several other area school districts have also expressed interest in this program. Further funding would allow UNF to admit an additional cohort of students into a program designed to increase the number of teachers prepared for special education classrooms, a critical shortage area as defined by the Florida Department of Education. Through the apprenticeship program students with bachelor's degrees complete certification coursework while working as paraprofessionals in special education classrooms. With additional funding, the program could serve 20 more students.</p> <p><i>Community College Partnerships in Education for Rural Communities.</i> The community college partnership would support UNF offering required junior-year coursework for education majors on local area community college campuses. This program would provide greater access to bachelor degree programs in rural areas and would address Florida's critical need for increased numbers of teachers. Senior-year coursework would be completed on-campus and in public school settings. The program should attract a minimum of 60 new teacher education candidates into elementary education.</p>		

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	Information Technology and Engineering	<p>The U. S. Bureau of Labor projects large job growth in all computing fields, with the greatest percentage of growth in fields requiring a bachelor’s degree in Network Systems and Data Communications Analysts (called CNA here) – with 106,000 jobs projected by 2012 (57%).</p> <p>This proposal would allow UNF to add a program in applied networking to its current roster of programs. This program would enable UNF students to secure positions in this, the fastest growing segment of the industry. Currently, the University offers a BS program in information science (InfoSci) through its Computer and Information Sciences Department (CIS). CIS also offers ABET – accredited BS programs in computer science (CS) and information systems (IS).</p> <p>Under this proposal, the InfoSci program will be changed to one in information technology (IT), with the first track being one in computer network administration (CNA). ABET accreditation will be pursued upon establishment of the program and graduation of students.</p> <p>Enrollments in this new program are expected to grow from 30 to 80 students over the next 5 years.</p>	\$500,000	3