

Academic Program Proposals for January 27, 2023

The following is a list of academic program proposals being reviewed for possible consideration for approval at the January 27, 2023, Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board Meeting.

The Institution's name and programs are listed below. Contact ADHE for a copy of the proposals.

If you have concerns, objections, questions, or comments concerning a specific proposal, please send them to **Mason Campbell** (mason.campbell@adhe.edu) at ADHE no later than **December 1, 2022**.

Arkansas State University Jonesboro **Bachelor of Science in Public Health**

The Bachelor of Science in Public Health will be a 100% online, 120 credit-hour program with 50 required public health credit hours. The required coursework will focus on the five core public health disciplines: Epidemiology, Biostatistics, Health Policy and Management, Environmental Health Sciences, and Social and Behavioral Sciences.

The Bachelor of Science in Public Health program will prepare students for employment in government, industry, and non-profit settings as epidemiologists, community health workers, health administrators and managers, health data scientists and analysts, and health educators. Arkansas State University's mission is to serve the Mississippi Delta and Mid-South region. There is currently no undergraduate public health program serving this region of Arkansas. Compared to other states, Arkansas is ranked toward the bottom in public health, health care quality, and health care access. Adding an undergraduate public health program will help to better serve this region and the state of Arkansas, in addition to meeting both student and employment demand for public health practitioners.

One new faculty member will be hired in addition to the existing two faculty members already on staff. A program advisory committee will be formed upon approval to provide input on curriculum and internship and employment opportunities for students.

Arkansas State University Mid-South **Technical Certificate in Paramedic Science**

The Technical Certificate in Paramedic Science at ASU Mid-South will build upon its existing certificate programs in Basic and Advanced Emergency Medical Technician to provide students with a career pathway in the field of Emergency Medical Services. The proposed program requires 43 credit hours of coursework that can be completed over the course of a year, providing students with the opportunity to quickly earn highly sought skills and credentials that can lead to gainful employment in the EMS sector.

The proposed curriculum requires completion of seven (7) new courses, with a new cohort enrolling each fall semester and completing each summer. ASU Mid-South is well positioned to support Paramedic Science programming, as its lead faculty for EMT has experience in developing and directing paramedic programming at other institutions in the Mid-South region.

Aside from the one additional faculty member, the College will utilize existing classroom space, equipment, and other resources already used in its EMT and AEMT certificate programs.

Arkansas State University Mountain Home
Associate of Applied Science, Technical Certificate, and Certificate of Proficiency in Marine Manufacturing

The Associate of Applied Science in Marine Manufacturing is for students interested in boat, trailer, or other fiberglass composite constructions. The program integrates basic tools, welding, electrical, gel coat application, and open and closed molded lamination into the manufacturing of boats and boat trailers. The skills taught in this program also apply to automotive and other industries.

The proposed program does not exist in the central part of the United States, yet the stabilization of the region depends upon this industry. The boat manufacturing industry in North Central Arkansas has long been a sustaining force in the state's economy. Based on industry data, there are an estimated 2,000 boat manufacturing jobs in a 47-county region, which extends 120 miles around Mountain Home, Arkansas, where the ASUMH campus is located.

The AAS in Marine Manufacturing is 60 credit hours, the Technical Certificate is 31 credit hours, and the Certificate of Proficiency is 11 credit hours. One faculty member was hired prior to this proposal to assist with the development of the program. ASUMH has received approximately \$1.4 million to fund the first two years of this program through a Delta Regional Authority Grant and an Arkansas Office of Skills Development Grant. These grant funds provide financial means for faculty salary, development of curriculum, facilities, and equipment.

Southern Arkansas University
Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering

The purpose of the program is to provide an education in Mechanical Engineering for the southern Arkansas region and create a pipeline of qualified, potential employees for the region's many companies in the defense, gas, oil, and steel industries. Students that successfully complete this program will be able to apply the fundamental knowledge of mechanical engineering design and problem-solving skills to advance in their careers beyond the entry level in the field of mechanical engineering.

The Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering program would be 124 credit hours. This program will benefit from an already thriving Engineering department and utilize many of the existing departmental resources. One faculty member will be hired, and a machine shop laboratory will be created specifically for this program. Here, students will be introduced to hands-on activities related to various machining and fabrication processes.

Similar programs around the state include those at University of Arkansas Fayetteville, Arkansas State University Jonesboro, Arkansas Tech University, and University of Arkansas Little Rock. This geographical distance from Southern Arkansas University to these institutions only emphasizes the economic need for this program.

University of Arkansas Fayetteville **Master of Music in Black Sacred Music**

The proposed Master of Music in Black Sacred Music would be the first of its kind in Arkansas and the country. UA Fayetteville's location, existing world-class resources, commitment to diversity, equity, access, and inclusion, and ability to leverage these allows for uncharted access to the arts. This program would be funded by a grant of more than \$848,000 from the Alice Walton Foundation. Continued annual support from endowed funds will be provided given that outlined program goals are met.

The Master of Music in Black Sacred Music will be a 36 credit-hour summer program spanning 3 years. Faculty for the program will include existing full-time and part-time Music Department faculty members. In addition, an extraordinary group of special guest instructors, appointed as adjunct faculty, will be used. They include recording artists, scholars, Grammy winners, and other international experts in Gospel Music.

By year 3 of the degree cycle, 25 students are expected to enroll. UAF anticipates 4-5 students graduating in year 3 with 8-10 graduating each summer thereafter. Students completing this program will be well prepared for a vast number of roles including but not limited to church musicians, worship directors, choir directors, gospel music performers, songwriters, or recording artists, and producers of gospel or related music.

Institutional Certification Advisory Committee (ICAC)

The following applications may be reviewed by ADHE for possible consideration at the AHECB meeting in January 2023.

Academy of Art University, San Francisco, California

Associate of Arts in Fashion Product Development
Associate of Arts in Jewelry and Metal Arts
Associate of Arts in Visual Development
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Fashion Product Development
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Jewelry and Metal Arts
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Visual Development
Master of Arts in Jewelry and Metal Arts

Master of Arts in Visual Development
Master of Fine Arts in Fashion Product Development
Master of Fine Arts in Jewelry and Metal Arts
Master of Fine Arts in Visual Development

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California

Graduate Certificate in Astronautical Engineering
Master of Science in Aerospace & Mechanical Engineering (Computational Fluid & Solid Mechanics)
Master of Science in Aerospace & Mechanical Engineering (Dynamics & Control)
Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering
Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering (Medical Imaging and Imaging Informatics)
Master of Science in Chemical Engineering
Master of Science in Civil Engineering (Construction Engineering)
Master of Science in Civil Engineering (Structural Engineering)
Master of Science in Electrical Engineering (VLSI Design)
Master of Science in Petroleum Engineering

University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences, San Marcos, California

Master of Science in Nursing – Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
Post-Graduate Certificate in Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner-Primary Care

Walden University, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Master of Science in Finance