



Date of Board Meeting: May 16, 2023

Subject: New Level I Certificate in the Human Services Program

Recommendation: Approve Chemical Dependency Level I Certificate, Effective Fall 2024

Background and Rationale: Regional data shows an increasing demand for Chemical Dependency Counseling. The Human Services Department Advisory Committee recommends adding a certificate program to the current Human Services Department degree to help meet workforce demand for these counselors. A one-year program aligns with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's current strategic plan of providing post-secondary credentials to meet high-skill, high-demand employment needs. And, the program's recent reaccreditation visiting team from the Council for Standards in Human Service Education supports the addition of this certificate program to meet service area employers' needs.

The proposal is to add a one-year, level one Chemical Dependency Counseling certificate, consisting of about 30 semester credit hours, to feed directly into the Human Services AAS degree. Entry-level position salaries fall around \$35,000, depending upon the employer. The certificate, when coupled with the AAS degree, leads to a licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor with an annual salary of approximately \$48,520. Graduates who transfer and complete a minimum of a bachelor's degree may earn \$77,000.

This certificate will afford WCJC the opportunity to meet the workforce need for chemical dependency intervention in the region. Once approved, the Human Services Advisory Committee will work with faculty to create the specialized curriculum that will be reviewed and approved by WCJC's Curriculum and Instructional Resources Committee in fall 2023. No additional classroom space or instructional equipment is needed.

Cost and Budgetary Support: \$5,000 per Semester Part-Time Faculty Compensation

Strategic Priority Alignment:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Student Success	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Impact
<input type="checkbox"/> Resource Optimization	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Institutional Excellence

Resource Person(s): Carol Derkowski, Division Chair and Victoria Schultz, Program Director Human Services

Signatures:

Carol Derkowski Digitally signed by Carol Derkowski
Date: 2023.05.05 09:48:29 -05'00'

Originator

Date

**Leigh Ann
Collins**

Digitally signed by Leigh Ann
Collins
Date: 2023.05.05 11:57:44
-05'00'

05/05/2023

Cabinet-Level Supervisor

Date

President's Approval:

Betty A. McLeod

5-5-23