

Collin County Community College District Board of Trustees

2018-8-4-6

August 28, 2018

Brenda Kihl
Executive Vice President

AGENDA ITEMS: Approval of Readiness Test Fees Effective Spring 2019

DISCUSSION: The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has implemented rules that require colleges and universities to include all course prerequisites when calculating the total number of credit hours to complete a degree. All of Collin College's allied health programs are at the maximum 60 semester credit hours allowed per TAC Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 9, Subchapter 1, Rule 9.183. In a recent review of curriculum, it was found that BIOL 1406, a Collin College prerequisite for Anatomy & Physiology I (A&P), was not included in the total credit hours for seven (7) allied health programs. Admission to an allied health program is the primary reason students enroll in A&P at Collin and successful completion (a grade of C or better) is an admission requirement for these same allied health programs.

Typically, 65% of Collin College students enrolling in A&P have earned a C or better after earning a passing grade in BIOL 1406. Other community colleges in Texas that removed the BIOL 1406 prerequisite experienced a significant decrease in students successfully completing A&P with of grade of A, B, or C. Lab facilities and the number of faculty qualified to teach A&P limit the number of sections that can be offered per term. It is essential that Collin College maintains a high success rate in A&P to ensure an adequate number of students meet admission standards for our allied health programs. Biology, A&P, and health science faculty have reviewed the curriculum, pass rates, and a study on A&P success conducted by Austin Community College. The faculty and administration recommend implementing a readiness assessment to qualify students for A&P registration.

After researching assessment options, a standardized test approach will be most effective. Pearson publishing has an existing test that assesses knowledge of high school level biology, which provides the foundation needed for A&P success. Based on current A&P enrollment and Austin Community College's experience with their assessment, approximately 2,000 students per year are expected to take the assessment. Implementing a readiness assessment will require contracting with Pearson for access to the standardized test, proctors, and a faculty data coordinator to analyze the effectiveness of the assessment. A testing fee of \$30 is being proposed to implement the assessment for Anatomy & Physiology I Readiness. The testing fee will cover the annual cost of administering the readiness assessment.

**DISTRICT PRESIDENT'S
RECOMMENDATION:**

The District President recommends that the Board of Trustees approves an Anatomy & Physiology Readiness Test fee of \$30, effective Spring 2019.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

"Mr. Chairman, I make a motion that the Board of Trustees of Collin County Community College District approves an Anatomy & Physiology Readiness Test fee of \$30, effective Spring 2019."