



88th LEGISLATIVE SESSION MCALLEN DAY IN AUSTIN

School of Medicine (SoM): 2024-2025 Biennium

PARTNERS

Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Medical School Non-Formula Start-up Funding

- **Retain \$39.9 Million in Current Funding**

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley School of Medicine’s highest priority is the continuation of the Non-Formula Support start-up funding used to deliver medical education to the full complement of medical students across all four years of medical education. Appropriations for faculty salaries and benefits are needed to continue funding basic science and clinical teaching faculty required for Provisional Accreditation and to meet the curriculum requirements in all 4 years of medical school as well as to support new hires and now that the medical school has reached full enrollment of 220 students and is on the path to full accreditation, expected in Summer 2023.

This funding is also necessary because the medical school’s practice plan, while robust, is still young and is providing care to a largely uninsured and Medicaid population.

School of Podiatric Medicine Start-up

- **\$12 million in Exceptional Item Funding**

Start-up appropriations are needed to support operating costs until full formula funding materializes. The school will increase the access to Podiatric doctors to keep up with the state’s population growth. Approximately 2.8 million people in Texas have diabetes; coupled with obesity and heart disease, the complications from these diseases can cause blindness and lead to amputations.

The appropriations would fund the startup costs for key faculty, staff, and other programmatic costs. Expected enrollment in the first year of 40 students is expected to grow to a full enrollment of 154 by FY 2026.

Cancer Immunology Center

- **Retain \$1.9 million in current funding**
- **Add \$3.1 million to support Cancer Center in McAllen**

The RGV has been a medically under-served area with wide gaps in specialty care, and cancer research and cancer care are amongst the most critical shortages. The cancer mortality rate for women living along the border is 30% higher than non-border regions.

In addition to the \$1.9 million appropriation for research UTRGV seeks \$3.1 million to support the operation of a new Cancer Center opening in 2025 in McAllen. Funds will support recruitment of and hiring of physician faculty trained in oncology and clinical cancer research and hire staff to support clinical operation and clinical research. The center will hire 58 new faculty and staff during the FY24-FY25 biennium supported in part with this requested funding for approximately 20 FTEs, increasing the regional’s capacity to fight cancer and elevate the standard of care across the Rio Grande Valley.

Prepared by: UTRGV UT Health