

UND SMHS Strategic Plan Individual Unit Report for 2022

GOAL 6 for **Medical Lab Science**

LEARNING

One UND Strategic Plan Goal 6: Meet educational needs of active duty and reserve personnel, veterans, and their families. Goal by 2022, A 25% increase in credit hours earned by active duty military personnel, veterans, and their families.

UND SMHS Strategic Plan Goal 6: The SMHS will determine how we may better meet the educational needs of active duty and reserve personnel, veterans, and their families.

1. Describe if/how your unit has addressed this goal.

In efforts to provide greater access and flexibility for military personnel, veterans, and their families (along with other non-traditional learners), the Department of Medical Laboratory Science (MLS) has fully transitioned to all online delivery of its Master's of Science in MLS degree, along with mostly asynchronous coursework. The Department has also targeted marketing efforts for the MS in MLS program to the professional society SAFMLS (Society of American Federal Medical Laboratory Scientists), worked on securing a scholarship with preference for military-associated students, and continued with targeted advising strategies for military-associated students.

2. Describe how your efforts are being assessed.

Specific questions about how the program is meeting/not meeting the needs of military personnel, veterans, and their families are included as part of our MS in MLS program advising template. These template questions are reviewed during each individual advising session (~1/semester) with each student.

We have begun tracking rates of military-associated applicants to the MS in MLS program. To try to better understand if our targeted marketing efforts are increasing the number of students from the military/veteran/associated families group, data are gathered on initial programs surveys as to how students learned about the program. We have also begun collection of data related to distribution of available scholarship(s) to military-related students.

3. Describe how your unit analyzed these data and what assessments were determined.

Responses from the standardized advising template questions are gathered and assessed for themes or trends in how the program is meeting needs of this group of students. Thus far, continued identified program strengths for this group include asynchronous coursework, flexible and approachable faculty, and flexible course scheduling.

Applications received for Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 start dates have revealed positive trends in military-associated applicants (40% and 25% of applicant pool, respectively) as compared with 12.5% for Spring 2022 and 6% for Fall 2021. Also, for the most recent scholarship cycle, we were able to meet our goal and award a scholarship for a military-associated student.

4. Describe how your unit will implement any further changes and what barriers may exist.

The Department of MLS will continue to monitoring feedback collected from program surveys and targeted advising of military-associated students, along with investigating other approaches for continued recruitment. One potential barrier is lack of a discounted tuition rate for military-associated students in the graduate MLS program (as an 'in-state' discounted rate is not applicable for an all online program).

PROVIDE A RATING OF YOUR PROGRESS ON THIS GOAL:  On Track;  Delayed;  Behind

(additional space for text is provided on page 3 if needed)

Additional Information on Goal 6 (optional):

Insert any additional information here.