
UND SMHS Strategic Plan Individual Unit Report for 2021

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.

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 will also begin 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, identified program strengths for this group include asynchronous coursework and flexible and approachable faculty. A continued area for growth identified was related to lack of military-specific scholarships and/or discounted tuition for military-related students. We have since been able to identify/secure a scholarship devoted to military-associated graduate students.

Assessment of questions about how students have learned about our program has not revealed a significant increase in enrollment due to our targeted efforts with SAFMLS. As such, we likely will try a different approach for recruitment of military-associated students.

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 recruitment. One potential barrier is lack of a discounted tuition rate for military-associated students in the graduate MLS program (as the 'in-state' 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.