

Committee: Full Board

Date Filed: September 10, 2021

Title: Amendment to Delegation of Authority to the UNTHSC President for Approval of UNTHSC's Investment in Fort Worth's First Accelerator Program with Techstars

Background:

The purpose of this board item is to amend prior Board approval to make an investment that will start the first accelerator program for startup companies in Fort Worth and to drive new innovation into the physical medicine and rehabilitation (PM&R) industry vertical. This investment will work with the industry-leading partner in accelerator programs, Techstars, to invest in 30 early stage, startup companies (10 per year for 3 years) to drive innovation on our campus and in Fort Worth. Working with private investors and the City of Fort Worth and/or Tarrant County, this public-private partnership will take the first step to making Fort Worth the place to start and grow innovative PM&R companies. Subsequent to approval by the Board of Regents in August, both the city and the county have requested to contract through HSC to provide city and county funding of the operating portion of the Techstars accelerators program, and for HSC to contract directly with Techstars on their behalf.

Financial Analysis/History:

The total cost of the project over the three-year period is \$8.4M. The program splits costs into operations (approximately 57 percent or \$4.8M) and direct investments (approximately 43 percent or \$3.6M). The City of Fort Worth and/or Tarrant County will cover operational costs of the program for \$4.8M; this funding will pass through HSC to Techstars for the accelerators program. Private investor(s), will invest \$1.8M. HSC will invest \$1.8M (\$600K per year), and will pass-through the \$4.8M (\$800K per year) portion funded by the city and the county.

Institution Chief Financial Officer

Vice Chancellor for Finance

Schedule:

The negotiation and execution of a contract or contracts with all parties will be finalized following Board of Regents approval.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the UNT System Board of Regents delegate authority to the UNTHSC President to negotiate, approve and execute contract



Board Order

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At an official meeting of the Board of Regents of the University of North Texas System properly posted and held on September 10, 2021, pursuant to a motion made by Regent _____ and seconded by Regent _____, the Board approved the motion presented below:

Whereas, the City of Fort Worth is the largest city in the country that does not have a true early-stage accelerator program, and

Whereas, the negotiation and execution of contracts with Techstars and other potential private and public entities to fund the first accelerator program in Fort Worth and the first accelerator program in physical medicine and rehabilitation (PM&R) will benefit faculty and students at HSC, and

Whereas, HSC will have researchers and students interacting with accelerator cohort companies, thereby creating new opportunities for advancing research, knowledge, and job opportunities for our students,

Now, Therefore, The Board of Regents authorizes and approves the following:

1. Delegation of Authority to the UNTHSC President to negotiate, approve and execute contracts with Techstars, the City of Fort Worth, and Tarrant County for implementation of the Techstars accelerator program for PM&R, to invest up to \$1.8M in the program, and to act as a conduit for the City of Fort Worth and Tarrant County funding of operational costs up to \$4.8M, for a total value of up to \$6.6M over a three-year period.
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VOTE: _____ ayes _____ nays _____ abstentions

BOARD ACTION:

Attested By:

Approved By:

Rosemary R. Haggett, Secretary
Board of Regents

Laura Wright, Chair
Board of Regents