

**The Florida Senate**  
**BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Higher Education Committee

BILL: SB 1120  
 INTRODUCER: Senator Fasano  
 SUBJECT: University of South Florida/Pharmacy Degree Program  
 DATE: March 29, 2009      REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Harkey	Matthews	HE	<b>Favorable</b>
2.	_____	_____	HR	_____
3.	_____	_____	HI	_____
4.	_____	_____	WPSC	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

**I. Summary:**

This bill would create a Doctor of Pharmacy degree program at the University of South Florida (USF).

This bill creates s. 1004.387, Florida Statutes.

**II. Present Situation:**

**Legislative Approval of Professional Schools**

The Legislature must approve the establishment of new colleges, schools, or functional equivalents of any program leading to a degree that is offered as a credential for a specific license granted under the Florida Statutes or the State Constitution.<sup>1</sup> Thus, an institution wishing to establish a doctoral program for a licensed profession such as pharmacy would have to receive authorization from the Legislature before offering the program.

**Pharmacy Education**

Doctor of Pharmacy degree programs currently exist at five institutions in Florida—two public universities (University of Florida and Florida A & M University) and three independent institutions (Nova Southeastern University, Palm Beach Atlantic University, and Lake Erie College of Medicine-Bradenton Campus). According to the Board of Governors (BOG), the University of Florida and Florida A & M University awarded 635 pharmacy degrees in 2008 and 557 pharmacy degrees in 2007. According to the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida, Nova Southeastern University and Palm Beach Atlantic University awarded 308

<sup>1</sup> s. 1004.03(3), F.S.

pharmacy degrees in 2008. The Lake Erie College of Medicine-Bradenton School of Pharmacy is a relatively new program, and its initial class has not graduated yet.

The Florida Pharmacy Act<sup>2</sup> establishes the educational requirements for a person desiring to be licensed as a pharmacist. The applicant must have earned a degree from a school or college of pharmacy accredited by an accrediting agency recognized and approved by the United States Office of Education or earned a degree from a 4-year undergraduate pharmacy program from a school or college of pharmacy located outside the United States and completed a minimum of 500 hours in a supervised work activity program in Florida under the supervision of a pharmacist licensed by the Department of Health. The applicant must submit satisfactory proof that she or he has completed an internship program approved by the Board of Pharmacy. No such board-approved program may exceed 2,080 hours, all of which may be obtained prior to graduation.

### **Projected Need for Pharmacists in Florida**

According to the Agency for Workforce Innovation (AWI), employment of pharmacists is expected to grow by 23 percent between 2008 and 2016. AWI attributes the projected demand for pharmacists to the increasing numbers of middle-aged and elderly people who use more prescription drugs than younger people; to scientific advances that will make more drug products available; and to the coverage of prescription drugs by a greater number of health insurance plans and Medicare.

### **III. Effect of Proposed Changes:**

The bill would approve the establishment of a new pharmacy school at USF. According to the BOG, the university board of trustees approved implementation of a Doctor of Pharmacy degree program on June 12, 2008, and the BOG reviewed and approved USF's proposal on January 29, 2009. USF plans to enroll the first class of 50 students in fall 2011. The program would add 75 students in Year 2 and 100 students annually thereafter until reaching full capacity at 400 students in 2016. Once students were enrolled, the program would have to become accredited so that students could become licensed pharmacists.

#### **Other Potential Implications:**

This bill could create a financial obligation for the state by authorizing a new pharmacy school at USF. While USF plans to use funds from corporate and private donors to start the pharmacy school, the university would request state funding beginning in 2011.

### **IV. Constitutional Issues:**

#### **A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

#### **B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:**

None.

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<sup>2</sup> ch. 465, F.S.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. **Fiscal Impact Statement:**

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

According to the BOG, USF intends to initiate planning for the program with private contributions and reallocated contract and grant dollars. Nonrecurring appropriations may be requested for Planning Year 3 (2010-2011) and will be requested for Implementation Years 1 and 2 (2011-12 and 2012-13). Recurring appropriations based upon student headcount enrollment will be requested beginning in 2011-12. Tuition revenues are expected to cover approximately 69% of the program costs after 2013-14.

**FY 2011-2012**

For fiscal year 2011-2012, with the first class of 50 students expected for fall enrollment at a tuition rate of \$15,100 (with 10 percent annual increases), USF expects \$755,000 in tuition revenue and another \$800,000 in community or industry donations.

For FY 2011-12, the university will request \$400,000 in recurring funds to support the first class of 50 students and \$1 million in non-recurring funds to support an additional 75 students anticipated for fall 2012.

**FY 2012-2013**

For FY 2012-13, the university will request \$1 million in recurring funds and \$1.7 million in non-recurring funds for student and faculty support.

**Potential Research Funding**

According to the BOG, USF is projecting annual awards of more than \$2.2 million in competitive federal research funding, no later than FY 2014-15.

VI. **Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

VII. **Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Additional Information:**

- A. **Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**  
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

- B. **Amendments:**

None.

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This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.

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