RPSP Request Narrative – Sonography

1. NUMBER OF YEARS THE PROJECT HAS RECEIVED GENERAL FUND SUPPORT

This is a new program request. Clovis Community College (CCC) has not previously received RPSP funding for Sonography.

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION / EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Clovis Community College is launching an approved Diagnostic Medical Sonography program to meet a critical healthcare workforce need in eastern New Mexico and the surrounding region. The program has received approval from both the New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED) and the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), and CCC is completing the remaining implementation activities necessary to launch the program in January 2027.Sonography is a high-demand, high-wage field with a strong employment outlook both statewide and nationally. Local hospitals and clinics have consistently identified a shortage of credentialed sonographers, leading to long wait times for diagnostic imaging and increased strain on existing healthcare systems. CCC's Radiologic Technology program experienced the highest number of applicants to its program in Fall 2025 (80 applicants for 22 spots), highlighting the need to have additional program options for students.

CCC is requesting $200,000 in RPSP funding to support start-up costs for the Sonography program, including the hiring of a Clinical Coordinator, purchase of specialized instructional equipment, and targeted marketing to recruit students into this high-need field. CCC is also actively seeking a qualified DMS Program Director to provide program leadership and oversee program quality, clinical education, and accreditation-related requirements. These investments are necessary to ensure the program launches successfully and produces graduates who are workforce-ready and eligible for certification through the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS). The inaugural cohort will begin in January 2027 with a minimum target of 12 students, with the first graduates anticipated in 2029 following completion of the two-year program.

3. BUDGET NARRATIVE (OVERVIEW)

Revenue / Sources of Funding

- Appropriations – State: CCC requests $200,000 of FY28 RPSP funding.
- Other Sources – CCC will provide facilities, utilities, and maintenance for this program within its Allied Health division. The DMSO Program Director position will be supported through institutional funding, while RPSP funding will support the Clinical Coordinator position and other identified start-up needs.

Expenses

- Professional Salaries: One (1) Clinical Coordinator position ($90,000).
- Benefits: Calculated at 35%, totaling $31,500.
- Equipment: Specialized sonography simulation and instructional equipment, totaling $63,500.
- Marketing/Recruitment: To build awareness of this new program, $15,000 is budgeted for targeted outreach.

Total FY28 Project Expenses: $200,000

4. PROGRAM MISSION

Clovis Community College, a minority-majority institution serving approximately 3,500 credit students annually, is committed to preparing students for meaningful careers in high-demand healthcare fields. The Sonography program directly supports this mission by:

1. Providing students with access to high-quality education in diagnostic imaging.
2. Expanding healthcare workforce capacity in New Mexico.
3. Contributing to statewide STEM-H initiatives by training students in a field that integrates science, technology, and patient care.
4. Creating an accessible pathway to a high-demand healthcare profession and increasing opportunities for students, including students from underserved populations, to earn a STEM-H degree.

5. KEY PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Recruit and hire qualified DMS program leadership and clinical faculty to support program operations, clinical education, student success, and program quality.
- Provide the specialized simulation and instructional equipment necessary to deliver high-quality, hands-on DMS education and prepare students for professional credentialing and employment.
- Launch the approved DMSO program with a minimum inaugural cohort of 12 students beginning January 2027 and establish student support and monitoring processes that promote persistence, successful progression, and completion.
- Establish and expand clinical partnerships with New Mexico healthcare providers to provide sufficient clinical education opportunities and strengthen connections between graduates and the state's healthcare workforce.

-

6. NEW PROGRAM – OBJECTIVES AND CHALLENGES

Objectives:

- Build upon the program's approval by NMHED and HLC and complete the remaining implementation requirements necessary for program launch and ongoing professional accreditation readiness. Formalize the clinical partnerships necessary to provide adequate clinical education opportunities for the inaugural and subsequent cohorts and continue expanding clinical capacity as enrollment grows.
- Recruit and enroll a minimum of 12 students in the inaugural cohort beginning January 2027. Establish student support, retention, and progression processes that promote successful completion of the two-year DMS program and future STEM-H degree production.

Challenges:

- Recruiting qualified faculty in a competitive healthcare labor market.
- Addressing start-up costs for specialized instructional equipment.
- Ensuring awareness of the program among prospective students and community stakeholders.
- Establishing sufficient clinical placement capacity as the program grows.
- - Recruiting a qualified DMS Program Director and Clinical Coordinator to support program leadership, clinical education, and program quality.

7. PROJECT IMPACT

The Sonography program will expand New Mexico’s healthcare pipeline by producing credentialed diagnostic medical sonographers prepared to work in hospitals, outpatient centers, and physician offices. This aligns directly with the Governor’s initiatives to expand the healthcare workforce and strengthen STEM-H education. Graduates will enter a high-wage, high-demand profession, improving healthcare access in rural eastern New Mexico and reducing wait times for essential diagnostic imaging services.

The program will also expand access to a STEM-H degree pathway for students in eastern New Mexico and the surrounding region. Beginning with a minimum inaugural cohort of 12 students

in January 2027, CCC will build toward a sustainable pipeline of graduates who can contribute to New Mexico's healthcare workforce. Approximately four healthcare facilities have already expressed interest in establishing clinical partnerships with CCC, and the College will continue to develop additional partnerships to expand clinical training capacity and employment connections for graduates.

8. OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDING

This is a new program request. Some of the necessary equipment has already been purchased through grants and I&G funding, and CCC will continue to pursue additional grants, and clinical partnership support to complement RPSP funding. CCC will support the DMSO Program Director position through institutional funding, while the requested RPSP funding will provide targeted support for the Clinical Coordinator and other program start-up needs. The Sonography Program Director is already on staff and is working to build the program. This position is funded through I&G funding. The College has previously secured significant private and state funding for Allied Health expansion, which will provide the facilities to house the Sonography program. CCC will provide facilities, utilities, and maintenance for the program through its Allied Health division. The College's prior investments in Allied Health expansion, combined with additional grant and institutional resources, will provide a foundation for sustaining the DMS program beyond the RPSP funding period.