



Alabama Commission on Higher Education

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September 22, 2025

James Dalton, Ph.D.
Executive Vice President and Provost
The University of Alabama
PO Box 870114
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487

Dear Dr. Dalton:

At its meeting on September 12, 2025, the Alabama Commission on Higher Education approved the following academic programs for The University of Alabama:

NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMS:

- Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence (CIP 11.0102)
- Master of Science in Translational Science and Medicine (CIP 15.1402)

In addition, the following information items were accepted by the Commission:

UPDATES TO ACADEMIC UNITS REQUIRING NOTIFICATION ONLY:

- Reorganization of instructional units within the Capstone College of Nursing resulting in the replacement of the current departments with the following units:
 - a. Division of Nursing Practice
 - b. Division of Nursing Leadership
 - c. Division of Nursing and Health Advancement
- Reorganization of a minor instructional unit within the College of Arts and Sciences resulting in the establishment of the Department of American Culture and Society
- Closure of the Alabama Cyber Institute and incorporation of its remaining resources into the High-Performance Computing and Data Center

A record of these items is available on the Commission website for your reference:
https://ache.edu/?page_id=16173. For your convenience, we have enclosed the post-implementation conditions for the programs that were approved at this meeting. We look forward to working with you and your staff on matters related to Alabama higher education.

Sincerely,

Robin E. McGill, Ph.D.
Deputy Director for Academic Affairs

CC: Dr. Tonjanita Johnson, Dr. Carmen Coleman, Dr. Chris Coleman, Ms. Shirrell Perryman

DECISION ITEM: The University of Alabama, Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence (CIP 11.0102)

Staff Presenter: Dr. Robin McGill
Deputy Director for Academic Affairs

Staff Recommendation: That the Commission approve the proposed Master of Science (MS) in Artificial Intelligence.

The program will have the implementation date and post-implementation conditions listed below:

Implementation Date: The proposed program will be implemented in Fall 2026. Based on Commission policy, the proposed program must be implemented by September 1, 2028, or Commission approval will expire. The institution must notify the Commission in writing when the program is implemented or if there is any delay in implementation.

The program will have the implementation date and post-implementation conditions listed below:

Post-Implementation Conditions:

1. That the annual average new enrollment headcount beginning 2027-28 will be at least 4.7, based on the Commission's "Operational Policy on the Approval of New Programs of Instruction and Requirements for Post-Implementation Monitoring" (Administrative Code §300-2-1-.04).
2. That the annual average number of graduates for the period 2027-28 through 2032-33 (six-year average) will be 3.75, based on the adopted graduation requirements as stated in the Code of Alabama 16-5-8(a)(2).
3. That information regarding an overall assessment of the program be provided, particularly as related to objectives stated in the proposal, also including data on related employment and/or pursuit of doctoral study.

The University of Alabama (UA) will be required to phase out the program if any of the post-implementation conditions are not met. The institution must present documentation regarding the post-implementation conditions, as well as a general assessment of the program, in a report submitted to the Commission no later than September 1, 2033.

Background: The Code of Alabama, 16-5-8 (c) states that the governing boards of public institutions of higher education in this state and the campuses under their governance or supervision shall not undertake the establishment of a new unit or program of instruction for academic credit with state funds before submitting plans for the new unit or program to the Commission for its review, evaluation, and approval.

DECISION ITEM: The University of Alabama, Master of Science in Translational Science and Medicine (CIP 51.1402)

Staff Presenter: Dr. Robin McGill
Deputy Director for Academic Affairs

Staff Recommendation: That the Commission approve the proposed Master of Science (MS) in Translational Science and Medicine.

The program will have the implementation date and post-implementation conditions listed below:

Implementation Date: The proposed program will be implemented in Fall 2026. Based on Commission policy, the proposed program must be implemented by September 1, 2028, or Commission approval will expire. The institution must notify the Commission in writing when the program is implemented or if there is any delay in implementation.

The program will have the implementation date and post-implementation conditions listed below:

Post-Implementation Conditions:

1. That the annual average new enrollment headcount beginning 2027-28 will be at least 4.7, based on the Commission's "Operational Policy on the Approval of New Programs of Instruction and Requirements for Post-Implementation Monitoring" (Administrative Code §300-2-1-.04).
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