

University of Florida Educational Location Proposal

Herbert Wertheim UF Scripps Institute for Biomedical Innovation & Technology

JUNE 2025

Abbreviated Proposal-Full Proposal on file with Board office





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BOARD OF GOVERNORS, STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A NEW TYPE I, II, OR III CAMPUS, OR SPECIAL PURPOSE CENTER

University of Florida

University Submitting Proposal

5005

Site ID120 Scripps Way
Jupiter, FL 33458**Physical Address of Educational Site**(US Site: address, city, state, zip) (International site: street
address, number, city, county/province, country)The Herbert Wertheim UF Scripps Institute
for Biomedical Innovation & Technology**Proposed Name of Educational Site**

Special Purpose Center

Proposed Type of Educational Site

(Type I, II, or III Campus, or Special Purpose Center)

Fall 2026

Proposed Opening Date(First date and term student instruction will be offered at
the site)

The submission of this proposal constitutes a commitment by the university that, if the proposal is approved, the necessary financial resources and the criteria for establishing or relocating an educational site have been met prior to the initiation of the first course offerings.

March 28, 2025
Date Approved by the University Board of Trustees

[Signature]
Signature of Chair, Board of Trustees

3/28/25
Date

[Signature]
President

2/24/25
Date

[Signature]
Vice President for Academic Affairs

2/20/24
Date

Under Projected Enrollment, provide headcount (HC) and full-time equivalent (FTE) student enrollment estimates by level from Table 1 in Appendix A for Years 1 and 5, or the Final Year of implementation if it exceeds five. Under Projected Costs, provide revenues and expenses from Table 2 and capital project costs from Table 3 for Years 1 and 5, or the Final Year if it exceeds five.

Projected Site Enrollment (from Table 1)			
		HC	FTE
Undergraduate	Year 1		
	Year 5		
Graduate	Year 1	10	7.5
	Year 5	20	15

Projected Costs (from Tables 3 and 4)				
Operational				
	E&G Funding	Other (Contract s & Grants, Auxiliary)	Capital Projects	Total Cost
Year 1	\$981,827			(\$772,377)
Year 2	\$1,892,726			(\$522,504)
Year 3	\$3,667,188			(\$826,937)
Year 4	\$5,391,067			\$11,669
Year 5	\$7,187,033			\$949,559

Note: This outline and the questions pertaining to each section must be reproduced within the body of the proposal to ensure that all sections have been satisfactorily addressed. Tables 1 through 4 are to be included as Appendix A and not reproduced within the body of the proposals because this often causes errors in the automatic calculations.

I. Introduction -

A. Provide a short description of the project and rationale for the request to establish an educational site, including the main purpose for this site (research, instruction, administration, student services, etc.).

Scripps Florida located in Jupiter, Florida, was founded by The Scripps Research Institute (TSRI), one of the world's most innovative nonprofit biomedical research organizations. The Jupiter campus became part of the University of Florida in 2022 and was renamed The Herbert Wertheim UF Scripps Institute for Biomedical Innovation & Technology in acknowledgement of a \$100 million gift. Together, UF Health Science Center and The Wertheim UF Scripps Institute work to advance human health through biomedical research, drug discovery and clinical studies.

Wertheim UF Scripps Institute campus has a long history of successfully providing outstanding educational opportunities to inspire and train the next generation of scientists through efforts at the high school, undergraduate, postbaccalaureate and graduate levels. Currently graduate education is delivered in partnership with the Skaggs Graduate School of Chemical and Biological Sciences at Scripps Research in La Jolla, CA, a nationally recognized Ph.D. program in biomedical sciences. Per the terms and conditions of the Asset Transfer Agreement (ATA) of the campus, there will continue to be a bicoastal TSRI graduate student program on the Florida campus through at least the end of the current accreditation period in 2030. We are proposing to establish the Jupiter campus as a new off campus instructional site. The primary purposes are to grow the campuses ability to provide graduate training opportunities while also preparing to fully transition to UF programs at the end of our obligations outlines in the ATA.

UF Scripps faculty work at the interface of chemistry, biology and technology to illuminate the molecular basis of health and disease. Emerging centers of excellence at The Wertheim UF Scripps Institute include inflammation science and systems medicine; infectious diseases and emerging pathogens; neuro-therapeutics across the lifespan; and RNA medicine drug discovery, including a pipeline that mines RNA structural motifs against a database of known RNA motif-small molecule binding interactions and provides a unique opportunity for different cheminformatics and AI-based approaches. We believe the UF Scripps faculty will complement and help advance already successful graduate programs designed for the training of biomedical research scientists.

Pending approval by the Board of Governors (BOG) and UF's institutional accreditator, The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), the UF College of Medicine anticipates offering their

Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences on the UF Scripps campus in Jupiter beginning in Fall 2026.

B. Provide a short narrative assessment of how the establishment of the educational site supports the university mission and the goals incorporated into the university strategic plan and Board of Governors State University System Strategic Plan.

The establishment of the Jupiter campus as an educational site furthers the goals of the BOG State University System Strategic Plan.

Under the “Excellence” rubric, the Jupiter campus will bring additional opportunities for innovative academic programming and research efforts, focused particularly on innovative and emerging science. UF will use this opportunity to build on its existing strengths and to develop talent and expertise for the next generation of scientists.

Under the “Productivity” rubric, UF’s decision to acquire this campus was driven by the scholarship, research & innovation goals to increase research activity and attract more external funding. As of June, the Wertheim UF Scripps Institute received approximately \$55M in grant funding in its most recent budget year.

Under the “Strategic Priorities” rubric, the biomedical emphasis will lead to a wealth of entrepreneurial activities, including new start-up companies, incubators and accelerators, and potentially expanded tech-transfer efforts. Their highly entrepreneurial culture has enabled our scientists to spin off new Florida-based companies at a rate of about one per year, each aimed at accelerating the development of innovative medicines. A 2021 study showed that we produced more than \$3.2 billion in economic impact in our first 17 years of operation, not including capital investment in those spinoff companies. By growing biomedical degree programs in Jupiter, UF will increase our ability to train the next generation of scientists, which will benefit the citizens and businesses in the city, the region and throughout the state.

C. Provide a timetable of critical benchmarks that must be met for full implementation which can be used to monitor progress (planning, design, funding, construction, etc.). The timetable should also include ensuring appropriate accreditation of the proposed educational site and any proposed programs requiring specialized accreditation, if required.

Date	Benchmark
Nov 15, 2021	UF acquires The Scripps Research Institute’s Florida campus
April 1, 2022	Closing date - UF Scripps integrated into UF
Fall 2023	Begin planning accreditation process to establish UF Graduate programs on the Jupiter campus

Oct 2024	Submission of Florida Board of Governors (BOG) Educational Site Proposal
March 27, 2025	UF Board of Trustees (BOT) Approval of Educational Site
May 15, 2025	BOG Approval of Educational Site
Dec 2025	Off-Campus Instructional Site (OCIS) Prospectus Submitted to SACSCOC BOT for Approval
Spring 2026	SACSCOC Site Visit of OCIS
Fall 2026	Begin offering UF degree program

II. Need and Demand Assessment -

- A. Provide a detailed assessment of unmet local student demand for access to academic programs in the vicinity of the proposed educational site. Complete Table 1 in Appendix A to enrollment projections for unduplicated student headcount and FTE by degree program and level.**

It should be noted that the intent of this proposal is to establish an extension of the UF Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences at the UF Scripps education site to replace the existing Scripps Skaggs graduate program that is being phased out by Scripps La Jolla. **The existing program has been well-subscribed and clearly fulfills a regional unmet need for Ph.D. training in biomedical sciences.** The projected enrollment to support the needs of the existing UF Scripps faculty are indicated in Appendix A, Table 1.

- B. Provide a detailed data-driven assessment that describes unmet local and regional workforce need for programs and services to be offered at the proposed educational site. In the appendices, provide letters of support from the local community and business interests.**

Numerous studies have been performed at both the national level including the NIH Survey on the Biomedical Workforce) indicating that there is an urgent need for well-trained researchers in biomedicine to fulfill the needs of the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries as well as to replace an aging workforce, 2/3 of which are projected to turnover in the next 10 years. In addition, with the growth in population and biotechnology and biomedicine companies in the State of Florida, this need is even more acute. It should be noted that a lot of this growth is in South Florida, which further justifies the need for the UF Scripps education site.

III. Academic Programs and Courses

- A. Provide a list of the degree programs, partial programs, or college credit certificates and courses to be offered at the proposed educational site by year five or the Final Year of implementation if different, using Table 1 in Appendix A. The proposed degree programs must be identified by six-digit CIP Code, by program title, and degree level.**

26.9999 – PhD and MS in Medical Sciences with a concentration in Biomedical Sciences

B. Provide an explanation as to how the proposed degree programs and courses will be affiliated with similar programs offered on the central campus and/or other educational sites of the university. Will they be independent or an extension of existing programs? (Please see BOG regulation 8.011 (5))

The proposed degree programs and courses offered at the UF Scripps Jupiter, FL site will be an extension of the **Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences (BMS)** that is housed under the Office of Graduate Education at the UF College of Medicine in Gainesville.

The graduate program in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Florida, established in 1996, is an umbrella graduate program supported by eight basic science departments that cooperate in the recruitment, admission and training of predoctoral students. Specialized training is available via seven advanced interdepartmental concentrations, which can be thought of as majors, although the degree is a Ph.D. in Medical Sciences. The mission of the program is to provide a predoctoral educational experience that will train experimentalists and scholars for a wide range of careers in biomedical sciences. The curriculum is designed to provide maximum flexibility for the training of biomedical research scientists. The educational goals are to promote biological literacy by providing core and advanced curricula covering key chemical, biological and genetic principles using molecular, cellular and physiological approaches, and to promote scholarship in biomedical science through mentored, original research.

Our existing program typically recruits 45 – 50 PhD students per year. During their first year in residence, the students participate in the BMS Core Curriculum which consists of a combination of didactic coursework, journal article discussions, research laboratory rotations and small mentoring groups. Students typically select a research lab in which to pursue their dissertation research in May of their first year. During their second year, the students take advanced courses and electives that are specific to their BMS Concentration, and begin intensive laboratory research. Students typically take their PhD qualifying examinations after their second year, and the remaining 2 – 3 years of their program is dedicated to their laboratory-based dissertation research.

The plan for implementation of the BMS program at the UF Scripps location would be for the students to be centrally recruited into the UF BMS program, but have the ability to be physically located at the UF Scripps site in Jupiter. The first and second year curriculum would be offered in a hybrid fashion with UF Main Campus and UF Scripps jointly participating. The students at the UF Scripps site

would do their first year laboratory rotations at UF Scripps and select a UF Scripps based faculty member for their dissertation work.

- C. Provide an assessment, supported with data, that justifies any duplication of degree programs and services that might already be provided by an existing state university or Florida College System campus in the vicinity of the proposed educational site. Describe any discussions that have taken place with affected colleges and universities and provide letters of support or letters of concern in the appendices.**

The only related degree program at a Florida College System campus in the vicinity of the UF Scripps education site is the Doctoral Degree in Integrative-Biomedical Sciences (IBBS) at Florida Atlantic University (FAU). The FAU IBBS program is quite distinct from the UF BMS program in that FAU's program is broad multi-college program that focuses on the interface of biomedical sciences with other disciplines (such as fisheries and conservation, biologic propulsion, robotics and ethanobiology). In contrast UF's BMS program is housed solely within the College of Medicine and focuses on biomedical sciences that center around human health. Therefore our assessment is that while there is some overlap between the areas of research of some faculty in each program, they are largely distinct in focus and would be complementary as opposed to competing.

IV. Administration and Student Support Services –

- A. Describe the administrative structure of the proposed educational site and how it will relate to the central administration of the university. Include any necessary funding in the financial plan outlined in Table 2 of Appendix A.**

Initially the educational program will be prescribed, directed, and managed by the Associate Dean of the College of Medicine. A UF Scripps faculty lead will be appointed to oversee the educational program locally and will be supported by the campus leadership, local student support personnel and the College of Medicine Graduate Program staff to facilitate the facility's needs, recruitment, enrollment, HR, finance, and student support services.

- B. Describe how the proposed site will provide student services, either onsite or online from the central university campus.**

The graduate students at UF Scripps will access central university campus resources either online, via the College of Medicine Graduate Program or through the local student support staff. Student services are comparable to those of graduate students on the Gainesville campus and include the following:

- Eligibility for financial aid and financial aid advising are provided online through the UF Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships.
- Student complaints and concerns are managed online through the university Office of the Ombuds.

- Computer technical and software support is managed online or via telephone through the UF Computing Help Desk.
- Career service is provided online or via telephone through the Career Connections Center.

Locally the graduate student support services include the following:

- Graduate student advising will be provided by the Academic Affairs Office.
- Counseling and wellness services will be provided through the Licensed Mental Health Counselor in the Counseling and Psychological Services office.
- International students have the support of an Immigration Specialist in the International Services Office who is the primary liaison to the UF International Office.

C. Provide a plan to provide library services and other instructional resources that will support the proposed programs. Include any necessary funding in the financial plan outlined in Table 2 of Appendix A.

Library services and other instructional resources supporting the proposed programs will be available to UF Scripps students online and they will have the same access as the Gainesville students. UF Libraries hold membership in several consortia, and in institutions such as the Center for Research Libraries, ensuring access to materials not held locally. “UBorrow” service allows UF patrons to easily borrow materials from any other Florida state university or college library. Interlibrary Loan requests are fulfilled at no cost to the library patron and are available to all UF faculty, students, and staff on or off campus.

Additionally, the Jupiter campus has a local librarian and physical library space located in the main administrative building. The Wertheim UF Scripps Library is part of the University of Florida Health Science Center Libraries. Its resources are available to faculty, staff and students.

V. Budget and Facilities -

A. Provide a projected operational budget using Table 2 in Appendix A that includes revenues and expenses out to year five, or the final year of implementation if different. Provide a narrative that explains the cost assumptions reflected in Table 2. Include the operational costs on the proposal cover page.

The financial projections (Table 4) reflect revenue and expenditures for participation and implementation of a local BMS graduate program at the Herbert Wertheim UF Scripps Institute for Biomedical Innovation & Technology in Jupiter, Florida (aka Wertheim UF Scripps Institute). The projections assume the Wertheim UF Scripps Institute will pay for services provided by BMS Gainesville through tuition sharing or a fee for service arrangement.

The projections reflect a 5-year implementation of the program (FY 2028 through FY 2032). During the implementation years, there will be an increasing number of on-site BMS Graduate Students (and related revenue/expenditure) until reaching the maximum desired number (80 Students) in FY 2032.

Key assumptions embedded within the projections are outlined below:

REVENUE: The two projected revenue sources include tuition and sponsored research recovery. Within each of these revenue categories, on-site student census is a key consideration. The plan is to begin phasing in the program in FY2028 (+10 students); FY 2029 (+10 students); FY 2030 (+20 students); FY 2031 (+20 students); and FY 2032 (+20 Students). Our assumption is that each student will be matriculated within the BMS program for a 5- year Ph.D. period.

- Tuition Revenue: the projection reflects the current UF out-of-state tuition amount (\$18,213 in FY 2025) – grown by +5% inflation each year. This amount is then multiplied by the anticipated number of enrolled students. NOTE: the Wertheim UF Scripps Institute has historically enrolled (principally) out-of-state and international students within its graduate program.
- Sponsored Research Recovery: Each graduate student will receive an annual stipend and limited benefits. After the students first year of study (which is focused on lab rotations and didactic coursework), the student affiliates with a single laboratory and a designated faculty mentor. The affiliated lab/mentor is then responsible for covering the student stipend/benefit amount (in years 2-5). In most cases, such costs are charged to sponsored research grants. The projections reflect sponsored research recovery (direct + indirect recovery) for related student costs in years 2-5. The stipend amount calculation within the projection reflects the current Wertheim UF Scripps stipend level (\$43,680) grown by inflation to FY 2028.

EXPENDITURES: The projected expenditures include: compensation/employee benefits (student support staff and faculty teaching/mentor effort); student stipends/benefits; facility cost allocation; and student recruitment/support costs (marketing and outreach; orientation; and research allowance).

- Compensation and Employee Benefits: This expenditure category within the projection reflects the cost of (3) Teams positions to support the on-campus BMS students. Such positions include an on-site program manager responsible for academic quality and student progress -- and other positions focused on administrative support (recruitment/orientation/immigration /social events). This expenditure category also includes faculty effort for BMS teaching (didactic coursework) and faculty mentoring.
- Student Stipends/benefits: As described in the revenue category, each graduate student will receive an annual stipend and limited benefits. The

stipend calculation reflects the current Wertheim UF Scripps stipend level (\$43,680) grown by inflation to FY 2028 plus a fringe benefits percentage of +11.6%.

- **Facilities Cost Allocation:** The projections reflect an allocation of Wertheim UF Scripps facility costs to the student program (i.e. facility cost per student per year = \$12,541). The allocation methodology was discussed with the UF Finance team – and is based on costing data from the recent indirect cost proposal for the Wertheim UF Scripps campus. The allocation is based on labor costs (student stipends as a % of total labor cost) multiplied by total facility cost divided by projected number of students.
- **Student Recruitment/Support Costs (marketing/outreach; orientation; student research allowance):** Various student support costs are included within the projection. Such costs are based on historical graduate program cost including orientation, marketing and student outreach activities. The projection also includes an annual student research allowance (\$5,000 per student/year) for supplies/travel.

B. Use Table 3 in Appendix A, to identify each facility or facilities required to establish the proposed educational site, and any additional facilities that will be required once the site has reached its expected size and enrollments. Include capital facility costs on the proposal cover page.

N/A, the site is currently a research site of the University of Florida.

C. Describe ownership of the new location and provide documentation of ownership or lease agreements, to include any special clauses, easements, or deed restrictions. If the property is a gift, provide the gift agreement. Please provide information on the type of ownership if the site is leased or owned (if leased please provide information on the duration of the lease and the entity that owns the lease). If the site is joint-use please provide the name of the other entity in the joint agreement as well as the total number of students this site will serve from year 1 through year 5.

The Herbert Wertheim UF Scripps Institute for Biomedical Innovation & Technology consists of 3 research buildings (350,000 square feet total) over 30 acres. Today, around 500 people work on this campus, including 40 principal investigators. The campus is a unique environment – small, entrepreneurial and highly collaborative – and facilitates cutting edge research at the interface of chemistry and biology. The campus is situated next to the Max Planck Florida and Florida Atlantic University (Honors College) in Jupiter, Florida.

The Graduate Program at the Wertheim UF Scripps Institute has access to all shared/ common facilities available to the entire campus (include Gym/Café/Library/patio/research core laboratories/vivarium). Graduate students

spend most of their time within the laboratory in which they are affiliated – and typically assigned bench space and a shared cubicle to conduct their studies. Students are also expected to complete didactic coursework – usually taught within one of the zoom-enabled classrooms. Campus space dedicated to support the Graduate Program includes ~ 8000 square feet of classrooms, auditorium (also used for other Institute events), a student lounge and various administrative support offices.

D. Are the facilities owned or leased by the University?

☒ **Owned** ☐ **Leased**

VI. Addendum for International Campuses and Special Purpose Centers

If the proposed site is international, include a copy of any MOU or other agreements related to the site as an appendix

() The University certifies that all requirements of BOG Regulation 8.009(3)(f) have been met.



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October 25, 2024

Joseph Glover, Ph.D.
Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
University of Florida

Dear Provost Glover,

I am writing to express FAU's support for the University of Florida's expansion of educational programming at the Wertheim UF Scripps Institute campus in Jupiter. The planned UF Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences, with its focus on Ph.D. training in biomedical sciences will be a great opportunity for UF, Scripps and FAU faculty to expand collaboration.

There is an urgent need for well-trained researchers in biomedicine to fulfill the needs of the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries. This need is primarily due to the growth in population and increasing number of biotechnology and biomedicine companies in the State of Florida, with a lot of this growth in South Florida.

FAU and the UF Scripps campus have a long history of collaboration aimed at advancing biomedical research and in particular, in the field of neuroscience. We are excited for the opportunity to explore new collaborative opportunities in graduate education and training, which will build upon our ongoing discussions to expand joint research programs, shared technology platforms, scientific cores and data analysis support. There is no limit to the meaningful, student-centered, faculty and research focused joint ventures possible between our two great universities.

We look forward to growing our lasting partnership that will benefit both universities and the entire region.

Sincerely,

Russell Ivy, Ph.D.
Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Florida Atlantic University