

## Dart Center – FY 25 Additional One-Time Request

The Dart Center is requesting the following FY 25 Base Augmentation to provide much needed critical need in both our Alternative testing and Assistive Technology positions. Currently the Dart Center only has one staff each serving the entire University community. Without this critical support for existing staff, students receiving adequate access is in jeopardy, given the substantial growth the Dart Center has experienced recently and the past few years.

**Note:** For our request we are asking for half the salary, to cover 6 months of the positions requested.

### Position Request

Staff Position Request	Request Amount
Program Coordinator I (Testing Support)	\$37,757.00
Program Coordinator I (Assistive Tech)	\$46,306.00
<b>Grand total of Request</b>	<b>\$84,063</b>

### Base Line Augmentation Request-

#### (A) - Program Coordinator I (Alternative Testing Support) –

**Amount:** \$35,620.00 **Fee:** \$2,137.00

**Impact:** Alternative testing services has seen a substantial increase in request from both students and faculty. The Dart Center currently serves all professional schools, including colleges in the facilitation of testing proctoring and ensuring students are receiving their approved accommodations. Having this critical position will allow the Dart Center to work to support additional hours, cut down on wait time, improve communication and also better support the growing need at the Sugarland/Kay Instructional sites.

#### (B) Program Coordinator II (Assistive Technology Support) –

**Amount:** \$35,620.00 **Fee:** \$10,686.00

**Impact:** With the demands of Assistive Technology growing and the need expanding, The Dart Center is in need of support for this resource. Currently the Dart Center only has one staff dedicated to the facilitation of implementation of assistive technology across the main campus, one on one trainings, serving as a resource for faculty/staff, supporting alternative testing, and providing outreach across campus. Having an additional staff member to rely on for supporting the above-mentioned duties will allow for better access across the main campus and will ensure resources can be delivered as needed.

## Event Request

Event Related Request	Request Amount
White Cane Safety Day	\$5,860.00
Wheelchair Basketball Tournament	\$500.00
<b>Grand total of Request</b>	<b>\$6,360.00</b>

**Impact:** The Dart Center values providing meaningful and unique opportunities to our students at the University of Houston. We strive to provide events that bring both students with disabilities together with other students to help build a campus culture that supports everyone. These opportunities help increase the overall wellbeing by giving unique opportunities to learn from each other by experience.

### **(C) White Cane Safety Day**

**Impact:** The Dart Center just successfully held and supported its third annual White Cane Safety Day event, which was held at Student Center South. This event has been significant in recognition of the achievements of people who are blind or visually impaired and promoting awareness about the White Cane as a tool of independence. This day highlights the importance of access and the need to break down barriers that prevent full participation. Our event this past October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024, had over 600 people attended. UH's White Cane Safety Day not only promotes critical awareness of issues related to this part of the disability population, it also connects people with campus and community resources. Since the first time the Dart Center brought back the event in 2021, we have had over 1000 people attend.

### **(D) Adaptive Athletics Wheelchair Basketball Campus Tournament**

**Impact:** The Dart Center is working to host a campus wide wheelchair basketball tournament that brings students with disabilities and those without in expanding their understanding of exciting opportunities in participating in wheelchair sports. Providing sporting opportunities for everyone helps increase the wellbeing of our students and broadens their perspective on what's possible.