

**UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA SYSTEM
BOARD RULE 415
BOARD SUBMITTAL CHECKLIST CRITERIA**

**BOARD SUBMITTAL CHECKLIST NO. 1 & 2
CAPITAL PROJECT - STAGE I & II SUBMITTAL ^{/1}
(General information, Architect Ranking, Project Scope and Project Budget) ^{/8}**

CAMPUS: The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama

PROJECT NAME: Speech and Hearing Center Interior Renovation

MEETING DATE: September 10-11, 2026

- ☒ 1. Board Submittal Checklist No. 1 and 2
- ☒ 2. Transmittal Letter to Chancellor from Campus President requesting project be placed on the agendas for the forthcoming Physical Properties Committee and Board of Trustees (or Executive Committee) Meetings
- ☒ 3. Proposed Board Resolution requesting approval of Stage I and II Submittal (General Information, Architect Ranking, Project Scope and Project Budget; authority to proceed with Owner/Architect contract negotiations) by the Board of Trustees
- ☒ 4. Executive Summary – Proposed Capital Project ^{/2}
- ☐ 5. Executive Summary – Architect, Engineer, Selection Process (include Interview Outline). ^{/3, /4, /5}
- ☒ 6. Supplemental Project Information Worksheet – Exhibit “K”, Board Rule 415
- ☒ 7. Campus letter requesting approval of the ranking of firms and authority to Submit to the Physical Properties Committee for approval – signed by Chair of the Physical Properties Committee and UA System Senior Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration ^{/6}
- ☐ 8. Preliminary Business Plan (if applicable) ^{/7}
- ☒ 9. Campus map(s) showing project site

Prepared by: Brady Bolton

Approved by:

DocuSigned by:
Matt Skinner
33522AA78D264BD...

^{/1} Reference Tab 3H – Board Rule 415 Instructional Guide
^{/2} Reference Tab 3E – Board Rule 415 Instructional Guide
^{/3} Reference Tab 3K – Board Rule 415 Instructional Guide
^{/4} Reference Tab 3L – Board Rule 415 Instructional Guide
^{/5} Reference Tab 3M – Board Rule 415 Instructional Guide
^{/6} Reference Tab 3N – Board Rule 415 Instructional Guide
^{/7} Reference Tab 3V – Board Rule 415 Instructional Guide

^{/8} After Completion of negotiations on Owner/Architect Agreement, provide notification to Chair of Physical Properties Committee and Senior Vice Chancellor for Finance & Administration, Reference Tab 3-O-Board Rule 415, Instructional Guide

Camacho 7/20/26
Me 2/20/26



August 3, 2026

Chancellor Sid J. Trant
The University of Alabama System
500 University Boulevard East
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401

Dear Chancellor Trant:

I am pleased to send to you for approval under Board Rule 415 the attached documents for a Stage I and a Stage II submittal for the Speech and Hearing Center Interior Renovation.

The resolution requests authorization to establish the preliminary project scope, budget, and funding, as stipulated, and to enter into an Owner Designer Agreement with Overcash Design Studio, LLC of Northport, Alabama, as the principal design firm for this project.

The item has been thoroughly reviewed and has my endorsement. With your concurrence, I ask that it be added to the agenda for The Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama at their regular meeting on September 10-11, 2026.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Mohler", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Peter J. Mohler
President

Enclosure



THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

Resolution

Approving the preliminary project scope and budget; granting authorization to execute an Owner/Architect Agreement for the Speech and Hearing Center Interior Renovation

WHEREAS, in accordance with Board Rule 415, The University of Alabama (“University”) is requesting approval of a Stage I and Stage II submittal for the Speech and Hearing Center Interior Renovation project (“Project”) to be located at 700 Johnny Stallings Dr.; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Project will renovate approximately 6,025 gross square feet (“GSF”) of current and future vacated space in The Speech and Hearing Center to enhance instructional quality, enrollment capacity, and programmatic trajectory of the Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences; and

WHEREAS, the Project is comprised of two separate packages and has been organized in a way so that the Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences can proceed with flexibility in coordination with receipt of funding as either individual construction packages or comprehensively; and

WHEREAS, Construction Package A consists of approximately 1,525 square feet currently available to the Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences, and Construction Package B consists of approximately 4,500 square feet, available in 2027; and

WHEREAS, Overcash Design Studio, Northport, Alabama, has successfully executed several renovations on campus and was previously engaged by the University to perform programming services for the Department of Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences; and

WHEREAS, due to the aforementioned experience, as well as Overcash Design Studio’s knowledge of university standards, design principles, and procedures which will greatly facilitate an efficient and cost-effective design and administrative process, the University is requesting approval to waive the Consultant Selection Process and to utilize Overcash Design Studio for design services for the Project; and

WHEREAS, the University has negotiated a final lump sum design fee of \$59,063 for Package A and \$74,925 for Package B, plus a not-to-exceed reimbursable amount of \$2,500 for each Package, representing an 11% reduction of the standard fee for this type of project (Group III) due to Overcash Design’s familiarity with the program and facility; and

WHEREAS, the Project location and program have been reviewed and are consistent with the University Campus Master Plan, University Design Standards and the principles contained therein; and

WHEREAS, the total Project Cost of \$2,819,479 will be funded from Institutional Reserves and will eliminate deferred maintenance liabilities in the amount of \$1,292,300; and

WHEREAS, the preliminary budget for the Project is as stipulated below:

BUDGET:		PRELIMINARY
Construction Package A – Phase 1	\$	700,000
Construction Package B – Phase 2	\$	900,000
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	\$	435,000
Security/Access Control	\$	97,025
Telecommunication/Data	\$	70,000
Contingency (10%)	\$	160,000
UA Project Management Fee (4.5%)	\$	79,200
Architect/Engineer Fee	\$	138,988
Other	\$	239,266
TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$	<u>2,819,479</u>

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by The Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama that:

1. The Stage I and Stage II submittal package for the Project is hereby approved.
2. The preliminary Project scope, budget, and funding, as stipulated above, are hereby approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, Peter J. Mohler, President; Daniel T. Layzell, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer and Treasurer; or those officers named in the most recent Board Resolution granting signature authority for the University be, and hereby are, authorized to act for and on behalf of the Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama to execute an architectural agreement with Overcash Design Studio, LLC, Northport, Alabama, for architectural services in accordance with Board Rule 415 for the Project.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
PROPOSED CAPITAL PROJECT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES SUBMITTAL

MEETING DATE: September 10-11, 2026

CAMPUS: The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama

PROJECT NAME: Speech and Hearing Center Interior Renovation

PROJECT NUMBER: 024-26-4255

PROJECT LOCATION: 700 Johnny Stallings Dr.

ARCHITECT: Overcash Design Studio, LLC – pending approval

THIS SUBMITTAL:

- ☒ Stage I
- ☒ Stage II
- ☐ Campus Master Plan Amendment
- ☐ Stage III
- ☐ Stage IV

PREVIOUS APPROVALS:

PROJECT TYPE	SPACE CATEGORIES	PERCENTAGE	GSF
☐ Building Construction	Conference and Classroom Facilities	~31 %	1,875
☐ Building Addition	Laboratory/Treatment Facilities	~16%	975
☒ Building Renovation	Office Facilities	~44%	2,625
☐ Equipment	Study Facilities	~9%	550
TOTAL		100%	6,025

BUDGET	PRELIMINARY
Construction – Package A	\$ 700,000
Construction – Package B	\$ 900,000
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	\$ 435,000
Security/Access Control	\$ 97,025
Telecommunication/Data	\$ 70,000
Contingency ¹ (10%)	\$ 160,000
UA Project Management Fee ² (4.5%)	\$ 79,200
Architect/Engineer Fee ³	\$ 138,988
Other ⁴	\$ 239,266
TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$ 2,819,479
Total Construction Cost per square foot	\$ 292

¹Contingency is based on 10% of the costs of Construction.

²UA Project Management Fee is based on 4.5% of the costs of Construction and Contingency.

³Architect/Engineer Fee is a Lump Sum Amount. The Construction Package A Fee amount is \$59,063, plus a not-to-exceed amount for reimbursables of \$2,500. The Construction Package B Fee amount is \$74,925, plus a not-to-exceed amount for reimbursables of \$2,500.

⁴Other fees and expenses include Transportation Services, Geotech, Construction Materials Testing, Inspections, Advertising, Printing, and other associated project costs, as applicable.

ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE (O&M) COSTS:		
(Utilities, Housekeeping, Maintenance, Insurance, Other)		
	\$	N/A
Total Estimated Annual O&M Costs:	\$	N/A

*** Renovation of existing space only. No anticipated increase in O&M costs.**

FUNDING SOURCE:		
	Institutional Reserves \$	2,819,479
O&M Costs:	University Annual Operating Funds \$	N/A

*** Renovation of existing space only. No anticipated increase in O&M costs.**

NEW EQUIPMENT REQUIRED
Total Equipment Costs: N/A

PROJECT SCOPE:

The proposed Speech and Hearing Interior Renovation project (“Project”) includes the renovation of 6,025 GSF of current and future vacated space within The Speech and Hearing Center with the intent to modernize and repurpose. The Project will be executed in two distinct packages.

Construction Package A will address 1,525 GSF of space currently available to the Speech and Hearing Center. This includes Suite 1 which is approximately 550 GSF, and Suite 2 which is approximately 975 GSF. Suite 1 will be transformed into a student lounge featuring seating, study space, a kitchenette, and personal storage. Suite 2 will be converted into two treatment labs and an occupational therapy lounge. The renovation of these two areas will prioritize flexibility and support for both clinical practice and student activity.

Construction Package B will renovate approximately 4,500 GSF of space presently occupied by UMC. These areas are anticipated to be vacated by UMC within 2026. Construction Package B will include rooms 228, 231, 234, 235, 236, 237, 321, 322, 324, 327, 328, and 330-333. The renovation of these spaces will support the expansion of academic and clinical functions by providing a large lecture hall, faculty offices, a break room, a conference room, and various support spaces.

PROJECT STATUS

SCHEMATIC DESIGN:	Date Initiated	March 2025
	% Complete	100%
	Date Completed	April 2025
PRELIMINARY DESIGN: (Package A)	Date Initiated	September 2026
	% Complete	0%
	Date Completed	December 2026
CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS: (Package A)	Date Initiated	January 2027
	% Complete	0%
	Date Completed	February 2027
BID DATE: (Package A)		February 2027

RELATIONSHIP AND ENHANCEMENT OF CAMPUS PROGRAMS

The Project advances several objectives related to the enhancement and integration of campus academic programs. New simulation and treatment labs will provide transformational, high-impact learning experiences for both undergraduate and graduate students. Modern clinical facilities will support pedagogical innovation through simulation-based education and technology-enhanced clinical instruction. Dedicated student workspace will foster engagement, persistence, and well-being. The renovation will also establish the infrastructure needed to support a future doctoral program in Communication Sciences and Disorders—a long-term initiative identified in the department's 2026–2030 Strategic Faculty Growth Plan that is currently in the early planning stages. By positioning the department to offer doctoral education, the Project will strengthen graduate education, enhance the quality and number of graduate students, and increase doctoral-level training and research capacity over the long term.

Attachment K to Board Rule 415

Supplemental Project Information Worksheet
Annual Capital Development Plan

FY: 2026 – 2027

Project Name: Speech and Hearing Center Interior Renovation
Project Address/Location: 700 Johnny Stallings Dr.
Campus: The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

1. **Will this Project increase the current space inventory on campus or replace existing space?**

☐ increase space inventory	_____ % increase	_____ GSF
☐ replace space inventory	_____ % replacement	_____ GSF
☒ renovation of existing space only		<u>6,025</u> GSF

2. **If this Project will replace existing space inventory, how will vacated space be utilized or assigned after this Project is completed?**

Comments: N/A

3. **Is the proposed Project location consistent with the Campus Master Plan and University Design Standards and the principles contained therein?**

☒ Yes ☐ No, A Campus Master Plan Amendment Is Required

If Campus Master Plan amendment required, explain:

4. Provide information on classification of new space provided by this Project and latest utilization data on similar type space on campus.

Proposed New Space/Facilities				
Classification	Number (Spaces/R ooms)	Capacity (Persons)	Area (GSF)	Existing Space Utilization Data (See Notations)
100 Classroom Facilities				
Lecture Hall	1	93	1400	
200 Laboratory Facilities				
Lab 01	1	4	175	
Lab 02	1	4	175	
300 Office Facilities				
Office 01	1	1	140	
Office 02	1	1	140	
Office 03	1	1	140	
Office 04	1	1	125	
Office 05	1	1	120	
Office 06	1	1	130	
Office 07	1	1	120	
Office 08	1	1	130	
Office 09	1	1	130	
Office 10	1	1	125	
Office 11	1	1	125	
Conference Room	1	25	400	
400 Study Facilities				
Student Lounge	1	30	550	
600 General Use Facilities				
Meeting Room	1	5	110	
Break Room/Catering	1	10	200	
700 Support Facilities				
Storage 01	1	Varies	75	
Storage 02	1	Varies	30	
Storage 03	1	Varies	30	

	Storage 04	1	Varies	30	
	Storage 05	1	Varies	10	
	Lecture Hall Storage Room	1	Varies	25	
	Lecture Hall A/V Closet	1	Varies	25	
800	Health Care Facilities				
	Child Treatment Room	1	3	115	
	Adult Treatment Room	1	2	115	
	Therapy Apartment	1	3	275	
	Medical Training Room	1	3	125	
900	Residential Facilities				
000	Unclassified Facilities				
WWW	Circulation Area				
	Office Hallway 01	1	Varies	325	
	Office Hallway 02	1	Varies	164	
	Office Hallway 03	1	Varies	120	
	Lecture Hall Foyer	1	Varies	65	
XXX	Building Service Area				
YYY	Mechanical Area				

Data reported on latest fiscal year data available.

Utilization factor based on Scheduled Operating Hours at each Campus – outlined below in notations.

Comments/Notations:

5. How will this Project enhance existing/new programs and undergraduate/graduate enrollments?

Estimated new funds from tuition programs: * \$445,130 - ** \$1,285,340/Year

*Annual In-state tuition rate

**Annual Out-of-state tuition rate

Estimates based on projected increase in yearly enrollment of approximately 30 undergraduate students and 5 graduate students.

Comments:

The Project will enhance existing undergraduate and graduate programs by providing modern simulation and treatment laboratories, a therapy apartment, and dedicated student learning space that expand experiential, high-impact clinical education. These facilities will support simulation-based instruction, strengthen pre-professional and graduate clinical training, and improve student engagement, recruitment, and retention in an increasingly competitive environment. The renovation will also provide the research and clinical infrastructure needed to recruit additional faculty and support the department's long-term goal of developing a doctoral program in Communication Sciences and Disorders, as identified in the department's 2026–2030 Strategic Faculty Growth Plan. Collectively, these improvements will strengthen academic quality, expand enrollment capacity, and position the department for sustained growth in education and research.

6. **Has a facility user group been established to provide input for planning, programming, and design purposes?** ☒ Yes ☐

If yes, list key members of user group:

- Dr. Memorie Gosa: Department Chair, Associate Professor
- Dr. JoAnne Payne: Clinic Director
- Mary Price: Accounting Assistant
- Brady Bolton: UA Construction Administration, Project Manager
- Chandler Overcash: Overcash Design Studio (pending approval)

7. **Source(s) of funding for Total Project Development Costs.**

Source(s)	New Funds (FY 2026)	Reserves	Status /7
Tuition			
Student Fees			
Investment Income			
Auxiliary Income			
Education Sales/Services			
Existing Net Assets			
Institutional Reserves		\$1,100,000	Pending
Future Institutional Reserves		\$1,719,479	Pending
Totals		\$2,819,479	Pending

Comments:

Project will be funded with Institutional Revenues.

8. **Estimate of operations and maintenance (O&M) costs for the initial occupancy year and projections for succeeding five (5) year period.**

Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Annual Costs Projections			
Expense	FY 2014-2015 Base Data /8	First Full /YR Occupancy FY	Successive Five (5) Year Projections /9
Maintenance			
Elevator Service			
Building Repairs			
Building Services			
Electric, Natural Gas, Steam			
Chilled Water			
Water and Sewer			
Insurance			
Safety Support			
Operations Staff Support Funding			
Other			
Totals			

/8 Latest Fiscal Year Data used as Base Year for Projections

/9 Combined Costs for next Five (5) Years of Occupancy

Comments:

The Speech and Hearing Center is an existing education and general facility, and accordingly O&M costs are already funded. There is no incremental increase in O&M costs resulting from this Project.

9. **Source of funds for projected ongoing operations and maintenance (O&M) costs for this project.**

Source(s)	Occupancy Yr /9 (FY _____)	Future Years /10	Status /7
Tuition			
Student Fees			
Investment Income			
Auxiliary Income			
• External			
• Internal			
Educational Sales & Services			
• External			
• Internal			
Direct Grant(s)			
Reallocated Funds /11			
Gifts			
Other			
Total/YR			

/9 Initial Full Yr of Occupancy

/10 Next Five (5) Yrs Occupancy

/11 Funds Reallocated from other sources

/7 Approved, allocated, pending

Comments:

The Speech and Hearing Center is an existing education and general facility, and accordingly O&M costs are already funded. There is no incremental increase in O&M costs resulting from this Project.

10. Are development expenditures for this Project being used to reduce the current deferred maintenance/facilities renewal liabilities for the Campus?

\$ \$1,292,300 46 % of Total Development Costs

Comments:

The Project will address all necessary deferred maintenance liabilities such as flooring, paint, etc. in the areas to be renovated.

11. What other development alternatives were considered in the planning process for this Project? /13

Comments:

The department, in partnership with College and University administration, evaluated several alternatives before determining that renovation of existing space within the Speech and Hearing Building is the most effective, responsible, and feasible solution. New construction was considered but determined to be cost-prohibitive and inconsistent with current University capital priorities. Relocation to another campus building was evaluated, but no available space could accommodate the specialized infrastructure required for clinical education and research. Leasing off-campus space was also rejected because it would increase costs, complicate accreditation and operational requirements, and separate clinical training from academic instruction. Maintaining the status quo was not considered a viable option because inadequate space continues to limit faculty recruitment, research growth, and clinical training capacity.

12. Explain how the project will promote adequacy of campus facilities in relation to the University's Mission and scope of programs and/or services:

Comments:

The University of Alabama's mission is to advance the intellectual and social condition of the people of Alabama through quality programs of teaching, research, and service. The Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences fulfills all three pillars of this mission — and the proposed renovation is essential to sustaining and expanding that fulfillment.

The department's graduate program is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation (CAA) of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). Accreditation standards require that students receive supervised clinical experiences in environments that reflect contemporary professional practice. Current facilities — the product of decades of incremental use and repurposing — no longer meet the standards expected of a modern health sciences education program. The renovation will create two new treatment/research labs, a medical SLP simulation space, and a dedicated student lounge and workspace, directly addressing the facility gaps identified in the Academic Program Review and graduate student exit surveys. These improvements ensure the department can continue to meet accreditation requirements and maintain the quality of instruction expected of a flagship university. In 2025, the department enrolled 26 new

graduate students and graduated 27, with 48% of incoming students receiving at least partial financial support — indicators of a program that is both productive and in demand, but that needs modern facilities to remain competitive.

13. How does the project correlate to the University's strategic goals?

Comments:

The renovation directly supports all four goals of UA's strategic plan, Advancing the Flagship: The Next Phase.

Goal 1 — Provide a premier education that enhances the lives of students, graduates, and the communities they serve.

The project advances multiple objectives under Goal 1. New simulation and treatment labs expand transformational, high-impact educational experiences for both undergraduate and graduate students (Objective 1.3). Modern clinical facilities enable pedagogical innovation, including simulation-based education and technology-enhanced clinical instruction (Objective 1.4). The student workspace directly supports student engagement, persistence, and well-being (Objective 1.5). The renovation also lays essential infrastructure groundwork for a future doctoral program in Communication Sciences and Disorders — a long-term goal in the early planning stages identified in the department's 2026–2030 strategic faculty growth plan — advancing Objective 1.2, which calls for increasing the quality and number of graduate students and doctoral production.

Goal 2 — Increase productivity and innovation in research, scholarship, and creative activities that impact economic and societal development.

The department is already on a strong upward research trajectory: SRI improved from –0.4 to 0.2 over seven years, 22 peer-reviewed publications were produced in 2025 (a 29% increase), and active grant dollars grew from \$40,290 to over \$1.8 million per grant since 2018. New research labs will enable the department to recruit additional tenure-track faculty, grow its sponsored project portfolio, and continue advancing UA's R1 mission (Objective 2.1). The program's graduates directly fill Alabama's documented SLP and audiology workforce shortage, supporting the state's economic development and healthcare infrastructure (Objectives 2.7 and 2.8).

Goal 3 — Enrich the learning and work environment by attracting, welcoming, and supporting all faculty, staff, and students.

Modern facilities are essential to recruiting and retaining high-achieving students (Objective 3.1) and outstanding faculty (Objective 3.2). Peer and aspirant programs with which the department competes for students and faculty consistently offer purpose-built, technology-equipped clinical and research spaces. Eleven of fourteen SEC SLP programs — 79% — offer doctoral programs in addition to their master's degrees, reflecting the infrastructure and faculty investment those institutions have made. This renovation begins to address a critical facilities gap that limits the department's ability to compete at that level.

Goal 4 — Foster an environment that will aid in the recruitment, retention, growth, and support of outstanding faculty and staff.

Purpose-built research labs and modern clinical teaching spaces are a standard expectation in faculty recruitment packages in Communication Sciences and Disorders. The department's 2026–2030 strategic growth plan calls for adding two faculty lines by 2027 and additional lines through 2030, with a long-term goal of doctoral program launch by 2029–2030. None of these hires can be fully supported without adequate lab and instructional space. The renovation contributes to the faculty growth strategy (Objective 4.1).

14. Which of the six University of Alabama system Core Principles does this project support?

Comments:

This project supports all six UA System Core Principles:

- “Assure that everything we do is for the purpose of improving the lives and health of the citizens of the State of Alabama.” The UA Speech and Hearing Center directly serves individuals with communication and swallowing disorders across West Alabama. In 2025 alone, the Center completed 2,762 speech-language pathology clinical sessions and more than 2,900 audiology service encounters. The renovation expands the capacity and quality of those services while training the next generation of clinicians who will serve Alabama communities throughout their careers.
- “Make higher education accessible, prepare all our students for success, and meet the workforce needs of the State.” Alabama faces a significant and growing shortage of speech-language pathologists and audiologists — healthcare professionals critical to schools, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, and long-term care facilities across the state. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects 15% growth in SLP employment from 2024 to 2034, and nearly half of healthcare facilities nationally report funded, unfilled SLP positions. Alabama has only one doctoral program in the discipline statewide. A stronger, better-resourced UA program produces more — and better-prepared — clinicians and, in the long term, the doctoral-level faculty needed to sustain training programs across the state.
- “Be accountable for every dollar we receive while maintaining the highest standards of excellence in every program and endeavor.” The phased renovation approach — beginning with Phase I at an estimated \$1.1M — strategically repurposes existing, underutilized interior space without expanding the building footprint, demonstrating responsible stewardship of University resources while delivering maximum programmatic impact. The department's strong and improving research and clinical metrics validate that this is an investment in a proven, high-performing unit.
- “Work to lead a unified approach to improving education at every level in Alabama.” The improved facilities will enable expanded interprofessional education opportunities with other allied health programs on campus (like the planned occupational therapy and physical therapy programs in the College of Community Health Sciences). The department already co-leads the Alabama Dysphagia Collective — a statewide consortium

with Samford University and the University of South Alabama — and trains clinicians who serve Alabama’s K–12 schools, where SLPs are among the most in-demand specialists. Strengthening UA’s training capacity strengthens education at every level.

- “Work to help lead a unified approach to improving the economy, opportunities, and comprehensive health care for all citizens of Alabama.” Communication disorders are among the most prevalent conditions affecting Alabamians across all ages and communities. Clinicians trained by this department serve patients in every corner of the state. The department’s research faculty also produce evidence-based practices that directly improve clinical care — including award-winning work on aural rehabilitation for rural Alabama communities and nationally recognized dysphagia research. A more capable, better-resourced department accelerates that impact.
- “Elevate the status, stature, and influence of the University of Alabama System.” The department’s vision is to be the Southeast’s premier educational program for training in audiology and speech-language pathology. Its Scholarly Research Index (SRI) score has risen to 0.2 — comparable to the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Missouri — and it outperforms all matched SEC peer comparators in citations per faculty member, articles per faculty member, and conference proceedings. The renovation, and the faculty recruitment and long-term doctoral development enables, positions UA to continue rising in national rankings (currently #72 among SLP programs) and to establish itself as the regional leader in Communication Sciences and Disorders education and research.

15. What would be the immediate impact on campus programs and enrollment if this project is not approved?

Comments:

Failure to approve this project will have immediate and long-lasting consequences for the Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences, its students, and the communities it serves. The Academic Program Review team identified physical space as ‘the most limiting factor the department faces for new growth and the clearest threat to its long-term health.’ Despite significant gains in research productivity, clinical output, and student success over the past several years, that structural constraint remains in place. Without renovation, continued growth will stall.



July 29, 2026

Dr. Dana S. Keith
Senior Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration
Sid McDonald Hall
500 University Boulevard, East
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

Trustee Evelyn VanSant Mauldin
Chair, Physical Properties Committee
Sid McDonald Hall
500 University Boulevard, East
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

RE: Request for Waiver of Consultant Selection Process
Speech and Hearing Center Interior Renovation
UA Project No.: 024-26-4255

Dear Dr. Keith and Trustee Mauldin,

The University of Alabama ("University") is requesting a Waiver of the Consultant Selection Process for the Speech and Hearing Center Interior Renovation project ("Project") located at 700 Johnny Stallings Dr.

The University proposes to utilize Overcash Design Studio, LLC, Northport, Alabama, ("Overcash Design") as the principal design firm for this Project. The services of Overcash Design are proposed due to their familiarity with the Speech and Hearing Center, their recent engagement on the programming services for the facility, and their understanding of university standards, design principles, and procedures which will facilitate an efficient and cost-effective design and administrative process. Accordingly, the University is requesting approval to utilize Overcash Design for this Project.

The University has negotiated a design fee of a lump sum of \$59,063 for Package A and a lump sum of \$74,925 for Package B. This fee represents savings of \$15,762 attributable to Overcash Design's familiarity with the facility and their recent programming efforts. The negotiated fee reflects an 11% reduction of the standard fee for this type of project (Group III).

Speech and Hearing Center Interior Renovation
Request for Waiver of Consultant Selection Process
July 22, 2026
Page 2

	Cost of the Work		Percentage Fee for Building Group III		Major Renovation Factor		Credits		Fee
Standard Fee Calculation									
A	\$700,000	x	7.6%	+	25%	-	\$0	=	\$66,500
B	\$900,000	x	7.4%	+	25%	-	\$0	=	\$83,250
Proposed Negotiated Fee									
A	\$700,000	x	Lump Sum	+		-	\$0	=	\$59,063
B	\$900,000	x	Lump Sum	+		-	\$0	=	\$74,925

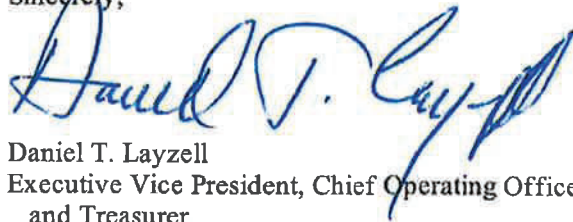
Fee savings are \$15,762 or approximately 11% of the value of the standard fee for the Project.

Approval is hereby requested for:

1. Waiver of the Consultant Selection process.
2. Overcash Design Studio, LLC, Northport, Alabama, as the design service provider for the Project at a negotiated lump sum design fee of \$59,063 for Package A and \$74,925 for Package B, plus a not-to-exceed reimbursable amount of \$2,500 for each Package.
3. Submittal to the Physical Properties Committee for review and approval.

For your convenience, a Project Summary has been attached. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Daniel T. Layzell
Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer
and Treasurer

DTL/mrw

Attachment

Pc w/atchmts: Michael Rodgers
Brady Bolton

Matt Skinner

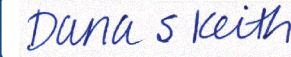
Jessica Morris

Speech and Hearing Center Interior Renovation
Request for Waiver of Consultant Selection Process
July 22, 2026
Page 3

☒ Recommended for Approval

☐ Not Recommended for Approval. Submit to Physical Properties Committee

Signed by:



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Dr. Dana S. Keith, Senior Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration

☒ Recommended for Approval

☐ Not Recommended for Approval. Submit to Physical Properties Committee

DocuSigned by:



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Trustee Evelyn VanSant Mauldin, Chair for Physical Properties Committee

RENOVATION

LOCATION MAP

