



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 8/11/2026

File #: 26-725

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Human Resources

Agenda Section: Consent

Vote Requirement: Majority

SUBJECT:

Humboldt County Student Placement Agreement with Cal Poly Humboldt

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve and sign the Student Placement Agreement (SPA) with Cal Poly Humboldt for student placements with various Humboldt County departments; and
2. Authorize Human Resources Director to execute future amendments to the Cal Poly SPA agreement, after review and approval by County Counsel and the County Administrative Office.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

This action supports the following areas of your Board's Strategic Plan.

Area of Focus: Workforce & Operational Excellence

Strategic Plan Category: 3001 - Support a well-trained workforce

DISCUSSION:

Since the mid-1990s, the county and Cal Poly Humboldt (formerly Humboldt State University (HSU)) have entered into agreements for the placement of students in various county departments so HSU students could fulfill the practical experience requirements of their majors. The student placements began with separate agreements between HSU and each county department. Thereafter, in 1997 your Board approved a consolidated Student Placement Agreement. On Dec. 16, 2014, your Board approved a Student Placement Agreement, which was due to expire on Dec. 31, 2020. An updated Learning Services Agreement (LSA) was executed on Dec. 19, 2020, and established a new five-year term.

The SPA with HSU represents a mutually beneficial arrangement between the county and HSU. It has helped to ensure there are qualified and skilled people in Humboldt County in professions where there has been a shortage of qualified candidates. This agreement benefits the community as well as the county and Cal Poly Humboldt. Current and previous student placements include: California (CA) Children's Services - Glen Paul Medical Therapy Unit; CA Redwood Coast-Humboldt County Airport; Coroner's Office; Humboldt County Correctional Facility; Planning & Building; Probation Department; Juvenile Hall and Regional Facility; Public Works - Fire Safe Council; County Administrative Office and Women Infants and Children (WIC).

Therefore, staff recommends that the Board approves and executes the agreement with Cal Poly Humboldt for student placements within county departments.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Narrative Explanation of Financial Impact:

There is no direct cost to the county. The county will provide in-kind costs such as supervision to these student placements. Cal Poly Humboldt will be responsible for all costs associated with the placement of students in county departments.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

Cal Poly Humboldt.

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Board could choose not to approve this SPA. However, it is not recommended as this agreement benefits both Cal Poly Humboldt students and Humboldt County.

ATTACHMENTS:

County of Humboldt Student Placement Agreement

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Meeting of: 12/16/14

File No.: C-9