

UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON

Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Services
Counseling and Psychological Services

CAPS is respectfully requesting the following **FY 22 One-Time request for the Jed Campus Program Fee**

Program	Program Cost	VPSA Commitment	Total Request Amount
Jed Campus	42,000	12,600	29,400

Justification for Request

1. University of Houston would benefit from a coordinated campus-wide effort to systematically engage in prevention and intervention to reduce the likelihood of mental health crises that could lead to high-profile adverse events such as student/ staff/ or faculty suicides. The JED foundation is an organization dedicated to partnering with universities to improve and build upon existing mental health, substance use, and suicide prevention efforts on campuses. The overall purpose of the JED Foundation is to help universities be more intentional in their efforts to build a more resilient campus where students are less likely to become emotionally distressed or suicidal (prevention), and where students who are emotionally distressed or suicidal are identified in time and receive the care they need (treatment). JED can help the University of Houston take a systematic and evidence-based look at how we can improve the general emotional health and well-being of our students. JED has developed a comprehensive evidence-based approach to improving systems, policies, and programs to enhance emotional well-being and decrease suicides on university campuses. These initiatives fall in 1 of 7 categories: Develop Life Skills, Promote Social Connectedness, Identify Students at Risk, Increase Help-Seeking Behaviors, Provide mental health and substance abuse services, follow crisis management procedures, and restrict access to lethal means.
2. We are seeking funding support toward the program fee to launch UH as a Jed designated Campus. The program costs covers the administration of two Healthy Mind Studies (to the entire campus) and Jed consultants assisting UH to develop a strategic plan that is informed by the surveys and a self-study. The entire process spans 4 years. The program cost (request amount is 29,400) is one-time fee.
3. In summary, our goal is support and promote a larger UH initiative of becoming a Healthy Campus. It is critical to create a culture of care, compassion, resiliency, and general well-being that prevents the kind of isolation, helplessness, and despair that leads to suicide. The JED certification process will help ensure that we examine all our current suicide prevention and intervention practices across our campus and align them with the most effective evidence-based practice.