1. PURPOSE

Health Care Clinics enhance opportunities for students, faculty, and staff to learn, teach, and practice a wide variety of medical and health disciplines and specialties, including focusing on preventing and improving poor health towards the goal of eliminating health disparities in urban and rural areas, as well as underserved communities. Health Care Clinics provide an environment where students can receive the highest medical training from our faculty in order to provide comprehensive health care. Health Care Clinics also provide an opportunity to deliver health care to patients of all ages, without regard to socioeconomic background. It is imperative that the Health Care Clinics created, managed, and run by the University of Houston System (UHS) and its universities:

A. Support UHS’s mission and strategic priorities;
B. Adhere to a high standard of professionalism and excellence;
C. Provide students with training and mentoring to maximize their success in the classroom, laboratory, and clinic; and
D. Strengthen the teaching, research, and service activities of their corresponding core academic disciplines.

2. SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY

A Health Care Clinic is any facility, building, room, place, or establishment on or off campus managed and operated by UHS or its universities where physical and health examinations, health consultations, organized medical services offering diagnostic, therapeutic, or preventative outpatient services, and/or the care or treatment of people is provided or made available outside a hospital setting. A Health Care Clinic may involve students, faculty, and staff, as well as scholarly and academic collaboration and research. A Health Care Clinic may be identified primarily with one medical and health discipline and specialty, be multi-disciplinary, may support interaction involving teaching, research, or exchange of students, faculty, and staff, and may involve more than one university.

3. POLICY

3.1. Each university is responsible for having in place policies regarding the development, approval, and operation of its Health Care Clinics. Such policies
shall address the existence of appropriate fiscal controls and adequate oversight of the provision of health care services, as well as the academic quality, and ensure that its Health Care Clinics conform to applicable state and federal law and Board and UHS policies, including this policy, and shall address the following:

3.1.1. Creation and approval of Health Care Clinics;

3.1.2 Assessment of proposed Health Care Clinics including, but not limited to, support of the UHS mission, benefits and costs, sustainability, and compliance;

3.1.3. Financial operation and business practices in operating and managing Health Care Clinics, including any regulatory requirements such as necessary permits, licenses, and certifications;

3.1.4 Privacy and security measures to protect individually identifiable health information;

3.1.5 Administrative organization of Health Care Clinics, including reporting relationships; and

3.1.6 Periodic review of Health Care Clinics, including achieving compliance as well as their overall effectiveness in fulfilling its purposes and the UHS mission.

3.2 Before any Health Care Clinic is created, the university president or their designee must approve the creation, existence, and purposes of the Health Care Clinic; or in the case of a UHS Health Care Clinic (which includes a Health Care Clinic involving more than one university), the Chancellor or their designee must approve the creation, existence, and purposes of the Health Care Clinic. Further, the proposal for the Health Care Clinic must be submitted to and approved by the Office of General Counsel, prior to review and approval by the president or the president’s designee of the university, or the Chancellor or their designee for any UHS Health Care Clinic.

3.3 Any Health Care Clinic currently existing and in operation as of the effective date of this SAM 06.A.12 must submit the information required in Section 3.1 above to the Office of General Counsel within thirty days of the effective date.
4. REVIEW AND RESPONSIBILITY

Responsible Party: Interim Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost

Review: Every five years

5. APPROVAL

Approved: __________________________________

Interim Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost

__________________________________________

Chancellor

Date: ___________________________________________