

OHIO BOARD OF REGENTS

Agenda Item 3.8 Youngstown State University, Associate of Technical Study
in Electric Utility Technology

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Chancellor and with the concurrence of the Initiatives Committee of the Ohio Board of Regents that the following new technical study program is approved:

Youngstown State University, Associate of Technical Study in Electric
Utility Technology

BACKGROUND

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

Associate of Technical Study degree in Electric Utility Technology

FirstEnergy Corporation continues to work with Ohio's institutions of higher education to meet their current and future need for trained electric power utility technicians. After the successful implementation of programs at four other campuses, Stark State College of Technology, Lakeland Community College, Owens Community College, North Central State Community College, Youngstown State University will be FirstEnergy's fifth and final institution in Ohio. The university's partnership with FirstEnergy Corporation will enable the electric utility industry to be more effective at training, recruiting, and retaining employees.

The program will provide students with a competitive edge in obtaining employment and the opportunity for long term employment in this industry. Enrolled students will be engaged in learning at the University and also the FirstEnergy facility. Students to be enrolled in the program will be drawn from recent high school graduates, as well as attracting individuals who are currently members of the workforce and are considering retraining in another field. FirstEnergy Corporation currently has indicated they have over thirty-five individuals interested in the first class.

The fast changing technology and a retiring workforce is a major concern with FirstEnergy as they plan for company growth and customer satisfaction. As a company specific program it will have a positive impact on the economics of the region with trained skilled employees prepared to enter the workforce.

The Associate of Technical Study degree in Electric Utility Technology is being designed to build upon the FirstEnergy Technician Training Program by awarding 26 semester hours of technical credit for successful completion of that program. Upon completion of the program graduates will be eligible for employment starting at an hourly wage of \$18 to \$20 an hour with desirable long-term employment in the electric utility industry. The program prepares graduates for employment opportunities in a variety of electrical fields, with an emphasis on careers in the line worker field.