

OHIO BOARD OF REGENTS

Agenda Item 3.6 Ohio University, Chillicothe Campus, Associate of Applied
Science degree in Child Development

RESOLUTION

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

Ohio University, Chillicothe Campus
Associate of Applied Science degree in Child Development

BACKGROUND

OHIO UNIVERSITY, CHILLICOTHE CAMPUS

Associate of Applied Science degree in Child Development

As the child care industry continues to grow due to an increase of working and single parents, the demand for quality child care environments is crucial to the health and safety of young children placed in care. Few commercial licensed childcare facilities are located in the five county area served by the campus and they continue to maintain long waiting lists for parents seeking care. The lack of trained childcare professionals affects the five counties ability to market and attract new commercial licensed child care programs to the area.

The Child Development program is being developed in response to the shortage of trained child care workers in the five county area that the campus serves. In addition, the recent federal Head Start Re-authorization Act states that 50% of all staff in Head Start classrooms must possess a minimum of an associate degree in the area of early childhood and/or child development by September 2003, supports the need for developing this program.

The child care program will provide students with academic instruction and practical training experiences that fosters and promotes the growth and development of children. Students will also gain workplace experience through internships at local educational and early childhood centers. The program meets the requirements for the prekindergarten associate teacher certification provided by the Ohio Department of Education. Course work from this program may be applied towards a four-year degree in Early Childhood Education at Ohio University.

Career opportunities for graduates of the Child Development program will include positions in public schools, public and private preschool programs, licensed child care facilities, Head Start Programs, and others.