

BACKGROUND

Stark State College of Technology

Associate of Applied Science degree in Corporate Finance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/RECOMMENDATION

This program clearly meets Regents' standards for associate degree programs. There were no serious concerns raised in the review.

Today, every firm, government agency, and organization needs to have skilled financial management professionals who prepare financial reports, direct investment activities and have the skills needed to implement internal controls of cash management strategies. In today's global economy, corporate finance professionals play a key role in corporate decision making.

In response to the growing need for trained corporate finance professionals in northeast Ohio, Stark State College of Technology has developed a new Corporate Finance degree program. Students enrolled in the program will acquire an understanding of financial funding and investing, learn how to plan and evaluate financial programs, how to manage cash resources and interface with the financial community and its investors.

Stark State College of Technology is working with Timken High School in Canton, Ohio to begin a College Tech Prep Program in Financial Services and Risk Management, which will prepare students for the new Corporate Finance program. Louisville City Schools is also working with Stark State College of Technology and considering replicating the program at Timken High School.

Walsh University in North Canton, Ohio is interested in collaborating with Stark State to develop an articulation agreement between the two institutions which would allow students interested in furthering their education to enroll in the university's Bachelor of Arts degree in Business.

The corporate finance degree program will be the first one approved by the Regents and representatives of the college have indicated their willingness to share their best practices, experiences, expertise and resources with other institutions interested in developing a similar program.

The campus is financially prepared to offer this program and incur the start-up costs needed based on three years of projected student enrollment.

Graduates of the program will find career opportunities as corporate finance professionals in businesses, corporations, banks, state and federal government agencies, and others.