

## BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

### Hocking Technical College

#### Recommendation

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

**Request:** Hocking Technical College proposes an Associate of Applied Science in Natural Resources Law Enforcement in response to the growing need for trained law enforcement rangers. The proposed program will train and provide students the skills needed in law enforcement, procedural law, fish and wildlife enforcement, environmental legislation and others for the protection of wildlife and plant life in Ohio's parks, nature preserves and recreational areas.

**Purpose/Mission:** Hocking Technical College is an innovative, experienced-based technical college that offers unique and distinctive programs that serve diverse learners, employers and organizations.

**Enrollment:** The college projects an initial enrollment of 170 full-time students in fall 2010, anticipating that students currently enrolled in the college's wilderness management program will be drawn to the program.

**Curriculum:** The curriculum offers students a blend of theory and outdoor field experiences. Students will be trained in natural resources criminal law, forensic science, collection and preservation of evidence, law enforcement management and operations. A ranger services practicum in various law enforcement settings offers students the opportunity to gain practical experience.

The college has articulation agreements with the University of Rio Grande, West Virginia University, and the University of Idaho for students interested in pursuing a baccalaureate degree in Natural Resources Law Enforcement.

Graduates of the program will find career opportunities at the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' Division of Wildlife, U.S. Forest Services, National Park Service offices, Soil and Water Conservation districts, U.S. Border Patrol, and U.S. Customs Services offices. Starting salaries range from \$36,600 to \$46,000 annually.

**Faculty/Resource Needs:** The college is financially prepared to initiate the program. Existing faculty are in place to teach in the program.

**Program Duplication:** Currently, the proposed program is not offered at any public two-year institution in Ohio. The college is willing to collaborate and share best practices with other institutions interested in developing this or similar programs.

**End of Comment Period: March 24, 2010**  
**No Comments Received, Recommend Approval**

APPROVED



Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor



Date

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