

**BACKGROUND AND REQUEST**  
**National College**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Provisional authorization is recommended for the National College associate of applied science and associate of applied business degrees listed below. Provisional authorization will continue through December 31, 2012, contingent upon continuing accreditation from the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools and continuing recognition from the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools. Provisional authorization is also contingent upon the Chancellor's written approval of progress reports that demonstrate satisfactory progress toward compliance with all standards. The Chancellor shall withdraw provisional accreditation if, in the Chancellor's judgment, the progress reports do not demonstrate satisfactory progress in any area. Progress reports are due by April 1, 2010 and April 1, 2011. A follow-up review will be performed prior to December 31, 2012 to determine continued authorization of the programs.

**Profile:** National Business College was founded in 1886 in Roanoke, Virginia. Now known as National College, the college operates multiple campuses in five states. The review for authorization of applied associate degree programs in Ohio included four campuses—Cincinnati, Dayton, Stow and Youngstown. The founding purpose of National College is to "educate men and women for the duties and responsibilities of business life and to help place them in positions where there is opportunity for advancement." Its mission is "to give students a broad competency in a field of specialization and an understanding of and respect for their own and others' ideas and thoughts."

**Accreditation/Authorization:** National College is accredited by the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools and is recognized by the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools. This is the college's first request to the Chancellor and the request is in response to HB 119 of the 127<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, which requires the Chancellor's authorization for associate degree programs in proprietary colleges and schools as a condition of their students' eligibility for OIG/OCOG funds, a state needs-based financial aid program.

**Program Information:** National College is seeking authorization for the following programs:

- Associate of Applied Business in Administrative Office Professional
- Associate of Applied Business in Business Administration—Accounting
- Associate of Applied Business in Business Administration—Management
- Associate of Applied Business in Computer Applications Technology
- Associate of Applied Business in Paralegal (Dayton campus only)
- Associate of Applied Science in Information Systems Engineering
- Associate of Applied Science in Health Administration
- Associate of Applied Science in Medical Assisting
- Associate of Applied Science in Surgical Technology

Each program requires at least 90 quarter hours for completion and includes course work in general education, applied general education and the technical/occupational area.

**Review Results:** The external review team noted the following strengths during the review: the college's focus on student success; its regular use of external advisory boards; the ability of graduates to take advantage of lifetime refresher courses, lifetime career placement, and lifetime access to the virtual library; and the presence of a qualified academic librarian on each campus.

The team also noted many areas of non compliance with the Chancellor's standards and recommended that the institution: improve the credentials of full-time and part-time faculty members in the general education and technical areas to meet the Chancellor's faculty standards; enhance the rigor and breadth of its general education curriculum to be consistent with state standards for applied associate degree programs; assess incoming students so that those not ready for college-level work are placed in developmental courses; improve library holdings, particularly for the paralegal program; provide additional information on the mechanisms used to measure and improve institutional effectiveness; improve the mechanisms used to measure and improve program outcomes; and require faculty members to participate in professional development in their disciplines.

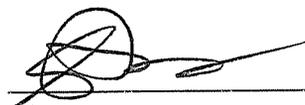
The institution responded appropriately to many of the recommendations of the consultants' report by demonstrating how the recommendations were accepted and integrated into the proposed programs, or, in the case of recommendations that could only be complied with over time, by presenting a clear plan for the implementation of the recommendations and a timeline for such. Because the college failed to respond fully to some of the recommendations (specifically, improve the credentials of faculty members in general education and some technical areas), a revised Institutional Response was required and was submitted on June 1, 2009. The revised Institutional Response is currently under review and provisional authorization will only be granted if the revised response demonstrates compliance with the Chancellor's standards for applied associate degrees.

**Recommendation to the Chancellor:** The staff and review team reviewed the revised institutional response and determined that the response demonstrates compliance with the Chancellor's standards for applied associate degrees. As a result, provisional authorization is recommended for the National College associate of applied science and associate of applied business degrees listed above. Provisional authorization will continue through December 31, 2012, contingent upon continuing accreditation from the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools and continuing recognition from the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools. Provisional authorization is also contingent upon the Chancellor's written approval of progress reports that demonstrate satisfactory progress toward compliance with all standards. The Chancellor shall withdraw provisional accreditation if, in the Chancellor's judgment, the progress reports do not demonstrate satisfactory progress in any area. Progress reports are due by April 1, 2010 and April 1, 2011. A follow-up review will be performed prior to December 31, 2012 to determine continued authorization of the programs.

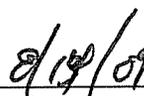
**End of Comment Period: July 28, 2009**

**No Comments Received: Recommend Approval**

Approved:



Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor



Date

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