

## BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

### National Institute of Technology

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

The National Institute of Technology meets the Chancellor's minimum standards for applied associate degree programs. Provisional authorization is recommended for the associate of applied business degree programs in medical assisting and medical office technology. Provisional authorization is also recommended for the associate of applied science degree programs in dental assisting, nursing, electronics and computer technology, and computer information services. Provisional authorization will continue through December 31, 2012, contingent upon continuing accreditation from the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges of Technology and continuing recognition from the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools and 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 May 1, 2009, 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 Institute of Technology is a co-educational, for profit, career college founded in November 1966 as a member of the United Electronics Institutes. The college is currently operated by Education Affiliates and serves approximately 500 students. The purpose of the institution is to provide postsecondary career education to both traditional and nontraditional students through a variety of degree and diploma programs.

**Accreditation/Authorization:** The National Institute of Technology is currently accredited by the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges of Technology (ACCSCT) and is recognized by the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools (SBCCS). This is the Institute'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 of 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 Institute of Technology is seeking authorization for the following programs:

- Associate of Applied Science in Dental Assisting
- Associate of Applied Science in Nursing
- Associate of Applied Science in Electronics and Computer Technology
- Associate of Applied Business in Medical Assisting
- Associate of Applied Business in Medical Office Technology
- Associate of Applied Science in Computer Information Services

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 numerous strengths during the review, including: faculty and staff members who are committed to the institution's mission and the welfare of students; the consistent use of external advisory committees; excellent student placement rates; a strong faculty orientation and mentoring program; and the institute's emphasis on adult learners and hands-on instructional experiences.

The team also noted several areas of non compliance with the Chancellor's standards and recommended that the institution: 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 could be placed in developmental courses; improve the credentials of full-time and part-time faculty members to meet faculty standards; enhance the mechanisms used to measure and improve institutional effectiveness and program outcomes; and improve library holdings and services.

The institution responded appropriately to 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.

**Recommendation to the Chancellor:** The National Institute of Technology meets the Chancellor's minimum standards for applied associate degree programs. The review team recommends provisional authorization for the associate of applied business degree programs in medical assisting and medical office technology. Provisional authorization is also recommended for the associate of applied science degree program in dental assisting, nursing, electronics and computer technology, and computer information services.

Provisional authorization will continue through December 31, 2012, contingent upon continuing accreditation from ACCSCT and continuing recognition from the SBCCS and 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, progress reports do not demonstrate satisfactory progress toward compliance with standards in any area. Progress reports, reviewed at the College's expense, are due by May 1, 2009, April 1, 2010, and April 1, 2011. A follow-up review will be performed, at the College's expense, prior to December 31, 2012 to determine continued authorization of the programs.

End of Comment Period: January 5, 2009  
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

**Approved:**



Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor

1/16/09  
Date:

mlc