

## 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 this review.**

**Request:** Hocking Technical College proposes an Associate of Technical Study in Farrier Science in response to the need for trained farriers in Ohio. A recent study by the American Horse Council indicates that the American horse industry has grown 55% and become a \$39 billion industry within the last nine years. It's growth can be attributed to quarter horse conventions and sprints; the development of small breeding, training and riding facilities; and emerging alternative therapies for horses and their riders.

**Purpose/Mission:** Hocking College is an innovative, experienced-based technical college that offers unique and distinctive programs that serve diverse learners, employers and organizations. The college is Ohio's only public two-year institution with horses, stables, and fenced pastures with trails.

**Enrollment:** The college is projecting an initial enrollment of twenty full-time students, and anticipates enrollment will grow to twenty-five full-time students by fall 2010. Students currently taking equine studies courses have expressed interest in the program and the college is maintaining a database of prospective students.

**Curriculum:** The curriculum includes a co-op component, providing students multiple learning experiences at neighboring farms. Students will learn basic farrier techniques, including how to assess and evaluate a horse's need for shoes; proper shoeing techniques for the replacement and building of new shoes; and recognizing horse related diseases and parasites.

Graduates of the program will find career opportunities at breeding and horse ranches; horse farms; race tracks; veterinary hospitals; zoos; horse shows and conferences; U.S. Park and Forest Service; state and municipal parks; and recreational and equine health care ranches. Starting salaries range from \$36,800 to \$48,000 annually.

**Faculty/Resource Needs:** The college is financially prepared to initiate the program. A full-time faculty member will be hired to teach some of the technical courses; additional full-time faculty will be hired as needed to accommodate additional enrollment.

**Program Duplication:** The proposed program is currently 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: January 4, 2010  
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

APPROVED	
	1/7/09
Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor	Date

*mle*