

BACKGROUND

Owens Community College – Toledo and Findlay Campuses

Associate of Applied Science degree in Cancer Information Management

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/RECOMMENDATION

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

Request:

In response to the growing need for trained professionals in the field of Medical Records and Health information, Owens Community College has developed what will be Ohio's first Cancer Information Management Two-Year Degree Program.

The Cancer Information Management professional manages and analyzes clinical cancer information for the purpose of processing, maintaining, compiling and reporting health information for research, quality management and improvement. Trained Cancer Information Management professionals will be able to abstract and code clinical data using appropriate classification systems and analyze health records according to state and national standards. The program will give students the education, training and skills they need to become a certified tumor registrar (CTR).

The Council on Accreditation for the National Cancer Registry Association announced it will require a minimum of an Associates Degree in an allied health field by the year 2010.

To support the need for and feasibility of developing this new program, Owens Community College conducted a needs assessment survey of the 87 hospitals in the state of Ohio that have a Hospital Cancer Program accredited by the American College of Surgeons. The results of the survey indicated a high percentage (93%) of the hospitals supported the need for the program, would hire program graduates and would be willing to serve as clinical sites for the Cancer Registry students.

Students graduating from the Cancer Information Management Program will be prepared and eligible to take the certification exam offered through the National Cancer Registrars Formal Education Program Review Committee (FEPRC) to be a certified tumor registrar. This Committee is responsible for assessing the quality of the program through a peer review process, and recommends accreditation status. The College's application for initial accreditation will be made by fall 2007.

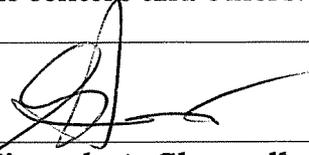
The program will be offered on-line and will attract students residing in Northwest Ohio as well individuals from other states who will learn about the program through the National Cancer Registrars Association.

Representatives of Owens Community College have indicated their willingness to share their 'best practices', experiences, expertise and resources with other institutions interested in learning about this program.

The college is financially prepared to offer this program and incur the start-up costs needed based on three years of projected student enrollment. The college is projecting an enrollment of 22 full time students this fall and 44 full time students in 2008.

Graduates of the program will find career opportunities as Cancer Information Management technicians in various community, regional, state and federal medical and health care facilities, physician offices, assisted living and nursing home facilities, health care provider offices, cancer research centers and others.

Approved:



**Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor
Ohio Board of Regents**

7/23/07
Date