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 degree in Wildlife Resources Management in response to the growing need for trained wildlife technicians. Ohio's state and metro parks, as well as the Ohio Division of Wildlife, require employees to have (at a minimum) an associate's degree in the field.

Purpose/Mission: Hocking Technical College is an "innovative, experience-based technical college that nurtures learning and learner success." The college "prepares learners for technical careers or transfer to other institutions of higher learning," and offers "unique and distinctive programs which serve diverse local, regional, state, national, and international learners, employers, and organizations."

Enrollment: The college is projecting an initial enrollment of two hundred seventy full-time students by January 2011.

Curriculum: The curriculum includes courses in forestry, aquatic and wildlife ecology, map reading and interpretation, wildlife law and policy, wildlife management, and watercraft operation and maintenance, and includes an extensive outdoor wildlife practicum. Graduates of the program will find employment opportunities as wildlife conservation technicians, fish and wildlife officers for the U.S. Department of Natural Resources, wildlife managers, environmental educators, and soil and water conservation technicians, with starting salaries ranging from $32,500 to $52,000 annually based on experience and degree completion.

Students interested in pursuing additional degrees may transfer into in the University of Rio Grande's baccalaureate programs in Wildlife and Fisheries Resources or Environmental Science, or Ohio University's Bachelor of Technical and Applied Studies degree.

Faculty/Resource Needs: The college is financially prepared to initiate the program and will use existing resources to support the program.

Program Duplication: The proposed program is not offered at any other 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: July 13, 2010
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

APPROVED

7/20/10 MK

Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor **Date**