

BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

Boecker College-Cincinnati Associate of Applied Science in Registered Nursing

RECOMMENDATION

Boecker College-Cincinnati meets the Chancellor's minimum standards for applied associate degree programs. Provisional authorization is recommended for the associate of applied science degree program in registered nursing. Provisional authorization will continue through December 31, 2012, contingent upon continuing accreditation from the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education 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 program.

Profile: Boecker College-Cincinnati, located in Cincinnati, Ohio, is a for-profit, co-educational career college operated by Education Affiliates, Inc. The college was founded as a branch campus of Medix School in Towson, Maryland, which is also operated by Education Affiliates, Inc. The mission of the college is to provide career-oriented education that promotes "an understanding of the importance of ethics and values in life and the work place." Although Boecker College-Cincinnati offers applied associate degree programs in two health-related disciplines, the college is only seeking authorization for one of these programs—the Associate of Applied Science in Registered Nursing.

Accreditation/Authorization: Boecker College-Cincinnati is accredited by the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) and is recognized by the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools (SBCCS). This is the college's first request to the Chancellor and the request is in response to HB 119 of the 127th 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: Boecker College-Cincinnati is seeking authorization for its Associate of Applied Science in Registered Nursing degree program. The program requires 71 semester credit hours, which includes course work in general education, applied general education and technical nursing area. The nursing program, by virtue of its relationship with the RETS Technical Institute nursing program, is approved by the Ohio Board of Nursing.

Review Results: The external review team noted the following strengths during the review: a corporate management information system that tracks student progress and develops external accountability reports; a detailed faculty orientation program; and sufficient clinical sites for the placement of nursing students.

The team also noted several areas of non compliance with the Chancellor's standards and recommended that the institution: provide evidence of the stability of campus faculty and

administration; 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; complete a review of the library holdings and services; improve the mechanisms used to measure and improve institutional effectiveness; improve the mechanisms used to measure and improve nursing program outcomes; and improve the credentials of full-time and part-time faculty members in the general education areas to meet the Chancellor's faculty standards.

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: Bohecker College-Cincinnati meets the Chancellor's minimum standards for applied associate degree programs. Provisional authorization is recommended for the associate of applied science degree program in registered nursing. Provisional authorization will continue through December 31, 2012, contingent upon continuing accreditation from the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education 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 program.

End of Comment Period: June 25, 2009
No Comments Received: Recommend Approval

<p>Approved:</p>  <hr/> <p>Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor</p>	<p>6/29/09</p> <hr/> <p>Date</p>
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