

BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

Ohio Technical College

RECOMMENDATION

Ohio Technical College meets the Chancellor's minimum standards for applied associate degree programs. Provisional authorization is recommended for the associate of applied science degree programs in auto-diesel technology, complete automotive technology, and diesel equipment technology. 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. 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 programs.

Profile: Ohio Technical College, Inc. (OTC) is a for-profit, career college located in Cleveland, Ohio. The school was founded in 1969 as Ohio Diesel Mechanics School but was renamed Ohio Technical College in 1997. Today the college serves more than 750 students in its applied associate degree, diploma, and certificate programs. The college's stated purpose is to provide "premier training to prepare students for challenging and rewarding careers in modern technologies." Ohio Technical College's goal is to "remain on the cutting edge of future technology and to deliver the necessary technical and career skills to its students."

Accreditation/Authorization: OTC is accredited by the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges of Technology (ACC SCT) 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: OTC is seeking authorization for the following programs:

Associate of Applied Science in Auto-Diesel Technology
Associate of Applied Science in Complete Automotive Technology
Associate of Applied Science in Diesel Equipment Technology

Each program requires the equivalent of at least 90 quarter hours for completion and includes course work in general education, applied general education and the technical/occupational area.

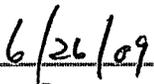
Review Results: The external review team noted the following strengths during the review: the college's regular use of external advisory boards for each of its programs to ensure that courses and learning experiences are relevant to the job market; curricula specifically designed to meet Automotive Services Excellence (ASE) certification standards; the college's strong student completion and placement rates; well-qualified technical faculty; and spacious and well-designed facilities equipped with extensive equipment that is up-to-date, well maintained, and heavily utilized by the students.

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 are placed in developmental courses; improve the credentials of full-time and part-time faculty members in the general education areas to meet the Chancellor's faculty standards; acquire the services of a professional academic librarian to assist in the improvement of library holdings and services; and improve the mechanisms used to measure and improve institutional effectiveness.

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: Ohio Technical College meets the Chancellor's minimum standards for applied associate degree programs. Provisional authorization is recommended for the associate of applied science degree programs in auto-diesel technology, complete automotive technology, and diesel equipment technology. 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. 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 programs.

End of Comment Period: June 23, 2009
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

APPROVED:	
	
Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor	Date

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