BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

Bryant & Stratton College
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice

RECOMMENDATION

Bryant & Stratton College meets the Chancellor’s standards, and the review team recommends provisional authorization for the proposed program. Provisional authorization will continue through December 31, 2012, contingent upon continuing accreditation from the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, and contingent upon the Chancellor’s written approval of progress reports that demonstrate satisfactory progress toward compliance with all standards. The Chancellor shall withdraw provisional authorization if, in the Chancellor’s judgment, the progress reports do not demonstrate satisfactory progress in any area. Progress reports, reviewed at the institution’s expense, are to be submitted by July 1, 2009, 2010, and 2011. A follow-up review will be performed, at the institution’s expense, prior to December 31, 2012 to determine continued authorization of the program.

Profile: Bryant & Stratton College is a private, for-profit, co-educational institution administratively headquartered in Buffalo, New York. Originally established in 1852 as the Bryant & Stratton Mercantile College in Cleveland, Ohio, the college today offers associate and bachelor’s degrees online and at campuses in New York, Ohio, Virginia, and Wisconsin. The college currently serves nearly 7,500 Ohio students at its three Ohio campuses and through online programs.

Accreditation/Authorization: Bryant & Stratton College is regionally accredited by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and has been authorized by the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents since 2002 to offer programs at sites in Cleveland, East Lake, and Parma, Ohio.

Program Information: The college has requested approval to deliver a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice degree program at its three Ohio campuses. The 120 credit-hour program was developed to align with the standards of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences and exposes students to course work in the administration of justice, corrections, criminological theory, law adjudication, law enforcement, and general education. Students complete an internship and submit a portfolio at the end of the program to demonstrate mastery of the content.

Review Results: The review team noted several strengths in the review, including the college’s commitment to beginning the new program; existing and proposed resources to establish and support the program; alignment of the proposed program’s mission statement to the college’s mission; design of the program to meet nationally accepted standards in criminal justice programs; and institutional and programmatic assessment practices.

The team also noted some areas of non compliance with the Chancellor’s standards and recommended that the institution: add a natural and physical science course to the general education core of the
proposed program; submit an updated faculty matrix when additional criminal justice faculty are hired; and add a research methodology course germane to the field of criminal justice.

The institution responded appropriately to the suggestions and recommendations of the consultants' report by demonstrating how the recommendations were accepted and integrated into the proposed program, 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:** Bryant & Stratton College meets the Chancellor’s standards, and the review team recommends provisional authorization for the proposed program. Provisional authorization will continue through December 31, 2012, contingent upon continuing accreditation from the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, and contingent upon the Chancellor’s written approval of progress reports that demonstrate satisfactory progress toward compliance with all standards. The Chancellor shall withdraw provisional authorization if, in the Chancellor’s judgment, the progress reports do not demonstrate satisfactory progress in any area. Progress reports, reviewed at the institution’s expense, are to be submitted by July 1, 2009, 2010, and 2011. A follow-up review will be performed, at the institution’s expense, prior to December 31, 2012 to determine continued authorization of the program.

**End of Comment Period:** March 18, 2009

**No Comments Received:** Recommend Approval

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**Approved:**

[Signature]

Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor

Date: 7/31/09