

BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

Ohio Valley College of Technology

RECOMMENDATION

Ohio Valley College of Technology (OVCT) meets the Chancellor's minimum standards and the review team recommends provisional authorization for the proposed degree programs. Provisional authorization will continue through December 31, 2012, contingent upon continuing accreditation by the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS), continuing recognition from the State Board of Career 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 are due by May 1, 2009, 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: OVCT first opened in 1886 as Ohio Valley Business College. The institution has operated under several owners and in several locations in the East Liverpool area since that time. In 2000, Ohio Valley Business College was purchased by Webster College, Inc., and the college's name was changed to Ohio Valley College of Technology in 2002 to better reflect the focus of the institution's degree programs.

OVCT is a co-educational, for-profit school that serves almost 200 students in its applied associate degree programs in health and business related areas. OVCT's mission is to provide "specialized training in career fields that offer employment opportunities."

Accreditation/Authorization: The college is accredited by ACICS 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' use of OIG/OCOG funds, a state needs-based financial aid program.

Program Information: OVCT is seeking authorization for the following programs:

- Associate of Applied Business in Accounting and Business Technology
- Associate of Applied Business in Computer Technology
- Associate of Applied Business in Health Information Technology
- Associate of Applied Business in Medical Assisting
- Associate of Applied Business in Dental Assistant

Each program requires at least 60 semester 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 numerous strengths during the review, including: accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Programs for the medical assisting

program; the college's strong career and placement services; its regular use of an external advisory board; a well-developed institutional effectiveness plan; well developed curricula in each of the technical areas; and the extensive work experience of the faculty members teaching in the technical areas.

The team also noted several areas of non compliance with the Chancellor's standards and recommended that the institution: assess incoming students so that those not ready for college-level work are placed in developmental courses; hire an appropriately credentialed librarian; improve library services; enhance the breadth of its general education curriculum to be consistent with state standards for applied associate degree programs; improve the credentials of faculty members in the general education area to meet the Chancellor's faculty standards; and improve the mechanisms used to measure and improve general education outcomes.

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: OVCT meets the Chancellor's minimum standards, and the review team recommends provisional authorization for the proposed degree programs. Provisional authorization will continue through December 31, 2012, contingent upon continuing accreditation from ACICS, continuing recognition from the SBCCS, 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, progress reports do not demonstrate satisfactory progress toward compliance with standards in any area. Progress reports, reviewed at the college's expense, are due by May 1, 2009, April 1, 2010, and April 1, 2011. A follow-up review will be performed, at the college's expense, prior to December 31, 2012 to determine continued authorization of the programs.

End of Comment Period: February 27, 2009
No Comments Received: Recommend Approval

<p>Approved:</p>  Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor	<p>3/4/09 Date</p>
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------

m/c