

REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION**Owens Community College
Associate of Applied Science in Interior Design Technology****Request:**

Owens Community College requests approval to offer an Associate of Applied Science degree in Interior Design Technology in response to the regional need for trained interior designers. The proposed program builds upon the college's successful Interior Design One-Year Certificate and aligns with industry standards requiring individuals to have an associate degree or higher. The proposed program was developed to align with the Council for Interior Design Accreditation Standards, and the college will begin its self-study for program accreditation in fall 2011.

Background:

For more than forty years, the college has been providing affordable, quality educational experiences through excellence, innovation and collaboration. With an enrollment of more than 45,000 students and 150 program offerings between the Toledo and Findlay campuses, the college continues to be responsive to business and industry needs.

Curriculum and Enrollment:

The curriculum was developed in cooperation with the college's Interior Design Advisory Committee, composed of professional interior designers from the region and experienced faculty from two- and four-year institutions. The curriculum includes an internship, allowing students to receive practical learning experiences.

The college is projecting an enrollment of eighteen full-time and seventeen part-time students beginning fall 2011. Enrollment is expected to grow as a result of targeted marketing efforts with regional businesses, students from the adult workforce development centers, area Tech Prep Programs, and unemployed individuals returning to the workforce. Articulation agreements are being discussed with Bowling Green State University and the University of Toledo for this specific career path.

Graduates of the program will find employment opportunities in design studios and showrooms, manufacturing design companies, home furnishing and decorating stores, and commercial and residential design service companies. Annual starting salaries for individuals (with an associate's degree) entering the profession range from \$37,000 to \$48,000.

Faculty and Resources:

The college is financially prepared to offer the program. Existing faculty and resources are in place to implement the new program.

Recommendation:

The program clearly meets the Chancellor's standards for associate degree programs. There were no concerns raised in the review.

End of Comment Period: April 28, 2011

No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

RECOMMENDATION

The Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs has verified that this institution has met the standards and requirements of the Ohio Board of Regents.

S. D. ...

5/17/11

Signature

Date

APPROVED

Jim Petro

5-18-11

Jim Petro, Chancellor

Date

mic