

BACKGROUND

CINCINNATI STATE TECHNICAL AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE Associate of Applied Science degree in Biotechnology

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/RECOMMENDATION

**This program clearly meets Regent's standards for associate degree programs.
There were no serious concerns raised in this review.**

Request: Ohio's bioscience industry continues to expand as new companies are moving into Ohio and existing companies are growing to meet market needs. In 2005, fifty bioscience companies were launched or recruited to Ohio with additional companies considering Ohio has the place to locate.

Ohio Governor Ted Strickland's recent jobs stimulus package included \$200 million for the biomedical industry to fuel Ohio's research and leadership in new medical products. (Bioohio News/Bulletin-August 2007.) To ensure Ohio's bioscience industry has the educated workforce it needs, Cincinnati State Technical and Community College proposes an Associate of Applied Science degree in Biotechnology. The program was developed in collaboration with the Tech Prep of Southwest Ohio Institute for Biotechnology Education, a group that links two and four year institutions, school districts, businesses and government partners together. As collaborative partners, the institute created a new biotechnology career ladder that connects high school students, postsecondary students and returning adult workers to new educational opportunities in this emerging field. Utilizing the shared resources of the partners, students will have access to existing facilities, labs, and instructors all with expertise and experience in the bioscience field.

Program Purpose/Mission: In 2006, three Ohio regions (Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati) collectively accounted for 89% of the state's commercial bioscience industry and 90 percent of state's commercial bioscience employment. (BioohioNews/Bulletin-August 2007). BioOhio recently conducted a survey of its 198 Ohio bioscience companies to determine their workforce development needs. Results of the survey indicated these companies are now interested in hiring associate degree biotechnology graduates in addition to four year graduates.

Southwest Ohio has a significant number of biotechnology manufacturers who expressed a need to Cincinnati State Technical and Community College for two-year graduates trained in biotechnology manufacturing and aseptic certification. In response to the region's manufacturers' need for trained technicians with an aseptic certification, the College incorporated this specific training and certification into the program's curriculum.

Graduates of the program will find rewarding positions with the region's bioscience manufacturers as well as pharmaceutical companies, government labs, food processing plants, molecular biology labs, agricultural companies and others.

Enrollment: Due to student interest already shown for this program, the College is projecting an enrollment of 60 full-time students for 2008-2009, growing to 95 students in 2010. Students enrolled in the region's College Tech Prep Biotechnology program will have the opportunity to pursue an associate's degree in this career field. The program may also attract students enrolled in the new Senior to Sophomore Initiative.

Curriculum: The proposed curriculum includes specific courses in biology, chemistry/organic chemistry, genetics, microbiology and cell biology. Also included is a comprehensive review of the issues related to the biotechnology industry including a focus on biological and chemical laboratory techniques, industry standards and related laws. Students will also take the required general education courses needed for successful completion of this new program.

The College will offer students an opportunity to be involved in a 'cooperative learning experience' where students gain 'real-life' work experience on the job. This experience will help students understand job demands, duties and responsibilities. As a paid learning experience for students, the College is currently working with a number of the bioscience manufacturers in the region for student placement. Students historically have used the money earned from their cooperative learning experience help to defray the cost of tuition. Many times this learning experience has lead to full employment for successful students after graduation.

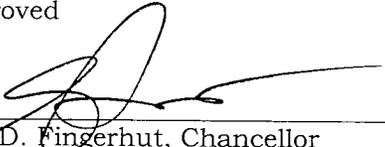
Faculty/Resource Needs: The program will be housed in the Health and Public Safety Division of the College and administrative oversight of the program will be provided by the Dean of the Health and Public Safety Division.

A new Director for the Biotechnology Program will be selected from current faculty reducing the need to hire an additional person for this position. Current full-time faculty and adjunct faculty in the Health and Public Safety Division, Business Technologies Division, Humanities and Sciences Division and Center for Innovative Technologies will be used to teach the courses required for this program, also reducing the need to hire new faculty.

The College plans to utilize the existing facilities, labs, supplies and equipment located within the Health and Public Safety Division or within other divisions of the College as needed. Additional capital expenditures are not needed to deliver this program. The College is financially prepared to offer this program and incur the start-up costs needed based on projected student enrollment.

Program Duplication: Throughout the planning and development of this program, the College worked closely with faculty members from the University of Cincinnati/Raymond Walters College to ensure this program would not duplicate the One-Year Certificate Program currently being offered at Raymond Walters. Raymond Walters's faculty participated in various program planning meetings and was also included in the meetings with industry representatives. Both Colleges recognize the importance of the bioscience industry to this region and support its growth. The two programs were developed in the response to the specific needs of the bioscience manufacturers and have distinct differences reducing the need to compete for students in this region.

End of Comment Period: August 28, 2008
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

Approved	
	
Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor	9/22/08 Date