

BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

Hocking Technical College Associate of Applied Science in Landscape Management

Recommendation

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

Request: Hocking Technical College proposes an Associate of Applied Science in Landscape Management degree in response to the growing need for technically trained landscape managers. Landscape management is the process of overseeing the design, creation and maintenance of specific landscape areas such as city and state parks, wildlife preserves, golf courses, corporate offices, housing developments, government complexes, hospitals, universities, and others. The National Gardening Association recently reported that spending on landscape installation and construction has tripled in the last two years from \$3.6 billion to \$11.2 billion. The continued growth of the landscape industry and the need to preserve and conserve national resources has created the need for additional trained landscape managers.

Program Purpose/Mission: The purpose of the Associate of Applied Science in Landscape Management degree is to provide students with the education needed to prepare them for careers in landscaping, athletic turf, disease control, irrigation, plant nutrition, and others. Potential employers include the Husqvarna Corporation, landscape design and architect firms, greenhouses and nurseries, resorts and recreational facilities, state parks, cooperative extensive agencies, country clubs, and agricultural companies. Starting salaries range from \$36,800 to \$48,000 a year.

Enrollment: The college is projecting an enrollment of twenty full-time and twenty part-time students beginning fall semester 2009, and anticipates enrollments will grow to twenty-five full-time and twenty-five part-time students in January 2010. Prospective students have already inquired about the program and the college is maintaining a database of interested students.

Curriculum: The curriculum is structured to provide students with the general education and specialized technical courses needed to become trained landscape managers. Students will be trained in the latest landscaping techniques and participate in laboratory experiences. In addition, students enrolled in the program will have the opportunity to participate in an internship program with Husqvarna Corporation and other landscape companies, where students combine their knowledge and skill acquisition with real-world experiences.

Faculty/Resource Needs: The Dean and Assistant Dean of the School of Natural Resources will be responsible for the administration of the proposed program. A new full-time faculty member will be hired to teach some of the technical courses and assist in the program's implementation. The college plans to hire additional full-time faculty as needed to accommodate additional student enrollments.

The college is financially prepared to offer the program. In addition, the college has established a partnership with Husqvarna Corporation, the world's largest producer of lawn movers, petrol-powered garden equipment and garden tractors. The corporation, for a number of years, has supported the

college's Forestry and Parks and Recreation Programs through the donation of scholarship funds for students enrolled in these programs. The corporation also donates new and used equipment needed for indoor and outdoor classroom learning experiences.

Program Duplication: Columbus State Community College is the closest community college that offers a similar program and is more than sixty miles from the college. The college is willing to collaborate and share best practices and resources with other two-year institutions interested in the development of this or similar programs.

End of Comment Period: August 26, 2009
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

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| APPROVED |
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| Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor |
| 9/8/09 Date |

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