

## BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

### Lakeland Community College

#### RECOMMENDATION

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

**Request:** Lakeland Community College proposes an Associate of Applied Business in Parks and Recreation Management degree in response to the growing need for park and recreation management personnel. Cleveland Metroparks and several other park and recreation departments contacted the college to request the development of the proposed program as increased usage of parks and recreation facilities in the region has created the need for additional trained personnel to manage these facilities. Parks and recreation managers plan, organize, and direct activities in parks and recreational areas, theme parks, camps, community centers and other locations. Starting salaries in the field range from \$32,000 to \$40,000 annually.

The college formed an advisory committee composed of representatives from the field and surveyed more than three hundred regional parks and recreation facilities. Results of the survey (91%) affirmed the need for the proposed program.

**Purpose/Mission:** Lakeland Community College is dedicated to providing learning opportunities to the community it serves and strives to provide an environment for students that fosters the development of social, political, aesthetic, and moral values.

**Enrollment:** The college is projecting an enrollment of thirteen full-time and eighteen part-time students beginning January 2010, and anticipates enrollment will grow to sixteen full-time and twenty-three part-time students in 2011.

**Curriculum:** The curriculum is structured to provide students with the general education and technical courses required for the proposed degree and includes an internship component, which several of the region's parks and recreation organizations have expressed an interest to host.

The college has also begun discussions with Kent State University and Bowling Green State University to establish articulation agreements between the respective institutions. Students interested in furthering their education in the field may pursue a bachelor's degree at Bowling Green State University, Kent State University, Ohio University, Ohio State University, University of Toledo, or Ashland University.

**Faculty/Resource Needs:** The college plans to use existing full- and part-time faculty, and appoint a new program coordinator from the current faculty. Existing resources can support program start-up activities and the college is financially prepared to operate the program.

**Program Duplication:** Hocking Technical College, more than 190 miles south of the college, is the closest institution to offer a two-year degree in the field. Lakeland Community College is willing to share "best practices" and resources with other institutions interested in developing this or similar programs.

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

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

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