

## BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

### Ohio Christian University Bachelor of Arts, Practical Leadership

#### RECOMMENDATION

Ohio Christian University meets the Chancellor's standards for baccalaureate programs and the review team recommends authorization for the Bachelor of Arts, Practical Leadership program. Authorization will continue through December 31, 2017 to coincide with the university's next institutional reauthorization review with the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents. Authorization is contingent upon the submission of annual progress reports by June 30, 2011, 2012, and 2013, which address any concerns that remain. Authorization will be withdrawn if, in the Chancellor's judgment, such reports do not demonstrate satisfactory progress toward compliance with the Chancellor's standards.

**Profile:** Ohio Christian University, located in Circleville, Ohio, was originally established in 1948 as Circleville Bible College. Today, the college prepares nearly 1,200 students to "serve effectively in the church and society by providing a holistic, Christ-centered, biblically integrated education in the Wesleyan tradition."

**Accreditation/Authorization:** Ohio Christian University is regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and possesses specialized accreditation from the Association of Biblical Higher Education. The Chancellor has authorized the institution since October 1976.

**Program Information:** The university is requesting authorization to deliver a Practical Leadership major within its existing Bachelor of Arts degree. The program is designed to "produce graduates who are informed by a Christian vision of transforming leadership, skilled in the essential disciplines of effective leadership, knowledgeable of how organizations function, and prepared to effect positive change both within and through those organizations." The curriculum, built in part on Dr. John Maxwell leadership principles, focuses on leadership theory and practice, ethics, and communication.

**Review Results:** The review team noted several strengths in the review, including: the program mission is aligned with the institutional mission; learning objectives and outcomes, which are evident and embedded throughout the program; appropriately credentialed faculty teaching in the program; online delivery option to accommodate student schedules; and resources in place to support the program.

The team also noted some areas of non-compliance with the Chancellor's standards and recommended that the institution: develop a process to assess the practice of key leadership skills; submit fully-developed syllabi prior to the courses being offered; and explain how systems thinking will be incorporated into the program.

The institution responded appropriately to the recommendations of the consultant's report by demonstrating how the recommendations were accepted and integrated into the proposed program, 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:** Ohio Christian University meets the Chancellor's standards for baccalaureate programs and the review team recommends authorization for the Bachelor of Arts, Practical Leadership program. Authorization will continue through December 31, 2017 to coincide with the university's next institutional reauthorization review with the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents. Authorization is contingent upon the submission of annual progress reports by June 30, 2011, 2012, and 2013, which address any concerns that remain. Authorization will be withdrawn if, in the Chancellor's judgment, such reports do not demonstrate satisfactory progress toward compliance with the Chancellor's standards.

**End of Comment Period: September 22, 2010**  
**No Comments Received, Recommend Approval**

<b>APPROVED</b>	
	
Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor	Date

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