

## BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

### Lindsey Wilson College

Bachelor of Arts in Human Services and Counseling  
Master of Education in Counseling and Human Development

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/RECOMMENDATION

**Lindsey Wilson College meets Ohio Board of Regents' standards for baccalaureate and graduate degree programs. Authorization is recommended through June 30, 2013, to coincide with the institution's next regional accreditation reaffirmation review. Annual progress reports are to be submitted by June 30, 2009, 2010, and 2011.**

**Profile and Mission:** Lindsey Wilson College, located in Columbia, Kentucky, is a private, co-educational college affiliated with the United Methodist Church. The institution, which offers degrees through the master's level, serves nearly 2,000 students through seated and distance education programs.

The mission of Lindsey Wilson College is "to serve the educational needs of students by providing a living-learning environment within an atmosphere of active caring and Christian concern where every student, every day, learns and grows and feels like a real human being."

**Accreditation/Authorization:** Lindsey Wilson College is regionally accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools through 2013. The college also possesses specialized accreditation for the proposed programs by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs. This is the institution's first request for Ohio Board of Regents' authorization.

**Program Information:** The purpose of the Bachelor of Arts in Human Services and Counseling program is to "serve individuals and communities with needs for higher education opportunities and for increased numbers of trained professionals to deliver human services/counseling services." The 128 credit-hour program was developed to align with the standards of the Council for Standards in Human Services Education. The program includes a capstone project, career portfolio, field experience, and end-of-program comprehensive exam.

The purpose of the Master in Education program in Counseling and Human Development is "to prepare students with knowledge and skills basic to mental health counseling." The 60 credit-hour program was developed to align with the standards of the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Programs. The program includes a capstone project, professional counseling portfolio, field experience, thesis option, and end-of-program comprehensive exam. Upon completion of the program, students should be prepared to sit for licensure through the State of Ohio Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage and Family Therapist Board.

The proposed programs will be offered at Cincinnati State Technical and Community College and Southern State Community College. Lindsey Wilson College has entered into agreements with both institutions whereby student services will be provided by all parties. In addition, students may complete the required general education coursework for the baccalaureate degree at either community college.

**Review Results:** The review team was impressed with the college's commitment to serving Appalachian students. In addition, the team noted strengths in the programs' alignment to specialized accreditation standards, and faculty identified to teach in the programs.

The team requested additional information about the library services to be provided at Cincinnati State and Southern State, admissions policies and processes, and program assessment. The college responded appropriately to the team's findings by providing a revised plan to provide library services to both sites. In addition, the college informed the team of ongoing admissions and assessment initiatives that will be implemented in spring 2009. The college will keep the team and Regents' staff updated on the progress of these initiatives through the submission of annual progress reports.

**Recommendation to the Chancellor:** Lindsey Wilson College meets Ohio Board of Regents' standards for baccalaureate and graduate degree programs. Authorization is recommended through June 30, 2013, to coincide with the institution's next regional accreditation reaffirmation review. Annual progress reports are to be submitted by June 30, 2009, 2010, and 2011.