

BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

Strayer University

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

Strayer University meets the Chancellor's standards, and the review team recommends provisional authorization for the proposed degree programs. Provisional authorization will continue through December 31, 2012, contingent upon continuing accreditation from Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, continuing recognition from the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools, and contingent upon the Chancellor's written approval of progress reports that demonstrate satisfactory progress toward compliance with all standards. The Chancellor shall withdraw provisional authorization if, in the Chancellor's judgment, the progress reports do not demonstrate satisfactory progress in any area. Progress reports are due by June 15, 2009, July 1, 2010, and July 1, 2011. A follow-up review will be performed prior to December 31, 2012 to determine continued authorization of the programs.

Profile: Strayer University is a co-educational, for-profit institution incorporated in the state of Maryland, with its corporate headquarters in Arlington, Virginia. Strayer was founded in 1892 as Strayer Business College of Baltimore City; today Strayer serves approximately 38,000 students on over 60 campuses. The university offers associate's, bachelor's, master's and graduate certificate programs in business and business-related areas. The mission of the institution is to provide high quality, post-secondary education that is accessible to adults of diverse backgrounds and that enables them to succeed in their careers and communities.

Accreditation/Authorization: Strayer University is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and is recognized by the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools (SBCCS). This is the school's first request to the Chancellor.

Program Information: Strayer University is seeking authorization for the following programs:

- Associate of Applied Business in Accounting
- Associate of Applied Business in Information Systems
- Bachelor of Business Administration
- Bachelor of Science in Accounting
- Bachelor of Science in International Business
- Bachelor of Science in Economics
- Bachelor of Science in Information Systems
- Master of Science in Accounting
- Master of Science in Information Systems
- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Public Administration
- Master of Health Services Administration
- Executive Graduate Certificate in Accounting
- Executive Graduate Certificate in Information Systems

The university is seeking authorization to offer these programs on four campuses in Ohio, beginning in July of 2009, and on two additional campuses that will be opening in 2010.

Review Results: The external review team noted numerous strengths during the review, including: the university's strong financial position; experienced university leaders; state-of-the art distance education; the institution's commitment to diversity among the student body and its faculty; a restructured and expanded Office of Institutional Research, an impressive Department of New Campus Openings that uses effective and efficient procedures; and the university's obvious commitment to its stated core values of academic quality, student success, and educational access.

The team also noted some areas of non compliance with the Chancellor's standards and recommended that the institution: study the need to expand career services for its students; continue the development of sustainable assessment and evaluation processes; hire qualified librarians to serve as LRC managers; revise the general education curriculum so that it is consistent with state standards for baccalaureate programs; and improve the credentials of full-time and part-time faculty members in the general education and technical areas to meet the Chancellor's faculty standards.

The institution responded appropriately to the recommendations of the consultants' report by demonstrating how the recommendations were accepted and integrated into the proposed programs, 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: Strayer University meets the Chancellor's standards, and the review team recommends provisional authorization for the proposed degree programs. Provisional authorization will continue through December 31, 2012, contingent upon continuing accreditation from Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, continuing recognition from the SBCCS, and contingent upon the Chancellor's written approval of progress reports that demonstrate satisfactory progress toward compliance with all standards. The Chancellor shall withdraw provisional accreditation if, in the Chancellor's judgment, progress reports do not demonstrate satisfactory progress toward compliance with standards in any area. Progress reports, reviewed at the university's expense, are due by June 15, 2009, July 1, 2010, and July 1, 2011. A follow-up review will be performed, at the University's expense, prior to December 31, 2012 to determine continued authorization of the programs.