

## **REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION**

### **YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY** Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene

#### **Request:**

Youngstown State University requests approval to offer the Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene.

#### **Background:**

Youngstown State University (YSU) is a public institution located in Youngstown, Ohio with an enrollment of nearly 15,000. The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools accredits Youngstown State University until its next review in 2018. The proposed degree program will be housed in the Bitonte College of Health and Human Services, Department of Health Professions.

The Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene is designed to prepare students for employment as dental hygienists, for public health related careers or for graduate study. A master's degree is required as preparation for leadership positions in dental hygiene programs and as university faculty. YSU currently has an associate level dental hygiene degree, established in 1976 and continuously accredited by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA). The proposed baccalaureate degree program will seek accreditation following the graduation of its first cohort of students. The associate level degree will be phased-out and students advised to pursue the baccalaureate degree. The Ohio State University is the only other institution in the state with a bachelor's level program.

#### **Curriculum and Enrollment:**

The program comprises 124 semester credit hours in science, mathematics and dental hygiene courses focusing on the knowledge and clinical skill development required to meet the standards of the Commission on Dental Accreditation. Youngstown State University anticipates 24 new enrollments annually.

#### **Faculty and Resources:**

Current faculty members are sufficient to meet most of the needs of the program. A full-time faculty member and additional part-time faculty member will be hired in the first year of the program to teach the additional classes, laboratories and clinics. Additional facilities will be required to accommodate the program. YSU has budgeted for these resource needs.

#### **Recommendation:**

This program meets the Chancellor's standards for baccalaureate degrees and approval is recommended.