

## BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

### Ohio Institute of Photography and Technology

#### RECOMMENDATION

Ohio Institute of Photography and Technology meets the Chancellor's minimum standards for applied associate degree programs. Provisional authorization is recommended for the associate of applied business degree program in criminal justice and for the associate of applied science degrees in graphic design, photographic technology, and medical office management. Provisional authorization will continue through December 31, 2012, contingent upon continuing accreditation from the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges of Technology and continuing recognition from the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools. Provisional authorization is also 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, the progress reports do not demonstrate satisfactory progress in any area. Progress reports are due by May 15, 2009, April 1, 2010, and April 1, 2011. A follow-up review will be performed prior to December 31, 2012 to determine continued authorization of the programs.

**Profile:** Ohio Institute of Photography and Technology (OIP&T) is a for-profit, co-educational career college that began operation in 1971, having been founded by a group of professional photographers in Dayton, Ohio. Since 2000, the college has been a subsidiary of the Kaplan Higher Education Corporation and currently offers applied associate degree and diploma programs to almost 600 students. OIP&T's mission is to serve as "an institution of higher education dedicated to providing quality programs that integrate the curriculum with professional skill development, empowering students to achieve their lifelong personal and professional goals."

**Accreditation/Authorization:** OIP&T is accredited by the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges of Technology (ACCSCT) and is recognized by the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools (SBCCS). This is the college's first request to the Chancellor and the request is in response to HB 119 of the 127<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, which requires the Chancellor's authorization for associate degree programs in proprietary colleges and schools as a condition of their students' eligibility for OIG/OCOG funds, a state needs-based financial aid program.

**Program Information:** OIP&T is seeking authorization for the following programs:

Associate of Applied Business in Criminal Justice  
Associate of Applied Science in Graphic Design  
Associate of Applied Science in Photographic Technology  
Associate of Applied Science in Medical Office Management

Each program requires at least 90 quarter hours for completion and includes course work in general education, applied general education and the technical/occupational area.

**Review Results:** The external review team noted the following strengths during the review: effective campus leadership; the regular use of program advisory boards; a focus on student success; the contractual arrangement with the University of Alabama at Huntsville library, which provides OIP&T students with access to Huntsville's print and electronic resources; the experience of technical faculty members; and the institution's emphasis on ethics, accountability and professionalism

The team also noted several areas of non compliance with the Chancellor's standards and recommended that the institution: assess incoming students so that those not ready for college-level work are placed in developmental courses; develop and implement a general education assessment plan; develop a strategy that would limit the over reliance on hiring OIP&T graduates for faculty positions; and improve the credentials of faculty members in the general education area 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:** OIP&T meets the Chancellor's minimum standards for applied associate degree programs. The review team recommends provisional authorization for the associate of applied business degree program in criminal justice and for the associate of applied science degrees in graphic design, photographic technology, and medical office management. Provisional authorization will continue through December 31, 2012, contingent upon continuing accreditation from ACCSCT and 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 the Chancellor's standards in any area. Progress reports, reviewed at the college's expense, are due by May 15, 2009, April 1, 2010, and April 1, 2011. A follow-up review will be performed, at the School's expense, prior to December 31, 2012 to determine continued authorization of the programs.