BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

Sinclair Community College

Recommendation

This program clearly meets the Chancellor’s standards for associate degree programs. There were no serious concerns raised in the review.

Request: Sinclair Community College proposes an Associate of Applied Science degree in Exercise Science in response to the growing need for personal fitness and exercise trainers.

Purpose/Mission: The purpose of Sinclair Community College is to “help individuals turn dreams into achievable goals through accessible, high quality, affordable learning opportunities.”

Enrollment: The college is projecting an enrollment of twenty full-time and ten part-time students beginning January 2011, and anticipates enrollment will grow to twenty-four full-time and twelve part-time students by January 2012.

The Tech Prep Exercise Science pathway offered at regional high schools will attract students to the program. The college has established articulation agreements with the University of Dayton, Wright State University, Miami University and Urbana University, providing students opportunities to pursue baccalaureate degrees. Additionally, the college is in the process of developing a dual-admission program with the University of Dayton.

Curriculum: The curriculum builds on the college’s existing Exercise Specialist certificate program and will prepare students to work at commercial fitness centers, YMCA & YWCA Centers, recreation and activity centers, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, and in worksite health promotion programs. Graduates of the program are eligible to sit for the American College of Sports Medicine Health/Fitness Specialist Certificate exam and will find employment opportunities with starting salaries ranging from $32,000 to $44,400 annually.

Faculty/Resource Needs: The college is financially prepared to offer the program and plans to use existing faculty to teach in the program.

Program Duplication: The program is not offered at any other two-year public institution within a thirty-mile radius of the college. The college is willing to collaborate and share best practices with other institutions interested in developing this or similar programs.