

## NEW UNITS OF INSTRUCTION AT PUBLIC COMMUNITY COLLEGES

**Submitted for:** Action.

**Summary:** This item requests approval of 13 new associate degree programs to be offered at 11 community colleges.

**Action Requested:** That the Illinois Board of Higher Education approves the following programs at the colleges indicated:

Black Hawk College

- Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) Apprenticeship Construction Laborer

Elgin Community College

- Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Histotechnology

Highland Community College

- Associate of Arts in Teaching (A.A.T.) in Special Education (Statewide Model Curriculum)
- Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) Medical Assistant

John A. Logan College

- Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Fire Science

Kennedy-King College

- Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) Registered Nurse Completion

Lewis & Clark Community College

- Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Water Quality/Wastewater Treatment Technology

Morton College

- Associate of Arts in Teaching (A.A.T.) in Early Childhood Education, Statewide Model Curriculum

Rock Valley Community College

- Associate of Arts in Teaching (A.A.T.) in Secondary Mathematics (Statewide Model Curriculum)

South Suburban College of Cook County

- Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Forensic Science Technology
- Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Graphic Design

Southwestern Illinois College

- Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Massage Therapy

Wilber Wright College

- Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) Registered Nurse Completion

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**NEW UNITS OF INSTRUCTION AT PUBLIC COMMUNITY COLLEGES**

By statute, the Illinois Board of Higher Education is responsible for approving new associate degree programs proposed by public community colleges. The Board's approval criteria, defined in administrative rules, address relevance to college mission, academic control, faculty and staff, support services, financial resources, student demand, employer demand, curriculum, and congruence with IBHE policies and priorities. Before a recommendation for approval of an associate degree program is submitted to the IBHE for approval, staffs of the IBHE and the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) review the proposal. Once agreement is reached on a proposal having met the approval criteria, a recommendation for approval is presented to each board.

**Black Hawk College**  
**6600 – 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue**  
**Moline, Illinois 61265-5899**  
**President: Dr. Gene Gardner**

**Proposed Program Title:** Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) Apprenticeship Construction Laborer

*Projected Enrollments:* The College projects enrollments of 30 full-time students per year in the first three years.

Black Hawk College is seeking approval to offer a 60-semester-credit-hour Associate in Applied Science Apprenticeship Construction Laborer degree. This program will prepare individuals for employment as journey-level construction laborers in highway construction, building construction, and environmental remediation. This program, and a related certificate program, was developed in partnership with the Illinois Laborer's Contractor's Construction Craft Laborer Apprenticeship & Training Program and meets the guidelines for construction laborers as established by the U.S. Department of Labor-Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training National Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee. The curriculum includes a 15-semester-hour general education component, 45 semester credit hours of required career and technical education coursework in construction blueprint reading, construction surveying, bridge construction, asphalt technology and construction, asbestos abatement, concrete practices and procedures, mason tending, pipelaying, landscaping, hazardous waste training, and over 3,200 hours of on-the-job training. Assessment of student learning objectives will be accomplished through an evaluation of the student's performance during the work-based learning component of the curriculum.

Labor market information supports interest in and the need for a formalized training program for construction laborer apprentices within the College's district. The College has worked closely with local union representatives to identify a training program that will help provide a better educated workforce in this labor field. The certificate and degree program will

share faculty, including nine existing full-time and three existing part-time faculty, all currently employed by the local Laborer's Contractor's Training Center. Because all facilities, equipment, and instructional resources will be supplied by the local center, no new costs are anticipated to implement this program during the first three years.

**Staff Conclusion.** Black Hawk College and its proposed program meet the criteria to implement the Board of Higher Education Act (110 ILCS 205/et.seq.) as set forth in 23 Illinois Administrative Code, Ch. II, Section 1050.30, and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.

**Elgin Community College**  
**1700 Spartan Drive**  
**Elgin, Illinois 60123-7193**  
**President: Dr. David Sam**

**Proposed Program Title:** Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Histotechnology

*Projected Enrollments:* The College anticipates a combined enrollment of 10 full-time and five part-time students per year during the first three years of the program.

Elgin Community College is seeking approval to offer a 60-semester-credit-hour Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Histotechnology degree. This program will prepare individuals for employment as medical/clinical laboratory technicians that prime sections of body tissue for examination by medical/clinical pathologists. The proposed program, and a related certificate program, meets the standards outlined for program accreditation through the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS) and will prepare graduates for optional certification as a Histotechnician through the American Society of Clinical Pathology (ASCP). The curriculum includes 19 semester credit hours of required general education coursework and 41 semester credit hours of career and technical education coursework. The career and technical component includes instruction in introductory healthcare terminology, human anatomy and physiology, microbiology, general and organic chemistry, introductory and intermediate levels of histotechnology, introductory and intermediate levels of embedding and cutting, special stains, and a required work-based learning experience in histotechnology. Assessment of student learning objectives will be achieved through a comprehensive certification exam review including both written and practical application and evaluation.

Labor market information supports interest in and the need for a two-year degree program in medical/clinical laboratory technology. Employment of medical and clinical lab technicians is expected to grow faster than the average growth for all occupations statewide through 2014, according to the Illinois Department of Employment Security. One existing full-time faculty and two existing part-time faculty will be required the first year of the program. All faculty are currently in place through existing programs in related allied health programs and hold the required credential, ASCP Certified Histotechnician, for instruction in an accredited program. Costs of implementing this program will be approximately \$75,000 the first year, \$39,974 the second year, and \$41,513 the third year. These costs include partial updates to existing facilities and the purchase of related supplies.

**Staff Conclusion.** Elgin Community College and its proposed program meet the criteria to implement the Board of Higher Education Act (110 ILCS 205/et.seq.) as set forth in 23 Illinois

Administrative Code, Ch. II, Section 1050.30, and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.

**Highland Community College**  
**2998 West Pearl City Road**  
**Freeport, Illinois 61032-9341**  
**President: Dr. Joe Kanosky**

**Proposed Program Title:** Associate of Arts in Teaching (A.A.T.) in Special Education, Statewide Model Curriculum

*Projected Enrollments:* The College projects enrollments of 10 full-time students in the proposed program.

The Associate of Arts in Teaching (A.A.T.) in Special Education, Statewide Curriculum Model at Highland Community College is comprised of 63 semester hour credits in general education and professional education/major area coursework. To obtain the A.A.T. in Special Education, students must complete 45 semester hours in general education coursework consisting of composition/speech, mathematics, physical/life sciences, humanities/fine arts, and social/behavioral science. Eighteen hours of professional education/major area coursework include: The American Public School, Educational Technology, Introduction to Special Education, Human Growth & Development, Educational Psychology and one course chosen from Language and Literacy Development in Early Childhood or Diversity in Schools and Society. The College's proposal meets the model guidelines endorsed by the Illinois Community College Board and the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

**Proposed Program Title:** Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) Medical Assistant

*Projected Enrollments:* The College anticipates an enrollment of 10 full-time and five part-time students the first year, increasing to 20 full-time and five part-time students by the third year.

Highland Community College is seeking approval to offer a 64-semester-credit-hour Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) Medical Assistant degree. This program will prepare individuals for employment as medical assistants in a variety of health service settings. The curriculum was developed according to standards established by the Commission of Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) for medical assistant training programs and will prepare individuals for optional credentialing as a Certified Medical Assistant (CMA) through the American Association of Medical Assistants (AAMA). The curriculum consists of 16 semester credit hours of required general education coursework and 48 semester credit hours of required career and technical education coursework. The career and technical component includes instruction in introductory, intermediate, and advanced levels of medical terminology, medical coding, medical office procedures, introductory and advanced levels of medical assistant clinical procedures, pharmacology, legal and ethical issues of health care, and a required work-based learning experience as a medical assistant. Assessment of student learning objectives will be achieved through a comprehensive final exam covering all components outlined in the AAMA-CMA certification exam, as well as evaluation of the student's performance during the work-based learning component of the program.

Labor market information supports interest in and the need for a two-year degree

program for medical assistants within the College's district. Currently there is no mechanism for formalized education and training in this field of study available in the district. The program was developed in collaboration with Freeport Health Network, a local healthcare provider, who will provide program support and clinical sites for the work-based learning courses. According to the Illinois Department of Employment Security, demand for medical assistants is expected to increase at a rate nearly four times the demand for all occupations statewide through 2014. The program will require one new part-time and one existing full-time faculty the first year, increasing over the three year period to meet enrollment demands. Costs of implementing this program will be approximately \$30,000 the first year, \$60,000 the second year, and \$70,000 the third year.

**Staff Conclusion.** Highland Community College and its proposed programs meet the criteria to implement the Board of Higher Education Act (110 ILCS 205/et.seq.) as set forth in 23 Illinois Administrative Code, Ch. II, Section 1050.30, and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.

**John A. Logan College**  
**700 Logan College Road**  
**Carterville, Illinois 62918-9599**  
**President: Dr. Robert L. Mees**

**Proposed Program Title:** Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Fire Science

*Projected Enrollments:* The College anticipates an enrollment of 15 part-time students the first year.

John A. Logan College is seeking approval to offer a 70-semester-credit-hour Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Fire Science degree program. This program will prepare individuals for entry-level employment as firefighters. The curriculum consists of 30 semester credit hours of required general education coursework and 40 semester credit hours of required career and technical education coursework. The career and technical component includes instruction in Firefighter skills IIA, IIB, IIC, III, Firefighter Instructor, Firefighter Management I and II, Fire Apparatus Engineer, fire prevention principles, tactical strategies, hazardous materials awareness, and operations. Assessment of student learning will be achieved through evaluation of the student's performance during practical performance examinations. The curriculum meets the requirements for firefighter certification through the Illinois State Fire Marshall's Office at the Firefighter II, Firefighter III, and Fire Officer I training levels. Upon receipt of all appropriate state level approvals, the College plans to seek optional program accreditation through the International Fire Science Accreditation Congress (IFSAC). This associate degree program is also designed for articulation with Southern Illinois University at Carbondale's Bachelor of Arts in Fire Science capstone degree program.

Labor market information supports interest in and the need for a formalized educational program for new and existing firefighters within the College's district. Statewide the demand for firefighters is expected to increase faster than the average for all occupations through 2014, according to the Illinois Department of Employment Security. The College will utilize instructors, equipment, and facilities available through the Illinois State Fire Marshall's Office for this program. Costs for implementing this program will be approximately \$16,000 the first year, \$11,000 the second year, and \$9,000 the third year.

**Staff Conclusion.** John A. Logan College and its proposed program meet the criteria to implement the Board of Higher Education Act (110 ILCS 205/et.seq.) as set forth in 23 Illinois Administrative Code, Ch. II, Section 1050.30, and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.

**Kennedy-King College**  
**6800 South Wentworth Avenue**  
**Chicago, Illinois 60621-3799**  
**President: Clyde El-Amin**

**Proposed Program Title:** Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Registered Nurse Completion

*Projected Enrollments:* The College anticipates an enrollment of 30 students the first year, increasing to 40 students by the third year.

Kennedy-King College is seeking approval to offer a 70-semester-credit-hour Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) Registered Nurse Completion degree program. This program will prepare individuals for employment as Registered Nurses (RNs). The proposed program targets graduates of the College's existing Practical Nursing (LPN) program, as well as current LPNs, looking for an educational ladder opportunity into registered nursing. The curriculum includes 34 semester credit hours of required general education coursework and 36 semester credit hours of required career and technical education coursework. The career and technical component includes instruction in mental health and medical-surgical nursing, obstetrical nursing, pediatrics, gerontology, advanced medical-surgical nursing, nursing roles in various healthcare settings, legal and ethical considerations, community nursing, emergency response, and workplace communication in addition to required clinical and practical learning experiences.

Students who have completed the College's existing practical nursing program will receive credit towards completion of the first year of the proposed degree, upon gaining their practical nursing license. Assessment of student learning objectives will be achieved through the evaluation of students' performance on the Health Education Systems, Inc. (HESI) pre-test for associate degree nurses. The curriculum was developed according to standards set by the Illinois Department of Finance and Professional Regulation-Board of Nursing (IDFPR-BON) for Registered Nursing programs and will prepare graduates for the National Council Licensure Exam for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). Registration through IDFPR is required for entry-level employment as a registered nurse in Illinois. The Board of Nursing is awaiting all state-level approvals before making its final recommendation on this curriculum.

Labor market information indicates an urgent need for additional registered nurses within the City of Chicago. Labor market data issued by the Illinois Department of Employment Security supports the need for the proposed program illustrating a strong and continued demand for registered nurses both locally and statewide through 2014. College-collected survey data also supports that existing LPNs and recent practical nursing program graduates are seeking more accessible methods of continuing their education, while being able to maintain full-time employment. This program provides those students with an alternative through flexible formatting and course scheduling, integrated academics, and contextualized learning. Furthermore, the College has agreements in place with several baccalaureate institutions, including St. Xavier, the University of Illinois at Chicago, and Chicago State University, for articulation of this program towards their Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degrees.

All existing facilities are adequate and one new full-time faculty member will be required during the first year with additional faculty being added in subsequent years to meet program accreditation requirements. All current faculty meet the requirements for nursing education program instructors as outlined by IDFPR-BON. Total costs are estimated at \$422,000 the first year, \$442,000 the second year, and \$463,000 the third year. These cost estimates include faculty and administrative salaries, the purchase of additional supplies, and library materials.

**Staff Conclusion.** Kennedy-King College and its proposed program meet the criteria to implement the Board of Higher Education Act (110 ILCS 205/et.seq.) as set forth in 23 Illinois Administrative Code, Ch. II, Section 1050.30, and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.

**Lewis & Clark Community College**  
**5800 Godfrey Road**  
**Godfrey, Illinois 62035-2466**  
**President: Dr. Dale T. Chapman**

**Proposed Program Title:** Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Water Quality/Wastewater Treatment Technology

*Projected Enrollments:* The College anticipates an enrollment of 15 full-time and 12 part-time students the first year, increasing to 20 full-time and 15 part-time students by the third year.

Lewis & Clark Community College is seeking approval to offer a 63-semester-credit-hour Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Water Quality/Wastewater Treatment Technology. This program will prepare individuals for employment as water and wastewater treatment technicians. The curriculum consists of 18 semester credit hours of required general education coursework, twelve semester credit hours of required foundational coursework in business/management, and 33 semester credit hours of career and technical education coursework. The career and technical component includes instruction in introductory and intermediate wastewater operations, introductory and intermediate water quality lab, introductory and intermediate water supply operations, water quality communications, mechanical maintenance, electrical/instrumentation maintenance, system maintenance, and a work-based learning experience in water treatment technology. Assessment of student learning objectives will be achieved through evaluation of the student's performance during the laboratory and work-based learning experiences. The curriculum was developed according to guidelines established by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) for certification as entry-level public water supply operations and/or wastewater treatment system operators.

Labor market information supports interest in and the need for a formalized training program in this field of study. The College currently offers related training to non-credit students. These students have indicated a strong interest in a more extensive credit program. Additionally, the Illinois Department of Employment Security indicates a significant growth in the demand for water and wastewater treatment operators and technicians both within the College's district and statewide through 2014. Furthermore, there are only three other colleges across the state offering short-term certificate programs in this area. The program degree would offer potential educational ladder opportunities for graduates of those programs. The College plans to utilize equipment and facilities of the Environmental Resource Training Center (ERTC) housed locally through Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville for the proposed program.



Five existing full-time and two existing part-time faculty will be required and no new costs are associated with the implementation of the proposed program.

**Staff Conclusion.** Lewis & Clark Community College and its proposed program meet the criteria to implement the Board of Higher Education Act (110 ILCS 205/et.seq.) as set forth in 23 Illinois Administrative Code, Ch. II, Section 1050.30, and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.

**Morton College**  
**3801 South Central Avenue**  
**Cicero, Illinois 60804**  
**President: Dr. Leslie Navarro**

**Proposed Program Title:** Associate of Arts in Teaching (A.A.T.) in Early Childhood Education, Statewide Model Curriculum

*Projected Enrollments:* The College projects an annual enrollment of 30 full-time students in the proposed program.

The Associate of Arts in Teaching (A.A.T.) in Early Childhood Education curriculum consists of 64 semester hours in general education, professional education, and major area requirements. To acquire the A.A.T. degree in Early Childhood Education, students must complete 42 semester hours in general education courses in composition/speech, mathematics, physical/life sciences, humanities/fine arts, and social/behavioral sciences. Professional education coursework consists of 7 semester hours that includes Introduction to Education, Early Childhood Growth & Development, and Educational Technology. Fifteen semester hours in major area courses include: Introduction to Early Childhood Education, Family, School and Community, Observation and Assessment of Children, Health, Safety and Nutrition for Children, and Curriculum Planning for Children. Morton College's proposal meets the model guidelines endorsed by the Illinois Community College Board and the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

**Staff Conclusion:** Morton College and its proposed program meet the criteria to implement the Board of Higher Education Act (110 ILCS 205/et.seq.) as set forth in 23 Illinois Administrative Code, Ch. II, Section 1050.30, and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.

**Rock Valley Community College**  
**3301 North Mulford Road**  
**Rockford, IL 61114-5699**  
**President: Jack J. Becherer**

**Proposed program title:** Associate of Arts in Teaching (A.A.T.) in Secondary Mathematics, Statewide Model Curriculum

*Projected Enrollments:* The College projects enrollments of 5-10 full-time students each year in the proposed program.

Rock Valley Community College has submitted a proposal to offer a 64-semester-credit-hour Associate of Arts in Teaching (A.A.T.) in Secondary Mathematics, Statewide Model

Curriculum. To acquire the A.A.T. degree in Secondary Mathematics, students must complete 40 credits of general education courses in composition/speech, mathematics, physical/life sciences, humanities/fine arts, and social/behavioral science. Professional education/major area coursework consists of 9 semester hours and includes: Introduction to Education (required) and two courses selected from Introduction to Technology for Teachers, Students with Disabilities in Schools, or Educational Psychology. Mathematics major courses total 11 semester credit hours and include: Calculus and Analytic Geometry II, Calculus and Analytic Geometry III, and Linear Algebra. Four semester credit hours in technology will be chosen from Introduction to C/C++ Programming or The Computer in Mathematics-C/C++. The College's proposal meets the model guidelines endorsed by the Illinois Community College Board and the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

**Staff Conclusion:** Rock Valley Community College and its proposed program meet the criteria to implement the Board of Higher Education Act (110 ILCS 205/et.seq.) as set forth in 23 Illinois Administrative Code, Ch. II, Section 1050.30, and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.

**South Suburban College of Cook County**  
**15800 South State Street**  
**South Holland, Illinois 60473-1262**  
**President: George Dammer**

**Proposed Program Title:** Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Forensic Science Technology

*Projected Enrollments:* The College anticipates an enrollment of 15 full-time and 20 part-time students the first year.

South Suburban College of Cook County is seeking approval to offer a 65-semester-credit-hour Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Forensic Science Technology. This program will prepare individuals for entry-level employment as forensic technicians in laboratories associated with state and local law enforcement, insurance companies, and independent providers of forensics services. The curriculum consists of 16 semester credit hours of required general education coursework and 49 semester credit hours of career and technical education coursework. The career and technical component includes instruction in introduction to criminal justice, criminology, evidence and criminal procedure, forensic science, forensic photography, forensic death investigation, forensic DNA, chemistry, biology, biochemistry, and a required work-based learning experience in forensic science. Assessment of student learning objectives will be achieved through evaluation of the student's portfolio containing artifacts of their educational performance.

Labor market information supports interest in and the need for a two-year degree program in this field of study. According to the Illinois Department of Employment Security, demand for employment of forensic science technicians is nearly three times the demand for all occupational employment in Illinois through 2014. The program will require one new part-time faculty member to coordinate the program the first year. Existing faculty will be utilized to deliver courses already in place as well as those developed specifically for the proposed program. Facilities and equipment needs will be shared with existing programs, however new reagents and forensic supplies will be purchased. Costs of implementing this program will be approximately \$10,000 the first year, \$5,500 the second year, and \$6,000 the third year.

**Proposed Program Title:** Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Graphic Design

*Projected Enrollments:* The College anticipates an enrollment of three full-time and three part-time students the first year, increasing to 10 full-time and 10 part-time students by the third year.

South Suburban College of Cook County is seeking approval to offer a 60-semester-credit-hour Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Graphic Design. This program will prepare individuals for entry-level employment as general graphic designers, web designers, multimedia designers, and illustration production technicians/assistants. The curriculum consists of 15 semester credit hours of required general education coursework and 45 semester credit hours of career and technical education coursework. The career and technical component includes instruction in introductory and intermediate drawing, two-dimensional design, introductory and intermediate computer art, computer animation, web design, and introductory and intermediate graphic design, color theory, multimedia production, introductory photography, entrepreneurial skills and advertising, in addition to a required work-based learning experience in graphic design. Graduates of this program will be prepared for optional certification through Certipoint, Inc., an independent provider of IT-related testing services and certifications, for Adobe Creative Suite software. Assessment of student learning objectives will be achieved through the evaluation of a student portfolio containing artifacts of their educational accomplishments, evaluation of a professional portfolio, and observation during their internship.

Labor market information supports interest in and the need for a two-year educational program in graphic design. According to the Illinois Department of Employment Security the demand for graphic designers is expected to increase about as fast as the employment demand for all occupations within the College's district through the year 2014. One existing full-time faculty member will be required during the first year. No new costs will be incurred for program implementation, all equipment needs are currently in place, and existing facilities are adequate for this program.

**Staff Conclusion.** South Suburban College and its proposed programs meet the criteria to implement the Board of Higher Education Act (110 ILCS 205/et.seq.) as set forth in 23 Illinois Administrative Code, Ch. II, Section 1050.30, and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.

**Southwestern Illinois College**  
**2500 Carlyle Road**  
**Belleville, Illinois 62221-5899**  
**President: Dr. Georgia Costello**

**Proposed Program Title:** Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Massage Therapy

*Projected Enrollments:* The College anticipates an enrollment of 70 full-time students and 25 part-time students the first year, increasing to 70 full-time and 40 part-time students by the third year.

Southwestern Illinois College is seeking approval to offer a 71-semester-credit-hour Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Massage Therapy. This program will prepare individuals for employment as massage therapists. The proposed degree program will provide an educational ladder opportunity for students completing the College's existing 36-semester-credit-

hour Massage Therapy Certificate program. The proposed degree curriculum consists of 21 semester credit hours of required general education coursework and 50 semester credit hours of required career and technical education coursework. The career and technical component includes instruction in introductory and intermediate therapeutic massage, introductory and intermediate body structure and function, complimentary techniques, movement and massage, orthopedic massage, biodynamic craniosacral therapy, massage therapy for the glenohumeral joint, pathology for the massage therapist, massage therapy for the in-patient, self-care for the massage therapist, business practices in massage therapy, professional ethics, and a required work-based learning experience in massage therapy. Assessment of student learning objectives will be achieved through a comprehensive final examination and evaluation of the student's performance by program staff during their clinical practice assignment. The proposed degree curriculum has been developed according to guidelines established by the Commission on Massage Therapy Accreditation (COMTA) and will prepare individuals for required licensure through the Illinois Department of Finance and Professional Regulation, as well as for optional certification through the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (NCBTMB). While program accreditation is optional, the College plans to seek accreditation for this program upon receipt of all appropriate state level approvals.

Labor market information supports interest in and the need for an associate degree-level program in massage therapy. Local and statewide employment of massage therapists is anticipated to grow faster than the average growth for all occupations through 2014, according to the Illinois Department of Employment Security. The College has graduated 75 students in the existing certificate over the last five years of operation. Some 85% of these graduates have indicated interest in seeking further education. Furthermore, the proposed degree would provide individuals with advanced-practice education and skills that would prepare existing massage therapists and allied health professionals who have completed a certificate-level program with advancement opportunities. Seven existing faculty will be utilized for the proposed program, all licensed massage therapy instructors. Existing facilities and equipment are adequate and no new costs will be incurred to implement the program.

**Staff Conclusion.** Southwestern Illinois College and its proposed program meet the criteria to implement the Board of Higher Education Act (110 ILCS 205/et.seq.) as set forth in 23 Illinois Administrative Code, Ch. II, Section 1050.30, and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.

**Wilbur Wright College**  
**4300 North Narragansett**  
**Chicago, Illinois 60634-1591**  
**President: Dr. Charles Guengerich**

**Proposed Program Title:** Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) Registered Nurse Completion

*Projected Enrollments:* The College anticipates an enrollment of 30 students the first year, increasing to 40 students by the third year.

Wilbur Wright College is seeking approval to offer a 70-semester-credit-hour Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) Registered Nurse Completion degree program. This program will prepare individuals for employment as Registered Nurses (RNs). The proposed program targets graduates of the College's existing Practical Nursing (LPN) program, as well as current LPNs, looking for an educational ladder opportunity into registered nursing. The curriculum includes 34

semester credit hours of required general education coursework and 36 semester credit hours of required career and technical education coursework. The career and technical component includes instruction in mental health and medical-surgical nursing, obstetrical nursing, pediatrics, gerontology, advanced medical-surgical nursing, nursing roles in various healthcare settings, legal and ethical considerations, community nursing, emergency response, and workplace communication in addition to required clinical and practical learning experiences.

Students who have completed the College's existing practical nursing program will receive credit towards completion of the first year of the proposed degree, upon gaining their practical nursing license. Assessment of student learning objectives will be achieved through the evaluation of students' performance on the Health Education Systems, Inc. (HESI) pre-test for associate degree nurses. The curriculum was developed according to standards set by the Illinois Department of Finance and Professional Regulation-Board of Nursing (IDFPR-BON) for Registered Nursing programs and will prepare graduates for the National Council Licensure Exam for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). Registration through IDFPR is required for entry-level employment as a registered nurse in Illinois. The Board of Nursing is awaiting all state-level approvals before making its final recommendation of approval of this curriculum.

Labor market information indicates an urgent need for additional registered nurses within the City of Chicago. Labor market data issued by the Illinois Department of Employment Security supports the need for the proposed program illustrating a strong and continued demand for registered nurses both locally and statewide through 2014. College-collected survey data also supports that existing LPNs and recent practical nursing program graduates are seeking more accessible methods of continuing their education, while being able to maintain full-time employment. This program provides those students with an alternative through flexible formatting and course scheduling, integrated academics, and contextualized learning. Furthermore, the College has agreements in place with several baccalaureate institutions, including St. Xavier, the University of Illinois at Chicago, and Chicago State University, for articulation of this program towards their Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degrees.

All existing facilities are adequate and one new full-time faculty member will be required during the first year with additional faculty being added in subsequent years to meet program accreditation requirements. All current faculty meet the requirements for nursing education program instructors as outlined by IDFPR-BON. The College anticipates total costs at approximately \$272, 000 the first year, \$280,000 the second year, and \$300,000 the third year. These cost estimates include faculty and administrative salaries, the purchase of additional supplies, and library materials.

**Staff Conclusion.** Wilbur Wright College and its proposed program meet the criteria to implement the Board of Higher Education Act (110 ILCS 205/et.seq.) as set forth in 23 Illinois Administrative Code, Ch. II, Section 1050.30, and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.

The staff recommends that the Illinois Board of Higher Education adopt the following resolutions:

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants authority to Black Hawk College to offer the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Apprenticeship Construction Laborer subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.*

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants authority to Elgin Community College to offer the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Histotechnology subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.*

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants authority to Highland Community College to offer the Associate of Arts in Teaching (A.A.T.) in Special Education and the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) Medical Assistant subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.*

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants authority to John A. Logan College to offer the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Fire Science subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.*

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants authority to Kennedy-King College to offer the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Registered Nurse Completion subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.*

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants authority to Lewis & Clark Community College to offer the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Water Quality/Wastewater Treatment Technology subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.*

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants authority to Morton College to offer the Associate of Arts in Teaching (A.A.T.) in Early Childhood Education subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.*

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants authority to Rock Valley Community College to offer the Associate of Arts in Teaching (A.A.T.) in Secondary Mathematics subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.*

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants authority to South Suburban College of Cook County to offer the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Forensic Science Technology and the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Graphic Design subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.*

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants authority to Southwestern Illinois College to offer the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Massage Therapy subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.*

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants authority to Wilbur Wright College to offer the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Registered Nurse Completion subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.*

