

**NEW OPERATING AND/OR DEGREE-GRANTING AUTHORITY  
FOR INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS**

**Submitted for:** Action.

**Summary:** The Illinois Board of Higher Education has responsibility for administration of "The Private College Act" (110 ILCS 1005) and "The Academic Degree Act" (110 ILCS 1010). Under these statutes, new independent institutions, institutions planning to operate at a new location, including a location outside the higher education region of original operating authority, and out-of-state institutions planning to operate in Illinois for the first time are required to obtain authorization to operate. These institutions also are required to obtain authorization for each new degree program.

**Action Requested:** That the Illinois Board of Higher Education approve the recommendations to grant degree-granting authority and/or operating authority to the following institutions:

**Not-For-Profit:**

McKendree University (Out-of-Region Authority)

- Master of Arts in Education in Higher Education Administrative Services in the Chicago Region

Midwestern University

- Doctor of Dental Medicine in the West Suburban Region

**For-Profit:**

Americare College of Nursing (Operating Authority)

- Associate of Applied Science in Nursing in the North Suburban Region

Argosy University – Chicago Campus

- Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts in the Chicago Region
- Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice in the Chicago Region

Argosy University – Schaumburg Campus

- Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts in the North Suburban Region
- Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice in the North Suburban Region

Chamberlain College of Nursing

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing in the Chicago Region

Flashpoint Academy (Operating Authority)

- Associate of Applied Science in Film and Broadcast in the Chicago Region
- Associate of Applied Science in Game Development in the Chicago Region
- Associate of Applied Science in Recording Arts in the Chicago Region
- Associate of Applied Science in Visual Effects and Animation in the Chicago Region

ITT Technical Institute at Burr Ridge

- Associate of Applied Science in Paralegal Studies in the West Suburban Region

ITT Technical Institute at Mount Prospect

- Associate of Applied Science in Paralegal Studies in the North Suburban Region

ITT Technical Institute at Orland Park

- Associate of Applied Science in Paralegal Studies in the South Metropolitan Region

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**NEW OPERATING AND/OR DEGREE-GRANTING AUTHORITY  
FOR INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS**

The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) has responsibility for administration of "The Private College Act" (110 ILCS 1005) and "The Academic Degree Act" (110 ILCS 1010). Under these statutes, new independent institutions, institutions planning to operate at a new location, including a location outside the higher education region of original operating authority, and out-of-state institutions planning to operate in Illinois for the first time are required to obtain authorization to operate. These institutions also are required to obtain authorization for each new degree program.

Applications for new operating and degree-granting authority submitted by independent Illinois institutions and out-of-state institutions are reviewed by the staff. Recommendations are developed by applying criteria for operating and/or degree-granting authority, which are defined in the rules adopted for administration of the statutes and Board policies on assessment of student learning and specialized accreditation requirements for student licensure. These criteria encompass educational objectives, institution and degree titles, curricula, facilities, faculty and administrator qualifications, student policies, publications, records, compliance with pertinent laws, and fiscal stability. Staff recommendations are based on analyses of application materials, responses to questions, and site visits. Out-of-region sites are defined as sites located within an IBHE approval region other than the region within which an institution's original operating authority was granted. There are ten IBHE approval regions; each is coterminous with one or more community college districts. Approval to operate within a new approval region entitles an institution to operate throughout the region, and not solely at the site at which the institution initially applied.

This item includes recommendations to grant operating and/or degree-granting authority to ten institutions.

**McKendree University**  
**701 College Road**  
**Lebanon, Illinois 62254-1291**  
**President: James M. Dennis**

**Proposed Program Title:** Master of Arts in Education in Higher Education Administrative Services in the Chicago Region (Out-of-Region Authority)

*Projected Enrollments:* McKendree University has a projected enrollment of 20 students in the first year and 60 students in the fifth year.

**Institutional Accreditation:** McKendree University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

### **Background and History**

McKendree University (the University) was founded in 1828 as the Lebanon Seminary. The school opened in two rented sheds with 72 students. In 1830, the name was changed to McKendree College after Bishop William McKendree, the first American-born Bishop of the Methodist Church. The Bishop later deeded 480 acres in Shiloh Valley, Illinois, to support the College. In 1835, the College received one of the first charters to operate as a college by the Illinois legislature. In July 2007, McKendree College officially became McKendree University.

McKendree University requests authorization to grant the Master of Arts (M.A.) in Education in Higher Education Administrative Services in the Chicago Region. Fall 2008 enrollment at the University was reported as 3,257 students.

### **Mission and Objectives**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(1) provides that the objectives of the degree program must be consistent with what the degree program title implies.*

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(2) provides that the requested degree program shall be congruent with the purpose, goals, objectives and mission of the institution.*

The mission of McKendree University is to provide a high quality educational experience to outstanding students. According to the University, students are provided with rigorous, broadly based, liberal arts curricula joined with specialization in a specific discipline. The M.A. in Education in Higher Education in Administrative Services is consistent with the University's emphasis to prepare students for leadership roles in society.

## **Curriculum/Assessment**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(3) provides that the caliber and content of the curriculum shall assure that the stated degree objectives for which the program is offered will be achieved.*

### **Admission**

Admission to graduate programs at McKendree University requires applicants to submit a completed application, official transcripts for each college or university attended, and a current vita or resume. A minimum 3.0 grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale in undergraduate studies is also required. Applicants may be required to participate in a personal interview to assess their readiness for graduate studies. In addition to the graduate program admission requirements, applicants to the proposed M.A. in Education in Higher Education Administrative Services are also required to show evidence of two years of professional work experience, provide three professional references, and a written statement of purpose.

### **Curriculum**

#### **Master of Arts in Education in Higher Education Administrative Services**

The M.A. in Education in Higher Education Administrative Services requires students to complete 36 credits. This program is designed to provide students with knowledge and skill in current strategies for effective administration and business practice in higher education. The program coursework consists of the changing variety and species of higher education, research methods and business process design, management theory and practice, financial management, student development and services, human resources management, integrated data services, issues in student access, enrollment management, funding, power and influence in higher education, and a capstone course.

### **Assessment of Student Learning**

The University has identified the learning outcomes for students in the M.A. in Education in Higher Education Administrative Services. Assessment of student learning will be consistent with the processes in place for other M.A. in Education programs offered by the University. Throughout the program, students develop a professional performance portfolio consisting of capstone projects from each of the courses. The performance portfolio is reviewed by faculty members at three points during the program: at the completion of four courses, eight courses, and at the end of the program. Students are required to pass each portfolio review in order to continue with the program.

### **Program Assessment**

McKendree University has an identified plan to review program requirements and outcomes at the University. Institutional assessment is conducted through the Chair of the School of Education and Director of Graduate Education.

### **Facilities (space, equipment, instructional materials)**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(4) provides that the institution shall have adequate and suitable space, equipment and instructional materials to provide education of suitable quality.*

The University plans to rent two classrooms in the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago to deliver the proposed program. This location provides instructional space that is equipped with an instructor computer and audiovisual equipment enabling the use of multimedia resources and access to the Internet. The University's Holman Library (the Library) currently provides information services to off-site cohort degree programs at 47 external sites and will utilize the same delivery models to serve the students in the proposed program in Chicago. The Library houses over 80,000 print volumes, more than 100,000 items on microfilm, subscribes to 130 print journals, and maintains 15,000 e-journal holdings via online database subscriptions. Interlibrary loan services are provided through the University's membership in the Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI).

### **Faculty and Staff**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(5) provides that the education, experience, and other qualifications of directors, administrators, supervisors, and instructors shall ensure that the students will receive education consistent with the objectives of the program.*

The University has identified standards for faculty and staff of the proposed program. Faculty teaching in the proposed program will have a minimum of a doctoral degree in the field of instruction.

### **Fiscal/Personnel Resources**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(7) provides that the fiscal and personnel resources shall be sufficient to permit the institution to meet obligations to continuing programs while assuming additional resource responsibilities for the new degree program.*

The University has indicated that the revenue for the proposed program will exceed expenditures from the onset of the program.

### **Accreditation/Licensure**

The proposed M.A. in Education in Higher Education Administrative Services does not require specialized accreditation, nor is licensure of program graduates required.

## **Program Information**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(6) provides that the information the institution provides for students and the public shall accurately describe the degree programs offered, program objectives, length of program, schedule of tuition, fees, and all other charges and expenses necessary for completion of the course of study, cancellation and refund policies, and such other material facts concerning the institution and the program or course of instruction as are likely to affect the decision of the student to enroll. Such information shall be available to prospective students prior to enrollment.*

McKendree University has identified policies, admissions procedures, tuition, fees, and refund policies to support their students. The material submitted with the proposed program is in keeping with other programs offered by the University. The materials provide appropriate information about the program's curriculum, admission requirements, assessment of student learning, tuition, faculty, financial resources, and other University information.

**Staff Conclusion.** The staff concludes that McKendree University and its proposed program meet the criteria in Sections 1030.30 and 1030.60 of the rules to implement "The Private College Act" (110 ILCS 1005) and "The Academic Degree Act" (110 ILCS 1010) and the Illinois Board of Higher Education Policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.

**Midwestern University**  
**555 31st Street**  
**Downers Grove, Illinois 60515**  
**President: Kathleen H. Goepfinger**

**Proposed Program Title:** Doctor of Dental Medicine in the West Suburban Region

*Projected Enrollments:* Midwestern University projects enrollments of 125 students in the first year rising to 473 students by the fifth year.

**Institutional Accreditation:** Midwestern University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

## **Background and History**

Midwestern University (the University) is a non-profit institution that offers baccalaureate, masters, and doctoral degree programs in a variety of health fields. The University was founded in 1900 as the American College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery. In 1986, the College moved its main campus to Downers Grove. The Board of Trustees founded the Chicago College of Pharmacy in 1991, the College of Health Sciences in 1992, and in 1993, combined the three Colleges to create Midwestern University. Midwestern University established a second campus in Glendale, Arizona in 1997. The University recently opened a College of Dental Medicine at its Arizona campus. The Midwestern University College of Dental Medicine – Arizona was awarded initial accreditation status at the February 1, 2008, meeting of the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA). In addition to Board staff review, two external consultants recommended by the American Dental Association (ADA) were employed to review the application materials.

Midwestern University is requesting authorization to grant the Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD) in the West Suburban Region. The program will be a supplement to the University's other health and medicine programs. The University's Fall 2008 enrollment at the Downers Grove campus was about 2,000 students.

### **Mission and Objectives**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(1) provides that the objectives for the degree program must be consistent with what the degree program title(s) implies.*

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(2) provides that the requested degree program shall be congruent with the purpose, goals, objectives and mission of the institution.*

The proposed program adheres to the mission of Midwestern University whose "historical and sustaining philosophy dedicates the University and its resources to the highest standards of academic excellence to meet the educational needs of the health care community." The proposed program is consistent with the purpose, goals, objectives, and mission of the University and its campuses, and the requested degree title is congruent with the corresponding degree program objectives and curriculum.

### **Curriculum/Assessment**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(3) provides that the caliber and content of the curriculum shall assure that the stated degree objectives for which the program is offered will be achieved.*

#### Admission

Admission to the proposed program is based on several criteria. Applicants must submit transcripts indicating completion of a bachelor's degree at an accredited college or university with a grade point average (GPA), both science and overall, over 2.5 (3.0 preferred) on a 4.0 scale, including specific appropriate pre-requisite courses. Applicants must submit results of the Dental Aptitude Test (DAT), an application (AADSAS) essay, and appear for required admission interviews. Applicants must submit three letters of recommendation, including one by either a pre-dental advisory committee or a science professor, and the other two by evaluators with a medical or a dental doctoral degree, or by an evaluator who can testify to the integrity and ethical standards of the applicant. Applicants who have demonstrated a community service orientation will receive additional consideration. Candidates for admission must have abilities and skills in five areas: observation; communication; motor; conceptual, integrative, and quantitative; and behavioral and social. Applicants must undergo a criminal background check and must agree to abide by the Midwestern University Drug-Free Workplace and Substance Abuse policies.

#### Curriculum

##### Doctor of Dental Medicine

The Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD) is designed as a first professional degree to prepare practitioners. The mission of the DMD program is "to educate competent clinical dentists of strong character and high ethical standards who will serve the needs of the public and improve the health and well-being of society." With some alteration of the curriculum to accommodate approaches among the faculty hired for the DMD Program on the Downers Grove Campus, the DMD program will model its curriculum on that of the College of Dental Medicine on its

Glendale Campus. The four year program consists of 289 credit hours of dental curriculum. The first two years include basic science and behavioral science coursework, as well as preclinical simulation. The final two years will primarily focus on continued instruction and patient treatment at a dental clinic. Core courses include: Interdisciplinary Health Care I-III, Human Health & Prevention I-II, Oral Health Sciences I-VI, Ethics & Character Dev. I-VI, Introduction to Human Behavior I-III, Integrated Basic Sciences I-V, Basic Sciences Board Review, Dental Community Services I-III, Oral Pathology, Anesthesia I, and Medical Emergencies.

#### Assessment of Student Learning

The University has established policies to assess student learning. Learning objectives are identified for each course. Assessment of student learning at the course level is the responsibility of the faculty and will be supervised by the department chair or program director. A variety of modalities are employed including traditional methods such as multiple choice examinations, short answer questions, essay questions, class attendance, and participation. Learning outcomes will also be measured using Objective Simulated Competency Evaluations (OSCE), oral examinations, presentations, and Clinical Competency Evaluations (CCE). In addition, Clinical Care Coordinators will complete a Formative Skills Evaluation Form for each student every term. The University has an Academic Assessment Plan which links program-level learning goals, intended student learning outcomes, and assessment activities. Under the plan, student learning outcomes are linked to a program mission statement or learning goal with assessment methods and benchmark criteria for each outcome.

#### Program Assessment

Each program at Midwestern University is required to submit to the University Academic Assessment Committee an annual assessment plan which includes the learning goals, the student learning outcomes, assessment methods, and criteria for success. A standard template has been developed to facilitate the process. The individual program plans are combined to create the University Academic Assessment Plan for that academic year. Several assessment methods will be utilized by the DMD program to collect program assessment data including standardized course and instructor surveys, senior exit interviews, Annual American Dental Education Association (ADEA) senior surveys, annual student self-assessment of competency surveys, alumni surveys, and employer surveys. Survey results are reviewed and analyzed by the Dean and disseminated for further review and analysis to the Curriculum Committee. Student performance on the National Board of Dental Examiners and the Illinois licensure examinations will be monitored. Data from program assessment methods are reviewed by the Vice President, Chief Academic Officer for Dental and Medical Education, and the President and Chief Executive Officer, and appropriate DMD program committees on an annual basis.

#### **Facilities (space, equipment, instructional materials)**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(4) provides that the institution shall have adequate and suitable space, equipment and instructional materials to provide education of suitable quality.*

The Downers Grove Campus of Midwestern University includes facilities supporting the students, faculty, and administrators of its colleges: the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine, the Chicago College of Pharmacy, the College of Health Sciences, and the proposed College of Dental Medicine. The facilities include five buildings that currently house the main lecture halls, classrooms, and teaching laboratories. In addition to the current facilities, a new building is in the process of being built that will accommodate the growth of the DMD program.

In 2005, the University administration announced plans, approved by the Board of Trustees in 2008, to build a new 180,000 square-foot, basic science building to replace the current facilities in Prabhu Hall and accommodate the DMD program. A copy of the building permit was provided and groundbreaking occurred in April 2009 with expected occupancy scheduled for Fall 2010. The five-story building will feature the following: underground water retention capabilities, as well as underground parking; a testing center with additional computer stations located on the first floor; office, research, and laboratory space for the DMD program; a Dental Simulation Clinic on the second floor; third and fourth floors dedicated to the basic science departments, their faculty and staff offices, and adjacent research laboratories; and Gross Anatomy Laboratory and animal resource facilities on the fifth floor. Sufficient resources are budgeted for appropriate supplies, educational software, and educational expenses. Northwestern University has also committed to construct a dental clinic at an off-campus site, where students enrolled in the DMD program will receive their clinical education. The College of Dental Medicine – Illinois expects to finalize a specific site by Spring 2010, complete construction of the Oral Health Center late in 2012, and begin patient care early in 2013. It is anticipated that the site will be located in DuPage County within a reasonable radius of the Downers Grove Campus. This facility has been designed to house approximately 220 treatment rooms fully equipped with the most technologically advanced dental chairs, equipment, lights, and associated cabinetry. Treatment rooms with specialized equipment will also be needed for oral surgery, radiology, and pediatric treatment. This 220-chair clinic will require approximately 50,000 square feet of space.

The Northwestern University Library resources are suitable for the proposed program. The four libraries of the Northwestern University Library System are all accessible to the program students and faculty. The Library collections include 85,779 print volumes, 1,523 journal subscriptions (print and electronic), and 22 electronic databases, as well as a wide variety of multi-media titles, such as the Interactive Atlas of Human Anatomy (Netter), gross anatomy examination practice questions, the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences program, and EndNote®. The University Library system is a member of state-wide consortiums such as the College and Research Libraries of Illinois (CARLI).

### **Faculty and Staff**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(5) provides that the education, experience, and other qualifications of directors, administrators, supervisors and instructors shall ensure that the students will receive education consistent with the objectives of the program.*

Northwestern University has policies in place to ensure academic professionals hired possess the training, credentials, and other related qualifications to provide instruction at the University. The University adheres to a faculty credential hiring requirement of a minimum of a terminal degree in the appropriate discipline and significant professional experience appropriate for a professional degree program.

### **Fiscal/Personnel Resources**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(7) provides that fiscal and personnel resources shall be sufficient to permit the institution to meet obligations to continuing programs while assuming additional resource responsibilities for the new program.*

The DMD program is consistent with existing programs offered at the University. Northwestern University has submitted fiscal plans indicating tuition revenue will exceed operating expenditures within the third year of operations for the degree program.

## **Accreditation/Licensure**

Specialized accreditation of the proposed program and licensure of program graduates is required. Dental Medicine programs are accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA), which operates under the American Dental Association (ADA). Midwestern University will submit an Application for Accreditation when the approval from the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) has been granted. The University has developed a plan for acquiring accreditation. Upon achieving accreditation status, graduates with the Doctor of Dental Medicine degree will take the Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS) examination in order to obtain licensure in the state of Illinois. Illinois licensure is awarded from the Illinois Division of Professional Regulation (IDPR), after submission and approval of all application materials.

## **Program Information**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(6) provides that the information which the institution provides for students and the public shall accurately describe the degree programs offered, program objectives, length of program, schedule of tuition, fees, and all other charges and expenses necessary for completion of the course of study, cancellation and refund policies, and such other material facts concerning the institution and the program or course of instruction as are likely to affect the decision of the student to enroll. Such information shall be available to prospective students prior to enrollment.*

The Midwestern University catalog provides accurate information regarding the University's policies, admissions procedures, tuition, fees, and refund policies. The material provided on the proposed program is in keeping with the other programs offered by the University. The materials identify objectives, course requirements, and statements on accreditation and limitations on transferability of earned credits to other institutions.

**Staff Conclusion.** The staff concludes that Midwestern University and the degree program proposed in the above item meet the criteria in Sections 1030.30 and 1030.60 of the rules to implement "The Private College Act" (110 ILCS 1005) and "The Academic Degree Act" (110 ILCS 1010), and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.

**Americare College of Nursing**  
**1834 Walden Office Square**  
**Suite 250**  
**Schaumburg, Illinois 60173**  
**President: John Oliveros**

**Proposed Program Title:** Associate of Applied Science in Nursing in the North Suburban Region

*Projected Enrollments:* The proposal projects enrollments of 120 students in the first year leveling to 200 students by the fifth year.

**Institutional Accreditation:** Americare College of Nursing will seek accreditation with the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

## **Background and History**

Americare Institute (the Institute) is a for-profit institution that has received approval to operate as a Private Business and Vocational School by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). The Institute is currently accredited by the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA-CASI). Americare Institute offers a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Certificate Program approved by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and a Practical Nursing Program approved by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR).

The Institute is seeking authorization to operate as Americare College of Nursing and grant the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Nursing in the North Suburban Region. The Fall 2008 enrollment at the campus was 203 students.

## **Mission and Objectives**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(1) provides that the objectives for the degree program must be consistent with what the degree program title(s) implies.*

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(2) provides that the requested degree program shall be congruent with the purpose, goals, objectives and mission of the institution.*

The proposed program is consistent with Americare College of Nursing's mission "to make a degree in nursing accessible, available, and affordable to students seeking to enhance their education, advance their careers, and improve their lives."

## **Curriculum/Assessment**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(3) provides that the caliber and content of the curriculum shall assure that the stated degree objectives for which the program is offered will be achieved.*

## **Admission**

Applicants must possess either a high school diploma or a General Educational Development (GED) Diploma. Applicants must have a minimum score of 21 on the American College Test (ACT). Students without recent ACT scores may be admitted based on appropriate placement exam scores or previous college-level coursework.

## Curriculum

### Associate of Applied Science in Nursing

The proposed A.A.S. in Nursing program “provides students with relevant general education as well as specialized nursing knowledge and skills to enter the nursing profession.” Students must complete the required 74 semester hours with a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale to graduate. Graduates of the program will be eligible to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN) examination and apply for Illinois licensure as a registered nurse. In addition to general education courses, core courses include: Anatomy & Physiology I and II, Introduction to Psychology, Fundamentals of Nursing, Nursing Pharmacology, Adult Nursing, Maternal-Child Nursing, Nursing of Children, Life Span Psychology, General Microbiology, Pathophysiology, Complex Nursing I-III, and the RN Role Transition Capstone.

### Assessment of Student Learning

Americare College of Nursing has established policies for assessment of student learning outcomes. The College has identified course objectives tied to program outcomes. Student learning is measured using pre- post testing, standardized comprehensive exams administered at the end of each nursing course, and evaluation of class discussions, role playing, and presentation of case studies. Clinical performance will be evaluated through the use of the Clinical Evaluation Tool (CET), compilation of a Nursing Skills Record to document the practice and validation of nursing skills in the lab and clinical setting, and through the skills exams administered at the end of the course using the patient simulator, SimMan. In order to graduate from the program, students must pass the RN Role Transition Capstone course.

### Program Assessment

The College has established policies for program assessment. Data are collected from a variety of sources, including results of the student learning outcomes measures, faculty end-of-course evaluations, annual alumni survey results, results of the Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) standardized exams, and NCLEX results. The data are analyzed by the School Improvement Committee, the program director, and Vice President of Academic Affairs. A continuous improvement plan is developed and plans are implemented in the following academic year.

### **Facilities (space, equipment, instructional materials)**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(4) provides that the institution shall have adequate and suitable space, equipment and instructional materials to provide education of suitable quality.*

The current Schaumburg facility serves as the main location where administrative services are offered in addition to classroom and computer lab space for the current Certified Nursing Assistant (CAN) and Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) programs. Some coursework is also delivered at appropriate off-site locations. The site consists of 5,425 square feet of space including offices, classrooms, labs, and lounges. The current lab facilities simulate the hospital environment complete with hospital beds (including a Hill-Rom ICU and birthing bed), nursing manikins, and a patient simulator called SimMan. The space contains the necessary equipment for students to develop and practice their nursing skills prior to performing them in the clinical setting. Planned acquisitions for the nursing skills lab in 2011 include a birthing simulator and

SimBaby. To accommodate the growth of the College, Americare College of Nursing is in the process of purchasing land in Hoffman Estates. Closing on the land purchase is expected by January 31, 2010, with construction expected to begin in May, and completion set for a December 2010 move-in. Americare College of Nursing has 3,880 titles available through the ProQuest Research Library subscription. The Research Library consists of two components: a core list of periodicals, covering over 1,000 publications, and 15 subject-specific modules that supplement the core list. Students will also have access to ProQuest Nursing & Allied Health Source to complete requirements in the core nursing component of the program. ProQuest Nursing & Allied Health Source provides abstracting and indexing for more than 700 titles, with more than 580 titles in full-text. Student access is available both through campus computer labs and remote student access. Live assistance is provided by a dedicated full-time staff member with training on the ProQuest system.

### **Faculty and Staff**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(5) provides that the education, experience, and other qualifications of directors, administrators, supervisors and instructors shall ensure that the students will receive education consistent with the objectives of the program.*

Americare College of Nursing has policies in place to ensure academic professionals hired possess the training, credentials, and other related qualifications to provide instruction at the College. The College adheres to a faculty credential hiring requirement of a master's degree in the specific field of instruction.

### **Fiscal/Personnel Resources**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(7) provides that fiscal and personnel resources shall be sufficient to permit the institution to meet obligations to continuing programs while assuming additional resource responsibilities for the new program.*

The A.A.S. in Nursing program is consistent with existing programs offered at the College. Americare College of Nursing has submitted fiscal plans indicating revenue will exceed operating expenditures in the first year of operation for the proposed degree program.

### **Accreditation/Licensure**

Americare College of Nursing will apply for nursing accreditation through the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC). Graduates of the program will be eligible to take the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Examination (NCLEX-RN), which leads to licensure as a registered professional nurse.

## **Program Information**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(6) provides that the information which the institution provides for students and the public shall accurately describe the degree programs offered, program objectives, length of program, schedule of tuition, fees, and all other charges and expenses necessary for completion of the course of study, cancellation and refund policies, and such other material facts concerning the institution and the program or course of instruction as are likely to affect the decision of the student to enroll. Such information shall be available to prospective students prior to enrollment.*

The Americare College of Nursing catalog provides accurate information regarding the College's policies, admissions procedures, tuition, fees, and refund policies. The material provided on the proposed program is in keeping with the other programs offered by the College. The materials identify objectives, course requirements, and statements on accreditation and limitations on transferability of earned credits to other institutions.

**Staff Conclusion.** The staff concludes that Americare College of Nursing and the degree program proposed in the above item meet the criteria in Sections 1030.30 and 1030.60 of the rules to implement "The Private College Act" (110 ILCS 1005) and "The Academic Degree Act" (110 ILCS 1010), and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.

**Argosy University - Chicago Campus**  
**350 North Orleans Street**  
**Chicago, Illinois 60654**  
**President: C. Ronald Kimberling**

**Argosy University - Schaumburg Campus**  
**999 North Plaza Drive**  
**Suite 111**  
**Schaumburg, Illinois 60173**  
**President: Craig Swanson**

**Proposed Program Title:** Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts in the Chicago and North Suburban Regions

*Projected Enrollments:* Argosy University has projected that Fall enrollments in the proposed program will grow from 28 students in the first year to 48 students in the fifth year at the Chicago Campus and from 19 students in the first year to 38 students in the fifth year at the Schaumburg Campus.

**Proposed Program Title:** Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice in the Chicago and North Suburban Regions

*Projected Enrollments:* Argosy University has projected that Fall enrollments in the proposed program will grow from 33 students in the first year to 70 students in the fifth year at the Chicago Campus and from 28 students in the first year to 55 students in the fifth year at the Schaumburg Campus.

**Institutional Accreditation:** Argosy University is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools

## **Background and History**

Argosy University (the University) is a private, for-profit higher education institution owned and operated by Argosy Education Group, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Education Management Corporation, a Management Corporation, a privately owned corporation. Argosy University offers general education and professional programs at the undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate levels in behavioral sciences, business, education, and allied health. The idea for the American Schools of Professional Psychology (now Argosy University) originated during the early 1970's, following a movement that called for a professional degree in clinical psychology with an emphasis on practical training and application of theory and research, rather than the research-oriented approach of the traditional Ph.D. degree. The American Schools of Professional Psychology changed its name to Argosy University coincident with its merger with the Medical Institute of Minnesota and the University of Sarasota. In December 2001, the two Illinois campuses received approval to offer degrees in business and education at the baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral levels.

The University is seeking authorization to grant the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and the Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice in the Chicago and North Suburban Regions. Fall 2008 enrollment was 4,347 students at the Chicago Campus and 730 students at the Schaumburg Campus.

## **Mission and Objectives**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(1) provides that the objectives of the degree program must be consistent with what the degree program title implies.*

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(2) provides that the requested degree program shall be congruent with the purpose, goals, objectives and mission of the institution.*

Argosy University's mission is to provide high-quality education in practitioner fields, employing delivery formats that provide access for students regardless of their geographic location. The stated purpose for both the Chicago and the Schaumburg campuses includes providing distinctive, innovative, and high-quality higher education and professional service programs at all levels to prepare individuals for careers to serve the needs of an evolving global marketplace.

The proposed programs are consistent with the purpose, goals, objectives, and mission of the University and its campuses, and the requested degree titles are congruent with the corresponding degree program objectives and curriculum.

## **Curriculum/Assessment**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(3) provides that the caliber and content of the curriculum shall assure that the stated degree objectives for which the program is offered will be achieved.*

### **Admission**

Applicants with 12 or fewer semester college credits must provide proof of high school graduation or a General Educational Development (GED) Certificate and must meet one of the following conditions for admission: American College Test (ACT) composite score of 18 or above; combined math and verbal Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) score of 870; minimum ACCUPLACER scores of 86 in sentence skills and 53 in algebra. Applicants who have 13 or more semester college credits must provide proof of high school graduation or GED and meet one of the following conditions for admission: Cumulative college GPA of 2.0 or above or minimum ACCUPLACER scores of 86 in sentence skills and 53 in algebra. Minimum Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores of 173 (computer version), 500 (paper version), or 61 (Internet version) are required of applicants whose native language is not English or who have not graduated from an institution at which English is the language of instruction.

### **Curricula**

#### **Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts**

The proposed Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Liberal Arts, described as an interdisciplinary degree in Liberal Arts, “is designed to provide prospective students with enhanced reading comprehension, critical thinking, written and oral communication, analytical, evaluation, problem-solving, and interpersonal effectiveness skills for personal, professional, and social development.” The program of 120 credit hours includes 42 credit hours in general education; 36 credit hours in core Liberal Arts courses; 18 credit hours in additional Liberal Arts, general education, or interdisciplinary courses; and 24 credit hours in electives. Students may select core Liberal Arts courses from three categories: The Individual, The Workplace, and Society (depending on their area of interest).

#### **Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice**

The proposed Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Criminal Justice will prepare students for careers in the occupational fields of the criminal justice system. The degree is a “practitioner-oriented program,” providing students the skills necessary to be “successful professionals in police, substance abuse, forensic psychology, general management, corrections, homeland security, and security management, or a combination of these areas, through a choice of multiple concentrations.” Students are required to complete a total of 120 credit hours: 42 credit hours in general education, 30 credit hours of core criminal justice courses, two 12-credit concentrations, and 24 elective credits. The concentrations represent the various occupation fields in the criminal justice system. Students may also select specific courses within the Criminal Justice concentration to develop a customized professional concentration.

## Assessment of Student Learning

Argosy University employs a system of “outcomes-based assessment strategies that are multifaceted, continuous in application, progressive, pre- to post- time framed, summative and formative in nature, and involve both direct and indirect methodologies.” The results of these strategies are integrated with the University’s ongoing analyses of students’ academic behaviors and achievements to continuously review and revise the educational programs of the University. At the program level, faculty design assessment strategies on the basis of specific programmatic goals and objectives, including academic skills, behaviors, and knowledge bases appropriate to the level of education, accreditation standards where applicable, and disciplines in which the degrees are offered.

## Program Assessment

The University’s degree programs are evaluated using multiple assessment measures to determine the University’s effectiveness in supporting student learning. The Campus Academic Affairs Committee coordinates all institutional effectiveness efforts on each campus. The department review process is the primary mechanism for assuring focus on the assessment of student learning in relation to specified program objectives. The results of this departmental review provide faculty with the basis for identifying and implementing necessary improvements in student learning. Additional information is provided by end of course evaluations, faculty and student attrition and graduation rates, job placement rates, alumni surveys, employer surveys, financial and practice audits, and accreditation reviews.

## **Facilities (space, equipment, instructional materials)**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(4) provides that the institution shall have adequate and suitable space, equipment and instructional materials to provide education of suitable quality.*

Current facilities and equipment are adequate to support the proposed programs. Both campuses have full-service libraries that maintain extensive and focused collections of print and electronic resources to support the studies and research of students and faculty members in the fields of business, education, leadership, administration, counseling, and psychology. Students are also given access to the libraries’ resources via the Internet.

## **Faculty and Staff**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(5) provides that the education, experience, and other qualifications of directors, administrators, supervisors and instructors shall ensure that the students will receive education consistent with the objectives of the program.*

Argosy University faculty must hold a terminal degree related to the program in which they teach and must demonstrate teaching and professional experience in the discipline. All contractual faculty members must hold a degree higher than the degree granted in the area in which they will teach at the Argosy University – Chicago Campus and Argosy University – Schaumburg Campus. For doctoral programs, faculty must hold equivalent level degrees in the discipline. Each candidate for a faculty position is expected to demonstrate excellence in teaching. The University also employs “Professors of Practice” to add real world experience and expertise for specific discipline areas.

## **Fiscal/Personnel Resources**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(7) provides that fiscal and personnel resources shall be sufficient to permit the institution to meet obligations to continuing programs while assuming additional resource responsibilities for the new program.*

The B.A. in Liberal Arts and the B.S. in Criminal Justice are consistent with existing programs offered at the University. Fiscal plans for the B.A. in Liberal Arts program indicate that revenue will exceed operating expenditures in the second year of operation at both campuses. Argosy University has submitted fiscal plans indicating revenue will exceed operating expenditures in the third year of operation for the proposed B.S. in Criminal Justice degree program at both campuses.

## **Accreditation/Licensure**

Neither specialized accreditation of the proposed programs nor licensure of program graduates is required.

## **Program Information**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(6) provides that the information the institution provides for students and the public shall accurately describe the degree programs offered, program objectives, length of program, schedule of tuition, fees, and all other charges and expenses necessary for completion of the course of study, cancellation and refund policies, and such other material facts concerning the institution and the program or course of instruction as are likely to affect the decision of the student to enroll. This information, including any enrollment agreements or similar agreements, shall be available to prospective students prior to enrollment.*

The Argosy University – Chicago Campus and Argosy University – Schaumburg Campus Handbooks, the Argosy University Academic Catalog, and the Argosy University website provide accurate descriptions of degree programs offered, program objectives and requirements, schedules of tuition, fees, and other expenses necessary for completion of the proposed courses of study, and procedures governing faculty and student affairs. The University’s cancellation and refund policies are fair and reasonable, and their publications include accurate statements about their accreditation and the limitations on transferability of earned credits to other institutions.

**Staff Conclusion.** The staff concludes that Argosy University – Chicago Campus and Argosy University – Schaumburg Campus and the proposed degree programs meet the criteria in Sections 1030.30 and 1030.60 of the rules to implement “The Private College Act” (110 ILCS 1005) and “The Academic Degree Act” (110 ILCS 1010) and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.

**Chamberlain College of Nursing**  
**1221 North Swift Road**  
**Addison, Illinois 60101**  
**President: Susan L. Groenwald**

**Proposed Program Title:** Bachelor of Science in Nursing in the Chicago Region

*Projected Enrollments:* Chamberlain College of Nursing has a projected enrollment of 150 students in the first year and 450 students in the fifth year.

**Institutional Accreditation:** Chamberlain College of Nursing is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and is a member of the North Central Association.

### **Background and History**

Chamberlain College of Nursing (the College) was originally founded in 1889 in St. Louis, Missouri, as Deaconess College of Nursing. This institution was purchased in March 2005, by DeVry Inc. DeVry Inc. also owns and operates DeVry University, a separate institution approved to operate and grant degrees by the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE). In October 2006, Deaconess College of Nursing was renamed to Chamberlain College of Nursing to reflect plans for institutional expansion. Fall 2008 enrollment at the College was 244 students. The College is requesting authorization to operate and grant the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Nursing in the Chicago Region.

### **Mission and Objectives**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(1) provides that the objectives of the degree program(s) must be consistent with what the degree program title(s) imply.*

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(2) provides that the requested degree program(s) shall be congruent with the purpose, goals, objectives and mission of the institution.*

The proposed B.S. in Nursing program is consistent with the mission of the College to provide quality and innovative healthcare education programs. The College offers programs with a strong historical foundation, broad general education, and extensive clinical practice. The programs are designed to prepare graduates for professional practice in healthcare settings with skills in oral and written communication, critical thinking, appreciation of cultural diversity, holistic health, and the encouragement of lifelong learning. The College is committed to fostering student development, career mobility, community service, and leadership among healthcare professionals.

## **Curriculum/Assessment**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(3) provides that the caliber and content of the curriculum shall assure that the stated degree objectives for which the program is offered will be achieved.*

### Admission

The College requires that all applicants have a high school diploma, General Educational Development (GED) Diploma, or be a graduate of an approved postsecondary institution to be admitted into the Nursing degree program. Students are also required to demonstrate academic ability at the college level through placement testing or have a minimum score of 21 on the American College Test (ACT). Applicants are required to complete background screening, verification of physical examination, have completed immunization records, and current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

### Curriculum

#### Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Students completing the B.S. in Nursing are prepared with skills and professional ability to effectively practice in a variety of healthcare settings. The program curriculum requires students to complete 126 credits of coursework. Students are required to complete 66 credits in general education consisting of anatomy and physiology I and II, microbiology-chemistry, composition I and II, history, cultural diversity, nutrition, pharmacology, general psychology, psychology, communications, sociology, statistics, college algebra, economics, logic, pathophysiology, ethics, and humanities. There are 60 credits in nursing that includes fundamental skills, patient care, mental health nursing, maternity newborn nursing, nursing of children, adult health I and II, critical care nursing, health assessment, non-clinical nursing, community health nursing, collaborative healthcare, information systems in healthcare, evidence-based practice, and a capstone course.

### Assessment of Student Learning

Chamberlain College of Nursing utilizes an assessment structure that reviews the achievement of students through a collaborative administration, faculty, and student centered model. This format is set up to encourage proactive response and to improve teaching and learning interactions. The College seeks to provide deeper knowledge and greater skills in general education and nursing. As students move through the program, skills are successively refined, demonstrating the mastery necessary to complete their clinical skills and prepare for the professional examination in the field. Direct assessment of programmatic objectives is conducted by evaluating student performance through testing, presentations, and clinical experience. The program is completed with a capstone course that gauges the students' abilities in fundamental, practical, and critical nursing skills.

### Program Assessment

The College conducts program assessment on a system-wide basis and uses assessment data to further the College in areas of continuous quality improvement. Faculty in each academic program plan and develop intended outcomes and the accompanying evidence that the outcomes are being accomplished. Results from program assessments are used to develop the curricula, student learning, and academic and administrative processes.

### **Facilities (space, equipment, instructional materials)**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(4) provides that the institution shall have adequate and suitable space, equipment and instructional materials.*

Chamberlain College of Nursing will offer the B.S. in Nursing in the Chicago Region. The College has provided documentation indicating the facilities, space, and equipment are adequate for program operations. The facility is approximately 156,362 square feet with classrooms, laboratories, administrative space, and a library. As for library access, the College is a member of the ILLINET Interlibrary Loan system. All Chamberlain College of Nursing students have access to EBSCO Information Services and ProQuest, Gale, Faulkner, and Hoover's family of databases. Students can access these learning resources from any Internet-connected computer at any time. Through these resources, students are able to search extensive collections of newspapers, journals, periodicals, and data sets.

### **Faculty and Staff**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(5) provides that the education, experience, and other qualifications of faculty, staff and instructors shall reasonably ensure that the students will receive education consistent with the objectives of the program.*

Faculty in the Chamberlain College of Nursing program is required to have a master's degree in the discipline of instruction. The College plans to use existing faculty to teach a majority of the proposed program courses. Chamberlain College of Nursing documents faculty having the requisite teaching skills for success in the classroom by utilizing test lectures in the hiring process and working proactively to ensure all new instructors also complete a faculty orientation program that promotes effectiveness in the classroom.

### **Fiscal/Personnel Resources**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(7) provides that the fiscal and personnel resources shall be sufficient to permit the institution to meet obligations to continuing programs while assuming additional resource responsibilities for the new degree program.*

Financial plans submitted by the College indicate tuition revenues for the proposed program will exceed operating expenditures after the first year of operation.

### **Accreditation/Licensure**

Chamberlain College of Nursing has programmatic accreditation for the B.S. in Nursing program. The B.S. in Nursing program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The College will seek National League for Nursing Accreditation Commission (NLNAC) approval. Graduates of the program will be eligible to take the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Examination (NCLEX-RN), which leads to licensure as a registered professional nurse.

## **Program Information**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(6) provides that the information which the institution provides for students and the public shall accurately describe the degree programs offered, program objectives, length of program, schedule of tuition, fees, and all other charges and expenses necessary for completion of the course of study, cancellation and refund policies, and such other material facts concerning the institution and the program or course of instruction as are likely to affect the decision of the student to enroll. Such information shall be available to prospective students prior to enrollment.*

The Academic Catalog of Chamberlain College of Nursing and other published materials provide accurate descriptions of degree programs offered, program objectives and requirements, schedules of tuition, fees, and other expenses necessary for completion of the proposed program of study. The College's cancellation and refund policies are fair and reasonable, and publications include accurate statements about the College's accreditation. The College also provides information on limitations and transferability of earned credits to other institutions.

**Staff Conclusion.** The staff concludes that Chamberlain College of Nursing and its proposed program meet the criteria in Sections 1030.30 and 1030.60 of the rules to implement "The Private College Act" (110 ILCS 1005) and "The Academic Degree Act" (110 ILCS 1010), and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.

**Flashpoint Academy**  
**28 North Clark Street**  
**Chicago, Illinois 60602**  
**President: Howard Tullman**

**Proposed Program Title:** Associate of Applied Science in Film and Broadcast in the Chicago Region

*Projected Enrollments:* Flashpoint Academy has projected Fall enrollments in the proposed program will grow from 85 students in the first year to 250 students in the fifth year and beyond.

**Proposed Program Title:** Associate of Applied Science in Game Development in the Chicago Region

*Projected Enrollments:* Flashpoint Academy has projected Fall enrollments in the proposed program will grow from 85 students in the first year to 250 students in the fifth year and beyond.

**Proposed Program Title:** Associate of Applied Science in Recording Arts in the Chicago Region

*Projected Enrollments:* Flashpoint Academy has projected Fall enrollments in the proposed program will grow from 85 students in the first year to 250 students in the fifth year and beyond.

**Proposed Program Title:** Associate of Applied Science in Visual Effects and Animation in the Chicago Region

*Projected Enrollments:* Flashpoint Academy has projected Fall enrollments in the proposed program will grow from 85 students in the first year to 250 students in the fifth year and beyond.

**Institutional Accreditation:** Flashpoint Academy will seek accreditation through the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

### **Background and History**

Flashpoint Academy (the Academy) was founded in 2007 in Chicago and was approved under the Private Business and Vocational Schools Act by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). The Academy was created out of a commitment to educate students in the media arts. Flashpoint Academy is a for-profit institution designed to prepare students to become media professionals through exposure to “real-world” tools, techniques, and the latest technologies in a higher educational environment. The Academy is seeking operating and degree-granting authority in the Chicago Region.

### **Mission and Objectives**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(1) provides that the objectives of the degree program(s) must be consistent with what the degree program title(s) imply.*

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(2) provides that the requested degree program shall be congruent with the purpose, goals, objectives and mission of the institution.*

Flashpoint Academy is described as “committed to the advancement of higher learning in the fields of digital arts and entertainment technologies including: filmmaking, broadcast media, game development, visual effects and animation, and recording arts. Created out of a desire to educate media arts students in a truly relevant and contemporary curriculum and addressing the gap between current education in these fields and the true professional world, our program focuses on collaboration across disciplines and emphasizes professional communication. The goal of our immersive, hands-on, intensive program is to prepare students to become media professionals through exposure to real-world tools, techniques, and the latest technical developments and trends, all within a curriculum that develops them as critical thinkers in a higher educational environment.”

### **Curriculum/Assessment**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(3) provides that the caliber and content of the curriculum shall assure that the stated degree objectives for which the program is offered will be achieved.*

### **Admission**

Requirements for admission into Flashpoint Academy are graduation from an accredited high school or the completion of a General Educational Development (GED) Diploma, official transcripts, a personal interview, and applicants are expected to demonstrate proficiency at the college level through placement testing.

## Curricula

### Associate of Applied Science in Film and Broadcast

The Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Film and Broadcast requires the completion of 68 credits for the program. Students in this program are prepared with knowledge and skill areas to gain employment in film and broadcasting. The program requires 18 credits of general education consisting of composition I and II, oral communication, mathematics, and humanities. Students will complete 50 core credits in coursework consisting of production, screenwriting, directing, film, cinematography, aesthetics of art, broadcast media, writing for broadcast, business of film broadcast, and practicum.

### Associate of Applied Science in Game Development

Program requirements for the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Game Development are that students complete 68 credits. The program is designed to provide students with the ability to apply core knowledge of game development skills into practical employment. Students will complete 18 credits of general education consisting of composition I and II, oral communication, mathematics, and humanities. Core program courses consist of 50 credits that include production, introduction to game design, game development, game development tools, critical game studies, game production and project management, game studio I-III, game programming, game art, business of games, interactive media development, game portfolio development, game design, producing and project management, and practicum.

### Associate of Applied Science in Recording Arts

Requirements for the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Recording Arts consist of 68 credits. Students are prepared in this program to complete 18 credits of general education consisting of composition I and II, oral communication, mathematics, and humanities. Core program courses consist of 50 credits that include audio production, fundamentals of sound and acoustics, digital audio workstation, studio music recording, sound design for film, sound design for games, aesthetics of recording arts, studio maintenance and troubleshooting, signal processing, synthesis, and practicum.

### Associate of Applied Science in Visual Effects and Animation

Students in the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Visual Effects and Animation program are required to complete 68 credits. The program prepares students with skills, knowledge, and a portfolio to gain employment in the animation and visual effects industry. The program coursework consists of 18 credits of general education consisting of composition I and II, oral communication, mathematics, and humanities. Students will complete 50 credits in the core courses consisting of production, character animation I and II, visual effects and compositing I and II, three dimensional models I and II, lighting and texture, production pipeline, history of computer graphics, story process, practical and digital effects, and focused media arts project.

## Assessment of Student Learning

Flashpoint Academy has an identified system to conduct student assessments through course participation, projects, portfolio review, and evaluations.

## Program Assessment

Flashpoint Academy has identified measures to review the overall effectiveness of its programs. The Academy utilizes committees that consist of deans, department chairs, faculty, and external stakeholders to ensure the continuous development of curricula, program activities, and the preparation of students for employment.

### **Facilities (space, equipment, instructional materials)**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(4) provides that the institution shall have adequate and suitable space, equipment and instructional materials.*

Flashpoint Academy has identified facilities, equipment, and instructional material that will accommodate all program operations. The Flashpoint Academy library system provides students with a growing collection of approximately 1,000 monograph, serial, and DVD titles. Required course materials such as films and course readings are available for students' in-house use. Students have access to online resources through LexisNexis Academic and other databases. The Academy's full-time librarian provides students and faculty with research and writing assistance and interlibrary loan services.

### **Faculty and Staff**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(5) provides that the education, experience, and other qualifications of directors, administrators, supervisors, and instructors shall ensure that the students will receive education consistent with the objectives of the program.*

Flashpoint Academy has identified policies that ensure faculty and other academic professionals hired for the proposed programs have the appropriate training, credentials, and other related qualifications to support the programs.

### **Fiscal/Personnel Resources**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(7) provides that the fiscal and personnel resources shall be sufficient to permit the institution to meet obligations to continuing programs while assuming additional resource responsibilities for the new degree program.*

Flashpoint Academy has submitted fiscal plans indicating tuition revenue will exceed operating expenditures in the first year of operations for the proposed degree programs.

### **Accreditation/Licensure**

Neither specialized accreditation of the proposed programs nor licensure of program graduates is required.

## **Program Information**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(6) provides that the information which the institution provides for students and the public shall accurately describe the degree programs offered, program objectives, length of program, schedule of tuition, fees, and all other charges and expenses necessary for completion of the course of study, cancellation and refund policies, and such other material facts concerning the institution and the program or course of instruction as are likely to affect the decision of the student to enroll. Such information shall be available to prospective students prior to enrollment.*

Flashpoint Academy has published material available for students that provide information on degree programs, program requirements, and other information on the completion of degrees within the Academy. The Academy's cancellation and refund policies are fair and reasonable, and the Academy's publications include accurate statements about its accreditation and about limitations on transferability of earned credits to other institutions.

**Staff Conclusion.** The staff concludes that Flashpoint Academy and its proposed programs meet the criteria in Sections 1030.30 and 1030.60 of the rules to implement "The Private College Act" (110 ILCS 1005) and "The Academic Degree Act" (110 ILCS 1010), and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.

**ITT Technical Institute at Burr Ridge**  
**7040 High Grove Boulevard**  
**Burr Ridge, Illinois 60521**  
**Director: Laurence Brueck**

**ITT Technical Institute at Mount Prospect**  
**1401 Feehanville Drive**  
**Mount Prospect, Illinois 60056**  
**Director: Kristine Ginley**

**ITT Technical Institute at Orland Park**  
**11551 184<sup>th</sup> Place**  
**Orland Park, Illinois 60467**  
**Director: Elvis Parker**

**Proposed Program Title:** Associate of Applied Science in Paralegal Studies in the West Suburban Region

*Projected Enrollments:* The proposal projects enrollments of 13 students in the first year rising to 41 students by the fifth year.

**Proposed Program Title:** Associate of Applied Science in Paralegal Studies in the North Suburban Region

*Projected Enrollments:* The proposal projects enrollments of 13 students in the first year rising to 41 students by the fifth year.

**Proposed Program Title:** Associate of Applied Science in Paralegal Studies in the South Metropolitan Region

*Projected Enrollments:* The proposal projects enrollments of 13 students in the first year rising to 41 students by the fifth year.

**Institutional Accreditation:** ITT Technical Institute is accredited by the Accrediting Council of Independent Colleges and Schools.

### **Background and History**

ITT Technical Institute (the Institute) is a private, for-profit postsecondary institution with over 100 technical institutes operating in over 30 states. Three Institutes have been granted approval to operate and offer degrees in Illinois. The Mount Prospect Campus was approved in 1986, the Orland Park Campus was approved in 1994, and the Burr Ridge Campus was approved in 1999.

ITT Technical Institute at Burr Ridge is seeking approval to offer the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Paralegal Studies in the West Suburban Region. The Fall 2008 enrollment at the campus was 325 students.

ITT Technical Institute at Mount Prospect is seeking approval to offer the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Paralegal Studies in the North Suburban Region. The Fall 2008 enrollment at the campus was 479 students.

ITT Technical Institute at Orland Park is seeking approval to offer the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Paralegal Studies in the South Metropolitan Region. The Fall 2008 enrollment at the campus was 474 students.

### **Mission and Objectives**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(1) provides that the objectives of the degree program must be consistent with what the degree program title implies.*

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(2) provides that the requested degree program shall be congruent with the purpose, goals, objectives and mission of the institution.*

The proposed programs are consistent with the Institute's mission of "offering quality undergraduate and continuing education locally, nationally, and worldwide to students of diverse backgrounds, interests, and abilities."

## **Curriculum/Assessment**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(3) provides that the caliber and content of the curriculum shall assure that the stated degree objectives for which the program is offered will be achieved.*

### Admission

Applicants must be at least 16 years old and must possess either a high school diploma or a General Educational Development (GED) Diploma. Applicants must also meet one of the following criteria: a minimum score of 17 on the American College Test (ACT), a score of 400 each on both the critical reading and math portions of the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT), earn a college-level assessment score on the Wonderlic Scholastic Level Examination, or have earned 36 quarter or 24 semester hours with an overall cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 at an accredited postsecondary educational institution.

### Curriculum

#### Associate of Applied Science in Paralegal Studies

The purpose of the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Paralegal Studies program is “to help students prepare for entry-level positions as paralegals.” Students are required to complete 96 quarter hours of coursework with at least a 2.0 GPA. The program consists of 60 hours of core courses in addition to general education and technical basic courses. Required core courses include: Introduction to Paralegal Studies; Ethics for Paralegals; Technology in the Law Office; Wills, Trusts and Estates; Real Estate Law; Legal Research and Writing I and II; Criminal Law; Family Law; Civil Litigation; Contract Law; Tort Law; Constitutional Law; and the Paralegal Capstone.

### Assessment of Student Learning

ITT Technical Institute has established policies for assessment of student learning outcomes. The Institute requires that measurable competency-based learning outcomes be identified for each program with course objectives mapped to the program outcomes. ITT Technical Institute requires that all courses include comprehensive evaluations. Course objectives are evaluated through tests, labs, projects, and assignments within each course.

### Program Assessment

ITT Technical Institute has established policies for program assessment. Curriculum development is handled by a curriculum committee comprised of program chairs and instructors from the various campuses. This process is managed by the corporate office for ITT Educational Services, Inc. (ITT/ESI). Information is disseminated through an electronic information sharing process that provides a conduit for receiving feedback from faculty on recommendations for changes or adaptations to the curriculum and for faculty to interact with each other and share “best practices” for teaching a specific course. Performance-based course objectives have been identified and are linked to program outcomes. Program assessment data and feedback are obtained from instructors, students, graduates, ITT/ESI Curriculum Committees, local Advisory Committees, employers of graduates, and outside consultants hired by the corporate office. Student success rates are reviewed monthly by the Academic Affairs Department, the Operations Department, and the Curriculum Department. Student surveys provide feedback on curriculum and customer satisfaction. Employers are surveyed annually about the performance of ITT

Technical Institute graduates. Information that is gathered is forwarded to the Corporate Curriculum Manager and the Curriculum Review Committee to inform decision-making about program development.

### **Facilities (space, equipment, instructional materials)**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(4) provides that the institution shall have adequate and suitable space, equipment and instructional materials to provide education of suitable quality.*

Existing campus facilities are sufficient for the proposed program. Space and equipment are satisfactory for the addition of the program at the Burr Ridge, Mount Prospect, and Orland Park Campuses. Additional software and hardware requirements for the program have been identified and resources allocated to obtain these. Library facilities are adequate for the proposed program. Resources are available onsite through the Learning Resource Center (LRC), with plans in place for the addition of specific materials to support the program. ITT Technical Institute also provides its students and faculty with library resources through the ITT Technical Institute Virtual Library (the Virtual Library). The Virtual Library currently provides access to approximately 4,200 full-text magazines and professional journals as well as abstracts and indexing for hundreds of additional titles through nine databases such as EbscoHost, ProQuest, and Academic Search Premier. Access is provided to a variety of online reference materials as well as online books through services such as Ebrary and Books24x7. The Institute's Illinois campuses are members of the statewide ILLINET/OCLC system of libraries, providing ITT Technical Institute students access to the interlibrary loan services available through member libraries.

### **Faculty and Staff**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(5) provides that the education, experience, and other qualifications of directors, administrators, supervisors and instructors shall ensure that the students will receive education consistent with the objectives of the program.*

ITT Technical Institute has policies in place to ensure academic professionals hired possess the training, credentials, and other related qualifications to provide instruction at the Institute. The Institute adheres to a faculty credential hiring requirement of a master's degree in the field of instruction for faculty teaching general education courses, a bachelor's degree in an appropriate field for faculty teaching major courses at the associate's level, and a master's degree in an appropriate field for faculty teaching at the baccalaureate level.

### **Fiscal/Personnel Resources**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(7) provides that fiscal and personnel resources shall be sufficient to permit the institution to meet obligations to continuing programs while assuming additional resource responsibilities for the new program.*

The Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Paralegal Studies is consistent with existing programs offered at the Institute. ITT Technical Institute has submitted fiscal plans indicating revenue will exceed operating expenditures in the first year of operation for the proposed degree program.

## **Accreditation/Licensure**

Neither specialized accreditation of the proposed program nor licensure of program graduates is required.

## **Program Information**

*Criterion 1030.60(a)(6) provides that the information the institution provides for students and the public shall accurately describe the degree programs offered, program objectives, length of program, schedule of tuition, fees, and all other charges and expenses necessary for completion of the course of study, cancellation and refund policies, and such other material facts concerning the institution and the program or course of instruction as are likely to affect the decision of the student to enroll. This information, including any enrollment agreements or similar agreements, shall be available to prospective students prior to enrollment.*

The ITT Technical Institute catalog provides accurate information regarding the Institute's policies, admissions procedures, tuition, fees, and refund policies. The material provided on the proposed program is in keeping with the other programs offered by the Institute. The materials identify objectives, course requirements, and statements on accreditation and limitations on transferability of earned credits to other institutions.

**Staff Conclusion.** The staff concludes that ITT Technical Institute and the proposed degree program meet the criteria in Sections 1030.30 and 1030.60 of the rules to implement "The Private College Act" (110 ILCS 1005) and "The Academic Degree Act" (110 ILCS 1010) and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.

The staff recommends adoption of the following resolutions:

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants to McKendree University Authorization to Grant the Master of Arts in Education in Higher Education Administrative Services in the Chicago Region subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.*

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants to Midwestern University Authorization to Grant the Doctor of Dental Medicine in the West Suburban Region subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.*

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants to Americare College of Nursing Authorization to Operate and to Grant the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing in the North Suburban Region subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.*

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants to Argosy University – Chicago Campus Authorization to Grant the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and the Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice in the Chicago Region 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 to Argosy University – Schaumburg Campus Authorization to Grant the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and the Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice in the North Suburban Region 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 to Chamberlain College of Nursing Authorization to Grant the Bachelor of Science in Nursing in the Chicago Region subject to the institution’s implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.*

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants to Flashpoint Academy Authorization to Grant the Associate of Applied Science in Film and Broadcast, Associate of Applied Science in Game Development, Associate of Applied Science in Recording Arts, and the Associate of Applied Science in Visual Effects and Animation in the Chicago Region 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 to ITT Technical Institute at Burr Ridge Authorization to Grant the Associate of Applied Science in Paralegal Studies in the West Suburban Region subject to the institution’s implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.*

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants to ITT Technical Institute at Mount Prospect Authorization to Grant the Associate of Applied Science in Paralegal Studies in the North Suburban Region subject to the institution’s implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.*

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants to ITT Technical Institute at Orland Park Authorization to Grant the Associate of Applied Science in Paralegal Studies in the South Metropolitan Region subject to the institution’s implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.*