APPROVED
November 15, 2023

Dave Kelm
General Counsel

Item #D-1
November 15, 2023

NEW UNITS OF INSTRUCTION AT PUBLIC COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Submitted for: Action.

Summary: This item requests approval of five new associate degree programs to be offered at eight community colleges.

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

Rend Lake College
- Digital Agriculture Associate of Applied Science

South Suburban College
- Cybersecurity Associate of Applied Science

Southwestern Illinois College
- Geospatial and Aeronautical Information Systems Associate of Applied Science

Spoon River College
- Early Childhood Education Associate of Applied Science

Waubonsee Community College
- Cybersecurity Associate of Applied Science

STATE OF ILLINOIS
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

NEW UNITS OF INSTRUCTION AT PUBLIC COMMUNITY COLLEGES

By statute, the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) 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, staff of the IBHE and the Illinois Community College Board review the proposal. Once agreement is reached on a proposal having met the approval criteria, a recommendation for approval is presented to each board. In addition to the approval criteria in rules, each new program was reviewed for its contributions to the goals of the higher education strategic plan, *A Thriving Illinois: Higher Education Paths to Equity, Sustainability, and Growth*, which sets forth priorities to guide Illinois higher education. Staff recommendations are based on analyses of application materials and responses to staff questions.

Executive Summary

<u>Rend Lake College</u>

- Digital Agriculture Associate of Applied Science

Rend Lake College is seeking approval for a 64-credit hour Digital Agriculture Associate of Applied Science. The curriculum includes 19 credit hours of required general education and 45 credit hours of required career and technical education coursework. The program also requires a workshop with employers that will provide insight into the field of digital agriculture within local context. Assessment of student learning for the proposed program will be achieved through evaluation of the student's performance on comprehensive applied projects throughout the required coursework. The proposed program will provide a continuing educational ladder opportunity for students completing the College's recently approved Digital Agriculture Certificate. There are policies in place to ensure faculty members possess the training, credentials, and qualifications to provide instruction in the proposed program. The College has sufficient library, technology, staff, and financial resources in place to support the proposed program.

Approval request summary, including staff conclusion, follows in Attachment A.

<u>South Suburban College</u>

- Cybersecurity Associate of Applied Science

South Suburban College is seeking approval for a 60-credit hour Cybersecurity Associate of Applied Science. The curriculum includes 15 credit hours of required general education, and 45 credit hours of required career and technical education coursework. Graduates of the proposed curriculum will be prepared for industry credentialing including CompTIA Certifications: Network+,

A+, Security+, Cloud Essentials+, and Certified Ethical Hacker. Assessment of student learning will be achieved through evaluation of the student's performance during the work-based learning component by program faculty and their worksite supervisor. There are policies in place to ensure faculty members possess the training, credentials, and qualifications to provide instruction in the proposed program. The College has sufficient library, technology, staff, and financial resources in place to support the proposed program.

Approval request summary, including staff conclusion, follows in Attachment B.

<u>Southwestern Illinois College</u>

- Geospatial and Aeronautical Information Systems Associate of Applied Science

Southwestern Illinois College is seeking approval for a 65-credit hour Geospatial and Aeronautical Associate of Applied Science. The curriculum includes 15 credit hours of required general education, and 50 credit hours of required career and technical coursework. The proposed program will provide a continued educational ladder opportunity for students completing the College's recently approved GIS and AIS Certificates. There are policies in place to ensure faculty members possess the training, credentials, and qualifications to provide instruction in the proposed program. The College has sufficient library, technology, staff, and financial resources in place to support the proposed program.

Approval request summary, including staff conclusion, follows in Attachment C.

<u>Spoon River College</u>

- Early Childhood Education Associate of Applied Science

Spoon River College is seeking approval for a 60-credit hour Early Childhood Education Associate of Applied Science. The curriculum includes 15 credit hours of required general education, and 45 credit hours of required career and technical coursework. The program was developed using INCCRA (Illinois Network for Child Care Referral Agencies) and will prepare individuals for various Gateways to Opportunity credentials. There are policies in place to ensure faculty members possess the training, credentials, and qualifications to provide instruction in the proposed program. The College has sufficient library, technology, staff, and financial resources in place to support the proposed program.

Approval request summary, including staff conclusion, follows in Attachment D.

<u>Waubonsee Community College</u>

- Cybersecurity Associate of Applied Science

Waubonsee Community College is seeking approval for a 60-credit hour Cybersecurity Associate of Applied Science. The curriculum includes 15 credit hours of required general education, and 45 credit hours of required career and technical coursework. The curriculum was developed according to the U.S. Department of Commerce-National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), as well as the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education (NICE) framework for cybersecurity curriculum. Students will be prepared for industry credentialing including CISCO

Certified Network Associate (CCNA); and CompTIA Certifications: Network+, A+, Security+, PenTest+, Cloud Essentials+, and Certified Ethical Hacker. The proposed program will provide a continued educational ladder opportunity for students completing the College's existing Cybersecurity Certificate. There are policies in place to ensure faculty members possess the training, credentials, and qualifications to provide instruction in the proposed program. The College has sufficient library, technology, staff, and financial resources in place to support the proposed program.

Approval request summary, including staff conclusion, follows in Attachment E.

The staff recommends adoption of the following resolutions:

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants authority to the Rend Lake College to offer the Digital Agriculture Associate of Applied 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 this authorization is granted.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants authority to the South Suburban College to offer the Cybersecurity Associate of Applied 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 this authorization is granted.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants authority to Southwestern Illinois College to offer the Geospatial and Aeronautical Information Systems Associate of Applied 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 this authorization is granted.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants authority to Spoon River College to offer the Early Childhood Education Associate of Applied 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 this authorization is granted.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants authority to Waubonsee Community College to offer the Cybersecurity Associate of Applied 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 this authorization is granted.

Rend Lake College
468 North Ken Gray Parkway
Ina, Illinois 62846
President: Mr. Terry Wilkerson

Proposed Program Title: Digital Agriculture Associate of Applied Science

Program Purpose

This program will prepare individuals for entry-level and advanced employment/IT roles within the agriculture industry.

Catalog Description

The Digital Agriculture Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree program is designed to prepare students for employment in the field of digital agriculture. The AAS degree incorporates both skill sets of agronomy and computer science to provide knowledge and involvement in agriculture technology and computer programming. The AAS degree also prepares students for upward mobility within the industry through curriculum beyond technical knowledge only. Classroom instruction and hands-on training will be conducted utilizing agriculture computer software, GPS hardware, and drone technology used in the agriculture industry. Students will learn how to effectively implement farm software programs within the farm and agriculture industry settings, as well as prepare for a career in agricultural technical services.

Curricular Information

The curriculum includes 19 credit hours of required general education and 45 credit hours of required career and technical education coursework. The career and technical component includes instruction in introductory digital farm management, soil science, agriculture economics, agriculture chemicals, crop science, agriculture technologies, farm data management and analytics, field computer systems, computer business applications, introductory programming, programming .NET, discrete structures, advanced data structures, system analysis and design, and introductory unmanned aircraft systems. The program also requires a workshop with employers that will provide insight into the field of digital agriculture within local context. Assessment of student learning for the proposed program will be achieved through evaluation of the student's performance on comprehensive applied projects throughout the required coursework. The proposed program will provide a continuing educational ladder opportunity for students completing the College's recently approved Digital Agriculture Certificate.

Justification for Credit Hours Required for the Degree

The proposed program includes a four credit hour plant science course, a pre-requisite for several career and technical education (CTE) agriculture science courses required to complete the program. Further, two math courses at three credit hours each are required to support students enrolled in the required agriculture science courses.

Accrediting Information

Rend Lake College (RLC or the College) is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. No additional program accreditation is required to offer the proposed program.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Efforts

Rend Lake College is committed to providing innovating learning opportunities that enhance the quality of life for all students across the communities within their district. Equity strategies that address access and support for students regardless of race, socioeconomic status, or educational status focus on local underserved populations. The College regularly promotes programs and services through RLC Enhancement Center and CTE Success Center. The College utilizes RL-Cares, a team of professionals trained to assist students in overcoming potential and existing barriers by working with them one-on-one, to identify needs and resources to help them succeed. Faculty are trained to monitor student progress through dedicated advising and an Early Alert system. The College continues its efforts to hire and retain a diverse faculty, staff, and administration through Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) advertising to diverse audiences, reviewing existing policies and practices, and providing access to DEI support activities throughout the year. The College will intentionally seek to expose program students to a diverse set of faculty within the classroom and through opportunities to hear from diverse individuals with diverse backgrounds from employers within the digital agriculture field.

Supporting Labor Market Data (including employer partners)

Labor market information provided by the college supports the interest in and the need for a two-year degree program in this field of study. According to the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES), employment growth in occupations related to both agriculture and software/application development are expected to increase statewide around 4.3 percent through the year 2030. Further, the proposed degree program will provide an educational ladder opportunity for students completing the College's recently approved Digital Agriculture Certificate program.

Table 1: Employer Partners

Employer	Location
Sydenstricker Nobbe Partners	Benton, IL
Riechmann Brothers	Centralia, IL
Syngenta	Greensboro, NC (with local branches)

Table 2: Projected Enrollments

Digital Agriculture AAS degree	First Year	Second Year	Third Year
Full-Time Enrollments:	5	7	10
Part-Time Enrollments:	3	3	3
Completions:	7	8	11

Financial/Budgetary Information

The program will require one (1) existing full-time and one (1) new part-time faculty the first year. Qualified faculty will hold at least a bachelor's degree in agriculture or computer science (Master's degree for baccalaureate/transfer courses); at least three years of work experience, and at least one year of teaching experience is preferred. All facilities are adequately in place to support the program. The program will otherwise be supported fiscally through student tuition and fees.

Table 3: Financial Information

	First Year	Second Year	Third Year
Faculty Costs	$5,280	$5,280	$5,280
Administrator Costs	-	-	-
Other Personnel costs	-	-	-
Equipment Costs	-	-	-
Library/LRC Costs (aviation textbooks)	-	-	-
Facility Costs	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-
TOTAL NEW COSTS	**$5,280**	**$5,280**	**$5,280**

Table 4: Faculty Requirements

	First Year		Second Year		Third Year	
	Full-time	Part-time	Full-Time	Part-time	Full-Time	Part-time
New Faculty	0	1	0	0	0	0
Existing Faculty	1	0	1	1	1	1

Staff Conclusion

Rend Lake College and its proposed program meet the criteria to implement the Board of Higher Education Act (110 ILCS 205) as set forth in 23. Ill. Admin. Code 1050.30 and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.

South Suburban College
15800 South State Street
South Holland, IL 60473-1200
President: Dr. Lynette D. Stokes

Proposed Program Title: Cybersecurity Associate of Applied Science

Program Purpose

This program will prepare students for entry-level employment in cybersecurity roles and for advancement opportunities within the information technology field.

Catalog Description

The Cybersecurity degree program offers students hands-on training in cybersecurity including ethical hacking, Visual Basic scripting, cyber law, and cybersecurity analysis training. The program will prepare students with critical thinking skills and educational background to secure employment and advance within the field.

Curricular Information

The curriculum includes 15 credit hours of required general education and 45 credit hours of required career and technical education coursework. The career and technical component includes instruction in computer logic, computer technology, computer/information security, data communication, advanced operating systems, cybersecurity analysis, visual basic scripting, cyber law, CompTIA Network+, Security+, Cloud computing, ethical hacking, and a required field project/internship course.

Graduates of the proposed program will be prepared for industry credentialing including CompTIA Certifications: Network+, A+, Security+, Cloud Essentials+, and Certified Ethical Hacker. Assessment of student learning will be achieved through evaluation of the student's performance during the work-based learning component by program faculty and their worksite supervisor.

Justification for Credit Hours Required for the Degree

Not Applicable

Accrediting Information

South Suburban College (SSC or the College) is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. No additional program accreditation is required to offer the proposed program.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Efforts

South Suburban College is committed to equity strategies that involve closing gaps on who enrolls, persists, and completes programs in this field of study. The College currently utilizes multiple forms of outreach with underrepresented groups in an effort to increase enrollment, retention, and graduation rates. Targeted efforts include focusing on attracting, recruiting, and retaining a diverse population of students, and within career and technical education (CTE) programs. SSC provides a

multitude of services for assisting students with program completion through their Academic Assistance Center, Math Lab, Reading Center, Writing Center, and the Speaking Center. Further, this specific program includes an Adult Education ICAPs (Integrated Career & Academic Preparation) gateway course (MIS 101) which offers adult education students the opportunity to transition into college-level credit-bearing coursework. The College continues its efforts to hire and retain a diverse faculty, staff, and administration through Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) training for search committees, advertising to diverse audiences, review of existing policies and practices, and providing access to DEI support activities throughout the year. The College's Teaching and Learning Center provides faculty with support services to achieve individualized instructional needs. The College will intentionally seek to expose program students to a diverse set of faculty within the classroom, employers through internships, and opportunities to hear from diverse individuals with diverse backgrounds from the various industries and employers of cybersecurity professionals.

Supporting Labor Market Data (including employer partners)

Labor market information provided by the College supports the interest in and the need for training programs in this field of study. According to the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES), employment growth in occupations related to cybersecurity is expected to increase statewide between four to 25 percent through the year 2030. The proposed degree program will provide a continuing educational ladder opportunity for students completing the College's existing Security Certificate program.

Table 1: Employer Partners

Employer	Location
St. Francis High School	Chicago, IL
Brother Rice High School	Chicago, IL
The Computer Doctor	Homewood, IL

Table 2: Projected Enrollments

Cybersecurity A.A.S.	First Year	Second Year	Third Year
Full-Time Enrollments:	5	10	15
Part-Time Enrollments:	5	8	10
Completions:	-	6	12

Financial/Budgetary Information

The program will require one (1) existing full-time faculty the first year. Qualified faculty will hold at least a master's degree in management information systems or a closely related computer science field; at least three years of work experience in the field of networking or information security; hold the necessary industry credentials to teach coursework leading towards certification; and at least two years of teaching experience is preferred. All facilities are adequately in place to support the program. The program will otherwise be supported fiscally through student tuition and fees.

Table 3: Financial Information

	First Year	Second Year	Third Year
Faculty Costs	$0	$0	$0
Administrator Costs	-	-	-
Other Personnel Costs	-	-	-
Equipment Costs	-	-	-
Library/LRC Costs	-	-	-
Facility Costs	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-
TOTAL NEW COSTS	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

Table 4: Faculty Requirements

	First Year		Second Year		Third Year	
	Full-time	Part-time	Full-Time	Part-time	Full-Time	Part-time
New Faculty	0	0	0	0	0	0
Existing Faculty	1	1	1	1	1	1

Staff Conclusion

South Suburban College and its proposed program meet the criteria to implement the Board of Higher Education Act (110 ILCS 205) as set forth in 23. Ill. Admin. Code 1050.30 and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.

Southwestern Illinois College
2500 Carlyle Avenue
Belleville, IL 62221
President: Mr. Nick J. Mance

Proposed Program Title: Geospatial and Aeronautical Information Systems Associate of Applied Science

Program Purpose

This program will prepare students for entry-level employment in positions that utilize geospatial and aeronautical information systems (GIS/AIS) skills. Industries which utilize positions in surveying, mapping, cartography, imagery analysis, photogrammerists, and geospatial production technology utilize these skillsets.

Catalog Description

The GIS/AIS Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree program is designed to train individuals to become grounded in geospatial and aeronautical information technology to make informed use of existing applications, and to gain skills necessary to construct new applications utilizing data capture, analysis, modeling, and cartographic representation. GIS and AIS data are becoming an integral component in business, healthcare, state and local government, insurance, law enforcement, and many other industries.

Curricular Information

The curriculum includes 15 credit hours of required general education, and 50 credit hours of required career and technical education coursework. The career and technical component includes instruction in introductory GIS programming, GIS and cartography, GIS data analysis and management, GPS imagery, spatial analysis, planning and implementing GIS, GIS design and Raster analysis, evolution of AIS, introductory and applications of aeronautical navigation systems, introductory aviation safety management, aerospace chart legend interpretation, private pilot theory, instrument flight theory, and unmanned aircraft systems (UAS/Drone) pilot operations. The proposed program requires an internship in GIS/AIS technology. Assessment of student learning will be achieved through evaluation of the student's performance during the work-based learning component of the program. The proposed program will provide a continued educational ladder opportunity for students completing the College's recently approved GIS and AIS Certificates.

Justification for Credit Hours Required for the Degree

The proposed program includes two (2) courses totaling six (6) credit hours which will prepare students who may not already be licensed, for UAS/Drone pilot certification. This skill is highly recommended for individuals seeking employment in GIS/AIS-related positions.

Accrediting Information

Southwestern Illinois College (SWIC or the College) is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. No additional program accreditation is required to offer the proposed program.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Efforts

SWIC is committed to equity strategies that involve closing gaps on who enrolls, persists, and completes programs in this field of study. The College currently utilizes multiple forms of outreach with underrepresented groups in an effort to increase enrollment, retention and graduation rates. Targeted efforts include focusing on attracting, recruiting, and retaining a diverse population of students, and within career and technical education (CTE) programs. The College student services staff regularly provide information on access to college support services including grants/scholarships for underrepresented/underserved students and Veterans Services. SWIC utilizes wraparound, intrusive student services to aid in academic and non-academic student success. The College continues its efforts to hire and retain a diverse faculty, staff, and administration through Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) training for search committees, advertising to diverse audiences, review of existing policies and practices, and providing access to DEI support activities throughout the year. The College will intentionally seek to expose program students to a diverse set of faculty within the classroom, employers through internships, and opportunities to hear from diverse individuals with diverse backgrounds from the various industries and employers of GIS/AIS technology professionals.

Supporting Labor Market Data (including employer partners)

Labor market information provided by the college supports the interest in and the need for a two-year degree program in this field of study. According to the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES), employment growth in occupations related to GIS and AIS technologies are expected to increase statewide between 2.9 to 9.1 percent through the year 2030. Further, the proposed degree program will provide a continuing educational ladder opportunity for students completing the College's recently approved GIS and AIS Certificate programs.

Table 1: Employer Partners

Employer	Location
Boeing, Inc.	Mascoutah, IL
Terra Vita	Belleville, IL
National Geospatial Intelligence Agency	St. Louis, MO

Table 2: Projected Enrollments

GIS/AIS AAS degree	First Year	Second Year	Third Year
Full-Time Enrollments:	8	10	15
Part-Time Enrollments:	2	3	3
Completions:	-	8	10

Financial/Budgetary Information

The program will require one new full-time faculty the first year with additional part-time faculty added as needed during year two. Qualified faculty will preferably hold an associate degree in an Aviation Science-related field; at least one year of work experience using GIS/AIS technologies, and at least one year of teaching experience is preferred. All facilities are adequately in place to support the program. The program will otherwise be supported fiscally through student tuition and fees.

Table 3: Financial Information

	First Year	Second Year	Third Year
Faculty Costs	$72,742	$16,447	-
Administrator Costs	-	-	-
Other Personnel Costs	-	-	-
Equipment Costs	$13,190	-	-
Library/LRC Costs	-	-	-
Facility Costs	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-
TOTAL NEW COSTS	**$85,932**	**$16,447**	**$0**

Table 4: Faculty Requirements

	First Year		Second Year		Third Year	
	Full-time	Part-time	Full-Time	Part-time	Full-Time	Part-time
New Faculty	1	0	0	2	0	0
Existing Faculty	0	0	1	0	1	2

Staff Conclusion

Southwestern Illinois College and its proposed program meet the criteria to implement the Board of Higher Education Act (110 ILCS 205) as set forth in 23. Ill. Admin. Code 1050.30 and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.

Spoon River College
23235 North County Highway 22
Canton, IL 61520
President: Dr. Curt Oldfield

Proposed Program Title: Early Childhood Education Associate of Applied Science

Program Purpose

This program will prepare individuals for entry-level and advanced employment/roles within the early childhood education area.

Catalog Description

The Early Childhood Education Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree program is designed to prepare potential educators to work with children birth through age five in a childcare center or preschool setting. The Spoon River College Early Childhood Education (ECE) program has been approved as an entitled program through Gateways to Opportunity. Courses taken at Spoon River College support the attainment of the following Gateways Credentials: Levels 2, 3, and 4; Infant-Toddler Credential Levels 2, 3, and 4.

Curricular Information

The curriculum includes 15 credit hours of required general education, and 45 credit hours of required career and technical education coursework. The career and technical component includes instruction in introductory early childhood education, health, safety & nutrition, language development & activity for young children, math & science for the young child, growth & development of young children, infant/toddler curriculum, methods of guiding child behavior, child, family & community, the exceptional child, infant/toddler development, curriculum for early childhood education programs administration & supervision of early childhood program, and observation & assessment. The program requires two practical learning experiences in early childhood education. The program was developed using INCCRA (Illinois Network for Child Care Referral Agencies) and will prepare individuals for various Gateways to Opportunity credentials.

Assessment of student learning will be achieved through evaluation of the student's performance during the required practical learning experiences by program faculty and their worksite supervisor. The proposed program provides a continued educational ladder opportunity for students completing the College's recently approved Assistant Teacher and Early Childhood Educator Certificate programs.

Justification for Credit Hours Required

Not Applicable

Accrediting Information

Spoon River College (SRC or the College) is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. The College will be eligible for accreditation through Gateways to Opportunity once all appropriate state level approvals have been granted.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Efforts

Spoon River College is committed to providing innovating learning opportunities that enhance the quality of life for all students across the communities within their district. Equity strategies that that address access and support for students regardless of race, socioeconomic status, or educational status focus on local underserved populations. This program was developed as a result of the Smart Start Illinois plan which aims to make childcare and preschool available to every three- and four-year old across the state for every family wanting these services and care. As such, SRC has grant funding available for providing stipends, technology, childcare, transportation, program coaches, mentors, and academic support services which aim to increase the success of new students and those upskilling existing skills. The College regularly promotes programs and services such as TRIO and the Center for Disabilities. Faculty monitor student progress through dedicated advising. The College continues its efforts to hire and retain a diverse faculty, staff, and administration through Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) advertising to diverse audiences, review of existing policies and practices, and providing access to DEI support activities throughout the year. The College will intentionally seek to expose program students to a diverse set of faculty within the classroom and through opportunities to hear from diverse individuals with diverse backgrounds from employers within the early childhood education field.

Supporting Labor Market Data (including employer partners)

Labor market information provided by the college supports the interest in and the need for programs in this field of study. According to the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES), employment growth in related childcare occupations is expected to increase statewide by around five percent (5 percent) through the year 2030. Further, the proposed programs aim to address the need locally for trained childcare providers through upskilling existing workers within the College's district.

Table 1: Employer Partners

Employer	Location
Kountry Kids Learning Center	Rushville, IL
YMCA Child Care Center	Macomb, IL
Catch a Star Learning Center	Macomb, IL
Wee Care Center	Macomb, IL
MacArthur Early Childhood Center	Macomb, IL
Mason One Head Start	Havana, IL
YWCA Canton Child Development Center	Canton, IL

Table 2: Projected Enrollments

Early Childhood Education A.A.S. degree	First Year	Second Year	Third Year
Full-Time Enrollments:	12	12	12
Part-Time Enrollments:	8	8	8
Completions:	10	10	10

Financial/Budgetary Information

The program will require one (1) existing full-time and one (1) existing part-time faculty the first year. Qualified faculty will hold at least a bachelor's degree in education or early childhood education (Masters degree for baccalaureate/transfer courses); Gateways credentials, at least

three years of work experience, and at least one year of teaching experience is preferred. All facilities are adequately in place to support the program and will share existing resources with the Child Development program currently being offered. This program will be phased out once the proposed programs have been implemented. The program will otherwise be supported fiscally through student tuition and fees.

Table 3: Financial Information

	First Year	Second Year	Third Year
Faculty Costs (new course development)	$79,000	$79,000	$73,000
Administrator Costs	$10,000	$10,000	$10,000
Other Personnel Costs	-	-	-
Equipment Costs	-	-	-
Library/LRC Costs	-	-	-
Facility Costs	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-
TOTAL NEW COSTS	**$89,000**	**$89,000**	**$83,000**

Table 4: Faculty Requirements

	First Year		Second Year		Third Year	
	Full-time	Part-time	Full-Time	Part-time	Full-Time	Part-time
New Faculty	0	0	0	0	0	0
Existing Faculty	1	1	1	1	1	1

Staff Conclusion

Spoon River College and its proposed program meet the criteria to implement the Board of Higher Education Act (110 ILCS 205) as set forth in 23. Ill. Admin. Code 1050.30 and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.

Waubonsee Community College
Route 47 at Waubonsee Drive
Sugar Grove, IL 60554-9454
President: Dr. Brian Knetl

Proposed Program Title: Cybersecurity Associate of Applied Science

Program Purpose

This program will prepare students for entry-level employment in cybersecurity roles and for advancement opportunities within the information technology field.

Catalog Description

This program is designed to provide entry-level skills in managing information security, consists of preserving information confidentiality and protection, risk management, and data and system integrity. The program is based on information security concepts, principles, methods, techniques, practices, and procedures that guide today's information technology security professionals. Graduates will be qualified for entry-level careers in cybersecurity and information assurance in federal, state, and local agencies; and the private sector as information security specialists, firewall and virtual private networks (VPN) specialists, and data assurance specialists. In addition, students will be prepared for industry recognized credentials and certifications.

Curricular Information

The curriculum includes 15 credit hours of required general education, and 45 credit hours of required career and technical education coursework. The career and technical component includes instruction in information technology fundamentals, introductory scripting, introductory programming, IT professional/code of ethics/compliance, networking essentials, security awareness, introductory and advanced CISCO networking, Linux/UNIX operating systems, Cloud technology, managing network environments, firewalls and VPNs, penetration testing, and ethical hacking. The curriculum was developed according to the U.S. Department of Commerce-National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), as well as the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education (NICE) framework for cybersecurity curriculum. Students will be prepared for industry credentialing including CISCO Certified Network Associate (CCNA); and CompTIA Certifications: Network+, A+, Security+, PenTest+, Cloud Essentials+, and Certified Ethical Hacker. Assessment of student learning will be achieved through evaluation of the student's performance on comprehensive applied projects throughout the required coursework. The proposed program will provide a continued educational ladder opportunity for students completing the College's existing Cybersecurity Certificate.

Justification for Credit Hours Required for the Degree

Not Applicable

Accrediting Information

Waubonsee Community College (WCC or the College) is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. No additional program accreditation is required to offer the proposed program.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Efforts

Waubonsee Community College is committed to equity strategies that involve closing gaps on who enrolls, persists, and completes programs in this field of study. WCC is a designated Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) and as such is supported by the U.S. Department of Education's Developing HSIs Title V Grants. These funds provide resources and opportunities to serve the district's large percentage of Hispanic/Latinx, low-income, and disadvantaged students. The College currently utilizes multiple forms of outreach with underrepresented groups in an effort to increase enrollment, retention and graduation rates. Targeted efforts include focusing on attracting, recruiting, and retaining a diverse population of students, and within career and technical education (CTE) programs. WCC participates in the TRIO Student Support Services Program for assisting students with program completion and utilizes wraparound, intrusive student services to aid in academic and non-academic student success. The College continues its efforts to hire and retain a diverse faculty, staff, and administration through Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) training for search committees, advertising to diverse audiences, review of existing policies and practices, and providing access to DEI support activities throughout the year. Further, WCC supports both full-time and adjunct faculty participating in the Effective Teaching Practice Framework certificate program through the Association of Colleges and Universities, of which diversity and inclusion are core elements. The College will intentionally seek to expose program students to a diverse set of faculty within the classroom, employers through internships, and opportunities to hear from diverse individuals with diverse backgrounds from the various industries and employers of cybersecurity professionals.

Supporting Labor Market Data (including employer partners)

Labor market information provided by the college supports the interest in and the need for a two-year degree program in this field of study. According to the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES), employment growth in occupations related to cybersecurity are expected to increase statewide between 4 – 25% through the year 2030. Further, the proposed degree program will provide a continuing educational ladder opportunity for students completing the College's existing Cybersecurity Certificate program.

Table 1: Employer Partners

Employer	Location
Northern Trust	Chicago, IL
Data Link Associates, Inc.	Batavia, IL

Table 2: Projected Enrollments

CNC Engineering Technician A.A.S. degree	First Year	Second Year	Third Year
Full-Time Enrollments:	10	16	21
Part-Time Enrollments:	20	25	35
Completions:	-	8	15

Financial/Budgetary Information

The program will require two new full-time faculty, one existing full-time faculty, and two existing part-time faculty the first year. Qualified faculty will hold at least a bachelor's degree in information technology, management information systems or a closely related computer science field (Masters degree for baccalaureate/transfer courses); at least two years of work experience in the field of networking or information security; hold the necessary industry credentials to teach coursework leading towards certification; and at least two years of teaching experience is preferred. All facilities are adequately in place to support the program, however funds have been budgeted for new equipment purchases during the first year. The program will otherwise be supported fiscally through student tuition and fees.

Table 3: Financial Information

	First Year	Second Year	Third Year
Faculty Costs	$152,235	$233,304	$244,290
Administrator Costs	-	-	-
Other Personnel Costs	-	-	-
Equipment Costs	$208,752	$540	$276
Library/LRC Costs	-	-	-
Facility Costs	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-
TOTAL NEW COSTS	**$306,987**	**$233,844**	**$244,566**

Table 4: Faculty Requirements

	First Year		Second Year		Third Year	
	Full-time	Part-time	Full-Time	Part-time	Full-Time	Part-time
New Faculty	2	0	0	0	0	0
Existing Faculty	1	2	3	2	3	2

Staff Conclusion

Waubonsee Community College and its proposed program meet the criteria to implement the Board of Higher Education Act (110 ILCS 205) as set forth in 23. Ill. Admin. Code 1050.30 and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation for licensure.