

**Directive 2011-022**  
**August 24, 2011**

Re: REQUEST BY BELMONT TECHNICAL COLLEGE TO CHANGE NAME TO BELMONT COLLEGE

Belmont Technical College has requested authorization to change its name to Belmont College to better align its name with the substantive changes it has recently undertaken as well as to better align with higher education policies of the state.

Belmont Technical College began serving area students in 1971 under the name Belmont Technical Institute. Until 2007, when the Ohio General Assembly enacted section 3357.13 of the Ohio Revised Code which authorized the Chancellor to approve baccalaureate-oriented associate degree programs at technical colleges, technical colleges in Ohio had been organized for the principal purpose of providing for the residents of the technical college district one or more instructional programs or adult-education technical programs, normally not exceeding two years duration and not leading to a baccalaureate degree.

The goal of authorizing technical colleges to expand offerings beyond technical degrees pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 3357.13 is to increase access to higher education by allowing associate degrees to be granted at all twenty-three community colleges. The expansion of degree offerings creates networks of high-quality, low-cost campuses offering both bachelor's and associate degrees within 30 miles of every Ohioan by utilizing existing community college and regional campus facilities.

In April of 2008 the Chancellor responded to the enactment of section 3357.13 by approving a joint application of the technical colleges that allowed them to officially grant associate degrees. Since then, Belmont has been authorized to offer Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degrees. Belmont's commitment to increasing educational opportunities in its district aligns with higher education public policy of the state

On May 19, 2011, the board of trustees of Belmont Technical College approved a resolution authorizing a name change from Belmont Technical College to Belmont College to better reflect the College's current mission and status, and submitted for the Chancellor's approval pursuant to section 3357.07 of the Ohio Revised Code a request to change its charter to Belmont College.

Belmont's evolution since its founding in 1971, especially over the last decade, supports its request to drop the word technical from its name, as it is now clearly more than a technical education provider.

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff reviewed the request and posted recommendations to the Regents' web site for purposes of providing a period of public comment before final approval by the Chancellor. No public comments were received.

Based on my review of staff recommendations, I hereby approve the request to change the name from Belmont Technical College to Belmont College as it aligns with the goals of the State of Ohio and the College's current mission and status.

This directive will take effect immediately.

  
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Jim Petro  
Chancellor, Ohio Board of Regents