REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY
Master of Library and Information Science: School Library Media K-12

Request:
Kent State University requests approval to offer a Master of Library and Information Science: School Library Media K-12

Background:
Kent State University is a public university located in Kent, Ohio with seven additional campuses throughout northeastern Ohio, and was originally founded as a teacher-training school in 1910. Today, the university enrolls more than 40,000 undergraduate and graduate students in over 300 programs, from the associate degree level to the doctoral level. Kent State University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission until its next scheduled review in 2024-25.

Curriculum and Enrollment:
The Master of Library and Information Science: School Library Media K-12 is a 37 credit hour, 100% online degree that prepares graduates for the school library media license exam and to be employed in a K-12 public school library. The program includes coursework in information organization, people in information ecology, school library management, information literacy initiatives and instruction, and managing technological change. The program also includes a 3 credit hour culminating experience practicum in K-12 libraries.

Kent State University projects an enrollment of 50.5 students in year one, growing to 63.5 in the fourth year.

Faculty and Resources:
The university has adequate faculty and staff in place to support the Master of Library and Information Science: School Library Media K-12 program. Additional faculty and staff will be hired as needed to accommodate enrollment growth.

Recommendation:
After review of the proposal, the Chancellor’s Council on Graduate Studies determined that the Master of Library and Information Science: School Library Media K-12 meets the Chancellor’s standards for graduate degree programs and on July 26, 2019 voted 10 Yes, and 0 No to approve. Approval will be withdrawn if, in the Chancellor’s judgement, the Kent State University fails to continue to meet the Chancellor’s standards for graduate degree programs or receives a sanction by the Higher Learning Commission.