



REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION

MERCY COLLEGE OF OHIO Master of Science in Nursing

Request:

Mercy College of Ohio requests authorization to offer a Master of Science in Nursing program.

Background:

Mercy College of Ohio is a private Catholic institution of higher education with a focus on healthcare education. Tracing its heritage to Mercy School of Nursing, founded by the Sisters of Mercy in 1918, the college was incorporated in 1992. The college expanded in 2002 with the establishment of a location in Youngstown, Ohio where an Associate of Science in Nursing degree is offered. Mercy College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) until its next review in 2019 and the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) until its next review in 2018.

Curriculum and Enrollment:

The 36 hour curriculum is designed to accommodate working registered nurses by providing all courses in an asynchronous, on-line, distance education platform. Students are admitted fall semester and can complete the program in six consecutive semesters of part-time study (six credit hours per semester). The semesters are divided into eight week segments, so students take one course at a time, with the exception of the Capstone II course that runs the entire semester. Enrollment is projected to rise from five to 15 FTE over the next four years.

Faculty and Resources:

The Nursing Director is full-time with a teaching workload of three to six credit hours per academic year. The college will use current full-time faculty who have the appropriate qualifications, and as enrollment grows will use adjunct faculty. A full-time workload for graduate faculty teaching in a master's program will be nine credit hours per semester. An individual full-time faculty member's credit hour allocation may change from semester to semester, but over the two semesters within a contract year, it will not exceed the specific credit hour allocation. The Master of Science in Nursing program will provide and maintain the institutional infrastructure including personnel, equipment, facilities, and resources necessary to support an appropriate learning environment for the students. Since the program is 100% online, no additional resources will need to be secured to establish and grow this program.

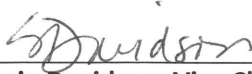
Recommendation to Chancellor:

After a review of the request, the Chancellor's staff recommends authorization contingent upon final approval by the HLC. Continued authorization is contingent upon the submission of annual progress reports no later than January 31, 2018, January 31, 2019, and January 31, 2020. The Chancellor may, in his judgment, withdraw authorization or require additional review if the university fails to continue to meet the Chancellor's standards for authorization or is sanctioned by the HLC or by CCNE.

End of Comment Period: February 27, 2017 at 10:00 AM
No comments received, recommend approval

RECOMMENDATION

The Vice Chancellor has verified that this institution has met the standards and requirements of the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

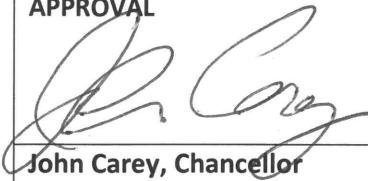


Stephanie Davidson, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs

3/3/17
Date

mlc

APPROVAL



John Carey, Chancellor

3/6/17
Date