



John R. Kasich, Governor  
Jim Petro, Chancellor

University System of Ohio  
Board of Regents

## REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION

### SOUTH UNIVERSITY Initial Authorization

#### **Request:**

South University requests authorization to offer various associate, baccalaureate, masters, and doctorate degrees online and at off-campus locations in Cleveland and Columbus, Ohio.

#### **Background:**

South University, located in Savannah, Georgia, is an independent for-profit institution. Originally established in 1899, the university today serves over 22,000 students at eleven campuses and through the delivery of online programs. The university is regionally accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. In addition, the university is approved by the State of Ohio Board of Career Colleges and Schools. This is the institution's first request to the Chancellor for authorization.

#### **Curriculum:**

South University requests authorization for the following programs:

- **Associate of Science** in Accounting, Allied Health Science, Business Administration, Criminal Justice, Information Technology, Paralegal Studies, and Physical Therapist Assisting
- **Bachelor of Business Administration**
- **Bachelor of Science** in Criminal Justice, Health Science, Healthcare Management, Information Technology, Legal Studies, Nursing, and Psychology
- **Registered Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN-BSN)**
- **Registered Nurse to Master of Science in Nursing (RN-MSN)**
- **Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health (Professional) Counseling**
- **Master of Business Administration**
- **Master of Business Administration in Healthcare Management**
- **Master of Public Administration**
- **Master of Science** in Criminal Justice, Information Systems Technology, and Leadership
- **Master of Science in Nursing**
- **Doctor in Business Administration**
- **Doctor of Nursing Practice**

The programs meet the Chancellor's minimum standards for authorization appropriate to the degree level, including the required number of credit hours for each degree designation and general education requirements for the undergraduate programs.

**Resource/Faculty Needs:**

The university's Cleveland Campus is set to open in January 2012, with the anticipation that classes will begin in March. Existing online and campus faculty presented for review, as well as faculty staffing plans to support the opening of the Cleveland Campus, meet the Chancellor's standards for faculty credentials. The university will update the Chancellor on additional faculty hires as programs are started, as well as its intentions to open a campus in the Columbus area.


**Recommendation:**

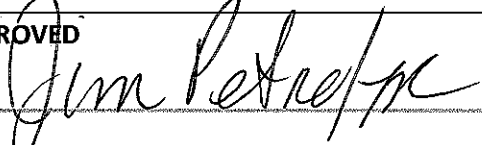
The Chancellor's staff recommends provisional authorization for South University's request to offer the following programs online and at off-campus locations in Cleveland and Columbus, Ohio: Associate of Science, Bachelor of Business Administration, Bachelor of Science, RN-BSN, RN-MSN, Master of Arts, Master of Business Administration, Master of Public Administration, Master of Science, Master of Science in Nursing, Doctor in Business Administration, and Doctor of Nursing Practice. Provisional authorization is recommended through December 31, 2014, and is contingent upon the submission of an approved response to the recommendations of the review team's report. Provisional authorization is also contingent upon the submission of annual progress reports by June 30, 2012, 2013, and 2014, which address any concerns that remain. Provisional authorization will be withdrawn if, in the Chancellor's judgment, such reports do not demonstrate satisfactory progress toward compliance with the Chancellor's standards.

**End of Comment Period: January 27, 2012**

As noted above, provisional authorization is contingent upon the submission of an approved response to the recommendations of the review team's report. During the public comment period, the institution submitted its institutional response, which was approved by the review team. As a result, the Chancellor's staff recommends provisional authorization through December 31, 2014, with annual progress reports to be submitted by June 30, 2012, 2013, and 2014.

**No Comments Received, Recommend Approval**

<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	
The Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs has verified that this institution has met the standards and requirements of the Ohio Board of Regents.	
	1/27/12
Stephanie Davidson, Vice Chancellor	Date

<b>APPROVED</b>	
	
Jim Petro, Chancellor	1-27-12
	Date

M/C