

DATE: January 25, 2007

SUBJECT: Walters State Community College, Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in General Technology

ACTION RECOMMENDED: Approval

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The proposed program is designed to provide training or re-training opportunities for persons to enter the general field of technology. An important component of this program is that it will provide a seamless transition for graduates from the Tennessee Technology Centers to articulate into an established degree program.

PROPOSED START-UP DATE: Fall 2007

Commission staff has reviewed program proposals according to the following academic standards and criteria adopted by the Commission referenced below:

1.1.20A MISSION: The proposed program is consistent with the mission of the college to serve a diverse geographic service area, providing high-quality education and training opportunities.

1.1.20B CURRICULUM: The proposed curriculum requires completion of 60 semester hours. No new courses are required to be developed. The curriculum requirements are as follows:

<u>Curriculum Components</u>	<u>Credit Hours</u>
General Education	16
Major Field Core	30
Other specified courses	<u>14</u>
Total	60

1.1.20C ACADEMIC STANDARDS: Admission, retention, and graduation requirements are consistent with institutional requirements of other A.A.S. programs offered at WSCC, as published in the institution's *Catalog*.

Student Projections	Projected Program Productivity		
	Full-time Enrollment	Part-time	Graduates
Year 1	5	7	0
Year 2	7	8	3
Year 3	8	8	5

1.1.20D FACULTY: No additional faculty is needed.

1.1.20E LIBRARY RESOURCES: Library resources are adequate.

1.1.20F ADMINISTRATION/ORGANIZATION: The proposed A.A.S. will be housed in the Technical Education Division and coordinated by the program chair.

1.1.20G SUPPORT RESOURCES: None indicated.

1.1.20H FACILITIES/INSTRUCTIONAL EQUIPMENT: No additional instructional facilities or equipment are required.

1.1.20I STUDENT/EMPLOYER DEMANDS: The proposed program will fill some of the employment needs of business and industry in general technology within the service area. The robust growth and replacement needs for first-line supervisors/managers of production operations and mechanics, installers, and repairers in the area are estimated to average approximately 75 openings per year. The proposed program also will provide an alternative for TTC program completers to obtain credit toward a two-year degree.

1.1.20J NO UNNECESSARY DUPLICATION: The program will be offered within the WSCC service area.

1.1.20K COOPERATIVE INSTITUTIONS: None indicated.

1.1.20M ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION AND ACCREDITATION: N/A

1.1.20N ARTICULATION: The proposed program is designed to articulate with all qualifying TTC programs as specified in TBR policy.

1.1.20O EXTERNAL JUDGMENT (Graduate Programs): N/A

1.1.20P COST/BENEFIT/SOURCE: There are no associated costs.

1.1.30 POST APPROVAL MONITORING: An annual performance review of the proposed program will be conducted for the first three years following approval. The review will be based on benchmarks established in the approved program proposal. At the end of this period, campus, governing board, and Commission staff will perform a summative evaluation. The benchmarks include, but are not limited to, enrollment and graduation, program cost, progress toward accreditation, library acquisitions, student performance and others set by the institution and agreed upon by governing board and Commission staff. As a result of this evaluation, if benchmarks are not met during the monitoring period, the Commission may recommend that the governing board terminate the program. The Commission may choose to extend the period, if additional time is needed and requested by the governing board.