

Docket Item:

Community College Approval: Treasure Valley Community College, Associate of Applied Science in Aviation Technology - Fixed Wing, within 49.0102-Airline/Commercial/Professional Pilot and Flight Crew.

Summary:

Treasure Valley Community College proposes a new AAS degree in Aviation Technology - Fixed Wing. Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) staff completed a review of the proposed program. After analysis, HECC staff recommends approval of the degree as proposed.

Staff Recommendation:

The HECC recommends the adoption of the following resolution:
RESOLVED, that the Higher Education Coordinating Commission approve the following degree: AAS in Aviation Technology - Fixed Wing.



Treasure Valley Community College seeks the Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission's approval to offer an instructional program leading to a degree in Aviation Technology - Fixed Wing.

Program Summary

The Associate of Applied Science Degree in Aviation Technology: Fixed Wing is designed for students interested in pursuing an entry-level career within the aviation industry. This degree is comprised of courses that meet related instruction, aviation core, and flight. Prepares students for employment opportunities in agriculture, flight training, freight transport and tourism. This degree is designed to prepare students to continue their education toward a Bachelor of Applied Science.

1. *Describe the need for this program by providing clear evidence.*

This program is designed to parallel the existing helicopter offering at TVCC. Currently students seeking fixed wing certification must leave the area to obtain training, the closest programs are located in central Oregon at Bend and Utah Valley University. TVCC receives multiple inquiries each week regarding fixed wing. The helicopter program at TVCC averages approximately 55 majors each year, using that program as an indicator we anticipate approximately 40 new students annually.

2. *Does the community college utilize systemic methods for meaningful and ongoing involvement of the appropriate constituencies?*

TVCC has an active aviation community that has been instrumental in the development, design and support of the fixed wing AAS. The area is unique in the variety of back country terrain and diverse ag and natural resource applications for aviation certification. The Fixed Wing Advisory Committee has members representing Search and Rescue, Ag Aerial operations, state and federal agencies and local Experimental Aircraft as well as commercial flight service.

3. *Is the community college program aligned with appropriate education, workforce development, and economic development programs?*

The sector strategies for the Eastern Oregon Workforce Board include agriculture and manufacturing. Aviation is a strong supporting industry for these strategies. Additionally economic data indicates 118 openings at an entry level pay of \$35,000 including instructors, freight, corporate, and charter pilots. The Aviation Fixed Wing AAS will also include core academic course work that will transfer to an Aviation BS/BA degree.

4. *Does the community college program lead to student achievement of academic and technical knowledge, skills, and related proficiencies?*

Students completing the Aviation: Fixed Wing AAS at TVCC will earn multiple FAA

certifications including Pilot, Instructor, Instrument, and Instrument Instructor. The student will also have the option of selecting a industry focus of Agriculture which could include Aerial Application, Aerial Fire, or Back Country Pilot certifications.

5. *Does the community college identify and have the resources to develop, implement, and sustain the program?*

TVCC has a robust Aviation: Helicopter offering, there are similarities in both helicopter and the proposed Fixed Wing. Where appropriate, faculty, support staff and equipment will be shared. We anticipate an initial enrollment of 40 fixed wing students.

Assurances

Treasure Valley Community College has met or will meet the four institutional assurances required for program application.

1. *Access.* The college and program will affirmatively provide access, accommodations, flexibility, and additional/supplemental services for special populations and protected classes of students.
2. *Continuous Improvement.* The college has assessment, evaluation, feedback, and continuous improvement processes or systems in place. For the proposed program, there will be opportunities for input from and concerning the instructor(s), students, employers, and other partners/stakeholders. Program need and labor market information will be periodically re-evaluated and changes will be requested as needed.
3. *Adverse impact and detrimental duplication.* The college will follow all current laws, rules, and procedures and has made good faith efforts to avoid or resolve adverse *intersegmental* and *intra-segmental* impact and detrimental duplication problems with other relevant programs or institutions.
4. *Program records maintenance and congruence.* The college acknowledges that the records concerning the program title, curriculum, CIP code, credit hours, etc. maintained by the Office are the official records and it is the college's responsibility to keep their records aligned with those of the Office. The college will not make changes to the program without informing and/or receiving approval from the Office.