



Docket Item:

Community College Approval: Treasure Valley Community College, Associate of Applied Science in Equine Business, within 01.0307 - Horse Husbandry/Equine Science and Management.

Summary:

Treasure Valley Community College proposes a new AAS degree in Equine Business. 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 Equine Business.



Treasure Valley Community College seeks the Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission's approval to offer an instructional program leading to a degree in Equine Business.

Program Summary

The Associate of Applied Science degree in Equine Business prepares students for a wide variety of careers in Equine Business Management including Equine Business Owner and Manager, Equine Facility Manager, Equine Riding Instructor and Equine Breeding operations. The program combines theory with practical skills required for daily equine management operations and other equine supply and service businesses.

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

A review of information provided by OLMIS indicates a 20.7% increase in employment for Agriculture Management positions through 2024. Average hourly rate for Eastern Oregon is \$35.47 per hour which is actually higher than the Oregon statewide average hourly rate of \$26.71. Additionally, the primary industry for the Eastern Oregon region is agriculture.

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

The Equine Business AAS at TVCC was developed through collaboration with regional producer in Eastern Oregon, Southwest Idaho and Northern Nevada. Nationally the equine production and operations account for a \$102 billion dollar industry. Locally TVCC worked with American Paint Horse Association, Ride for Joy, Sage Creek Stables, Simplot Land and Livestock, McKay Ranch, Greely Ranch and Glen Way to develop this program directly targeting those interested in Equine Business management and operation.

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

The TVCC Equine Business AAS is aligned with the national Certified Horsemanship Association (CHA) standards. The program outcomes meet or exceed those required by CHA for Equine Facility Manager levels 1 - 4, CHA Riding Instructor levels 1 -4, Trail Guide Certification levels 1-4, and Instructor of Riders with Disabilities Certification.

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

Students successfully completing this program will earn an AAS in Equine Business as well as the opportunity for 1-3 stackable CPCCs. There is no licensing currently required, however national certification is available through Certified Horsemanship Association (CHA). TVCC's program has been designed to align with the national CHA standards for certification.

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

TVCC has had a Horse Production AAS since the late 1990's, an Ag Business AAS was developed in the early 2000's and the Ranch Management AAS has been available since the college opened



in the mid-1960s. The Equine Business AAS is a natural outgrowth of industry needs, interests and employment opportunities. All ag programs are fully funded by general fund and industry partnerships. TVCC has an onsite, covered livestock riding arena and an ongoing partnership with Malheur County Fairgrounds. TVCC maintains facility space to serve 40 equine students for lecture and riding/applied capacity for 30 students. The ag department has 3 full-time tenured faculty, 3 long-term adjunct faculty and 1 full-time professional support for livestock operations. Internships and Cooperative Work Experience opportunities are provided by multiple industry partners.

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.