
Docket Item:

Community College Approval: Treasure Valley Community College, Associate of Applied Science in Industrial Welding Technology within 48.0508 Industrial Welding Technology/Welder.

Summary:

Treasure Valley Community College proposes a new Associate of Applied Science in Industrial Welding Technology. 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 Industrial Welding Technology.



Treasure Valley Community College seeks the Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission's approval to offer an instructional program leading to an Associate of Applied Science in Industrial Welding Technology.

Program Summary

This degree provides training for entry-level skills and related technical knowledge necessary for advancement in the metals welding industry. Upon satisfactory completion students will be able to weld all types of joints, including piping, and perform oxyacetylene welding and cutting, shielded metal arc welding, gas metal arc welding, gas tungsten arc welding, and fluxed cored arc welding. They will plan and layout work for drawings, blueprints and other written specifications; demonstrate knowledge of the welding properties of metals and alloys; and establish and maintain a safe working environment.

This degree is designed for students wishing to directly enter the workforce. It is not designed for transfer to a four-year institution, although some coursework may be transferable. Students who wish to transfer coursework are strongly encouraged to work closely with their TVCC advisor to develop a transfer plan and to identify and contact an advisor at their chosen transfer institution. A minimum of 90 credits and a minimum grade point average of 2.0 are needed to graduate with a degree.

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

The college has a demand, as demonstrated by the great number of requests by incoming students. The college has historically provided a welding/fabrication program that still has industry relevance, demonstrated by the workforce demand and employment projections. This new program is essentially a re-design to retain the relevant aspects of the welding program and combine it with additional skills needed for a highly-trained workforce, leading completers of the program to higher paying jobs.

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

TVCC already has a long-standing Advisory Committee for the welding program. This committee has met to develop and improve this program at TVCC. The group is normally scheduled to meet twice a year to continue the systematic methods of meaningful and ongoing involvement.

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

TVCC has aligned this program with industry-recognized credentials. This program was specifically designed to align with workforce and economic development needs.

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

TVCC has content that aligns with American Welding Society (AWS), and allows a student to obtain recognized industry tests. These AWS tests are proctored/certified by an AWS Inspector (TVCC faculty). This is a technical program that one needs to demonstrate proficiencies, in order to successfully complete.

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

TVCC has had a Welding program for a number of years, thus we have the physical space, infrastructure, instructional capability, equipment and expertise needed to launch and sustain the program. Again, this is a re-structure that will require more than 30% change to the existing program, thus a new program is requested.

There is no change in Financial Impact. We currently fund through General Funds both an IMAC and Welding program at (90) credits. This is simply a change in the courses within those programs.

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.