

Docket Item: 6.1

Community College Approval: Treasure Valley Community College, Associate of Applied Science in Agricultural Machine Technology within 01.0205, Agriculture Mechanics and Equipment/Machine Technology/Technician.

Summary:

Treasure Valley Community College proposes a new Associate of Applied Science in Agricultural Machine 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 Agricultural Machine 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 Agricultural Machine Technology.

Program Summary

Agriculture Machine Technology provides experience and exploratory opportunities to specialize in the field of agricultural machinery. Hands on Application of workplace safety, maintenance, agriculture machinery, equipment innovations, hydraulic systems, electrical systems, and irrigation systems will prepare students to service, maintain, or troubleshoot a variety of agricultural machinery. Students will complete a capstone linking theory with real world application to exemplify the depth of knowledge and skills attained throughout the program.

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

IMAC and Welding programs contain multiple courses fostering skills for agriculture mechanics training. The AMT degree also includes courses from agriculture and natural resource programs. Unifying these existing courses from CTE programs with the four new additional courses of AMT will add the the catalog of CTE degree offerings at TVCC. Advisory committee, local agriculture equipment dealers, large farm corporations, and high school FFA advisors have expressed significant interest and are already offering support for the new AMT program. The job data bolsters the interest of local community reporting eight job posting each month requiring skills related to agriculture machine technology.

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

Local FFA Districts have and continue to participate in the Ag Shop Skills competition hosted by TVCC Faculty and Staff. The competition provides opportunity for students to demonstrate skills in welding, tool identification, and farm machinery troubleshooting. Local industry supports the event as well. The program is partnered with the industry certifying group Nc3 enabling instruction to embed industry certificates into individual courses.

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

Meetings with local industry express the need for ag mechanics. Job data reports a continue rise in employment that has been trending upward since 2011. The job growth is predicted to increase 15% over the next ten years.

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

Individual industry certificates embedded into specific skill areas of electrical, hydraulics, pneumatics, mechanical systems, and multimeter demonstrate learning achievement. Additional Kubota certificates will also be included to demonstrate skills in diesel technology and power transmission of farm machinery.

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

Training stations used in IMAC can be dual purposed for the AMT program students to develop skills pertaining to agriculture mechanics. A tractor, utility vehicle, and mower that have been grant funded will provide skill development pertaining to the four new courses developed for the program. Additionally, instruction is working with local commercial irrigation company to construct a center pivot irrigation training system.

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.