

**Docket Item: 6.2**

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

**Summary:**

Treasure Valley Community College proposes a new Associate of Applied Science in Horse Training. 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 Horse Training.



**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 Horse Training.**

**Program Summary**

The Horse Training Degree will provide experience and exploratory opportunities to specialize in training and selling horses to the public. Hands on application of work place safety, horse stall maintenance, horse health and welfare, halter training, colt starting and performance horse training will prepare students to house, train and sale horses to the public. This degree will equip students to get out of the hobby horse category with the IRS and into a part-time or full-time business training horses, selling horses, giving lessons, boarding, or using horses to do day work on ranches and feedlots.

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

TVCC has had a strong interest in the horse production degree. However, this degree has lacked the needed structure in providing horse training series to equip students with the need skills to meet industry demands. Through restructuring the degree it will serve a broader range of students and will equip students to get out of the "hobby horse" category in the IRS and into a part time or full time business.

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

According to the EMSI data report there were three occupations and nine counties that were measured tracking the available jobs for workers entering the work force after completing this degree: Farm/Ranch Workers, Animal Trainers, Animal Breeders. The data report showed: 1) Jobs (hot spot): The national average for an area this size is 396 employees, while there are 838 in our area. 2) Earnings (Low): The national median salary for your occupations is \$26,633, compared to \$25,402. 3) Job Postings (high). The national average for an area this size is 3 job postings/mo., while there are 5 here.

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

According to the University of Tennessee Extension the annual cost of owning 1 horse is \$9,842, this is \$328 per month (similar to a car payment). The average horse owner in the U.S. owns 3.5 horses and will pay \$34,447 per year, or \$2,870 per month (similar to a mortgage payment). In order for an equine horse owner to get out of the hobby horse" category with the IRS they must run their operation in a

"business-like manner" and show a profit 2 out of 7 years. This degree will equip students to get out of the hobby horse category with the IRS and into a part-time or full-time business.

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

Skills are developed through Halter Training, Colt Starting, Performance Horse Training, Day Work Skills, Riding Instructor, Facility Management, and Field work.

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

No new money will be required for this program. This is a re-packaging of existing college courses.

***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 *intrasegmental* 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.