

Montana University System New Academic Program Proposal Summary

Campus: Dawson Community College

Program Title: Outdoor Recreation Management

Item Number: 120-201-R0903

Date: September 4, 2003

1. How does this program advance the campus' academic mission and fit priorities?

The institution's mission states that the college is "concerned with the development of the human potential and resources in the area." It goes on to state that the college will help students "acquire the requisite skills for obtaining employment or advancement in employment." This program will address both of these statements by providing a curriculum that is new and unique to Montana. The local area, as well as the entire state, will benefit from this program as it trains people to provide sustainable leisure activities for a nation anxious for such opportunities. The program will provide yet another way to keep Montanans in Montana and to help us utilize wonderful natural resources that we often take for granted. Outdoor leisure activities will bring revenue into the state bolstering the economy and strengthening the social fiber of our rural communities.

2. How does this program fit the Board of Regents' goals and objectives?

This program will provide a unique and high quality educational experience for the residents of Montana. By virtue of its nature, the program is designed to have a direct affect on the economic development of Montana by training residents to bring more recreational dollars into the state. The Outdoor Recreation Management program will promote population retention in rural areas by providing new opportunities to make a living from renewable natural resources.

3. How does this program support or advance Montana's needs and interests?

Outdoor recreation boosts economic development by attracting people from outside the state and country. Recreation and tourism produce clean, renewable income for individuals and the state. The program will prepare people to take advantage of natural resources in rural Montana thus bolstering the local and state economies and encouraging our rural population to stay in their communities.

4. How will this program contribute to economic development in Montana, if appropriate? (Note projected annual economic impact both regionally and statewide.)

Outdoor recreation is among the top contributors to the State's economy at a gross income of nearly five billion dollars. Much of the rest of our nation looks to Montana and the other Rocky Mountain states as a paradise, whereas we Montanans may even take our home state somewhat for granted. There is potential for Montana to follow states like Colorado, to extract even more revenue from its recreation industry by offering more services and doing better advertising.

5. What is the Program's planned capacity?

Break-even point?	9	FTE students
Enrollments/year?	12	
Graduates/year?	9	
MT jobs/year?	30-40	

6. Resource Allocation

Total program budget? \$		
	Start-up	Operation
Instructional Materials	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Specialized Equipment	\$ 40,000.00	\$15,000.00
Travel	\$ 10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Personnel Costs (salary and benefits)	\$ 36,000.00	\$36,000.00
Vehicle (4X4 Van)	\$ 38,000.00	\$
	\$ 6,000.00	\$
Totals	\$135,000.00	\$53,000.00

Faculty FTE? 1.5

Staff FTE? 0

Does this program require new resources? Amount?

The program start-up expenses will be paid by a vocational program endowment at Dawson Community College. Once the program is in place, and operating, it will help the college to continue with its plan of growth. There is no anticipation for the need of new resources.

How will the campus fund the program?

As mentioned above, an endowment will initiate the program and support it until enrollment can sustain it. The college is funded at a level that will permit the addition of this program without any financial impact upon the current level of allocation.

If internal reallocation is necessary, name the sources?

Only slight reallocation will occur in Federal Perkins Vocational funding. This amount should not exceed \$10,000 annually.