

Montana University System
PROGRAM REVIEW

Institution: Great Falls College Montana State University (GFCMSU)

Program Years: 2011-2012

List of the programs reviewed:

- Fire and Rescue Technology Associate of Applied Science
 - Dental Hygiene Associate of Applied Science
 - Practical Nurse Associate of Applied Science
 - Surgical Technology Associate of Applied Science
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Decision(s) concerning the future of the program(s), based on the program review criteria established at the campus:

Please see the attached detailed individual Internal Program Review Committee summaries.

Rationale or justification for the decision based on the program review process established at the campus. Include graduation numbers and student majors for each of the last seven (7) years for every program under review.

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Institution: Great Falls College Montana State University (GFCMSU)

Program Years: 2011-2012

List of the programs reviewed:

Fire and Rescue Technology Associate of Applied Science

Decision(s) concerning the future of the program(s), based on the program review criteria established at the campus:

The GFCMSU Internal Program Review Committee recommends to the Board of Regents that the current Fire and Rescue Technology Associate of Applied Science program be placed in moratorium.

Rationale or justification for the decision based on the program review process established at the campus. Include graduation numbers and student majors for each of the last seven (7) years for every program under review.

The Fire and Rescue Associate of Applied Science was reviewed by the GFCMSU Internal Program Review Committee with the following commendations and recommendations:

Commendations

The GFCMSU Internal Program Review Committee commended the Fire and Rescue Technology Associate of Applied Science program on the following:

- Changes to the program's curriculum since the last internal program review produced more graduates.
- The program addresses the needs of fire fighters already trained through Fire Safety Training Schools (FSTS) and working in the field.
- The program maximizes the use of campus resources through its partnership with FSTS.
- The program has a strong relationship with MSU's FSTS in Great Falls.
- High standards have led to exam pass rates of 100%.

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Recommendations

1. The Internal Program Review Committee recommended the Fire & Rescue Technology Program explore options to increase the degree production rate.
2. The Internal Program Review Committee recommended the Fire & Rescue Technology Program produce evidence of the attainment of student learning outcomes as per Phase IV of the GFCMSU assessment process.
3. The Internal Program Review Committee recommended the Fire & Rescue Technology program strengthen both the program director's relationship with the campus and the Health Sciences division, as well as the College's relationship with the program advisory board.

Note: During its April 2012 Year Three Evaluation for GFCMSU, the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) issued the following recommendation:

1. *The evaluation committee found evidence that one program, AAS Fire and Rescue Technology, accepts credit for prior experiential learning that exceeds 25% of the total credits required for the degree. This is in conflict with standard 2.C.7 and all programs must meet the standard (Standard 2.C.7).*

There is not an expectation from NWCCU that the program be placed in moratorium. Rather, their expectation is that GFCMSU will have a very well-defined plan to correct the situation as soon as possible with the appropriate communications to constituencies.

That stated, at the recommendation of its Fire and Rescue Technology AAS program advisory board, the College will place the current program in moratorium while working collaboratively with the program advisory board to explore options to develop a new credential utilizing prior learning through the FSTS certification and the appropriate related instruction.

Table 1: Enrollments and Graduations 2005-2011 – Fire and Rescue Technology Associate of Applied Science

Year	Program Enrollment	Number of Graduates
2004-05	12	0
2005-06	7	3
2006-07	5	2
2007-08	8	0
2008-09	12	0
2009-10	9	2
2010-11	15	2

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Institution: Great Falls College Montana State University (GFCMSU)

Program Years: 2011-2012

List of the programs reviewed:

Dental Hygiene Associate of Applied Science

Decision(s) concerning the future of the program(s), based on the program review criteria established at the campus:

The Internal Program Review Committee at GFCMSU recommends to the Board of Regents the continuation of the Dental Hygiene Associate of Applied Science Program.

Rationale or justification for the decision based on the program review process established at the campus. Include graduation numbers and student majors for each of the last seven (7) years for every program under review.

The Dental Hygiene Associate of Applied Science was reviewed by the GFCMSU Internal Program Review Committee with the following commendations and recommendations:

Commendations

The Internal Program Review Committee commended the Dental Hygiene Associate of Applied Science program on the following:

- The success in completion and retention of students is high.
- The program director has successfully partnered with a variety of community organizations to provide clinical experiences for students.
- The program maintains excellent student pass rates on state licensure exams (100%).
- The program shares faculty and resources with the Dental Assisting Program.
- The program has done a stellar job with student learning outcomes and the campus student learning outcomes assessment process.

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Recommendation

- 1. The Internal Program Review Committee recommended the Dental Hygiene program examine options for program expansion to include Malmstrom Air Force Base (MAFB) and Fort Harrison, the Veteran’s Administration Hospital (VA Hospital).

Table 2: Enrollments and Graduations 2005-2011 – Dental Hygiene Associate of Applied Science
(Program Enrollment includes both first and second year students).

Year	Program Enrollment	Number of Graduates
2004-05	29	12
2005-06	30	14
2006-07	29	13
2007-08	28	13
2008-09	30	11
2009-10	32	15
2010-11	32	16

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Institution: Great Falls College Montana State University (GFCMSU)

Program Years: 2011-2012

List of the programs reviewed:

Practical Nurse Associate of Applied Science

Decision(s) concerning the future of the program(s), based on the program review criteria established at the campus:

The Internal Program Review Committee at GFCMSU recommends to the Board that the college continue the Practical Nurse Associate of Applied Science program.

Rationale or justification for the decision based on the program review process established at the campus. Include graduation numbers and student majors for each of the last seven (7) years for every program under review.

The Practical Nurse Associate of Applied Science was reviewed by the GFCMSU Internal Program Review Committee with the following commendations and recommendations:

Commendations

The Internal Program Review Committee commended the Practical Nurse Associate of Applied Science program on the following:

- Anecdotally, the program director reported the Practical Nursing graduates moving into RN programs are successful in those programs. (However, the program director needs to provide evidence of this.)
- The program's success in completion and retention is noted favorably by the committee.
- The program has strong relationships with the community and other nursing education partners.

Recommendations

1. The GFCMSU Internal Program Review Committee recommended the Practical Nurse program examine options for program expansion to increase the annual intake.
2. The GFCMSU Internal Program Review committee recommended the Practical Nurse program examine the barriers preventing students from getting on to MAFB.

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Note: At the September 2012 Board of Regents meeting, the Board was notified by OCHE that due to the challenges recruiting qualified nursing educators (e.g., Nursing Program Director and two faculty positions) GFCMSU will postpone the delivery of the Practical Nurse Associate of Applied Science program until fall 2013.

Table 3. Enrollments and Graduation 2005-2011 - Practical Nurse Associate of Applied Science
(AY 2004-2005 reflects overlap to accommodate the standardized curriculum)

Year	Program Enrollment	Number of Graduates
2004-05	40	20
2005-06	36	13
2006-07	46	22
2007-08	14	11
2008-09	21	20
2009-10	27	21
2010-11	23	14

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PROGRAM REVIEW

Institution: Great Falls College Montana State University (GFCMSU)

Program Years: 2011-2012

List of the programs reviewed:

Surgical Technology Associate of Applied Science

Decision(s) concerning the future of the program(s), based on the program review criteria established at the campus:

The Internal Program Review Committee at GFCMSU recommends to the Board that the Surgical Technology Associate of Applied program be continued.

Rationale or justification for the decision based on the program review process established at the campus. Include graduation numbers and student majors for each of the last seven (7) years for every program under review.

The Surgical Technology Associate of Applied Science was reviewed by the GFCMSU Internal Program Review Committee with the following commendations and recommendations:

Commendations

The Internal Program Review Committee at GFCMSU commended the Dental Hygiene Associate of Applied Science program on the following:

- Complimentary backgrounds of the program faculty have helped create a variety of experience and knowledge for the students.
- The student intake process, including the job shadow component, appears to have helped strengthen intake numbers.
- The use of a pre-certification exam is better preparing students for the certification process.
- The program director has a strong reputation and relationships with local and regional healthcare partners.

Recommendations

1. The GFCMSU Internal Program Review Committee recommended the Surgical Technology program examine options for increasing intake and graduation rates and continue to work on those numbers.

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- 2. The Program Review Committee recommended the Surgical Technology program explore the reasons program capacity and graduation rates are lower than those of the other healthcare programs.

Table 4. Enrollments and Graduation 2005-2011 Surgical Technology Associate of Applied Science

Year	Program Enrollment	Number of Graduates
2004-05	12	8
2005-06	12	8
2006-07	12	6
2007-08	10	2
2008-09	6	4
2009-10	16	7
2010-11	21	6