

SUMMARY OF TEAM OF EXAMINERS REVIEW OF NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Northeastern University (NU) is an existing licensee that has applied for licensure to offer additional degree programs at its Charlotte campus. NU was founded in 1898 as “a parochial university, serving mostly a local population of recent immigrants” and has since evolved to the largest private, nonprofit national research university in Boston proper. Northeastern has over 35,000 undergraduate, graduate, and law students, nearly 10,000 of whom are online students worldwide. Its nine schools and colleges offer 176 programs available in online or hybrid formats. The university is regionally accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) and has been offering graduate programs in uptown Charlotte since 2012. Charlotte was the first of NU’s five regional campuses and is currently licensed to offer 1 bachelor’s degree for 2nd degree students, 25 master’s degrees, and three doctoral degrees. Charlotte students are primarily adult learners, 90% of whom are working professionals.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS SUBMITTED FOR LICENSURE:

Staff recommends approval of licensure for each program. The on-the-ground component of each of these programs will be offered in Charlotte.

Bachelor of Science in Advanced Manufacturing Systems (BSAVMS)

Projected enrollment: 5 students

Delivery mode: Hybrid

Tuition per credit hour: \$530

The proposed Bachelor of Science in advanced manufacturing systems, offered by the Lowell Institute School, is a 124-semester-credit program, which includes 39 general education credits. Once the BSAVMS program has its first graduate, it will be eligible for engineering accreditation through Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc. (ABET). Students must graduate from an ABET-accredited program to be eligible to pursue professional licensure for engineering practice.

Bachelor of Science in Health Management (BSHM)

Projected enrollment: 5 students

Delivery mode: Hybrid

Tuition per credit hour: \$530

The Bachelor of Science in health management at the College of Professional Studies has been offered by the Boston campus since 1974. It is a 120-semester-hour program, with 39 credits of general education courses, 18 of which are general foundation courses, and 21 of which are health management foundation courses. The BSHM curriculum covers most of the key content areas recommended by the Association of University Programs in Health Administration (AUPHA), which is the institutional accreditor for baccalaureate programs in this field.

Bachelor of Science in Management (BSM)

Projected enrollment: 5 students

Delivery mode: Hybrid

Tuition per credit hour: \$530

The Bachelor of Science in management program requires 124 semester hours for completion: 45 semester hours of introductory course work, 42 hours of foundation courses, 25 hours of courses in the major, and 12 hours of electives. Full-time students can expect to complete the program in four years.

The duration and intensity of the program meet the accepted standards for the discipline of business administration and the core courses provide students with skills and competencies that are in alignment with the current direction and content of quality four-year undergraduate degree programs in management.

Bachelor of Science in Information Technology

Projected enrollment: 5 students

Delivery Mode: Hybrid

Tuition per credit hour: \$530

The Bachelor of Science in information technology program requires 135 semester hours for completion with sixty hours in the major. Full-time students can expect to complete the program in four years. The duration and intensity of the program meet the accepted standards for the discipline with the current direction and content of quality four-year undergraduate degree programs in the field. NU is already licensed to operate masters level programs in similar disciplines in Charlotte.

Master of Professional Studies in Analytics (MPS in Analytics)

Projected enrollment: 5 students

Delivery mode: Hybrid, on-site, online

Tuition per credit hour: \$760

The Master of Professional Studies in analytics prepares students to address the significant unfilled industry need for qualified graduates in the discipline of data analysis and analytics. Students master tasks such as data collection, data modeling, and structuring data in order to communicate data-driven insights that can influence strategic and tactical decisions. The degree aligns with other national curricula in the areas of data and business analytics. The MPS in Analytics is a 45-quarter-credit-hour program. Students are required to take five core courses in analytics, plus three elective courses from a choice of several relevant courses that range from ethics to leadership in analytics. Students can choose a concentration from three options: statistical modeling, evidence-based modeling, and information design.

Master of Professional Studies in Informatics (MPS in Informatics)

Projected enrollment: 5 students

Delivery mode: Hybrid

Tuition per credit hour: \$738

The Master of Professional Studies in informatics is designed for individuals working in various industries, ranging from health care and IT to data communications. The program prepares IT professionals for management positions by enhancing their computing skills and their knowledge of computing applications and processes used to create information systems. The program is of the few such programs in the country. The MPS in Informatics comprises 15 core (quarter-hour) credits, which provide foundational knowledge in the areas of informatics and computing information systems. This includes *Database Management Systems* and *Information Systems Design and Development*, which align with guidelines from global informatics bodies such as the Association for Computing Machinery and Association for Information Systems (ACM-AIS). Concentrations are in high demand areas and include: information security management, geographic information systems, leading and managing technical projects, analytics, human-centered informatics, and cloud computing application and management.

Master of Science in Program and Project Portfolio Management (MS PPPM)

Projected enrollment: 5 students

Delivery mode: Hybrid, on-site, online

Tuition per credit hour: \$698

The Master of Science in program and project portfolio management (MS PPPM) is an advanced studies program only available to professionals with more than three years of project-management-related work experience. The program is targeted to decision makers who are responsible for determining the best way to invest the organization's capital and human resources in project-intensive organizations. Graduates include program and project managers, PMO and project governance professionals, and various project specialists and directors. The MS PPPM is a 42-46-quarter-credit-hour program. Students may choose from concentrations in leadership, agile project management, and organizational communication, or opt out of declaring a concentration.

Master of Science in Global Studies and International Relations (MSGSIR)**Projected enrollment: 5****Delivery mode: Hybrid****Tuition per credit hour: \$718**

The Master of Science in Global Studies and International Relations is an interdisciplinary degree program that is designed to prepare individuals for internationally focused positions in the U.S. or abroad. Students will study global issues from government, private, and nonprofit viewpoints, and develop practical expertise in one of the world's six major regions. Students must complete 24 quarter credit hours and may choose from concentrations in the areas of conflict resolution, development and global health, diplomacy, international economics and consulting, and global student mobility.

Master of Science, Family Nurse Practitioner (MS-FNP), Master of Science, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (MS-PNP) Primary Care track and Primary/Acute Care dual track, and Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (CAGS-PNP)**Projected enrollment: 5 students per****program Delivery mode: Hybrid****Tuition per credit hour: \$1,500**

Northeastern's proposed Master of Science programs —Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP); Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (PNP), primary care; and PNP dual track, primary/acute care, as well as the proposed certificate programs (CAGS, or Certificates of Advanced Graduate Study) which prepare Advanced Practice Nurses (APRNs) to work as Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, whether as Primary, Acute, or dually prepared Primary/Acute Care Nurse Practitioners—have curricula designed for students desiring to complete advanced studies in nursing. All of the students are RNs with nursing practice experience. Nursing programs at Northeastern University's main campus in Boston are currently accredited by Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), the gold standard in nursing. All of the proposed courses to be taught in Charlotte are currently being taught at the NU campus in Boston out of the School of Nursing in the Bouvé College of Health Sciences and will be duplicated at Northeastern University - Charlotte. Each student is exposed to a variety of clinical settings including outpatient, inpatient, acute, PICU, NICU, and any other setting deemed by the instructor as necessary to complete student learning. This will require clinical placements and preceptors in a significant number of agencies.

INSTITUTIONAL METRICS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION INFORMATION:

Metric	AY 2014	AY 2015	AY 2016
Student Retention Rate	For these years, Northeastern reported		96%
4-year Graduation Rate			87%

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6-year Graduation Rate	rates program-by-program, but not institution wide.		83%
Student Loan Default Rate	4.2%	2.8%	1.9%
Employment Placement Rate	---	---	---
Federal Financial Composite Score	3.0	3.0	2.8
Three year cohort default rate	Class of 2012	Class of 2013	Class of 2014
	2.8%	1.9%	2.3%

The State Authorization Unit did not receive any complaints for Northeastern during the 2017-2018 academic year. Additionally, staff conducted a search through the Federal Trade Commission's SENTINEL nationwide complaint database and found no complaints regarding the Charlotte campus.

SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS AND INSTITUTION'S RESPONSE:

After review of the application and a site visit, state authorization staff submitted requirements for the institution to address concerning its curriculum, course syllabi, student advisement, library services, clinical/preceptor site agreements, and faculty qualifications. The institution was able to satisfactorily address each requirement. State authorization staff will ensure that all requirements have been met and implemented at the two and six year follow-up reviews and during its yearly review of annual report data.

SUMMARY OF JOHNSON AND WALES UNIVERSITY PROGRAM REVIEW

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Johnson and Wales University (J&W) is an existing licensee seeking to expand program offerings. Johnson & Wales University is a private, not-for-profit institution. It was founded as a business school in 1914 in Providence, Rhode Island. Johnson & Wales was granted university status by Rhode Island in 1992. The University maintains four campuses: Providence, RI; Denver, CO; Miami, FL; and Charlotte, NC. The Charlotte campus was opened in 2004 and currently enrolls over 2,000 undergraduate students. The University is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM SUBMITTED FOR LICENSURE:

Bachelor of Science in Culinary Nutrition
(BSCN) Staff Recommendation: Approval of
Licensure Program Site: Charlotte
Projected start date: Fall 2018
Projected enrollment: 30
Projected yearly tuition: \$32,091

The Bachelor of Science in culinary nutrition is a 2+2-degree program. It features a blend of academic and lab-based culinary arts, nutrition, and professionally related coursework. The culinary nutrition degree requires students to have successfully completed an AAS in culinary arts, earning a total of 96 credits prior to entering the BS program. Within the BS program, a total of 94 quarter credit hours are comprised of three general areas: major courses, related professional studies, and the arts and sciences core experience. The major courses consist of 7 classes and a 13.5 credit internship, totaling 42 credits. Related professional studies, including a 1 credit career capstone class, represent 26.5 credits. The arts and sciences core experience component in all Johnson & Wales University programming is 63 quarter credit hours. Students entering the BS in culinary nutrition will have satisfied 27 of these credits from the completion of their associate degree and will complete the remaining 36 in their BS program. This program is not designed to replace the need for registered dietitians, but rather to incorporate sound nutritional concepts and skills into the work portfolio of the next generation of professional chefs.

INSTITUTIONAL METRICS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION INFORMATION:

Metric	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Student Retention Rate	74.2%	74.6%	69.6%
4-year Graduation Rate	58.7%	56.4%	56.2%
6-year Graduation Rate	60.3%	57.5%	57.2
Student Loan Default Rate	14.1%	11.4%	11.6%
Employment Placement Rate	---	---	---
Federal Financial Composite Score	3.0	2.9	2.4
Three-year cohort default rate	Class of 2012	Class of 2013	Class of 2014
	8.7%	8.8%	7.7%

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The State Authorization Unit did not receive any complaints for J&W during the 2017-2018 academic year. Additionally, staff conducted a search through the Federal Trade Commission's SENTINEL nationwide complaint database and found one complaint regarding the Charlotte campus.

SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS AND INSTITUTION'S RESPONSE:

After review of the application, state authorization staff submitted requirements for the institution to address concerning its syllabus and curriculum design. The institution was able to satisfactorily address each requirement. State authorization staff will ensure that all requirements have been met and implemented at the two and six year follow-up reviews and during its yearly review of annual report data.

SUMMARY OF BRIGHTWOOD COLLEGE PROGRAM REVIEW

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Brightwood College (Brightwood) is an existing licensee seeking to expand program offerings. Brightwood is an assumed name of Virginia College, LLC. Virginia College, LLC, is a Limited Liability Company that is ultimately owned by Education Corporation of America, (ECA), a Delaware corporation. The Charlotte campus was opened in 2004. Brightwood College was formerly known as Kaplan College and has been in operation under that name since 2010. Brightwood currently offers a Diploma in medical assisting and as Associate of Applied Science in criminal justice. It currently has 270 enrolled students, with 176 of these students enrolled in the diploma program.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM SUBMITTED FOR LICENSURE

Associate of Applied Science in Medical Assisting (AAS-MA)

Staff Recommendation: Approval of Licensure

Program Site: Charlotte

Projected start date: Fall 2018

Projected enrollment: 5

Projected tuition for program: \$29,500

The AAS-MA is a 109.5 quarter-credit-hour (73 credit hours) degree program and is designed to be completed in 18 months. The program includes 28 quarter credit hours (18.6 semester hours) of general education and an externship course, which will require students to complete a clinical rotation at various healthcare facilities in the region. In comparison, the AAS-MA curriculum offered by the North Carolina Community College System must range from 64 to 76 credit hours and has a general education requirement of 18.6 semester hours. Brightwood's AAS-MA meets licensure standards, but is slightly different from traditional AAS-MA programs within the state of North Carolina. For example, the traditional medical assisting curriculum has specific courses that cover anatomy & physiology and medical terminology, but Brightwood College has no such courses. Instead anatomy & physiology and medical terminology are covered as a part of several other courses taught at the college. While there are currently 23 institutions of higher learning in North Carolina that hold programmatic accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs, Brightwood's medical assisting program does not have programmatic accreditation and the institution does not plan to acquire programmatic accreditation status.

INSTITUTIONAL METRICS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION INFORMATION

Metric	AY 2014	AY 2015	AY 2016
4-year Graduation Rate	---	49%	31%
6-year Graduation Rate	---	47%	26.7%
Graduation rate for previously licensed program	---	32%	40%
Employment rate for previously licensed program	---	67%	44.4%
Student retention rate for previously licensed program	---	66%	76.7%
Federal Financial Composite Score	--	2.8	1.7
Three year cohort default rate	Class of 2012	Class of 2013	Class of 2014
	17.5%	19.2%	23.8%

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The State Authorization Unit did not receive any consumer complaints for Brightwood College during the 2016-2017 academic year, but did observe a number of consumer complaints submitted directly to the Federal Trade Commission concerning financial aid practices at multiple Brightwood campuses outside of North Carolina. Annual reporting requirements for 2017-2018 will include a requirement to submit internal student complaint logs and resolutions.

SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS AND INSTITUTION'S RESPONSE:

After review of the application, the team of examiners and state authorization staff submitted requirements for the institution to address concerning library standards, faculty qualifications, faculty governance, and financial metrics. The institution sufficiently responded to staff concerns and will be required to submit evidentiary documentation during the 2017-2018 annual reporting cycle to confirm its continued compliance.

SUMMARY OF CREATED INSTITUTE PROGRAM AND LICENSURE REVIEW

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

CreatEd Institute has operated as a small, non-profit educational community in Black Mountain, North Carolina since September 2016, offering a Certificate of Completion to students who complete a 16-month program of study. In December 2017, CreatEd's first cohort of 19 students completed the Institute's program. At the time of this site visit, a total of eight students were enrolled in CreatEd's second cohort. CreatEd Institute is not accredited by any agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. The institution has applied for an interim permit to conduct licensed post-secondary degree activity. CreatEd's founders and leadership directed and operated a similar program in Minnesota from 2011-2016.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS SUBMITTED FOR LICENSURE:

Associate of Arts in Critical Thinking and Integrative Studies

Staff Recommendation: Approval of Licensure

Program site: Black Mountain

Projected start date: Fall 2018

Projected enrollment: 40-45

Projected annual tuition: \$19,010

The proposed Associate of Arts degree program consists of 62 required semester credit hours (SCH), plus two three-SCH electives, for a total of 62-68 SCH. The program is a 16-month, four-semester program designed to develop critical thinking and especially Christian thinking, character, and stewardship through a modified “great books curriculum” with special emphasis on the Bible. The program recalls earlier educational programs in the West that sought to build personal, moral, social, and civic character as well as impart knowledge and skills. This is not a traditional Associate of Arts degree program containing specific courses in general education and separate courses in an area of specialization. Rather, in the proposed program, all modules (courses) in the curriculum are systematically connected to form an interwoven intellectual program. Additionally, the modules in the CreatEd program are not traditional courses that attempt to convey the breadth of contemporary knowledge in a field. Rather, these modules cover the history and philosophy of a field from a Christian point of view and seek to develop critical thinking and reading skills as well as provide a general understanding of how a field relates to the other fields in the program.

INSTITUTIONAL METRICS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION INFORMATION:

CreatED has never offered degree programs in any state and has no institutional metrics to report.

SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS AND INSTITUTION’S RESPONSE:

After review of the application and a site visit, the team of examiners and state authorization staff submitted requirements for the institution to address concerning its readiness to provide student support services, student housing, adequate library resources, financial stability, curriculum design, program effectiveness and assessment, faculty qualifications, and business practices. The institution has addressed those requirements or developed a plan to address those requirements during the limited, two-year period of the interim permit. In particular, the institute agreed to affiliate faculty members that carry expertise in the individual fields being taught. The state authorization staff will ensure that all requirements have been met and will review the institution on an annual basis and will revisit the

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institution within two years to determine if the institution is eligible to receive a regular license to conduct post-secondary degree activity.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Issue an interim permit to CreatEd Institute to conduct postsecondary degree activity leading to an Associate of Arts in critical thinking and integrative studies.