

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY CERTIFICATION OF CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

Preparation Date _____ Curriculum Bulletin _____
Effective Date **select one** Approved by EPC _____

Department **Agribusiness**
College **AP - Applied and Technical Studies**
Degree **AAB - Associate of Applied Business**
Program Name **Agribusiness** Program Banner Code _____
Concentration(s) _____ Concentration(s) Banner Code(s) _____
Proposal **Establish program**

Description of proposal:

This proposal is to establish the Agribusiness major in the Associate of Applied Business on the Tuscarawas Campus.

Does proposed revision change program's total credit hours? Yes No
Current total credit hours: **60** Proposed total credit hours **60**

Describe impact on other programs, policies or procedures (e.g., duplication issues; enrollment and staffing considerations; need; audience; prerequisites; teacher education licensure):

This should have a positive impact on enrollment, attracting new students, Tech-Prep agribusiness students, etc. The Tuscarawas Campus currently offers the Bachelor of Science in Agribusiness degree. No negative impact on other programs, policies or procedures.

Units consulted (other departments, programs or campuses affected by this proposal):

Tuscarawas agribusiness faculty, Tuscarawas Faculty Council, CATS Curriculum Committee

REQUIRED ENDORSEMENTS




Department Chair / School Director

1/7/2020



Campus Dean (or Regional Campuses proposals)

1/8/2020



College Dean (or designee)

1/8/2020

Dean of Graduate Studies (for graduate proposals)

1/1/

Provost (or designee)

1/1/

INITIAL INQUIRY REQUEST TO OFFER A NEW PROGRAM

Date of submission: *To come*

Name of institution: Kent State University

Primary institutional contact for this request: Therese E. Tillett
Associate Vice President of Curriculum Planning and Administration
Office of the Provost
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Name of program: Agribusiness major, Associate of Applied Business degree

Classification of Instructional Program (CIP): 01.0102 Agribusiness/Agricultural Business Operations.
A program that prepares individuals to manage agricultural businesses and agriculturally related operations within diversified corporations. Includes instruction in agriculture, agricultural specialization, business management, accounting, finance, marketing, planning, human resources management, and other managerial responsibilities.

Proposed start date: Fall 2020
Start date is contingent upon final approval from the Ohio Department of Higher Education and the Higher Learning Commission.

Type of request: New degree designation at Kent State
 New major within an existing degree at Kent State

Delivery options:

- Campus-based (Tuscarawas Campus)
- Online/hybrid delivery
- Flexible or accelerated delivery
- Offering the program at a new offsite location
- Offering the program at an existing offsite location
- Program contains off-campus experiences (e.g., internship, clinical, practicum, student teaching)

The institution will be seeking specialized accreditation for the program:

No Yes

Provide a brief description of the request.

The College of Applied and Technical Studies proposes to establish an Associate of Applied Business degree in Agribusiness, to be offered on-ground at the Tuscarawas Campus. The college has offered a Bachelor of Science degree in Agribusiness since fall 2015 on the Tuscarawas Campus. An undergraduate Agribusiness minor was established on the campus for fall 2019.

After discussions with several stakeholders, program faculty have decided that offering an associate degree, in conjunction with the bachelor's degree, will increase enrollment in the program. Enrollment in the bachelor's degree has grown since inception and has stayed consistent for the past two years at 14-15 students. These stakeholders include current students, local farm communities, members of the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation and part-time faculty in the program who work in agricultural fields.

Explain the academic unit's rationale for making the request.

Agribusiness program faculty have observed anecdotally that prospective students interested in the agribusiness program seem less willing to commit to a four-year degree. While the tuition cost for Kent State's program is less than for similar bachelor's degree programs offered in Ohio (e.g., agricultural business at Wilmington College, agribusiness and applied economics at Ohio State University), the program length may not work for students in the region who wish to begin employment as soon as possible.

Prospective students to the agribusiness program typically come from family farms and have planting, harvesting and maintenance duties on their own operation. They seek the program because they want to learn issues related to agricultural marketing, new techniques in farm management and global issues occurring in agriculture. However, due to costs and time to completion, these students opt to pursue short-term career-technical programs in agricultural mechanics or agricultural and diesel technology, which do not culminate in a degree.

Program faculty believe that there is sufficient student interest in the region to justify offering an associate degree. The proposed associate degree will meet the goals of students who are not able to undertake a four-year degree program on the onset, while also creating a seamless pathway for them to move into the bachelor's degree when they are ready.

Indicate whether additional resources (e.g., faculty, staff, facilities, technology) will be needed to support the proposed request.

There is no expectation that additional resources will be needed since the curriculum for the proposed associate degree will be a subset of the bachelor's degree program, and agribusiness faculty will teach for both programs. Currently, there are one full-time and three part-time faculty members who teach agribusiness courses for the B.S. degree program.