

TOPIC: RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT AT UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

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I. SUMMARY

This item recommends approval for University of Colorado Boulder (UCB) to offer a Master of Science (M.S.) in Supply Chain Management degree.

II. BACKGROUND

COMMISSION AUTHORITY

The Colorado Commission on Higher Education's role and responsibility in the review of new academic programs at institutions operating under a performance contract is defined in §23-5-129, which states that:

(6) While operating pursuant to a performance contract negotiated pursuant to this section, the governing board of a state institution of higher education...

(b) Need not consult with nor obtain approval from the Colorado commission on higher education to create, modify, or eliminate academic and vocational programs offered by the institution, so long as such creations, modifications, and eliminations are consistent with the institution's statutory role and mission. Institutions shall submit information to the department demonstrating that the creation or modification of an academic or career and technical education program is consistent with the institution's statutory role and mission. The Colorado commission on higher education shall have the authority to override the creation or modification of an academic or vocational program if the change made by the governing board is inconsistent with the institution's statutory role and mission.

OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED PROGRAM

The following is summarized from UCB's proposal:

A MS in supply chain management program provides the skills necessary to identify the key challenges facing international supply chain managers worldwide. Supply chain specialists identify, detail, and deploy the key current strategies for optimizing supply chain performance and communicate the financial benefit of supply chain management/operations in improving a company's Earnings Before Interest, Depreciation and Amortization (EBITDA) Income Statement; Balance Sheet; and

Market Capitalization performance. The program is designed to provide the student with the theory, tools, and applied knowledge to immediately assume a responsible supply chain management job upon graduation. The student will study supply chain management from quantitative, qualitative, and managerial perspectives.

Additional information on this proposed degree, unrelated to fit with statutory role and mission, is attached (Attachment A).

ROLE AND MISSION SUPPORT

This degree supports UCB's statutory role and mission, which states in part:

(a) ...The Boulder campus of the university of Colorado shall offer a comprehensive array of undergraduate, master's, and doctoral degree programs... C.R.S. 23-20-101(1)

III. STAFF ANALYSIS

Pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes 23-5-129(6)(b), department staff finds that UCB's proposed Master of Science in Supply Chain Management degree is consistent with the institution's statutory role and mission. Staff also confirms that at a recent Adult College Completion Network workshop, this specific major was mentioned multiple times as a current national need.

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Commission approve University of Colorado Boulder's proposal to offer a Master of Science in Supply Chain Management.

V. SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Copies of all relevant materials are on file in the Academic Affairs Division and are available upon request.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

C.R.S. §23-5-129 Governing boards - performance contract - authorization - operations