Recommendation

That the Board of Regents approve an Associate in Applied Science in Aviation Maintenance Technology for Jefferson Technical College to be implemented in spring 2002.

Rationale

- The proposed AAS degree is designed to meet workforce needs in Kentucky and is consistent with the mission of Jefferson Technical College and KCTCS.
- A community-based survey of local industry demonstrated community need for the aviation maintenance program. Based on calls and letters from employers, there are over 100 immediate job vacancies.
- The proposed AAS program is based on the approved KCTCS curriculum and consists of 16 credit hours of general education courses and 60 credit hours of technical courses.
- Additional resources will not be required to implement this AAS degree program.

According to the 1997-2002 Kentucky Plan for Equal Opportunities in Postsecondary Education, Jefferson Technical College has automatic eligibility.

Additional information regarding the proposal is provided in the attached executive summary. A copy of the full proposal has been forwarded to each member of the Board of Regents Academic Affairs and Curriculum Committee.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Associate in Applied Science in Aviation Maintenance Technology

Jefferson Technical College

A Proposal for Initiation of a New Degree Program

Mission, Influence, Organization

The mission of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) is to improve the quality of life and employability of the citizens of the Commonwealth by serving as the primary provider of postsecondary education programs. These programs encompass training and services including certificate, diploma, associate degree, and transfer programs as well as workforce training to meet the needs of existing and new business and industries. The mission of Jefferson Technical College (JTC) supports the KCTCS Mission, and an AAS degree program in Aviation Maintenance Technology (AMT) will enable Jefferson Technical College to better achieve its mission.

Program Description

Expertise in the inspection, repair, service, and overhaul of aircraft and engines is the goal of this program certified by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The skills taught in aircraft maintenance include interpreting specifications from service and technical manuals, using testing procedures and equipment, diagnosing problems and making necessary repairs. Students completing this program will be certified by the FAA to work in the aircraft industry upon completion of the FAA certification exam for both airframe and powerplant.

The 76 credit hour Aviation Maintenance Technology Degree curriculum has two major components: 16 hours of general education and 60 hours of Aviation Maintenance Technology courses. Students will pursue general education requirements at Jefferson Community College, another regionally accredited college or university, or through distance learning.

Supportive Data

The need for aviation maintenance technicians is great in Kentucky and elsewhere. The JTC Aviation Maintenance program could immediately find employment for 100 graduates based on calls and letters received daily offering employment opportunities. The need for aviation maintenance technicians is keeping pace with the growth of air travel. Comair, located in Northern Kentucky, and Continental Express recently visited the JTC campus on a recruiting mission; Delta Airlines, located in Atlanta,
Georgia, also has expressed a need and has hired Jefferson Technical College’s trained AMT graduates. The United Parcel Service (UPS) has been the predominate employer of the college’s graduates in Louisville. All four companies have hired the college’s certificate graduates. The degree program is necessary to put the college’s graduates on an equal level with other airframe and powerplant college graduates.

**Resources**

Jefferson Technical College, in partnership with Jefferson County Public Schools and local industries, has adequate classroom space, library resources, equipment, and qualified personnel to meet the needs of the program. Access to the Internet and other electronic media resources are readily available. No additional resources are required to offer the degree program.

**Conclusion**

Jefferson Technical College’s Aviation Maintenance Technology program service area is state and nationwide. The mission of Jefferson Technical College, “to provide education and training to develop a skilled and versatile workforce,” is consistent with the KCTCS mission. The college has consistently met the needs of Kentucky’s aviation community for well-trained, competent employees by providing a high quality Aviation Maintenance Technology Certificate Program in Airframe and Powerplant Technology. To meet the industries’ needs, the program is now requesting an associate degree.