



## REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION

### OTTERBEIN UNIVERSITY Institutional Reauthorization

#### **Request:**

Otterbein University requests continued authorization from the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

#### **Profile:**

Otterbein University, located in Westerville, Ohio, is a private, non-profit institution founded by the Church of the United Brethren in Christ in 1847. Today, the university serves nearly 2,500 students in programs at the bachelor's, master's, and professional doctorate level.

#### **Accreditation/Authorization:**

Otterbein University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) until its next review in 2034-2035. The university also holds specialized accreditation for several of its academic programs. The university has been authorized by the Chancellor since October 1969.

#### **Program Offerings:**

Otterbein University is authorized to offer the following degrees: Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Music Education, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Science in Education, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Master of Arts, Master of Arts in Education, Master of Business Administration, Master of Science, Master of Science in Nursing, and Doctor of Nursing Practice.

#### **Institutional Changes:**

Since its last reauthorization, Otterbein University experienced a change in presidency in 2018. In 2023-24, Otterbein University and Antioch University created a higher education affiliation known as the Coalition for the Common Good, which received change of control approval from HLC and the Chancellor. The university will transition some of its graduate programs to Antioch University because of this affiliation. The university has also expanded its programmatic offerings and earned specialized accreditation for its systems and mechanical engineering programs.

#### **Recommendation to the Chancellor:**

Otterbein University meets the Chancellor's standards, and the staff recommends continued institutional authorization through 2035 to coincide with the university's next accreditation reaffirmation review with the Higher Learning Commission. The Chancellor may, in his judgment, withdraw authorization or require additional review if the institution fails to continue to meet the Chancellor's standards for authorization or receives a sanction from the Higher Learning Commission.