

APPROVED

August 14, 2024

Melissa Bealon

Board Secretary Melissa Bealon

Item #F-2
August 14, 2024

**NEW OPERATING AND/OR DEGREE-GRANTING AUTHORITY
FOR INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS**

Submitted for: Action.

Summary: New independent institutions, institutions planning to operate at a new location, including a location outside the higher education region of the original operating authority, and out-of-state institutions planning to operate in Illinois for the first time are required to obtain authorization to operate. These institutions are also required to obtain authorization for each new degree program.

Action Requested: That the Illinois Board of Higher Education approves the recommendations to grant degree-granting authority and/or operating authority to the following institution:

Proprietary Executive Summary

Lewis University

- Bachelor of Science in Radiography in the West Suburban Region

STATE OF ILLINOIS
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**NEW OPERATING AND/OR DEGREE-GRANTING AUTHORITY
FOR INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS**

The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) has responsibility for administration of The Private College Act (110 ILCS 1005) and The Academic Degree Act (110 ILCS 1010). Under these statutes, new independent institutions, institutions planning to operate at a new location, including a location outside the higher education region of original operating authority, and out-of-state institutions planning to operate in Illinois for the first time are required to obtain authorization to operate. These institutions also are required to obtain authorization for each new degree program.

Applications for new operating and degree-granting authority submitted by independent Illinois institutions and out-of-state institutions are reviewed by the staff. Recommendations are developed by applying criteria for operating and/or degree-granting authority, which are defined in the rules adopted for administration of the statutes and Board policies on assessment of student learning and specialized accreditation requirements for student licensure. These criteria encompass educational objectives, institution and degree titles, curricula, facilities, faculty and administrator qualifications, student policies, publications, records, compliance with pertinent laws, and fiscal stability. Staff recommendations are based on analyses of application materials, responses to questions, and site visits. Out-of-region sites are defined as sites located within an IBHE approval region other than the region within which an institution's original operating authority was granted. There are ten IBHE approval regions; each is coterminous with one or more community college districts. Approval to operate within a new approval region entitles an institution to operate throughout the region, and not solely at the site at which the institution initially applied. In addition to the approval criteria in rules, each new program was reviewed for its contributions to the goals of the *A Thriving Illinois: Higher Education Pathways to Equity, Sustainability, and Growth*, which sets forth new priorities to guide Illinois higher education. Staff recommendations are based on analyses of application materials and responses to staff questions.

Proprietary Executive Summary

Lewis University

- Bachelor of Science in Radiography in the West Suburban Region

Lewis University requests authorization to offer a Bachelor of Science in Radiography in the West Suburban Region. The Bachelor of Science in Radiography prepares students to practice in the profession of radiography. Students enter the radiography program with prerequisites that are designed to provide them with a foundation to be successful in the curriculum. The proposed B.S. in Radiography requires students to complete 123.5 semester credit hours, which includes courses for pre-certification and post-certification. Lewis University's radiography program will have a clinical competency plan that incorporates the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) competency requirements. Clinical instruction provides opportunities to gain clinical experiences and

achieve competencies through rotations in various clinical environments. Clinical assignments are designed to provide students with experience to achieve specific performance objectives maintain previously learned skills and achieve the desired competency level. Graduates are prepared to sit for the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists certification in radiography and be to be confident as entry-level practitioners. There are policies in place to ensure faculty members possess the training, credentials, and qualifications to provide instruction in the proposed program. The University has sufficient library, technology, staff, and financial resources in place to support the proposed program.

Approval request summary, including staff conclusion, follows in Attachment A.

The staff recommends adoption of the following resolutions:

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants to Lewis University authorization to grant the Bachelor of Science in Radiography in the West Suburban Region, subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

Lewis University
One University Parkway
Romeoville, IL 60446
President: Dr. David Livingston

Proposed Program Title in the Region of Authorization: Bachelor of Science in Radiography in the West Suburban Region

Projected Enrollments and Degrees

First Year Enrollment	Fifth Year Enrollment	Degrees Awarded Fifth Year
65	110	250

Institutional Accreditation: Lewis University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC).

Background and History

Lewis University (Lewis or the University) is a private, non-for-profit institution built on the tradition of career preparation and liberal arts education. The University was founded in 1932 under the direction of the Chicago Catholic Archdiocese and Bishop Bernard J. Sheil. The school was incorporated in 1934 as Lewis Holy Name Technical School and was originally a school for boys, with an initial enrollment of 15 students. In 1935, it became Lewis Holy Name School of Aeronautics and was later changed to Lewis College in 1962. The University became a co-educational school in 1951. Currently, the University enrolls 6,700 students in 80 undergraduate majors and programs of study, 35 graduate programs, and two doctoral programs. The School of Radiologic Technology, which was approved for training on November 1, 1945, and began with only minimal formal academic work, has now progressed to graduating eight to ten students annually. The program has evolved beginning with a name change to the Saint Francis School of Radiography, as the technology has also evolved. In 1977, the name Radiologic Technicians was changed to Radiologic Technologists by the American Society of Radiologic Technologists and further to be identified as Radiographers.

In July 2015, the Saint Francis School of Radiography program partnered with Oak Point University (formerly Resurrection University) to advance the profession to a bachelor's degree, by offering a Bachelor of Science in Imaging Technology degree title. There are two tracks in the proposed degree. One is for those that are already radiographers that want to complete their bachelor's degree in Radiography and for those seeking to begin their studies in radiography. The Radiography Program in the home region at Lewis has not sought specialized accreditation. In April 2024, Oak Point announced their closure, and Lewis University opted to absorb the remaining students. Prior to the institutional closure, Oak Point University had received an eight-year maximum accreditation throughout the JRCERT at its last accreditation visit. Once approved by the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE or the Board), Lewis University will then submit a transfer of sponsorship application as the sponsoring institution identified in JRCERT Policy 11.500. After the transfer of sponsorship has been approved by JRCERT, the program has six months to complete an intensive self-study report and schedule an onsite visit by the accreditation body. Lewis University will be prepared for these accreditation activities because Lewis hired all the Oak Point University Radiography faculty.

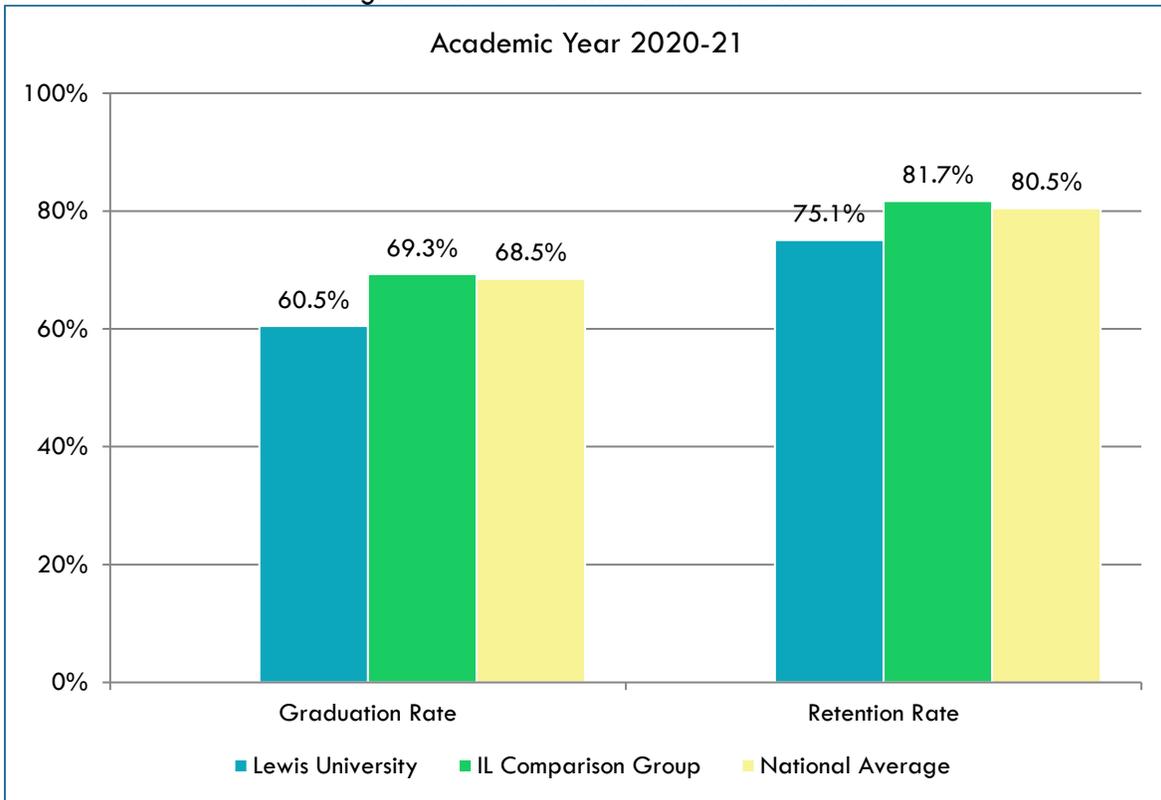
Institutional Data

1030.30(a)(3)(F): Success in student progression and graduation across all existing approved programs, and success rates in programs preparing students for certification and licensure, shall be consistent with expectations in higher education and the appropriate related field of study. At a minimum, the Board shall consider the following factors, based on results for similar institutions: (i) Graduation rates, certificate and degree completion rates, retention rates, and pass rates for licensure and certification aligned with thresholds set by State or national regulatory bodies; and (ii) Success rate, which shall be, at a minimum, higher than that of the lowest quartile of these measures for similar Illinois institutions defined as open versus competitive enrollment institutions and primarily associate versus primarily baccalaureate granting institutions. Exceptions may be made to the lowest quartile if an institution is above the national average for these measures using the same comparison categories of institutions.

1030.30(a)(3)(G): Additional student success measures shall be considered in the review of applications for authorization. The Board shall establish minimum rates of success based on results for similar institutions or thresholds set by State or federal regulatory bodies. i) At a minimum these data shall include student loan default rates, student indebtedness rates, job placement rates, student learning measures and other success indicators. ii) Institutions that participate in Federal Student Loan programs shall have 3-year Official Cohort Default rates no higher than 25 percent. Institutions with Federal Financial Responsibility Composite Scores shall have a score that is no lower than 1.0. Institutions that fail to meet these thresholds may be restricted from implementing new certificate or degree programs. iii) The success rate shall be, at a minimum, higher than that of the lowest quartile of these measures for similar Illinois institutions defined as open versus competitive enrollment institutions and primarily associate versus primarily baccalaureate granting institutions. Exceptions may be made to the lowest quartile if an institution is above the national average for these measures using the same comparison categories of institutions.

This section includes information about institutional and student success measures for each institution seeking program approval. The institution's rates will be compared to Illinois institutions from within a select comparison group and against the national standards or averages. For a proposed undergraduate program, this section will include undergraduate graduation rates, first to second year retention rates, student loan default rates, and any applicable licensure passage rates. For a proposed graduate program, this section will primarily focus on student loan default data since this measure also includes graduate students in the calculation.

Undergraduate Graduation Rates and Retention



Source: National System for Education Statistics (NCES), US Department of Education

Note: Lewis University is in the four-year, selective Illinois comparison group.

Higher percentages are positive indicators.

Undergraduate Graduation Rate

The graduation rate measures the rate at which entering freshmen graduate within 150 percent of normal program length. Data are provided for six-year graduation rates for first-time, full-time bachelor's degree-seeking students and three-year graduation rates for full-time associate degree-seeking students. The national standard for graduation rates is reported annually by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).

Undergraduate Retention Rate

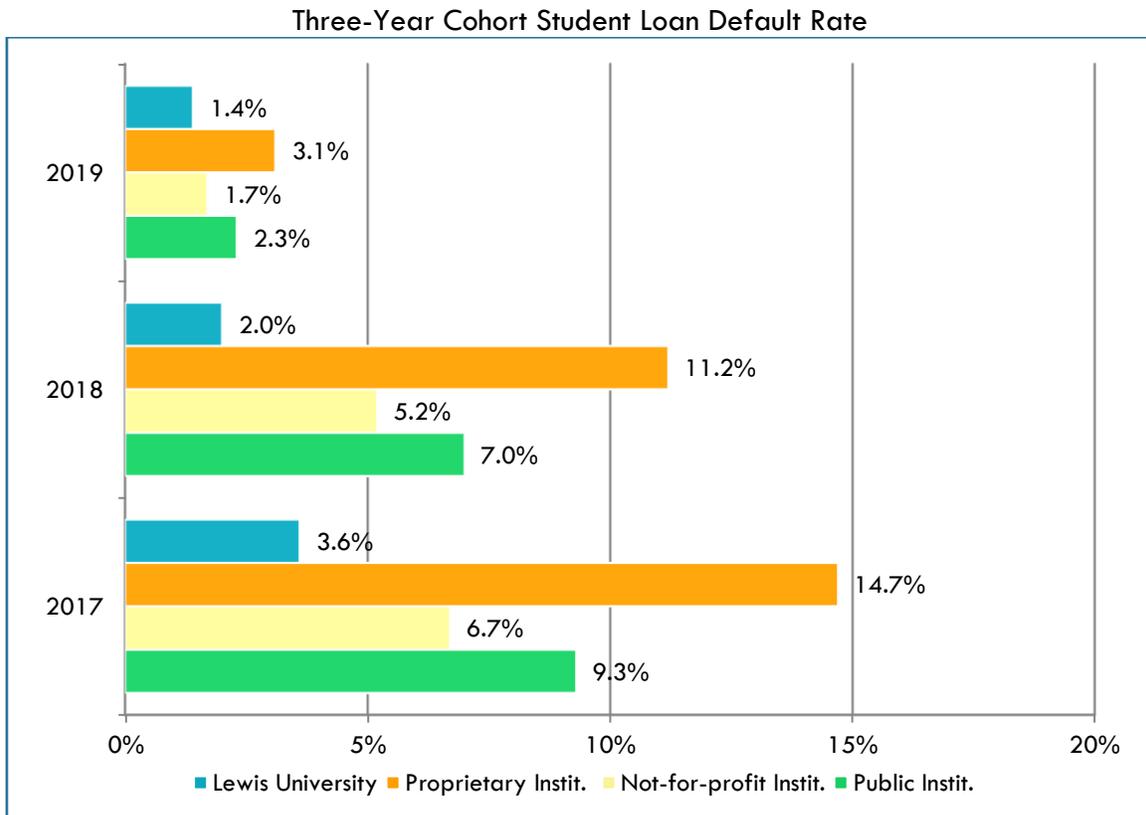
Retention rates examine the percentage of first-time degree seeking students enrolled in the fall of the prior year that are still enrolled in the fall of the current year. The national standard for retention rates is reported annually by NCES.

Undergraduate Completions per 100 FTE

Academic Year 2020-21	Lewis University	Comparable Illinois Institutions
	29	24.4

The full-time equivalent (FTE) data is a unit of measurement intended to represent one student enrolled full-time for one academic year. The calculation is based upon credit/contact hours

offered at an institution divided by a standard minimum (12 credit hours) full-time course load. The completions per 100 FTE data are included to provide a holistic view of completion across different student populations.



Source: National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), US Department of Education

Note: Due to the pause on federal student loan payment that began in March 2020, the cohort default rate for fiscal year 2020 is zero percent for the institution and all institution types. The national cohort default rate for fiscal year 2019 was 2.3 percent and zero percent for fiscal year 2020. A lower number is a positive indicator.

The three-year cohort student loan default rate is the percentage of a school's borrowers who enter repayment on certain Federal Family Education Loan Program or William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program loans during a particular federal fiscal year, October 1 to September 30, and default or meet other specified conditions prior to the end of the second following fiscal year.

Need

Public Act 102-1046, 110 ILCS 1005/4, Sec. 4 (7): That the proposed degree program is educationally and economically consistent with the educational priorities and needs of this State and meets a need that is not currently met by existing institutions and is supported by clear evidence of need. If the examination shows that the applicant has such qualifications a certificate of approval shall be issued.

Careers in radiologic technology are in demand and may economically elevate individuals and their families. Based on the data available from U.S. Bureau for Labor Statistics, the median

pay for radiologic technologists is \$76,020 with a six percent projected growth outlook for the period of 2022 to 2032. Approximately 264,100 job openings are projected each year in radiologic occupations due to emerging career trends and the high need to replace workers who transfer to different occupations or exit the labor force. Within the State of Illinois, under the Illinois Department of Employment Security, the need for radiologic technologists is expected to increase above four percent by 2030.

**Illinois Employment Projections, 2020-30
Radiologic Technologist Occupations**

Occupation Title	Employment 2020	Employment 2030	Employment Change (%)	Average Annual Job Openings Due to...		
				Growth	Replacements	Total
Radiologic Technologists (29-2034)	8,760	9,152	392 (4.5%)	39	629	668
All occupations	6,044,269	6,542,650	498,381 (8.3%)	49,838	676,151	725,989

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security

The demand for radiography programs has been stable over the past six years in the State of Illinois, with the closed Oak Point University program being the third largest enrollment in the state. While most of the enrollments in Illinois and nationally are in the associate level programs, the demand for bachelor’s level programs has continued to increase and limited offerings at the bachelor’s level limit career progression in the field. According to data from the Illinois Board of Higher Education program inventory, there are five independent institutions offering bachelor-level radiography programs in the state. In the proposed West Suburban Region, there are no institutions that offer a radiography program, creating a need for the residents of Chicago’s west suburbs.

**Comparable Programs
Degrees Granted, Bachelor of Science in Radiography**

Institution	Degree	Region
Blessing-Rieman College of Nursing	B.S. in Radiological Sciences	Western
Quincy University	B.A. in Radiology	Western
Roosevelt University	B.S. in Allied Health Radiologic Technology	Chicago
Rush University	B.S. in Imaging Sciences	Chicago
University of St. Francis	B.S. in Radiography	South Metro
Lewis University	B.S. in Radiography	South Metro

Source: IBHE Program Inventory

A Thriving Illinois: Higher Education Paths to Equity, Sustainability, and Growth

The proposed Bachelor of Science in Radiography supports Goal 1, Equity, of *A Thriving Illinois to close the equity gaps for students who have historically been left behind*. For Spring 2024, Lewis University’s racial and ethnic student profile was comprised of 56 percent White, 23.5 percent Hispanic, 7 percent Asian, 6 percent African American, 0.2 percent American Indian or Alaska Native, 0.2 percent Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, with the remaining students identifying as two or more races or do not report their racial or ethnic background. The Radiography program at Oak Point University served mainly adult students of an average age of

31. Following the Oak Point University closure and incorporation into Lewis University, those student enrolment demographics are expected to continue. The University has defined goals for student academic outcomes, specifically student retention, persistence, and graduation rates for all its degree programs and routinely tracks the retention, persistence, and graduation rates of students.

Lewis University places great emphasis on student retention and graduation and strives to retain as many students as possible to support them in the completion of their academic programs in a timely manner. As one of the University's retention efforts, the Office of Institutional Research and Planning monitors and tracks the retention, persistence, and graduation rates of both undergraduate and graduate students and reports the findings to the provost and college deans each semester. The data allows Lewis University to allocate its resources accordingly based on need. National benchmarks on one-year retention rates and six-year graduation rates are used as reference to determine the retention and graduation goals. With all the input taken into consideration, the final decision of setting short-term and long-term goals for retention, persistence, and graduation is decided by the provost in consultation with the Performance Indicator Review Committee leads. These institutional goals are shared with the institution and with the Board of Trustees (BOT) as Key Performance Indicators (KPI). The one-year retention rate and six-year graduation rate of undergraduate first-time, full-time degree-seeking students are also key performance indicators of the Board of Trustees, elevating them to the highest importance. Additionally, the BOT Mission and Diversity subcommittee KPI's 6-10 dive deep into specific student populations to not only define retention and graduation goals, but also to continue to develop support services to meet the needs of these diverse populations.

The radiography program is committed to recruiting and supporting underrepresented groups to degree completion. Enrollment in the program will be tracked on a cohort basis, to promote community building and wrap-around faculty support, both of which lead to retention and graduation. Lewis University provides academic and other support services and professional advising for all students. Additionally, the Office for Student Engagement and Multicultural Student Enrichment (SEMSE), housed within the Brother James Gaffney Student Center provides support in key areas, including weekly student engagement events, student leadership development and multicultural programming and support. The goal of SEMSE is to provide a meaningful co-curricular student life experience that promotes a sense of belonging to the Lewis community for all students.

The proposed program will contribute to Goal 2, *Sustainability, to build a stronger financial future for individuals and institutions by finding ways to reduce the financial burden of education on students and their families.* The proposed program will be offered to adult, non-traditional students at a tuition discount rate of up to 45 percent, thus making the program more accessible and affordable for students, especially underserved adult students. Based on the tuition discount, Pell and MAP-eligible students will have most of their cost of attendance covered by grants. All other fees are transparently communicated to students, including a general fee of \$160 per semester, and \$1,500 per academic year cost for books. Students can be eligible for deferred billing, if their employer is reimbursing them for their tuition costs. Lewis University has established partnerships with employers to offer tuition discounts.

The proposed program will also contribute to Goal 3, *Growth, to increase talent and innovation to drive economic growth.* The proposed BS in Radiography program has established relationships with the largest Healthcare employers in the State of Illinois, including, Advocate Aurora Healthcare, Ascension Healthcare, Endeavor Healthcare, and Illinois Bone and Joint Institute. These employers are all clinical partners, and all have active seats on the advisory committee board

and participate in strategies for future growth opportunities as well as feedback for current students. These organizations also allow the institution to actively recruit students and in turn, they participate in annual job fairs to recruit graduates to their facilities. In addition to the concentration in entry-level radiography, students are introduced throughout the program to all the other imaging modalities that would be a career opportunity for them as a secondary pathway to complement their primary pathway in radiography. The program has interprofessional education threaded throughout the entire curriculum to promote better communication within healthcare delivery.

Mission and Objectives

Criterion 1030.60(a)(1) provides that the objectives of the degree program(s) must be consistent with what the degree program title(s) imply.

Criterion 1030.60(a)(2) provides that the requested degree program shall be congruent with the purpose, goals, objectives and mission of the institution.

Lewis University, guided by its Catholic and Lasallian heritage, serves a diverse student population and provides a liberal and professional education grounded in the interaction of knowledge and fidelity in the search for truth. Lewis University provides pathways to economic upward mobility by offering academic programs that lead to professions in which graduates thrive. Fundamental to its Mission is a spirit of association that fosters community in all teaching, learning, and service. The program is consistent with the purpose, goals, objectives, and mission of the College. The requested degree title reflects the program's objectives and curriculum.

Curriculum and Assessment

1030.30(a)(3): The caliber and content of each course or program of instruction, training or study shall be reasonable and adequate for achieving the stated objectives for which the course or program is offered. An undergraduate curriculum shall include general education in alignment with the degree level and objectives.

1030.60(a)(4): The caliber and content of the curriculum shall assure that the stated certificate or degree objectives for which the program is offered will be achieved.

Admission Requirements

For students interested in the proposed entry-level radiography program, they must have completed all general education and the Imaging Technology prerequisites from a regionally accredited institution. An applicant will be considered for admission into the program if the applicant has earned at least a 2.00 GPA and completed the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) exam, a standardized exam for entry into nursing or allied health programs. Students are expected to score a minimum score of 60 percent overall and 60 percent in the science section of the TEAS exam, and maintain good standing at previous colleges and universities. For students who are interested in the completion track of the BS in Radiography, applications must have completed all general education and hold a valid and unrestricted American Registry of Radiologic Technologist (ARRT) certification and maintained good standing at previous colleges and universities. With an emphasis on admitting and retaining as many students as possible, the institution's admission criteria seek to engage with a variety of students. While engaging with many

students, Lewis University can enhance its current network of healthcare providers, students will also be encouraged to remain in the State of Illinois for employment.

Curriculum

The Bachelor of Science in Radiography (Pre-Certification Track) is a 123.5-credit hour program that includes 70.5 credit-hours of core courses and 53 credit-hours of general education courses designed to prepare competent entry-level radiological technologists. The Bachelor of Science in Radiography (Post-Certification Track) is a 123.5-credit hour program that includes 47.5 credit-hours of core courses, 53 credit-hours of general education and support required courses, and 23 credit-hours of imaging technology courses. The radiography program provides a well-structured curriculum that prepares students to practice radiography. Students enter the radiography program with prerequisites designed to provide them with a foundation to be successful in with the curriculum. Classes are structured for students to build from basic knowledge and skills gained in lower courses to advance concepts and skills presented in their upper-division courses. Students gain knowledge and structure throughout the program in theory and application in the classroom, simulation lab, and their clinical setting. The program utilizes the American Society of Radiologic Technologists radiography curriculum plan, which has been established for several years and practiced while operating under Oak Point University. The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) certifies and register technologists in a range of disciplines by overseeing and administering education ethics and examination requirements. In Illinois, both a license by the Illinois Emergency Management Association and a certification by the ARRT are required. To be granted IEMA certification, a candidate must pass the ARRT certification exam.

Lewis University provides academic and other support services and professional advising for all students. Each student is assigned a professional academic advisor who serves as their point of contact at the University. Academic advisors meet with students at least once each semester to discuss their course of study, any challenges they have encountered, and to connect them with needed services. Academic advisors are available to students year-round, and their goal is to support students in the completion of their degree. Advisors also support students who have difficult semesters or may be placed on academic probation. Resources from the Center for Academic Success and Enrichment (CASE) are available to all students, including tutoring through the online program Brainfuse. Academic services afford equal access and opportunity for qualified students with disabilities to participate in and benefit from programs, services, and activities of the university.

Assessment of Student Learning

Lewis University has established processes to measure and analyze student learning outcomes data. Lewis University's process of assessment is ongoing (formative), focused on the progress of learning (process-oriented) and identifies areas for improvement (diagnostic). At the program and unit level, relevant faculty and staff maintain assessment plans (including updating Student Learning Objectives (SLOs), mapping SLOs to institutional learning outcomes, and curriculum mapping), collect and analyze data, and execute action plans for continuous improvement as informed by the data. Lewis University assesses student learning and is deliberate in understanding the student experience. The organizational structure of assessment consists of several layers of relevant committees meant to focus efforts, democratize assessment work, and enhance communication.

Program Assessment

The University has developed an ongoing assessment plan to guide the evaluation and improvement of the radiography program that aligns with the Joint Review Committee on Education of Radiologic Technologists requirements. Lewis University's program will be JRCERT accredited, and the application of transfer of sponsorship from Oak Point University to Lewis has already been submitted. Also, Lewis will differentiate itself by offering pre-certification and post-certification tracks in the 2024-25 academic year, while there are plans to add an associates and certification track in 2025-26.

Facilities (space, equipment, instructional materials)

1030(a)(4) and 1030.60(a)(5): The institution shall have adequate and suitable space, equipment and instructional materials to support institutional programs.

The proposed radiography program will be at 111 W. 22nd Street Suite 700 in Oak Brook, Illinois. Lewis University at Oak Brook provides convenient, accessible classes to working adult students in a professional setting. Located in a prime research and development corridor, near many corporate headquarters, the 30,000 sq. ft. facility features 15 classrooms, nursing simulation labs and "outpatient" offices, a lounge, three conference rooms, two computer labs, and an additional computer area with multiple workstations. Lewis currently offers health sciences programming at the current location that contains specialized health sciences facilities and labs. Lewis will rent additional space in the building for radiography labs (currently identified within the building on the 8th floor) though didactic courses will be held on the existing 7th floor. For students with learning disabilities, the Oak Brook campus staff works closely with Disability Services in CASE to provide accommodations on site, including but limited to extended/alternative testing times and solitary, quiet testing conditions. The space is ADA compliant and complies with all local, state, and federal ordinances and laws for use as an educational facility. The radiography program will have access to scholarly sources through Lewis University's pre-existing digital library databases and resources. Research librarians and the Writing Center are available for classroom visits and 1:1 consultation with students, virtually and in person by appointment at the Oak Brook location. Radiography program students are adult students, who will often access services after hours, hence, Lewis contracts with Brainfuse, to provide online, on-demand cross-disciplinary tutoring and academic support services to students.

Faculty and Staff

1030.30(a)(5) and 1030.60(a)(6): The education, experience and other qualifications of directors, administrators, supervisors and instructors shall ensure that the students will receive education consistent with the objectives of the program.

Lewis University has identified institutional policies that ensure faculty and staff hired possess the training, credentials, and other related qualifications to provide instruction at the institution. Faculty teaching in the proposed program will have the appropriate qualifications. The workforce planning on the staff and faculty side attempts to increase employee diversity to more closely mirror the student demographics. Lewis is committed to recruiting and retaining faculty, staff, and administrators of color as part of the Catholic identity and Lasallian heritage, where diversity and inclusion are at the foundation. Program quality is ensured through regular evaluation and observation of full-time, half-time, and adjunct faculty. The University Faculty By-Laws describe the

purpose of evaluating faculty and the procedures and methods common to all colleges. More specific and rigorous processes may further exist in the individual college by-laws. Eligible faculty are also evaluated annually going through the tenure and promotion process where intensive evaluation occurs. The University Faculty By-Laws provides a timeline of the multi-step evaluation and input from various groups. In the spring of 2022, the Faculty Senate passed a motion to implement a Post Tenure Review process, which went into effect in 2022-23 as Academic Administrative Process 2.18 Post-Tenure Review. Lewis University will be prepared for accreditation activities because they hired all the Oak Point University Radiography faculty. The faculty has been part of the decision-making of the radiography equipment necessary to perform simulations and labs and experiments to optimize classroom teaching.

Fiscal / Personnel Resources

1030.30(a)(11): The institution should be financially stable and capable of assuring the revenues needed for meeting stated objectives and fulfilling commitments to students; and

1030.60(a)(8): Fiscal and personnel resources shall be sufficient to permit the institution to meet obligations to continuing programs while assuming additional resource responsibilities for the new certificate or degree program.

Lewis University has submitted fiscal plans indicating revenue will exceed operating expenditures over the next five years. The institution will maintain instructional costs almost constant while increasing revenue.

Accreditation and Licensure

Lewis University will seek accreditation from the Joint Review Committee on Education of Radiologic Technologists (JRCERT) through a transfer of sponsorship from Oak Point University to Lewis University Oak Brook campus for the proposed bachelor's degree in radiography program. Prior to the institutional closure in April 2024, Oak Point University had received an eight-year maximum accreditation throughout JRCERT at its last accreditation visit. Lewis will be prepared for these accreditation activities because they hired all the Oak Point University radiography faculty. The curriculum has been established for several years and in practice while operating under Oak Point University. It meets the educational requirements for licensure and certification. The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) is the certifying body that issues the certification exams for graduates to become registered radiologic technologists. ARRT certifies and registers technologists in a range of disciplines by overseeing and administering education ethics and examination requirements. To practice in Illinois, graduates from qualifying programs need both a license by the Illinois Emergency Management Association and the certification by the ARRT. To be granted the IEMA certification, candidates must pass the ARRT certification exam. The proposed program meets all guidelines by both the ARRT and IEMA.

Program Information

1030.30(e): Publications and Information. Institutions shall be scrupulously ethical in all communication with the public and with prospective students. School publications, advertisements and statements shall be wholly accurate and in no way misleading; and

1030.60(a)(7): The information the institution provides for students and the public shall accurately describe the programs offered, program objectives, length of program, schedule of tuition, fees, and all other charges and expenses necessary for completion of the course of study, cancellation and refund policies, and such other material facts concerning the institution and the program or course of instruction as are likely to affect the decision of the student to enroll. This information, including any enrollment agreements or similar agreements, shall be available to prospective students prior to enrollment.

Detailed information on academic policies, tuition, fees, refund policies, admissions procedures, and other relevant information necessary for prospective students to make informed decisions on enrollment were provided in the application and will be published on the University's website.

Staff Conclusion

The staff concludes that Lewis University and its proposed Bachelor of Science in Radiography meet the criteria in Sections 1030.30 and 1030.60 of the rules to implement The Private College Act (110 ILCS 1005) and The Academic Degree Act (110 ILCS 1010) and the relating Illinois Administrative Code (Title 23 Section 1030) pertaining to the assessment and licensure of a postsecondary institution.