


5-2-2019

## SR-18-19-51 APC

Marshall University

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**ACADEMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDATION**

**SR-18-19-51 APC**

By unanimous vote, the Academic Planning Committee recommends approval of an *Intent to Plan* for the creation of two new baccalaureate degrees; Bachelor of Science: *Aviation Sciences, Fixed-Wing* and Bachelor of Science: *Aviation Sciences, Rotor-Wing*. The new degrees will train students to become commercial pilots of airplanes or helicopters and be administered by the School of Aviation, a new school that will be created during the planning phase. The inaugural class will begin in the 2021-2022 academic year.

**RATIONALE:**

The creation of these degrees addresses a well-documented need for college educated pilots of airplanes and helicopters. Students graduating from the programs will enter a profession for which there is high demand for their education and lucrative compensation for their work. In addition to offering a high-quality Marshall University education to future generations of commercial pilots, the new programs will make a notable contribution to West Virginia's economy and support development of commerce related to aeronautics.

The two baccalaureate degrees will require students to complete the University's General Education courses and a program of study that includes required and elective courses required for FAA licensure. The programs will include faculty hired exclusively to teach FAA-based flight courses, faculty from various colleges to teach required related courses (e.g., Aviation Law, Meteorology, and others), and faculty from the colleges to teach general education courses.

Initial funding for the programs will come from University monies set aside to start new academic programs. The financial model demonstrates that the programs will become self-sufficient after six years of operation.

The two degrees will attract students to Marshall University who would not otherwise consider the institution. Similar programs offered in other states attract recent high school graduates, veterans of the armed services, and adults seeking a career change. The programs will ensure that women and minority students feel welcomed to join this degree program. Moreover, with an active pilot training program, Marshall University may be able to develop new majors that support the commercial airline industry.

**FACULTY SENATE CHAIR:**

APPROVED BY THE  
FACULTY SENATE: \_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: 5/21/19

DISAPPROVED BY THE  
FACULTY SENATE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT:**

**ACADEMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDATION**

**SR-18-19-51 APC**

APPROVED:  DATE: 5-11-19

DISAPPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMENTS:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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NOTE: Recommendations should be sent to the Faculty Senate office via email. Recommendations longer than one page or those with attachments are to be sent in final format with this as a cover page. Any incomplete recommendations or those requiring extensive formatting changes will be returned to the recording secretary/committee.