

APPENDIX D
Program Planning Summary
State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education
(Not to exceed three pages in length)

1. College: Piedmont Technical College
2. Award: Associate in Health Science
3. Major: Cardiovascular Technology
4. Designation (Check one)
 - a. New Program Proposal
 Number of credit hours 78
 - b. Program Modification
 Number of credit hours
5. Proposed Date of Implementation: Fall Semester 2008
6. Justification of Need:

The mission of Piedmont Technical College (PTC) is to respond to the academic, training, and public service needs through excellence in teaching and educational services. PTC contributes to the economic growth and development of the largest geographical region of the technical college system: Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Newberry, and Saluda counties. In support of this mission, PTC proposes to develop and implement an Associate in Health Science with a major in Cardiovascular Technology to assist in meeting cardiac health needs throughout the state.

The U.S. Census Bureau State and County Quick Facts report a 12.6% increase of persons 65 years old and over in South Carolina between 2000 – 2005. Counties in the PTC service area contribute significantly to this growth trend due to retirees relocating in areas such as Savannah Lakes, Lake Russell, and Lake Greenwood. The significant increase of persons over 65 years of age relocating in South Carolina, combined with the population of native South Carolinians, support the growing need for health care services, especially those related to cardiovascular awareness and treatment. In 2001, diseases of the heart accounted for 25.8% of deaths in South Carolina in adults aged 65 to 74. For the population aged 75 and older, cardiovascular disease accounted for 29.9% of the deaths in the state. Astonishingly, considering the high incidence of cardiac disease in South Carolina, there is not a public cardiovascular program to prepare technicians to become team members to work with cardiologists and cardiovascular facilities in the state.

7. Anticipated Program Demand and Productivity:

Data from the US Department of Labor Statistics reports there were “approximately 45,000 jobs in cardiovascular technology in 2004.” The same source reports “employment for cardiovascular technologists is expected to grow faster than average for all occupations through the year 2014.” Based on this information and a growing concern expressed by healthcare providers throughout the state, PTC conducted a needs survey. PTC received permission to survey the entire state with the exception of the counties serviced by Midlands and Aiken Technical Colleges. The survey results indicate an immediate need for over 75 full-time technicians (non-invasive and invasive combined). There is an anticipated need of 72 full-time technicians for 2008 and an average of 34 full-time positions needed for 2009 and 2010.

PTC’s needs assessment supported national and state-wide trends in the cardiovascular technology field. Approximately 70% of the survey respondents projected the average entry-level salary for full-time cardiovascular technicians as roughly \$42,100. This is consistent with the US Department of Labor’s data that the median salary for entry-level cardiovascular technicians was \$38,180 in 2004.

The proposed Cardiovascular Technology Associate Degree is expected to generate an enrollment of 24 full-time students the first year. Program enrollment for the second and third years will be 24 full-time freshmen and 17 sophomores each year. These numbers are based on an attrition rate of 30%.

8. Assessment of Extent to Which Program Duplicates Existing Programs in the State:

Currently there is not a cardiovascular technology program in the technical education system. One hospital- based program offers a limited enrollment, 18-month certificate program for non-invasive and vascular tracks.

9. Relationship of the Proposed Program to Existing Programs at the Proposing Institution:

Through the Health Science Biological and Chemical Division, PTC offers associate degree and diploma programs in several health science related fields including the following: Pharmacy Technology, Respiratory Care Technology, Radiologic Technology, Medical Assisting Technology, and Surgical Technology. Certificates are offered in Massage Therapy, Medical Coding and Billing, Patient Care Technology, Phlebotomy, and Veterinary Technology. The proposed program will bring a new and exciting dimension to the wide array of health care programs offered at PTC.

All of the general education courses required for the proposed program currently exist within the college’s course offerings. Therefore, there will be no economic impact to the college for additional courses.

10. Relationship of the Proposed Program to Other Institutions Via Inter-Institutional Cooperation:

This proposal supports a two-year associate degree program designed primarily as a terminal degree. The goal of the proposed program is to provide graduates with the required competencies to successfully complete the professional certification in their chosen specialization as determined by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Cardiovascular Technology (JRC-CVT).

Initially, the proposed cardiovascular technology program will be the only one in the technical education system. Therefore, the design of the curriculum will be such that students may obtain general education courses at the technical college in their home area. Piedmont intends to partner with various agencies to establish clinical affiliations throughout the state, thus allowing students to complete clinical course requirements in local settings. Each clinical site will have to meet certain criteria and adhere to set guidelines.

Additionally, the proposed program will seek accreditation by the JRC-CVT prior to the first graduating class.

11. Total Costs Associated with Implementing the Proposed Program (General Estimates Only):

Annual New Estimated Costs

	1 st year	2 nd year	3 rd year
Equipment	\$624,695	\$45,000	\$31,000
Operation Budget	\$88,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
Library Supplies	\$700	\$700	\$700
Personnel	\$140,000	\$144,200	\$148,526
Accreditation	\$1,400	\$4,500	\$950
Total Projected Costs	\$854,795	\$224,400	\$211,176

(Signature of College President)

(Date)