

## FRANKLIN UNIVERSITY, COLUMBUS, OHIO

### Statewide

- BS in Business Administration
- BS in Computer Science
- BS in Health Administration
- BS in Management Information Systems
- BS in Technical Administration

Franklin University has informed the Illinois Board of Higher Education of its intent to offer an on-line, degree-completion program in multiple majors to graduates of community colleges. This program, titled the Community College Alliance (CCA), invites community colleges in Illinois to become members of the Alliance. Their current and former students are then able to participate in the coursework leading to Bachelor of Science degrees in Business Administration, Computer Science, Health Administration, Management Information Systems, and Technical Administration. These five majors are currently developed and available on-line.

CCA is designed for the career-minded, working adult, who cannot participate in degree completion programs offered on site in the state of Illinois because of time constraints and geographical restraints. CCA allows students to complete a bachelor's degree without leaving their community.

Prospective students are encouraged to take a one-credit hour orientation course, Advanced On-line Learning Strategies, while taking bridge courses (prerequisite courses) at their community college. This orientation course allows them to understand the expectations of on-line learning and to determine whether or not they are on-line learners. Other types of support provided for the on-line learner are the Franklin University advisor, who visits each community college in the Alliance at least monthly; the student cohort or the community of learners working together; Franklin's tutoring lab and Help Desk for computer-related problems, and the community college. The community college, as a member of the Alliance, offers students academic advising, financial aid advising, and access to the library and computer center, if needed.

Franklin University is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and is approved by that body to offer degrees via distance education. Franklin University was recently selected by the Department of Education as one of the 15 Distance Education Demonstration Program pilot sites in the nation. This pilot allows Franklin to waive certain federal financial aid restrictions and allows Franklin to participate in an evaluation of distance education.

Requests for additional information about the proposed program should be directed to Dr. Martha Shouldis, Vice President for Academics and Curriculum Development, Franklin University, 201 South Grant Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43215. Phone: 614-341-6316. E-mail: shouldis@franklin.edu.