**Format for Intent to Offer an Educational Program**

Gainful Employment Electronic Announcement #5 dated June 1, 2011 and posted on www.ifap.ed.gov explains the process for institutional notification to the Department of new educational programs that prepare students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation (GE Programs). An institution’s notification to the Department of its intent to offer a new GE Program must include information to support the institution’s determination of the need for the program, as required by the regulations at 34 CFR 600.20(d)(2). Descriptions and documentation provided by an institution can cover more than one new GE Program, if the same, or similar, process was used by the institution to determine the need for the program, and should be provided as follows:

1. Institution Name

2. OPEID

3. Program Name(s) and Program CIP Code(s) supported by this documentation

4. Narrative description of how the institution determined the need for the program. For example, describe what need this program will address and how the institution became aware of that need. If the program is replacing a current program(s), identify the current program(s) that is being replaced by the new program(s) and provide details describing the benefits of the new program(s). If the program will be offered in connection with, or in response to, an initiative by a governmental entity, provide details of that initiative. The institution must retain documents that support this description for review or submission to the Department upon request.

5. Narrative description of how the program was designed to meet local market needs, or for an online program, regional or national market needs. For example, indicate if Bureau of Labor Statistics data or State labor data systems information was used, and/or if State, regional, or local workforce agencies were consulted. Include how the course content, program length, academic level, admission requirements, and prerequisites were decided; including information received from potential employers about course content; and information regarding the target students and employers. The institution must retain copies of documents and its analysis for review and submission to the Department upon request.

6. Narrative description of any wage analysis the institution may have performed, including any consideration of Bureau of Labor Statistics wage data related to the new program. The institution must retain copies of analysis documents for review and submission to the Department upon request.

7. Narrative description of how the program was reviewed or approved by, or developed in conjunction with, one or more of the following:

 Business advisory committees

 Program integrity boards

 Public or private oversight or regulatory agencies (not including the state licensing /authorization agency and accrediting agency)

 Businesses that would likely employ graduates of the program

For example, describe the steps taken to develop the program, identify when and with whom discussions were held, provide relevant details of any proposals or correspondence generated, and/or describe any process used to evaluate the program. The institution must retain, for review and submission to the Department upon request, copies of meeting minutes, correspondence, proposals, or other documentation to support the development, review, and/or approval of the program.

8. Date of the first day of class. Include both:

 The first day the program was or will be offered by the institution, and

 The day you would like to begin disbursing Title IV funds to students enrolled in the program.