

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH FEDERAL VOCATIONAL AND SKILLS ACQUISITION COLLEGE OBIBIEZENA, IMO STATE TO PROVIDE FOR RESEARCH, TEACHING, INSTRUCTION AND TRAINING ON VOCATIONAL AND SKILLS ACQUISITION AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Tochukwu Chinedu Okere

[] Commencement

ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as follows-

1 PART 1 - ESTABLISHMENT, OBJECTIVES, POWERS AND THE GOVERNING

2 COUNCIL OF THE COLLEGE

3 1.-(1) There is established in Obibiezena Imo State the Federal
4 Vocational and Skills Acquisition College (herein referred to as "the
5 college").

Establishment
of the Federal
Vocational and
Skills Acquisition
College Obibiezena,
Imo State

6 (2) The College shall be-

7 (a) a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal
8 and may sue and be sued in its corporate name;

9 (b) shall be capable of-

10 (i) acquiring, holding and disposing of college's property; and

11 (ii) perform such other acts and things as a body corporate may by
12 law and by the provision of his Act do or perform.

13 2.-(1) the objectives of the College shall be to-

Objectives and
Powers of the
College

14 (a) teach, research, instruct, and train students in both full-time and
15 College part-time courses in:

16 (i) Vocational, Skills Acquisition in areas, but not limited to:

17 (a) Automobile Servicing;

18 (b) Fabrication and Welding. Photography; Fashion Design and
19 cosmetology; Plumbing: Catering; Carpentry/woodwork, and Electrical

1 and solar Maintenance:

2 (ii) in such other applied fields connected to the implementation of the
3 objectives set out in this Bill;

4 (b) develop and conduct courses for training of students as well as
5 teachers in the area of its objectives;

6 (c) expand the horizon for indigenous research and provide the basis
7 for cooperation, partnership, and collaboration with relevant institutions,
8 researchers, and stakeholders in Nigeria as well as the global arena; and

9 (d) organize workshops, seminars, and conferences connected to the
10 development of approved courses and the educational sector in general.

11 (2) to carry out the objectives set out in subsection (1) of this section,
12 the College shall have the power to-

13 (a) erect campuses, relevant teaching and research departments, and
14 units as circumstances so dictate in accordance with the guidelines and
15 approval of the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE);

16 (b) conduct examinations and grant Certificates, National Diplomas,
17 Higher National Diplomas, Professional Certificates, and other marks of
18 distinctions to students or persons who have passed and completed an
19 approved course of study of the College;

20 (c) institute and award fellowships, scholarships, bursaries, medals,
21 titles, prizes, distinctions, and other relevant awards related thereto;

22 (d) provide for the welfare, discipline, and promotion of members,
23 staff, and children of members or staff of the College;

24 (e) receive from students and other persons pursuing an approved
25 course of study in the College, fees and other charges subject to periodic review
26 as may, from time to time, be directed by the Governing Council;

27 (f) grant and award honorary fellowship or academic titles to
28 reputable individuals that have contributed to the growth and sustainability of
29 the Centre and humanity in general;

30 (g) build, equip, and maintain lecture theatres, residential halls,

1 laboratories, refectories, sports and leisure facilities, printing and
2 publishing facilities, and other facilities that are necessary or incidental to
3 the growth, development, and sustainability of the College;

4 (h) invest disposable incomes on projects that are meaningful and
5 Significant to the growth, development, and financial freedom of the
6 College;

7 (i) borrow at interest, or on the security of the College's landed
8 property or funds, amounts of money needed for projects connected to the
9 developments of the College but subject to the approval of two third-
10 majority of members of the governing council after due consultation with
11 economic and financial experts;

12 (j) encourage and make provision for research;

13 (k) consider and approve the annual estimates of the College;

14 (l) accept gifts and donations whose terms and conditions are

15 **3.-(1)** The Chairman and other members of the Council shall hold
16 office for a period of four years and may only be reappointed for another
17 term of four years.

Tenure of office
of the members
of the Council

18 (2) When a member of the Council appointed by the president
19 wishes to resign from his membership of the Council, he or she shall do so by
20 a hand written notices addressed to the President and copied to the Minister
21 and the Council.

22 (3) The member stated in subsection (2) above shall cease to be a
23 member of the Council upon the President's acknowledgment of his or her
24 letter of resignation.

25 (4) When there is a vacancy in the membership of the Council, the
26 person representing the same interest as the one whose exit created the
27 vacancy shall be nominated or appointed as circumstances dictate to fill
28 such position.

29 **4.** A member of the committee shall cease to hold office if-

Cessation of
Membership

30 (a) he or she becomes permanently incapacitated or insane;

1 (b) he or she is convicted of any offence by a competent court of a
2 superior record that he is dishonest; and

3 (c) he is found guilty of serious misconduct with regard to his duties.

4 PART II - ORGANIZATION OF ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE

5 TASKS OF THE COLLEGE

Establishment,
Composition and
Functions of the
Academic Board

6 **5.**-(1) Subject to the powers and general oversight of the Council, the
7 consistent with the objectives set out in this Act; and

8 (2) enter into a contract and do all things necessary or incidental to the
9 implementation of the objectives of the College.

10 (3) The powers conferred on the College by the provision of
11 subsection (2) of this section shall be exercised by the Council on behalf of the
12 College or by other manner prescribed by the Council.

Establishment
and composition
of the Governing
Council

13 **6.**-(1) There is to be established for the College a governing body
14 herein referred to as "the Council" to give effect to the provisions of this Act.

15 (2) Subject to the provisions of subsection (1) of this section the
16 Council shall comprise of the following members-

17 (a) the Chairman and other members who shall be persons with both
18 the requisite knowledge and practical experience to be appointed by the
19 President;

20 (b) the College's Officer in charge of policy, planning and strategy;

21 (c) the Rector of the College;

22 (d) the Registrar of the College who shall be the Secretary of the
23 Council;

24 (e) one representative of the National Board for Technical Education
25 (NBTE); and

26 (f) one representative of the Federal Ministry of Education.

27 (2) The members of the Council shall receive remuneration and
28 allowances as may be determined by the President from time to time.

29 (3) The proceedings of the Council shall be in a manner set out in the
30 schedule to this bill.

- 1 7.-(1)The College shall have an Academic Board to- Academic Board
- 2 (a) set guidelines, organize and monitor lectures of approved
- 3 academic courses, examinations, and research projects;
- 4 (b) determine passes or failures in all approved academic courses
- 5 in line with criteria spelt out in the academic policy or any other directives
- 6 given by the National Board for Technical Educational (NBTE); and
- 7 (c) perform such other functions as may be assigned or delegated to
- 8 it by the Council or the Rector.
- 9 (2) The Academic Board shall comprise of the following members-
- 10 (a) the Rector who shall be the Chairman;
- 11 (b) Deans of Faculties;
- 12 (c) Heads of Academic; Departments;
- 13 (d) the Registrar who shall be the Secretary;
- 14 (e) the Centre's Librarian; and
- 15 (f) resource persons that may be appointed by the chairman from
- 16 within or outside the College as consultants.
- 17 8.-(1) Subject to the general oversight of the governing council, Establishment
- 18 there shall be a selection committee for the College which shall composed of and composition
- 19 the following members- of the Selection
- 20 (a) the chairman and four other members of the Council; Committee and
- 21 (b) the Rector of the College; and other principal
- 22 (c) two members of the academic Board none of which shall be the officers
- 23 Rector or a member of the Council.
- 24 (2) The functions, procedures, and other related activities of the
- 25 selection committee constituted in subsection (1) of this section shall be in
- 26 accordance with the standards set out by the Council.
- 27 9.-(1) Subject to the provisions of section 13 of this Act, an Establishment
- 28 interview panel shall be constituted to conduct interviews of candidates and composition
- 29 seeking to occupy non-principal offices of the College and it shall consist of- of the College's
- 30 (a) the Rooter; interview panel

- 1 (b) two representatives of the faculties in which the vacancy declared;
- 2 (c) the head of the departments concerned: and
- 3 (d) the Registrar who shall be the secretary of the Panel.
- 4 (2) the functions, procedure, and other matters of the Panel shall be
- 5 determined from time to time by the Council.

6 **PART III - PRINCIPAL OFFICERS AND OTHER EMPLOYEES OF THE COLLEGE**

Appointment
of the Rector

- 7 **10.**-(1) There shall be: a Rector for the College who shall be appointed
- 8 by the F President on the recommendation of the Minister of Education;
- 9 (2) The Rector shall be a person with a cognate experience of not less
- 10 than 10 years in his academic field and vocational teaching competence:
- 11 (3) The Rector shall be a person with the requisite qualifications and
- 12 practical teaching and research experience;
- 13 (4) Where there is a vacancy for the post of the Rector, the Council
- 14 shall specify-
- 15 (a) the advertise the vacancy in reputable and widely read national
- 16 newspapers;
- 17 (b) the requirements from persons seeking to occupy the post;
- 18 (c) the terms and Conditions of service attached to the post and
- 19 thereafter shortlist the names of suitable candidates for the consideration of the
- 20 minister;
- 21 (5) Subject to the provisions of subsection (3) of this section, the
- 22 president shall appoint one of the candidates recommended by the minister to
- 23 the post of the Rector;
- 24 (6) Subject to the general oversight of the Council, the Rector shall be
- 25 the chief executive of the College vested with the responsibility of running all
- 26 academic and general administration activities of the College and shall
- 27 perform such other functions as s assigned to him by the Governing Council;
- 28 (7) The College: shall hold office for a single unrenewable term five
- 29 years in accordance with the conditions of service stipulated in his or her
- 30 appointment letter,

1 **11.**-(1) The Council shall appoint for the College a Deputy Rector
2 (Academic) and a Deputy Rector (Administration) from a list of five most
3 senior academic staff in order of preference submitted by the Rector to assist
4 him in the discharge of his duties.

Appointment
of Deputy Rector

5 (2) The Council shall appoint the Deputy Rector after due
6 consideration of the recommendation of the selection Committee
7 inaugurated for the purpose in section 7 of this Act.

8 (3) The functions of the Deputy Rector (Academic) shall be to-

9 (a) assist the Rector in the handling of academic matters of the
10 Council;

11 (b) act as the acting Rector in the absence of the Rector or when, for
12 Some reason. the post of the Rector is vacant;

13 (c) perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the
14 Rector or the Council.

15 (4) The functions of the Deputy Rector (Administration) shall be
16 to-

17 (a) assist the Rector in the discharge of administrative duties of the
18 College; and

19 (b) perform such other duties assigned to him by the Rector or the
20 Council.

21 **12.**-(1) There shall be a Registrar appointed by the Council to serve
22 as the secretary of-

Appointment of
Register

23 (a) the Council;

24 (b) the Academic Board; and

25 (c) such other subcommittee(s) constituted by the Council.

26 (2) The registrar shall also handle the records and correspondences
27 of the College and perform such other functions as may be assigned to him
28 by the Rector or the Council.

29 **13.**-(1) The Council shall appoint for the College-

Appointment and
Functions of other
principal officer
of College

30 (a) a Bursar; and

1 (b) a Librarian.

2 (2) The Bursar shall be responsible to the Rector for the
3 administration and general control of the financial affairs of the College;

4 (3) The Librarian shall be responsible to the Rector in administering
5 and coordinating the activities of the central, faculty, departmental, and other
6 libraries of the College;

7 (4) The Bursar and the Librarian of the College shall both hold office
8 for a single term of five years only.

Other Employees
of the Collefe

9 **14.**-(1) The Governing Council may also appoint other persons into
10 the academic and non-academic staff of the College to assist the Rector and
11 other principal officers in carrying out academic and administrative functions
12 of the College;

13 (2) The remuneration, allowances, pensions, and other conditions of
14 service of the employees of the College shall be determined by the Council in
15 consultation with the Federal Civil Service Commission.

Procedure for
resignation

16 **15.**-(1) Where the Rector wishes to resign, he or she shall do so
17 through a letter addressed to the president and copied to the minister and the
18 Council;

19 (2) Other principal officers and employees who wish to resign shall
20 do so in a manner prescribed by the Council.

21 **PART IV- FINANCIAL PROVISIONS**

Funding of the
College

22 **16.**-(1) There is established for the College a fund into which shall be
23 Paid-

24 (a) all monies appropriated d t through the National Assembly;

25 (b) all monies that may be granted by the Federal Government
26 through the National Board for Technical Education (NBIE,

27 (c) all monies received I through donations gifts and grants-it-aid:

28 (d) all subscriptions, fees, and charges for services rendered by the

Account and
Audit

29 **17.**-(1) The Council shall keep proper accounts of its receipts,
30 payments, assets, and liabilities with regards to each financial year as well as

1 proper records connected therewith;

2 (2) When the accounts subject to the provisions of subsection (1)
3 above is certified by the Council, the account shall be audited by a firm
4 approved by the Council from the list and in accordance with the guidelines
5 supplied by the office of the Auditor General of the Federation:

6 (3) The auditor appointed for the purpose of this section shall not
7 be member of the Council;

8 (4) Subject to the provisions of this section the audited accounts
9 shall be published within three months from the end of the financial year to
10 which the accounts relate.

11 **18.** The Council shall notwithstanding the provision of section 16 Annual Report
12 of this Act, submit to the Minister an annual report of its activities and
13 administration of the College's fund pursuant to objectives set out in this
14 Bill.

15 **19.**-(1) returns on investments and other monies or assets that may Revenue and
16 accrue to the Council or the College; Expenditure

17 (2) The College's Council shall submit to the minister responsible
18 for education, through the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE),
19 an estimate of its revenue and expenditure for the succeeding year.

20 (3) The estimate stated in subsection (2) above shall be submitted
21 not later than three months before the end of each financial year or at such
22 other times as the minister or the Board may direct.

23 **PART V - DISCIPLINE**

24 **20.**-(1) Subject to the provisions of this clause, where it appears to Discipline of
25 the Rector that any student of the College has been found guilty of Students
26 misconduct, the Rector may, without prejudice to any other disciplinary
27 powers conferred on him by this Bill or regulations made, direct-

28 (a) that the student s shall not during such period as may be
29 specified in the direction, participate in such activities of the Institute, or
30 make use of such facilities of the College, as he may specify;

1 (b) that the activities of the student shall, during such period as may be
2 Specified in the directions, be restricted in such manner as may be so specified.

3 (c) that the student be suspended for such period as may be specified
4 in the directions; or

5 (d) that the student be expelled from the College.

6 (2) Where there is temporarily no Rector or where the Rector refuses
7 to apply any disciplinary measures, the council, either directly or through some
8 other staff, may apply such disciplinary actions as specified in sub-section (1)
9 to any student of the College who is guilty of misconduct.

10 (3) Where a direction is given under subsection (1) (c) or (d) of this
11 clause in respect of any student may, within a period of 21 days from the date of
12 the letter communicating the decision to him, appeal from the direction to the
13 council; and where such an appeal is brought, the council shall, after causing
14 such inquiry to be made in any manner the council deems just, either confirm or
15 set aside the direction or modify it in such manner as the council may think fit.

16 (4) The fact that an appeal from a direction is brought in pursuance of
17 subsection (3) of this section shall not affect the operation of the direction while
18 the appeal is pending;

19 (5) The Rector may delegate his power under this clause to
20 disciplinary committee consisting of such members of the College as he may
21 nominate;

22 (6) Nothing in this clause shall be construed as preventing the
23 restriction or termination of a student's activities in the College otherwise than
24 on the grounds of misconduct,

25 (7) The directions as contained in Sub 1(a) and (b) may be combined.

26 (8) In all cases under this clause, the decision of the council shall be
27 final.

Discipline of
Staff

28 **21.**-(1) If any staff is accused and found guilty of any misconduct or
29 inefficiency, the Rector may suspend him for a period not less than three (3)

1 months and direct the Staff Appointment, Promotions, and Disciplinary
2 Committee-

3 (a) to consider the matter justly; and

4 (b) make recommendations as to the appropriate actions to be
5 taken by the Rector;

6 (2) In all cases under this clause, the officer shall be informed of the
7 charge against him and shall be given a fair hearing;

8 (3) The Rector may, after considering the recommendations made
9 pursuant to Sub (1) of this section, dismiss, terminate, retire or downgrade
10 the officer concerned;

11 (4) Any person aggrieved by the Rector's decision under
12 Subsection (3) may within a period of 21 days from the receipt of the letter
13 conveying the decision to him, appeal through a petition to the council.

14 (5) The decision of the council on that particular matter is final.

15 **PART VI - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

16 **22.**-(1) The minister shall have the power to give to the Council,
17 such directives which are not inconsistent with the provision of this Bill and
18 it shall be the duty of the Council to comply with such directives;

Power of the
Minister to issue
direction and
visitation

19 (2) The minister responsible for education shall be the visitor of the
20 College;

21 (3) The visitor shall, not less than once every five years, conduct a
22 Visitation to the College or appoint a visitation panel consisting of not less
23 than five experts to conduct the visitation.

24 (4) The purpose of the visitation shall be to-

25 (a) assess the academic and administrative performance of the
26 College; and

27 (b) for such other purposes, the visitors may deem fit.

28 **23.** In this Bill, unless the context otherwise requires-

Interpretation

29 "College" mean the federal vocational and skills Acquisition College,
30 Obibiezena, Imo State;

1 "Council" means the Governing c Council of the College established in section
2 3 of this Act;

3 "President" means the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

4 "Minister means the Minister responsible for Education:

5 "Board" means the Academic Board established in section 6 of this Act to
6 organize and monitor the academic tasks of the College:

7 "Committee" means the selection committee established in section 7 of this Act
8 to screen and write recommendations about candidates seeking to occupy
9 principal offices of the College;

10 "Panel" means the interview Panel established in section & of this Act to screen
11 non-principal officers of the College;

12 "Rector" means the chief executive officer vested with the responsibility of
13 managing the day-to-day academic and administrative activities of the College
14 appointed by the president in section 9 of this Act;

15 "Registrar" means the Chief Registrar of the College appointed in section 11 of
16 this Act to keep records, handle correspondence, and serve as the Secretary of
17 the Council, Academic Board, and other important committees or
18 subcommittees of the College;

19 "Bursar" means an officer appointed in section 12 of this Act who is
20 responsible to the Rector and handles the f financial affairs of the College; : an

21 "Librarian" means one of the principal officers appointed in section 12 of this
22 Act to organize, coordinate, and administer t the activities of all the libraries in
23 the College.

Citation

24 24. This Bill may be cited as the Federal Vocational and Skills
25 Acquisition College, Obibiezena, Imo State (Establishment) Bill, 2025.

1 SCHEDULE

2 (Section 3(3))

3 SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

4 *Proceedings*

5 1.-(1) The Council may, subject to the provisions of this Bill, make
6 standing orders to regulate its proceedings or those of any of its Boards,
7 Committee or subcommittee(s) for the purpose of giving effect to the
8 objectives set out in this Act.

9 (2) The quorum of the Council shall be the chairman or the
10 secretary and four other members of the Council.

11 2.-(1) The Council shall meet quarterly and whenever
12 circumstances dictate, it may organize such other number of meetings
13 provided it is summoned by the Chairman or by notice given to him by not
14 less than four other members of the Council.

15 (2) Where the chairman received such notice he shall summon a
16 meeting of the Council to be held not later than seven (7) days from the date
17 on which the notice is served.

18 3. The chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Council but if
19 he is absent, other members present at the meeting shall elect one of the
20 members amongst them to preside at such meetings.

21 4.-(1) Whenever the Council requires the advice of any person or
22 institution on any matter related to the objectives set out in this Act, the
23 Council shall co-opt the said person for a period of time it considers
24 necessary.

25 (2) A person cop-opted for the purpose stated above Shall not be
26 entitled to vote at any of the meetings of the Council and shall also not be
27 counted for the purpose of forming a quorum.

28 *Committees*

29 3.-(1) For the purpose of implementing the objectives set out in this
30 bill, the Council may appoint such number of subcommittees it considers

1 necessary or expedient to execute on behalf of the Councils such other
2 functions as the Council may from time-to-time delegate;

3 (2) The number of persons so appointed in the sub-committee(s) may
4 not necessarily be members of the Council;

5 (3) A person other than a member of the Council shall hold office in
6 the Council, the Academic Board, Committee, and such other subcommittee(s)
7 in accordance with the terms of his or her appointment as the Council may from
8 time to time determine:

9 (4) Where the subcommittee(s) make a decision, such decision shall
10 become effective only when it is approved by the Council.

11 *Miscellaneous*

12 4.-(1) The seal of the Council shall be authenticated by the signature
13 of the Chairman or any other person(s) authorized by the Council to act for that
14 purpose;

15 (2) Any contract, instrument, or transaction which if executed by a
16 person who is not a corporate body would not be required to be under the seal of
17 the Council may be carried out or executed on behalf of the Council by the
18 Chairman or a person so authorized generally or specifically as circumstances
19 so dictates to act for that purpose;

20 (3) Any document claiming to be a document bearing a task duly
21 executed under the seal of the Council of the College shall be recorded as such
22 and unless the contrary is proved, shall be presumed to be so executed.

23 5. The validity of proceedings of the Council, Board, or Committee of
24 the College shall not be questioned on account of any vacancy in their
25 membership or by any defect in the appointment of their members or by reason
26 that a person not entitled to do so took part in their proceedings.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to establish the Federal Vocational and Skills Acquisition College, Obibiezena, Imo State to provide full and part-time courses in vocational and skills acquisition and other fields of studies and to make provisions for the General Administration of the College.