



**NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM**  
*H. Martin Lancaster, President*

May 22, 2007

**TO:**

Dr. Eric McKeithan  
Dr. Brantley Briley  
Dr. G. Frank Sells  
Dr. Mary E. Rittling  
Dr. Diane Honeycutt  
Dr. Edward H. Wilson

**FROM:**

Antonio Jordan, Director of Joint High School Programs  
Academic and Student Services

**RE:**

Approval of Cooperative Innovative High School Programs and  
Exemptions 2007 (Part II)

Congratulations! On May 18, 2007, the State Board of Community Colleges approved your applications to “jointly establish cooperative innovative programs in high schools and community colleges that will expand students’ opportunities for educational success through high quality instructional programming.” (G.S. 115C-238.50) Your applications addressed the economic development needs in the economic development regions in which you are located and will strengthen the educational programs offered to North Carolina public school students.

As required by G.S. 115C-238.53 (attachment 2), you are now required to complete a written agreement with signatures of the local board of trustees of the community college, the local board of education, the State Board of Education and the State Board of Community Colleges that incorporates information in the application as modified by the tables of approved exemptions (attachment 1).

To facilitate this requirement, **please complete attachment 3 and return it by August 15, 2007** to:

Elsie C. Leak, Ed. D.  
Associate Superintendent  
Curriculum and School Reform Services  
MSC 6307  
Raleigh, NC 27699-6307

S07-021  
E-mail

Select Presidents

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Your agreement will operate for a term of no longer than five school years beginning July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2012. Your program may use state, federal and local funds allocated to the local administrative unit, to the State Board of Community Colleges, and to the community college for implementation

We wish you much success in this collaborative endeavor and look forward to assisting you as needed. Should you have questions, please contact Dr. Elsie Leak at 919-807-3761 (public schools questions) or Tony Jordan at 919-807-7133 (community college questions).

AJ/KW/pck

Attachments:

1. NC Community Colleges Approved Exemptions
2. G. S. 115C-238.51
3. Agreement

c: Dr. Delores A. Parker, NCCCS  
Mr. J. B. Buxton, NCDPI  
Dr. Elsie C. Leak, NCDPI  
Dr. Tony Habit, NSP  
Ms. Carolyn White, NSP

S07-  
Email

**Attachment 1**

<b>Exemption</b>	<b>Community Colleges</b>	<b>Rationale</b>	<b>Recommendation*</b>
To allow ECHS students to enroll in summer classes and community college partners to receive FTE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Richmond Community College</li> <li>Cape Fear Community College</li> </ul>	Summer waiver	<i>Recommend approval for enrollment for summer curriculum courses; FTE funding shall be consistent with that for adult students in summer courses.</i>
Allow ECHS student enrollment (with FTE reimbursement) in developmental courses where necessary to establish prerequisite skill levels for required coursework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Richmond Community College</li> <li>Cape Fear Community College</li> </ul>	Developmental courses waiver	<i>Recommend approval limited to not more than 10 percent of the prior year ECHS unduplicated annual student enrollment and ASSET, COMPASS or Accuplacer scores indicating student placement in the highest level developmental course in reading, writing and/or mathematics</i>
To allow community college partners to develop courses necessary for the ECHS students (and open to other, non-high school students), even though such courses are available from at least one high school in the district	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Davidson County Community College</li> <li>Cape Fear Community College</li> </ul>	Course development waiver	<i>Recommend approval limited to offering courses already in curriculum programs approved for the college without regard to other high school courses offered in the LEA.</i>
Allow full-time ECHS students who are enrolled in one high school course to enroll in more than one college course for which they are eligible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Davidson County Community College</li> <li>Surry Community College</li> <li>Lenoir Community College</li> <li>Richmond Community College</li> <li>Cape Fear Community College</li> </ul>	Percent enrolled waiver.	<i>Recommend approval</i>
Allow the ECHS to “blend” high school and community college courses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lenoir Community College</li> <li>Cape Fear Community College</li> </ul>	DPI and the Community College should establish a process for reviewing and approving such courses.	<i>Not recommended for approval; recommend further study by the Program Services staff of the System Office, the Curriculum Division of the NC Dept. of Public Instruction, the staff of the New Schools Project and representatives of the community colleges chief academic officers.</i>

<b>Exemption</b>	<b>Community Colleges</b>	<b>Rationale</b>	<b>Recommendation*</b>
Allow the Community College and Public Schools to develop curriculum that permits students to meet graduation requirements using college-level courses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wayne Community College</li> </ul>	Creating a seamless curriculum between high school and college is paramount to the success of the ECHS. Policies that prevent postsecondary courses from meeting core high school requirements will significantly delay student progress toward degree completion.	<i>Recommend approval to offer courses to ECHS students to meet core graduation requirements provided the State Board of Education approves use of the credit to meet high school graduation requirements.</i>
To allow the ECHS students to enroll in community college courses regardless of age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cape Fear Community College</li> </ul>	Age Waiver	<i>Recommend approval for ECHS students in grades 9 to 12 or 13 in curriculum courses numbered 100 or above.</i>
To allow ECHS students to enroll in community college courses without regard to the displacement of traditional college students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cape Fear Community College</li> </ul>	Displacement Waiver	<i>Recommend approval</i>
To allow the ECHS students to receive exemptions to the enrollment policies that place adult enrollment as priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cape Fear Community College</li> </ul>	ECHS students will need to enroll in courses according to their degree plan in order to complete the associate degree within four or five years.	<i>No Action; see Displacement Waiver above</i>
To allow ECHS students to use, with evaluation of a CFCC ECHS faculty team, alternative assessments in lieu of required placement testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cape Fear Community College</li> </ul>	Alternative Assessment	<i>No action; recommend request be forwarded to Placement Testing Committee per item #2 of Placement Testing Policy approved by the SBCC on August 18, 2006</i>
To exempt ECHS students from paying tuition while pursuing the CFCC degree	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cape Fear Community College</li> </ul>	Tuition Waiver	<i>No action; tuition waivers for all ECHS students were enacted by the NC General Assembly in Session Law 2005-193.</i>

## Part 9. Cooperative Innovative High School Programs

### 115C-238.53. Program operation.

(a) A program approved by the State is accountable to the local board of education.

(b) A program approved under this Part shall operate under the terms of a written agreement signed by the local board of education, local board of trustees, State Board of Education, and applicable governing Board. The agreement shall incorporate the information provided in the application, as modified during the approval process, and any terms and conditions imposed on the program by the State Board of Education and the applicable governing Board. The agreement may be for a term of no longer than five school years.

(c) A program may be operated in a facility owned or leased by the local board of education, the local board of trustees, or the education partner, if any.

(d) A program approved under this Part shall provide instruction each school year for at least 180 days during nine calendar months, shall comply with laws and policies relating to the education of students with disabilities, and shall comply with Article 27 of this Chapter.

(e) A program approved under this Part may use State, federal, and local funds allocated to the local school administrative unit, to the applicable governing Board, and to the college or university to implement the program. If there is an education partner and if it is a public body, the program may use State, federal, and local funds allocated to that body.

(f) Except as provided in this Part and under the terms of the agreement, a program may be exempted by the applicable governing Board from laws and rules applicable to a local board of education, a local school administrative unit, a community college, a constituent institution, or a local board of trustees. (2003-277, s. 2; 2005-276, s. 7.33(a).)

**Cooperative Innovative High School Program Agreement**

**Directions for Completion:**

- A. The agreement is to be completed jointly by the local board(s) of education and the local board of trustees of the community college.
- B. The agreement must be returned to:

Elsie C. Leak, Ed. D.  
Associate Superintendent  
Curriculum and School Reform Services  
MSC 6307  
Raleigh, NC 27699-6307

- C. Send 3 copies with original signatures (1 copy will be returned to the partnership with State Boards signatures).

**Program operation agreement:**

This agreement among the Board of Trustees of :

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ and  
(Name of Community College)

the Board of Education of:

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ and  
(Name of Public School System)

(3) \_\_\_\_\_ and  
(Name of Public School System)

the State Board of Community Colleges and the State Board of Education is to establish a cooperative innovative high school program pursuant to G. S. 115C-238.51 through G. S. 115C-238.55. The community college and the local education agencies agree that the application submitted for the November 2004 Request For Proposal with approved amendments are incorporated in this agreement with only the approved exemptions contained in attachments 1 and 2 of this document.

