



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

December 19, 2007

**Memorandum**

To: Select HRD Coordinators/Directors  
From: Robin R. Coates  
Subject: Community College Response to ES\_FNS\_AL-7-2007.doc  
Effective October 1, 2007

This memorandum is in response to *DSS Administrative Letter No. Economic Services 7-2007 (Food and Nutrition Services)* dated September 21, 2007, subject heading *Removal of 15% Exemption for ABAWDs in Specified Counties*, please read and note the following:

This pertains to the six Career Start counties listed below which are not covered under the DSS 2007 Regional ABAWD Two Year Waiver. The two year waiver is in effect December 1, 2006 through November 30, 2008. The 15% exemption ended in the following counties on October 1, 2007: **Buncombe, Craven, Henderson, New Hanover, Union and Wake.**

On page 16, # 20, of the *Career Start Operational Guidelines*, revised August 2007, it states, "Individuals enrolled in Career Start Educational component are required to adhere to all programmatic and attendance requirements of the community college and participation requirements established by the E&T program. Educational placement activities are documented via the EDP Form 2623A. Please note that Non-ABAWDs must attend classes for a minimum of 12 hours each four-week period. ABAWDs must attend classes for a minimum of 20 hours each week. In Labor Surplus Areas (LSAs), ABAWDs do not have to meet the 20 hours work requirement rule. LSA designation changes periodically, so Career Start case managers are advised to go to <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/rules/Memo/PRWORA/abawds/ABAWDsPage.htm> for the current LSA designations or contact your local DSS."

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This means that Career Start college staff in the 6 affected counties mentioned above (Asheville Buncombe Technical CC, Craven CC, Blue Ridge CC, Cape Fear CC, South Piedmont CC and Wake Technical CC) need to be reminded that their **15% Exemption Status for ABAWDs has changed, effective October 1, 2007**. Colleges will need to be aware of and abide by the following:

ABAWDs enrolled in an educational component (GED, WorkKeys labs, HRD courses, computer labs, etc.) **MUST** attend class for 20 hours per week, regardless of open-entry, open exit designation of course. Since many HRD classes meet fewer than 20 hours per week, arrangements must be made to ensure that participants are enrolled in an additional lab or short course that brings the total to 20 hours per week. **Please note, work and class participation may be combined to meet the 20 hour requirement**. For instance, working 10 hrs per week and attending GED classes for 10 hours per week would satisfy this requirement.

Beginning January 1, 2008, **DSS will indicate on the 2624 Registration Deregistration form** in Section A in the Registration Information box **the dates of the E&T period**, complete with number of hours participant is currently working in addition to the following notation, **“Must attend class \_\_ hours per week,”** should the participant select additional training. (Number of hours required will vary depending upon number of hours participant is working.)

Please note the above notations will be implemented beginning January 1, 2008, due to three non-compliant (free) months as deemed by DSS.

RC

c: Select College Presidents  
Select Continuing Education Administrators

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