



**NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM**  
*Dr. R. Scott Ralls, President*

July 28, 2008

**TO:**

Dr. Betty Young	Dr. David McLawhorn
Dr. Ken Boham	Dr. Steve Thornburg
Dr. Gary Green	Dr. Donald Reichard
Dr. Brantley Briley	Dr. Dennis Massey
Dr. Ralph Soney	Dr. Robert Keys
Dr. Jarrett Chandler	Dr. Cecil Groves
Mr. Randy Parker	Dr. Kay Albertson

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

**RE:** Approval of Cooperative Innovative High School Programs and  
Exemptions 2008-2009 (Part II)

Congratulations! On July 18, 2008, 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 (b) (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 September 15, 2008**, to:

Associate State Superintendent  
Innovation and School Transformation  
6368 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-6368

**S08-046**  
**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, 2008 and ending June 30, 2013. 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 Ms. Rebecca Garland at 919-807-3761 (public schools questions) or Mr. Tony Jordan at 919-807-7133 (community college questions).

AJ/VW/pck

Attachments:

1. NC Community Colleges Approved Exemptions
2. G. S. 115C-238.53
3. Agreement

c: Dr. Delores A. Parker, NCCCS  
Mr. J. B. Buxton, NCDPI  
Ms. Rebecca Garland, NCDPI  
Dr. Tony Habit, NSP  
Ms. Tabitha Grossman, NSP

**S08-046**  
**Email**

Exemption	Community Colleges	Rationale	Recommendation*
<p>To allow ECHS/MCHS students to enroll in summer classes and community college partners to receive FTE</p> <p><b>Operating Procedures Manual, Enrollment of High School Students in Community College Courses and Programs</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beaufort CCC</li> <li>• Cleveland CC</li> <li>• Forsyth TCC</li> <li>• Johnston CC</li> <li>• Lenoir CC</li> <li>• Pitt CC*</li> <li>• Roanoke-Chowan CC</li> <li>• Rockingham CC</li> <li>• Rowan-Cabarrus CC</li> <li>• Southwestern CC</li> <li>• Vance-Granville</li> </ul>	<p><u>Summer waiver</u></p> <p>ECHS/MCHS students need the additional time to complete the associate’s degree within the five-year timeline. Also, allowing students to take some courses in the summer will assist in the transition from traditional school to ECHS.</p>	<p><i>Recommend approval for enrollment for summer curriculum courses; FTE funding shall be consistent with that for adult students in summer courses. (SBCC 2/17/05, Numbered Memo S05-009; Revised 2/17/06, Numbered Memo S06-015)</i></p>
<p>Allow ECHS/MCHS student enrollment (with FTE reimbursement) in developmental courses based on joint assessment of individual student needs by a high school and community college faculty/staff team.</p> <p><b>23 NCAC 2C.0305 (c)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beaufort CCC</li> <li>• Cleveland CC</li> <li>• Forsyth TCC</li> <li>• Johnston CC</li> <li>• Lenoir CC</li> <li>• Rockingham CC</li> <li>• Rowan-Cabarrus CC</li> <li>• Southwestern</li> <li>• Vance-Granville</li> <li>• Wayne CC</li> </ul>	<p><u>Developmental courses waiver</u></p> <p>This waiver will also allow a limited number of students in need of essential remediation to take a developmental course when needed for progress toward a degree.</p>	<p><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. (SBCC 2/17/05, Numbered Memo S05-009; Revised 2/17/06, Numbered Memo S06-015)</i></p>
<p>To allow community college partners to develop/offer courses necessary for the ECHS/MCHS students (and open to other, non-high school students), even though such courses are available from at least one high school in the district.</p> <p><b>G.S. 115C-238.50</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beaufort CCC</li> <li>• Cleveland CC</li> <li>• Forsyth TCC</li> <li>• Johnston CC</li> <li>• Lenoir CC</li> <li>• Roanoke-Chowan CC</li> <li>• Rowan-Cabarrus CC</li> <li>• Southwestern CC</li> <li>• Vance-Granville</li> </ul>	<p><u>Course development waiver</u></p> <p>To ensure course offerings for ECHS students while allowing them to remain on their campus at the community college, rather than having to be transported to another school.</p>	<p><i>Recommend approval limited to offering courses numbered 100 or above already in curriculum programs approved for the college without regard to other high school courses offered in the LS AU. Such courses must be a part of an approved program of the college. (SBCC 2/17/06, Numbered Memo S05-015)</i></p>
<p>Allow full-time ECHS/MCHS students who are enrolled in one high school course to enroll in more than one college course for which they are eligible.</p> <p><b>Operating Procedures Manual, Enrollment of High School Students in Community College Courses and Programs</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beaufort</li> <li>• Cleveland CC</li> <li>• Forsyth TCC</li> <li>• Johnston CC</li> <li>• Lenoir CC</li> <li>• Pitt CC</li> <li>• Roanoke-Chowan CC</li> <li>• Rockingham CC</li> <li>• Rowan-Cabarrus CC</li> <li>• Vance-Granville</li> </ul>	<p><u>Percent enrolled waiver</u></p> <p>During much of the fourth and fifth years, the ECHS students are required to take more college than high school classes. The courses of study for the Columbia iSchool have students enrolled primarily in community college courses in their third and fourth years.</p>	<p><i>Recommend approval (SBCC 2/17/06, Numbered Memo S05-015)</i></p>

<p>To allow the ECHS/MCHS students to enroll in community college courses regardless of their age and to generate FTE reimbursement for the community college. <b>23 NCAC 2C.0305 (b) &amp; (c)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beaufort</li> <li>• Cleveland CC</li> <li>• Forsyth TCC</li> <li>• Johnston CC</li> <li>• Lenoir CC</li> <li>• Pitt CC</li> <li>• Roanoke-Chowan CC</li> <li>• Rockingham CC</li> <li>• Rowan-Cabarrus CC</li> <li>• Southwestern CC</li> <li>• Vance-Granville</li> <li>• Wayne CC</li> </ul>	<p><u>Age Waiver</u> Since ECHS students may need to enroll in a college course as early as the freshman year of high school, they may be only 14 years of age at the time. To achieve the high school diploma and a two-year degree in a five-year period, college coursework must begin prior to the typical junior year of high school.</p>	<p><i>Recommend approval for ECHS students in grades 9 to 12 or 13 in curriculum courses numbered 100 or above. (SBCC 2/17/05, Numbered Memo S05-009)</i></p>
<p>To allow ECHS/MCHS students to enroll in community college courses without regard to the displacement of traditional college students <b>Operating Procedures Manual, Enrollment of High School Students in Community College Courses and Programs</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asheville-Buncombe TCC</li> <li>• Beaufort CCC</li> <li>• Cleveland CC</li> <li>• Forsyth TCC</li> <li>• Johnston CC</li> <li>• Lenoir CC</li> <li>• Pitt CC</li> <li>• Roanoke-Chowan CC</li> <li>• Rowan-Cabarrus CC</li> <li>• Southwestern CC</li> <li>• Vance-</li> </ul>	<p><u>Displacement Waiver</u> ECHS students will need to enroll in courses according to their degree plan in order to complete the associate degree within the five-year timeline.</p>	<p><i>Recommend approval (SBCC 2/17/05, Numbered Memo S05-009)</i></p>
<p>To allow the ECHS/MCHS students to receive exemptions to the enrollment policies that place adult enrollment as priority</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cleveland CC</li> <li>• Johnston CC</li> <li>• Lenoir CC</li> <li>• Rockingham CC</li> <li>• Southwestern CC</li> <li>• Vance-Granville</li> <li>• Wayne CC</li> </ul>	<p><u>Priority enrollment waiver</u> 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.</p>	<p><i>No Action; see Displacement Waiver (SBCC 2/17/06, Numbered Memo S06-015)</i></p>
<p>To allow exemption from NCAC 2C .0305(c)(3): “The student [must be taking] the equivalent of one-half of a full time schedule.”  In addition, allow an exemption from <b>Operating Procedures Manual II.A.3</b>: “In the case of courses offered in the summer, [the high school] must certify that the student took the equivalent of one-half of a full-time schedule during the preceding year and is making</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asheville-Buncombe TCC</li> <li>• Beaufort CCC</li> <li>• Cleveland CC</li> <li>• Forsyth TCC</li> <li>• Rockingham CC</li> <li>• Southwestern CC</li> </ul>	<p><u>Equivalent Hours</u> This accelerated curriculum cannot be achieved under the existing concurrent enrollment policies that require high school students to be enrolled in the equivalent of one-half of a full time high school schedule. Early College High School students in their fourth and fifth years will be enrolled in less than one-half of a full time high school schedule. In addition, they may be required to concurrently enroll in summer classes to complete their degree requirements within the five-year timeframe.</p>	<p><i>Recommend approval with provision that student must meet the requirements necessary to remain classified as a public school student for ADM purposes (SBCC 2/17/06, Numbered Memo S06-015).</i></p>

progress toward graduation.”			
To allow an exemption from the <b>Operating Procedures Manual, Section I.E.2:</b> “All Huskins Cooperative Agreements between a community college and an LSAU must certify that courses offered by the college do not duplicate or substitute for high school courses that are currently being offered by any high school in the LSAU.”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asheville-Buncombe TCC</li> <li>• Forsyth TCC</li> <li>• Southwestern CC</li> </ul>	<u>Duplication of Courses</u> The Early College High School accelerated curriculum will include Huskins courses that meet both high school graduation and college degree requirements. The Huskins courses that are included in the Early College curriculum will duplicate high school courses currently being offered in the Madison County Schools LSAU, such as health and P.E. and foreign language.	<i>Recommend approval to offer courses that are included in approved programs for the college without regard to other high school courses offered in the LSAU. See Course Development Waiver. (SBCC 02/17/06, Numbered Memo S06-015)</i>
To allow ECHS students to be exempt from tuition while pursuing the community college associate degree	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forsyth TCC</li> <li>• Rockingham CC</li> </ul>	<u>Tuition waiver</u>	<i>No action; tuition waivers for all early college high school and middle college high school students were enacted by the NC General Assembly in Session Law 2005-193.</i>
Allow ECHS students to enroll in community college courses using alternative assessments that indicate readiness in lieu of required admissions placement testing, i.e. End of Course (EOC) test scores.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forsyth TCC</li> </ul>	<u>Alternative assessment waiver</u>	<i>Not recommended for approval; request may be forwarded to Placement Testing Committee per # 2 of Placement Testing Guidelines approved by the SBCC on October 15, 1999. (SBCC 05/19/06, Numbered Memo S06-019)</i>
To allow Early College of Forsyth students less than 16 years of age to operate equipment considered hazardous under the supervision during instructional periods and internship/cooperative training.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forsyth TCC</li> </ul>	<u>Hazardous Equipment</u>	<i>Not recommended for approval; requires additional review by NCCCS Legal Counsel and the State Attorney General. (SBCC 02/17/06, Numbered Memo S06-015)</i>
To allow an exemption from <b>Operating Procedures Manual II.A.5:</b> “[High school] students may be admitted for any semester on a space available basis.”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asheville-Buncombe TCC</li> </ul>		<i>Recommend Approval (SBCC 02/17/06, Numbered Memo S06-015)</i>

<p>Allow Early College High Schools to “blend” high school and community college courses.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beaufort CCC–Hyde County ECHS</li> <li>• Forsyth TCC</li> <li>• Rockingham CC</li> </ul>		<p><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 officer. (SBCC 02/17/06, Numbered Memo S06-015)</i></p>
<p>Allow Caldwell Career Center MCHS students to take COE 115 and COE 111 in combination, in lieu of usual high school internship credit, and count them under Huskins regulations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Caldwell CC&amp; TI</li> <li>• Wayne CC</li> </ul>	<p>Some students are required to complete a minimum of one cooperative, work-based learning unit before high school graduation by its design, submitted and approved by the USDOE. All cooperative learning credit taken by Career Center students is directly connected to the technical 2-year community college degree they begin pursuing as high school students. <b>Caldwell CC&amp;TI requests that co-op credits be covered by Huskins.</b></p>	<p><i>Not recommended for approval; “Courses with the following prefixes may not be offered as Huskins: Cooperative Education (COE), Selected Topics (SEL), and Seminar Topics (SEM) prefixes.” Operating Procedures Manual, Enrollment of High School Students in Community College Courses and Programs (I Huskins Bill, D.3.)</i></p>
<p>Permit Early College of Forsyth students who choose to enroll in university and college Tech Prep pathways, to be assessed by alternative methods and waive the VoCATS.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forsyth TCC</li> </ul>	<p>This is a requirement of the Perkins Act.</p>	<p><i>Not recommended for approval; recommend further study by the Program Services and Federal Voc Ed 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></p>
<p>To allow a maximum of 25% of students enrolled in Hertford County ECHS to take developmental courses based on joint assessment of individual student need by a high school/community college faculty team.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roanoke-Chowan CC</li> </ul>	<p>Given its documented level of low performance as a district it is estimated that a number of students in the Hertford County ECHS will need additional support necessary to complete college programs. Alternate measures of placement into college course work will facilitate retention to graduation.</p>	<p><i>Not approved. See recommendations for Developmental courses waiver listed above.</i></p>
<p>To allow exemption from policies that might prevent it from taking the needs of ECHS students into consideration when developing schedules and course offerings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Southwestern CC</li> <li>• Wayne CC</li> </ul>	<p>The NCCCS policy that courses are to be scheduled for the primary purpose of enrolling college students may also create a barrier to the completion goals of early middle college high school students.</p>	<p><i>No action; Operating Procedures Manual, Enrollment of High School Students in Community College Courses and Programs (Section I, Huskins Bill, D.6; E.7.)</i></p>

<b>NCAC 23 2D.0327 (a); Operating Procedures Manual, Enrollment of High School Students in Community College Courses and Programs (I Huskins Bill, D.6; E.7.)</b>			
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*\*Pitt Community College was granted this waiver by the SBCC April 18, 2008, see Numbered Memo S08-039*

**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 the 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. Added by S.L. 2003-277, § 2, eff. June 27, 2003. Amended by S.L. 2005-276, § 7.33(a), eff. July 1, 2005

**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:

Associate State Superintendent  
Innovation and School Transformation  
6368 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-6368

- 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-238.50 through G. S. 115C-238.55. The community college and the local education agencies agree that the application submitted for the January 2008 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.

