

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Allocation to Colleges Participating in Project Skill-UP

Request:

The State Board is asked to approve \$290,000 to be allocated to nine colleges below:

Current Sites

Forsyth TCC.....	\$ 30,000
Johnston CC	\$ 30,000
Lenoir CC.....	\$ 30,000
Rowan-Cabarrus CC	\$ 30,000
Southeastern CC.....	\$ 30,000
Vance-Granville CC.....	\$ 30,000
Wilkes CC	\$ 30,000

New Sites

Asheville-Buncombe TCC	\$ 40,000
Central Carolina CC	\$ 40,000

Rationale for the Allocation

The North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS), through its Continuing Education program, submitted a grant application to the Tobacco Trust Fund Commission. It was announced on October 31, 2008, that NCCCS was awarded \$292,000 to carry out the goals and objectives of the grant application. Consistent with the grant agreement with the Tobacco Trust Fund Commission \$290,000 will be awarded to the colleges and \$2,000 will be used for System Office administrative expense. Below is a brief overview of the grant.

Project Skill-UP is a NCCCS initiative whose goal is to help individuals affected by the changes in the tobacco industry to “update” their current skills and provide them with additional marketable skills reflective of fast-growing occupations and/or new industries within their local communities. The objectives of the project are to 1) develop and implement outreach and recruitment activities to individuals, communities, businesses, and/or agencies that have been adversely impacted by the changes in the tobacco industry; 2) provide skills assessment and short-term occupational skills training to affected workers; and 3) when applicable, provide financial assistance to students to meet their educational goals.

History

Below is a summary of the funding received from the North Carolina Tobacco Trust Fund:

<u>Funding Year</u>	<u>Total Award</u>	<u>Colleges Served</u>
2006	\$184,000	4 sites
2008	\$242,000	7 sites
2009	\$292,000	9 sites

The majority of the funds are allocated to the local sites for the following purposes: financial assistance to students (48%), academic/career counseling (42%), and operational expenses (10%). Financial assistance to students will be limited to payment for registration fees, books, instructional supplies, testing fees, and transportation cost.

Method of Allocation

Nine colleges will receive funding--- seven current sites and two new sites. The current sites are Forsyth TCC, Johnston CC, Lenoir CC, Rowan-Cabarrus CC, Southeastern CC, Vance-Granville CC, and Wilkes CC. The grant award stipulates the new sites will be chosen from eligible colleges in the central and western region of the state. To be eligible for funding, colleges must provide services to a county that has been impacted by the decline of tobacco-related employment. Eligible colleges, including the current sites, will be required to submit a “Request for Proposal” and a 4-member panel will select the 2 additional sites. The fiscal period of the allocation is January 1, 2009 – December 31, 2009.

Allocation Amount and Time Period:

The total allocation to the colleges will cover the period January 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009, in the amount of \$290,000.

Fund Availability:

The Tobacco Trust Fund Commission was created to assist tobacco farmers, tobacco quota holders, persons engaged in tobacco-related businesses, individuals displaced from tobacco-related employment, and tobacco product component businesses in the State due to the adverse effects of the Master Settlement Agreement. The Commission is administratively housed in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Trust Fund is managed financially by the State Treasurer.

Contact Person:

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