

ADDITION TO SPECIAL CURRICULUM PROGRAM APPLICATION LIST

Low Impact Development (A40290)
Davidson County Community College

Request:

Davidson County Community College requests approval to add the Low Impact Development (A40290) program to the list of programs that follow the Special Curriculum Program Application process.*

The State Board of Community Colleges established the following criteria for adding programs to the Special Curriculum Program Application list:

- 1) There is an urgent and/or critical need for graduates from the identified program or there is a change in licensure requirements by an outside agency that requires immediate compliance.
- 2) The perceived system-wide impact of the program to colleges is minimal.

Rationale:

There is an urgent need to widely implement the Low Impact Development (LID) program as it is in direct alignment with state and national green initiatives.

As Dr. Scott Ralls reported to the State Board of Community Colleges last September, “North Carolina’s Community Colleges have played a vital role in the economic prosperity of our state over the past 50 years, and developing the capabilities to educate and train a ‘world class’ green workforce will be important if we are to provide the same type of economic opportunities for North Carolinians over the next 50 years.” Placing this program on the Special Application list would rapidly expand the capacity of North Carolina community colleges to train a much needed green workforce. Providing the educational opportunity to develop appropriate skills could lead to a skilled workforce that generates new jobs for entrepreneurs and would identify North Carolina as a green-friendly state for economic development.

This program would also expand access to STEM careers-another NCCCS initiative that addresses the national imperative to compete in the global economy.

DCCC perceives that the approval of LID to the Special Application list will have a minimal system-wide impact because each college can develop specific curricula to meet the unique needs of their local industries. Haywood Community College is the only college approved to offer the Low Impact Development program.

** The Special Curriculum Program Application process and criteria were approved by the State Board of Community Colleges on September 13, 2002.*