

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
CURRICULUM STANDARD - NEW TO THE SYSTEM

School-Age Care (Certificate) (C55XXX)

The North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges is being asked to approve a new curriculum standard entitled School-Age Care (Certificate) (C55XXX).

The North Carolina Community College System staff collaborated with the North Carolina Center for Afterschool Program's (NCCAP) Professional Development Group and various community colleges within the community college system to create this new curriculum standard. The new curriculum standard has been requested from the twenty-two state and local organizations that serve on the NC Afterschool Professional Development Group, including representation from the major public and private afterschool providers, state agencies, afterschool member associations, community college system, and representatives from the early childhood movement.

The NC Center for Afterschool Programs (NC CAP), in partnership with NC Afterschool Coalition (NC ASC) and NC Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, has been leading a statewide collaboration since September 2008 to create a professional development system that will motivate school-age professionals to increase their level of education, and in turn, the level of quality care they provide. Implementing a statewide school-age certificate and new school-age coursework will aid in the development of a career ladder for this field.

In the past, school-age certificates were developed by individual college campuses and differed in their offerings across the state. Having a statewide certificate will allow for the consistency necessary across campuses to ensure that practitioners are receiving basic coursework and core competencies. This certificate aligns with Afterschool Staff state competencies that will be released in fall 2010 by NCCAP and its partners.

In addition, the Division of Child Development's (DCD) NC School-Age Credential would be obtained by all students completing the proposed certificate.

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