

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

GED Fee Increase

Request: The State Board of Community Colleges is asked to approve a revised GED testing fee of \$25 per student.

Background: G.S. 115D-5(s), as amended by Section 31.2 of H200 (S.L. 2011-145), authorizes the State Board of Community Colleges to establish, retain, and budget fees charged to students taking the General Education Development (GED) test. This one-time charge has been set at \$7.50 since 1987. Fees collected may be used to (i) offset the costs of the GED test, including the cost of scoring the test, (ii) offset the costs of printing GED certificates, and (iii) meet Federal and State reporting requirements related to the test.

Fee receipts currently support the contract with Oklahoma Scoring to score the entire battery of the English, Spanish, and French editions of the GED test. The budget enacted by the General Assembly eliminates the General Fund appropriation of \$208,533 that supports System Office GED personnel and associated operating costs and shifting these costs to GED fee receipt support. In order to generate adequate receipts to support this cost shift, the System Office has estimated that the fee needs to be increased to \$25.

State Board Action: Consistent with G.S. 115D-5 and actions taken by the General Assembly in H200 (S.L. 2011-145) – Appropriations Act of 2011, the State Board of Community Colleges hereby fixes the GED testing fee at \$25 per student effective July 1, 2011.

Contact:

Jennifer Haygood
Vice President for Business & Finance