STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Allocation for Project Skill-UP

Request: The State Board is asked to approve $374,000 to be allocated to twenty-five colleges participating in a grant initiative called Project Skill-UP.

Rationale: Project Skill-UP is a NCCCS initiative whose goal is to help individuals in North Carolina affected by the changes in the tobacco industry "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 assist in meeting their educational goals.

The North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS), through its Continuing Education section, submitted a grant application to the NC Tobacco Trust Fund Commission for $550,000. It was announced on October 1, 2013, that NCCCS was awarded $375,000 to carry out the goals and objectives of the grant application. To date, we have received funding for seven years totaling $3,208,000.

Method of Allocation: Project Skill-UP is not a competitive grant process. Colleges are eligible for funding if their county has been impacted by the decline of tobacco-related employment. Each year, NCCCS and NC Tobacco Trust Fund staffs review various agricultural statistics to determine which colleges will be asked to submit a proposal. For the Tobacco Trust Fund 2013 grant cycle, NCCCS phased out one site (Rowan-Cabarrus) who had completed their project with Phillip Morris and two new colleges (Rockingham CC and Roanoke-Chowan) were added.

Allocations to the colleges were based on the following:

Project Skill-UP Base (small program)----------$10,000 - 20,000
Project Skill-UP Base (large program) ----------$25,000

Small programs provide the three core components: 1) outreach and recruitment activities to individuals, communities, and businesses adversely impacted by the changes in the tobacco industry; 2) skills assessment and short-term occupational skills training; and 3) financial assistance to students to meet their educational goals.

Large programs provide base services plus expanded services that support agricultural-related activities or employer engagement project.

Allocation Amount and Time Period: The total allocation to the colleges will cover the period January 1, 2014, through December 31, 2014, in the amount of $374,000. (Note that $1,000 is retained at the System Office for operating expenses, such as travel, related to the administration of the grant.)

College	Allocation
Asheville-Buncombe TCC	17,000
Blue Ridge CC	10,000
Cape Fear CC	10,000
Durham TCC	10,000
Edgecombe CC	10,000
Forsyth TCC	25,000
Johnston CC	25,000
Lenoir CC	25,000
Martin CC	12,000
Mayland CC	10,000
Montgomery CC	10,000
Nash CC	15,000
Piedmont CC	20,000
Pitt CC	10,000
Robeson CC	10,000
Rockingham CC (new)	10,000
Roanoke-Chowan CC (new)	10,000
Sampson CC	20,000
Southeastern CC	20,000
Surry CC	15,000
Vance-Granville CC	20,000
Wake TCC	10,000
Wayne CC	15,000
Wilkes CC	20,000
Wilson CC	15,000
Total Allocation	$374,000

Colleges with 10K are new programs added over the last 3 years.

Awards for other colleges are based on their level of services and the amount requested in their 2013 Request for Proposal application.

Fund Source and Availability: The funding is available from the Project Skill up grant awarded by the 2013 Tobacco Trust Fund Commission for the period January 1, 2014- January 31, 2015.

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