MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the State Board of Community Colleges
Community College Presidents
Chairs of the Boards of Trustees
Chief Academic Officers, Chief Admissions Officers, Basic Skills Directors,
Business Officers, Continuing Education Officers, Chief Financial Officers,
Financial Aid Officers, Public Information Officers, Registrars, Student
Development Administrators, & Other Interested Parties

FROM: Jonathan R. Harris, NCCCS General Counsel

RE: Extending the Waiver of 1B SBCCC 200.3(c)(9) – Establishing Multi-
Campus Centers to Fiscal Year 2021-2022

On 17 July 2020, the State Board of Community Colleges (SBCC) voted to extend the waiver of 1B SBCCC 200.3(c)(9) – Establishing Multi-Campus Centers (MCCs) to Fiscal Year 2021-2022. The waiver will allow colleges to keep the same level of funding for their MCCs, regardless of a drop in budget FTE.

The current rule requires colleges to maintain certain minimum budget FTE counts at MCCs to continue to receive MCC funding. Due to colleges moving certain courses online in spring 2020 and the continued potential for moving courses online in the upcoming academic year, the State Board voted to extend the waiver to Fiscal Year 2021-2022. (See attached waiver extension).

The waiver extension is effective 17 July 2020. The State Board may extend this duration, if necessary. The waiver extension will be published on the NC Community College System’s website, www.nccommunitycolleges.edu, under "State Board Code." For your convenience, a copy of the State Board item with additional background is attached to this memorandum.

Attachments
STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Proposal to Extend the Waiver of 1B SBCCC 200.3(c)(9)
(Multi-Campus Center Funding)

Authority

The State Board can waive provisions of the Code to address unforeseen circumstances where notice and hearing would be contrary to the interest of community college stakeholders (1A SBCCC 200.3).

Background

Colleges must maintain minimum budget FTE numbers at multi-campus centers (MCCs) to continue to receive MCC funding. Due to COVID-19, colleges have moved a large portion of their instruction online. For MCCs, online-only instruction is not counted in budget FTE numbers. Colleges may also have other COVID-19 related reasons for temporary drops in budget FTE counts at MCCs.

At its April 2020 meeting, the State Board voted to waive the minimum budget FTE requirement in 1B SBCCC 200.3(c)(9) to allow colleges to maintain the same level of MCC funding in Fiscal Year 2020-2021. This proposal would extend the waiver through Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

Reasons for Extending the Waiver through Fiscal Year 2021-2022

The budget allocations made for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 will be made in June 2021. However, these allocations for MCCs in Fiscal Year 2021-2022 will be based on budget FTE counts from Summer 2020, Fall 2020, and Spring 2021. Colleges are moving some classes to online instruction in Summer 2020 and may have to do the same in Fall 2020 or Spring 2021. If classes are normally held in person at an MCC, moving to online classes will result in a lower budget FTE count. The proposed waiver would hold colleges harmless for this decline and allow them to keep their same level of MCC funding.

Duration of the Waiver

The waiver would be effective upon the State Board’s vote and would apply to budget allocations made for Fiscal Year 2021-2022.