



NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

James C. Williamson, Ph.D.

President

24 July 2017

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM

- TO:** Members of the State Board of Community Colleges
Community College Presidents
Boards of Trustees Chairs
Community College Chief Academic Officers, Chief Admissions Officers, Basic Law Enforcement Training, Basic Skills Directors, Business Officers, Continuing Education Officers, Customized Training Directors, Distance Learning, Chief Financial Officers, Financial Aid Officers, Public Information Officers, Registrars, Student Development Administrators, & Other Interested Parties
- FROM:** Q. Shanté Martin, *NCCCS General Counsel*
- RE:** **Temporary Adoption of 1B SBCCC 500.1 – “School Absence for National Guard Service”**

The State Board of Community Colleges (SBCC) temporarily adopted 1B SBCCC 500.1 – “School Absence for National Guard Service” pursuant to 3B SBCCC 400.1(a). Section 2 of H.B. 486 directs the SBCC to adopt and implement a uniform policy throughout the Community College System to provide that any student enrolled in a community college who is a National Guard service member placed onto State active duty status during an academic term shall be given an excused absence for the period of time the student is on active duty. Further, the policies shall provide options to the student for completion or withdrawal from classes that will not penalize the student academically.

The temporary rule is effective retroactively to 1 July 2017. The temporary rule will be effective for a period of 180 days or until the permanent rules becomes effective, whichever is sooner. The temporary rule 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 temporary rule is attached to this memorandum.

**CC17-027
E-mail Copy**

Attachment



**State Board of Community Colleges Code
TITLE 1 – COMMUNITY COLLEGES**

CHAPTER B. COLLEGE OPERATIONS

CHAPTER 500. STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1B SBCCC 500.1 School Absence for National Guard Service

Beginning with the Fall 2017 academic term, each community college shall allow a student enrolled in a community college who is a National Guard service member placed onto State active duty status during an academic term to be given an excused absence for the period of time the student is on active duty.

- (a) Colleges shall provide the student the opportunity to make up any test or other work missed during the excused absence.
- (b) Colleges shall give the student the option, when feasible, to continue classes and coursework during the academic term through online participation for the period of time the student is placed on active duty.
- (c) Colleges shall give the student the option of receiving a temporary grade of "incomplete (IN)" or "absent from the final exam (AB)" for any course that the student was unable to complete as a result of being placed on State active duty status; however, the student must complete the course requirements within the period of time specified by the college to avoid receiving a failing grade for the course.
- (d) Colleges shall permit the student to drop, with no penalty, any course that the student was unable to complete as a result of being placed on State active duty status.

History Note: Authority G.S. 115D-5(x);

Temporary Adoption Eff. July 1, 2017.