



**NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM**

*Peter Hans, President*

22 January 2020

**MEMORANDUM**

- TO:** Members of the State Board of Community Colleges  
Community College Presidents  
Chairs of the Boards of Trustees  
Community College 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:** **Amendment of 1D SBCCC 400.11 – Education Services through Career & College Promise (Curriculum)**

On 17 January 2020, the State Board of Community Colleges voted to amend **1D SBCCC 400.11 – Education Services through Career & College Promise (Curriculum)**. This amendment addresses a legislative change that allows 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders to enroll in a College Transfer Pathway. The amendment sets out the requirements that must be met prior to a 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> grader enrolling in a College Transfer Pathway. The amendment also adds an Associate in Fine Arts in Music and an Associate in Fine Arts in Theater to the College Transfer Pathway program of study.

**The rule will be effective 1 February 2020. The new rule will be published on the NC Community College System's website, [www.nccommunitycolleges.edu/sbcccode](http://www.nccommunitycolleges.edu/sbcccode).** For your convenience, a copy of the rule in its final form is attached to this memorandum. To see the changes made to the rule, click on the February 1, 2020 hyperlink found at the end of the attached rule.

**CC20-012  
E-mail Copy**

Attachment



1 **State Board of Community Colleges Code**

2 **TITLE 1. COMMUNITY COLLEGES**

3  
4 **CHAPTER D. EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

5  
6 **SUBCHAPTER 400. CURRICULUM**

7  
8 **1D SBCCC 400.11 Education Services through Career and College Promise**  
9 **(Curriculum)**

10 The purpose of Career and College Promise is to offer structured opportunities for  
11 qualified high school students to dually enroll in community college courses that provide  
12 pathways that lead to a certificate, diploma, or degree as well as provide entry-level jobs  
13 skills. Academic credits earned through Career and College Promise shall enable  
14 students who continue into postsecondary education after graduating from high school to  
15 complete a postsecondary credential in less time than would normally be required. All  
16 previous high school transition programs, including Huskins, Concurrent Enrollment,  
17 Cooperative and Innovative High Schools, Learn and Earn, and Learn and Earn Online  
18 were consolidated and replaced by Career and College Promise.

19 (a) The major purpose of community colleges is to serve students who have graduated  
20 from high school or are beyond the compulsory age limit of the public school and have  
21 left public school. However, a minor may seek admission to a community college  
22 subject to the conditions in this Section.

23 (b) Career and College Promise is a dual enrollment program for eligible North Carolina  
24 high school students. Community colleges may collaborate with local school  
25 administrative units to offer courses through the following Career and College Promise  
26 program pathways:

27 (1) A College Transfer Pathway approved by the State Board of Community Colleges  
28 including transfer courses in English and mathematics;

29 (2) A Career and Technical Education Pathway leading to a certificate, diploma or  
30 degree;

- 1 (3) Career and Technical Education – Workforce Continuing Education leading to a  
2 State or industry recognized credential. Career and College Promise rules  
3 applicable to Workforce Continuing Education are provided in 1D SBCCC  
4 300.4(c)(1)(D).
- 5 (4) A Cooperative Innovative High School Pathway approved under Part 9 of Article  
6 16 of Chapter 115D of the North Carolina General Statutes.
- 7 (c) All non-self-supporting curriculum courses taken by high school students at  
8 community colleges in accordance with this Section are tuition-waived.
- 9 (d) High school students may not audit courses offered under the Career and College  
10 Promise Program.
- 11 (e) High school students enrolled in a College Transfer Pathway or a Career and  
12 Technical Education Pathway may not enroll in developmental education courses, but  
13 may enroll in supplemental courses. For the purposes of this section, the phrase  
14 “supplemental courses” shall have the same meaning as in 1D SBCCC 400.8(b)(1).
- 15 (f) A college shall submit a program of study for each Career and College Promise  
16 program it plans to offer, to the North Carolina Community College System Office  
17 using program codes provided by the North Carolina Community College System  
18 Office.
- 19 (1) Career and Technical Education programs of study must be in compliance with the  
20 State Board approved curriculum standard and must include a minimum of twelve  
21 (12) semester hours of credit from core courses or consist of courses as listed in  
22 the college’s catalog as a local, traditional certificate. General education courses  
23 for career and technical education programs of study shall be directly related to  
24 student success in the selected major. All courses in the program of study must  
25 be required courses. Course options are prohibited.
- 26 (2) College Transfer Pathway programs of study shall be in compliance with the State  
27 Board approved Associate in Arts, Associate in Engineering, Associate in Science,  
28 Associate in Fine Arts in Music, Associate in Fine Arts in Theater, Associate in  
29 Fine Arts in Visual Arts or Associate Degree Nursing Transfer Pathways approved  
30 by the State Board of Community Colleges.

1D SBCCC 400.11 is amended as follows:

- 1 (3) Programs of study must be approved by the North Carolina Community College  
2 System Office assigned Academic Programs staff before students can be enrolled.
- 3 (4) Within the Career and College Promise program of study, a college must verify its  
4 capacity to teach all courses in the program of study.
- 5 (5) Career and College Promise Students may not be enrolled in the Associate in  
6 General Education or General Occupational Technology programs with the  
7 exception of the Associate in General Education in Nursing degree.
- 8 (6) Students enrolled in Adult Basic Education or Adult Secondary Education are not  
9 eligible for Career and College Promise.
- 10 (g) High school students shall complete a college application, provide a high school  
11 transcript which demonstrates eligibility to enroll in Career and College Promise as  
12 outlined in 1D SBCCC 400.11 (l), (n), or (o), and provide evidence of college readiness  
13 as outlined in 1D SBCCC 400.11(k)(1), (l)(1)-(5), (n)(1), or (o)(3) to be admitted into a  
14 Career and College Promise transfer pathway. The student shall provide a copy of  
15 the high school transcript or a copy of an assessment report from diagnostic  
16 assessment tests approved by the State Board of Community Colleges verifying that  
17 the eligibility requirements have been met. Colleges must verify eligibility prior to  
18 enrollment of the student in the Career and College Promise Program. Colleges shall  
19 maintain verification of student eligibility for a Career and College Promise Pathway.
- 20 (h) Colleges shall assign student codes provided by the North Carolina Community  
21 College System Office and shall update the student code to reflect when the student  
22 transitions out of the Career and College Promise program and is no longer eligible to  
23 participate in the program and receive a tuition waiver.
- 24 (i) Colleges must be in compliance with 1D SBCCC 400.96(a) regarding Level I  
25 Instructional Service Agreements when providing courses (on-line or traditional) or  
26 services to groups of Career and College Promise students outside of their service  
27 area.
- 28 (j) High school graduation may not be delayed in order to continue a student's eligibility  
29 for the Career and College Promise Program.
- 30 (k) College Transfer Pathway (Juniors and Seniors)

1 (1) To be eligible for enrollment, a high school student must meet the following  
2 requirements:

3 (A) Be a high school junior or senior; and

4 (i) Have an unweighted GPA of 2.8 on high school courses; or

5 (ii) Demonstrate college readiness in English, reading and mathematics by  
6 meeting benchmarks on diagnostic assessment tests which have been  
7 approved by the State Board of Community Colleges.

8 (l) College Transfer Pathway (Freshmen and Sophomores)

9 To be eligible for enrollment, a high school student must meet the following  
10 requirements:

11 (1) Be a high school freshman or sophomore; and

12 (A) Be identified as academically or intellectually gifted in English, reading and  
13 math as outlined in the local board of education's Academically and  
14 Intellectually Gifted (AIG) local plan (General Statute 115C-150.7.); or

15 (B) Be identified as academically or intellectually gifted in English, reading and  
16 math on an aptitude and achievement test as evidenced by a score in the range  
17 between the 92nd percentile and the 99th percentile on an aptitude and an  
18 achievement test included in the Mental Measurements Yearbook published by  
19 the Buros Institute of Mental Measurements; and

20 (2) Demonstrate college readiness in English, reading and mathematics by meeting  
21 benchmarks on diagnostic assessment tests which have been approved by the  
22 State Board of Community Colleges; and

23 (3) Have the maturity to justify admission to the community college, as demonstrated  
24 by obtaining all of the following:

25 (A) A recommendation from the student's principal or equivalent administrator  
26 explaining why they believe the student has the requisite maturity to enroll at  
27 the community college;

28 (B) A recommendation from the academically gifted coordinator, if one is employed  
29 by the high school or local school administrative unit, explaining why they  
30 believe the student has the requisite maturity to enroll at the community college;

31 and

- 1 (C) Approval to enroll by the community college president or their designee. Prior  
2 to requesting approval by the community college president or their designee,  
3 the student must deliver the recommendations described in (A) and (B) to the  
4 community college president or their designee.
- 5 (4) Have the written consent of the student's parent or guardian granting permission  
6 for the student to participate in the program; and
- 7 (5) The student must participate in academic advising with representatives from the high  
8 school and community college prior to enrollment in the program. This advising shall  
9 be focused on the implications of being admitted to college early.(m) Maintaining  
10 Eligibility for Continued Enrollment, Changing Pathways, and Other Rules Applicable  
11 to College Transfer Pathways
- 12 (1) To maintain eligibility for continued enrollment in the pathway, a student must:
- 13 (A) Continue to make progress toward high school graduation as outlined in G.S.  
14 115C-105.35 and
- 15 (B) Maintain a 2.0 GPA in college coursework after completing two courses.
- 16 (2) A student who falls below a 2.0 GPA after completing two college courses will be  
17 subject to the college's policy for satisfactory academic progress.
- 18 (3) A student may only enroll in one College Transfer Pathway program of study.  
19 Course substitutions may be approved by the chief academic officer for individual  
20 students. Course substitutions for individual students must be documented and  
21 maintained on file.
- 22 (4) A student may change the student's pathway major with approval of the high  
23 school principal or the high school principal's designee and the college's chief  
24 student development administrator or the college's chief academic officer. The  
25 college's chief student development administrator or the college's chief academic  
26 officer shall approve a change in pathway based on verification that the program  
27 change allows the student to meet their newly chosen career path.
- 28 (5) High school students in a College Transfer Pathways must complete the  
29 entire pathway before taking additional courses in the Associate degree with the  
30 exception of mathematics courses.
- 31

1 (6) With approval of the high school principal or the high school principal's designee  
2 and the college's chief student development administrator or the college's chief  
3 academic officer, a student who completes a College Transfer Pathway, while  
4 still enrolled in high school, may continue to earn college transfer credits leading  
5 to the completion of the Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, Associate in  
6 Engineering, Associate in Fine Arts in Music, Associate in Fine Arts in Theater,  
7 Associate in Fine Arts in Visual Arts or Associate in General Education Nursing  
8 degree.

9 (7) With approval of the high school principal or the high school principal's designee  
10 and the college's chief student development administrator or the college's chief  
11 academic officer, a student may enroll in both a College Transfer Pathway and a  
12 Career Technical Education Pathway.

13 (8) A student may change the student's program of study major with approval of the  
14 high school principal or the high school principal's designee and the college's  
15 chief student development administrator or the college's chief academic officer.  
16 The college's chief student development administrator or the college's chief  
17 academic officer shall approve a change in pathway based on verification that  
18 the program change allows the student to meet their newly chosen career path.

19 (9) The college may award the Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, Associate in  
20 Engineering, Associate in Fine Arts, or Associate in General Education – Nursing  
21 to the Career and College Promise student prior to high school graduation.

22 (10) Students pursuing credits beyond the initial transfer associate degree must  
23 provide documentation of justification based upon career pathway needs or  
24 transfer program requirements (i.e. bachelor degree plan published by the  
25 university). The high school principal or the high school principal's designee and  
26 the college's chief student development administrator or the college's chief  
27 academic officer must approve prior to enrollment in credits beyond the initial  
28 transfer program. Approval is contingent upon the student's documentation of  
29 justification based upon career pathway needs or transfer program requirements.

30 (n) Career Technical Education Pathway (Juniors and Seniors)

31 (1) To be eligible for enrollment, a high school student must:

- 1 (A) Be a high school junior or senior; and  
2 (B) Have an unweighted GPA of 2.8 on high school courses; or  
3 (C) Demonstrate college readiness in English, reading and mathematics by  
4 meeting benchmarks on diagnostic assessment tests which have been  
5 approved by the State Board of Community Colleges.  
6 (D) Juniors or seniors who do not meet the eligibility requirements in 1D SBCCC  
7 400.11(n)(1)(A) – (C) shall have the recommendation of the high school  
8 principal or the high school principal’s designee and the college’s chief student  
9 development administrator or the college’s chief academic officer. A  
10 recommendation is only allowed for entry into Career and College Promise  
11 Career and Technical Education Pathway that does not include Universal  
12 General Education Transfer Component (UGETC) courses.
- 13 (2) College Career Technical Education courses may be used to provide partial or full  
14 fulfillment of a four-unit high school career cluster. The college will grant articulated  
15 credit to students based on the then-current local or state North Carolina High  
16 School to Community College articulation agreement.
- 17 (3) To maintain eligibility for continued enrollment, a student must:  
18 (A) Continue to make progress toward high school graduation as outlined in G.S.  
19 115C-105.35, and  
20 (B) Maintain a 2.0 GPA in college coursework after completing two courses.
- 21 (4) A student who falls below a 2.0 GPA after completing two college courses will be  
22 subject to the college’s policy for satisfactory academic progress.
- 23 (5) Course substitutions may be approved by the chief academic officer for individual  
24 students. The college will document course substitutions for individual students  
25 and maintain those course substitutions in the student’s file.
- 26 (6) With approval of the high school principal or the high school principal’s designee  
27 and the college’s chief student development administrator or the college’s chief  
28 academic officer, a Career Technical Education Junior or Senior may concurrently  
29 enroll in two Career and Technical Education Pathways or in one College Transfer  
30 Pathway and one Career Technical Education Pathway.

- 1 (7) The student may change the student's pathway major with approval of the high  
2 school principal or the high school principal's designee and the college's chief  
3 student development administrator or the college's chief academic officer. The  
4 college's chief student development administrator or the college's chief academic  
5 officer shall approve a change in pathway based on verification that the program  
6 change allows the student to meet their newly chosen career path.
- 7 (8) With approval of the high school principal or the high school principal's designee  
8 and the college's chief student development administrator or the college's chief  
9 academic officer, a student who completes the Career and Technical Education  
10 certificate or diploma may continue in the same traditional associate in applied  
11 science program as long as they are still eligible for the Career and College  
12 Promise program. The high school principal or the high school principal's designee  
13 and the college's chief student development administrator or the college's chief  
14 academic officer must approve prior to enrollment in credits beyond the initial  
15 Career and Technical Education program. Approval is contingent upon  
16 documentation that the credits beyond the initial program allow the student to  
17 support the student's chosen career path (i.e. a career pathway plan).
- 18 (9) The college may award the certificate, diploma, or degree to the Career and  
19 College Promise student prior to high school graduation.
- 20 (o) Career Technical Education Pathway (Freshmen and Sophomores)
- 21 (1) Colleges may enroll eligible high school Freshmen and Sophomores only in  
22 industrial technologies (program code 50xxx), engineering technologies (program  
23 code 40xxx), agriculture and natural resources (program code 15xxx), and  
24 transportation (program code 60xxx), construction (program code 35xxx), and  
25 business technologies (program code 25xxx) certificate and diploma programs.
- 26 (2) Freshmen and Sophomores may not enroll in Career and Technical Education p  
27 Pathways that include Universal General Education Transfer Component  
28 (UGETC) courses.
- 29 (3) To be eligible for enrollment, a high school student must be a high school  
30 Freshman or Sophomore. A Freshman or Sophomore must:  
31 (A) Have passed Math I with a grade of "C" or better;

- 1 (B) Test college ready in mathematics as determined by the assessment given by  
2 the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction;
- 3 (C) Test college ready in English and reading as determined by the assessment  
4 given by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction;
- 5 (D) Have received information outlining program requirements for completion of the  
6 certificate or diploma; and
- 7 (E) Have the recommendation of the high school principal or the principal's  
8 designee and the college's chief student development administrator or the  
9 college's chief academic officer; or
- 10 (F) Demonstrate college readiness in English, reading and mathematics by  
11 meeting benchmarks on diagnostic assessment tests which have been  
12 approved by the State Board of Community Colleges and have the  
13 recommendation of the high school principal or the high school principal's  
14 designee and the college's chief student development administrator or the  
15 college's chief academic officer.
- 16 (4) College Career Technical Education courses may be used to provide partial or full  
17 fulfillment of a four-unit career cluster. The college will grant articulated credit to  
18 the students based on the then-current local or state North Carolina High School  
19 to Community College articulation agreement. To maintain eligibility for continued  
20 enrollment, a student must:
- 21 (A) Continue to make progress toward high school graduation, and
- 22 (B) Maintain a 2.0 GPA in college coursework after completing two college  
23 courses. A student who falls below a 2.0 GPA after completing two college  
24 courses will be subject to the college's policy for satisfactory academic  
25 progress.
- 26 (5) A student must enroll in one pathway and may not substitute courses in one  
27 pathway for courses in another.
- 28 (A) The student may change the student's pathway major to another eligible  
29 program of study with approval of the high school principal or the high school  
30 principal's designee and the college's chief student development administrator  
31 or the college's chief academic officer. The college's chief student development

- 1 administrator or the college's chief academic officer shall approve a change in  
2 pathway based on verification that the program change allows the student to  
3 meet their newly chosen career path.
- 4 (B) A student may concurrently enroll in two Career and Technical Education  
5 Pathways in allowable program areas provided the exception has been  
6 approved by the college's chief student development administrator or the  
7 college's chief academic officer. The college's chief student development  
8 administrator or the college's chief academic officer shall approve an exception  
9 if concurrent pathways are aligned to the student's career pathway interest and  
10 career goals.
- 11 (6) With approval of the high school principal or the high school principal's designee  
12 and the college's chief student development administrator or the college's chief  
13 academic officer, a student who completes a Career Technical Education  
14 Pathway, while still enrolled in high school may continue to earn college credits  
15 leading to the completion of a higher level credential within the same program  
16 code. The college's chief student development administrator or the college's chief  
17 academic officer shall approve the continuation if the credential is in the same  
18 program code.
- 19 (7) With approval of the high school principal or the high school principal's designee  
20 and the college's chief student development administrator or the college's chief  
21 academic officer, a student who completes the Career and Technical Education  
22 certificate or diploma may continue in the same traditional associate in applied  
23 science program as long as they are still eligible for the Career and College  
24 Promise program.
- 25 (8) The college may award the certificate, diploma, or degree to the Career and  
26 College Promise student prior to high school graduation.
- 27 (9) The high school principal or the high school principal's designee and the college's  
28 chief student development administrator or the college's chief academic officer  
29 must approve prior to enrollment in credits beyond the initial Career and Technical  
30 Education program. Approval is contingent upon documentation that the credits

1 beyond the initial program allow the student to support the student's chosen career  
2 path (i.e. a career pathway plan).

3 (p) Cooperative Innovative High School Programs (CIHSP)

4 (1) Cooperative Innovative High School Programs are jointly established by local  
5 boards of education and local boards of trustees.

6 (2) CIHSP enroll 100 or fewer students per grade level.

7 (3) Students enrolled in CIHSP have the opportunity to complete an associate degree  
8 program, diploma, certificate, or earn up to two years of college credit while  
9 completing a high school diploma within five years.

10 (4) Cooperative Innovative High School (CIHS) student may enroll in

11 (A) One College Transfer program of study;

12 (B) One College Transfer program of study and one Career and Technical  
13 Education program of study; or

14 (C) Two Career and Technical Education programs of study.

15 (5) Students pursuing credits beyond the initial transfer associate degree must provide  
16 documentation of justification based upon career pathway needs or transfer  
17 program requirements (i.e. bachelor degree plan published by the University of  
18 North Carolina). The high school principal or the high school principal's designee  
19 and the college's chief student development administrator or the college's chief  
20 academic officer must approve prior to enrollment in credits beyond the initial  
21 transfer program of study. Approval is contingent upon documentation of  
22 justification based upon career pathway needs or transfer program requirements  
23 (i.e. bachelor degree plan published by the University of North Carolina).

24 (6) CIHSP are located on college campuses. A school shall obtain approval from the  
25 State Board of Community Colleges for exceptions to this requirement. Exceptions  
26 are based on local needs as outlined in the location waiver request. The approved  
27 waiver shall be maintained locally for documentation. The State Board of  
28 Community Colleges shall use the following factors to determine whether to  
29 approve location waivers:

30 (A) Space availability;

31 (B) School capacity;

1D SBCCC 400.11 is amended as follows:

- 1 (C) Proximity to the student population;
- 2 (D) Suitable, available space with equipment specific to the curriculum; or
- 3 (E) Articulate, imminent, and significant health or safety concerns.
- 4 (7) Student eligibility requirements for CIHSP are determined locally.
- 5 (8) CIHS students may not audit courses.
- 6 (9) CIHS students may not enroll in developmental education courses but may enroll
- 7 in supplemental courses.
- 8 (10) CIHS students may not be enrolled in the Associate in General Education or
- 9 General Occupational Technology programs with the exception of the Associate
- 10 in General Education in Nursing degree.
- 11 (11) Colleges may award the certificate, diploma, or degree prior to high school
- 12 graduation.

13

14 *History Note: Authority G.S. 115D-20(4);*

15 *Eff. [November 1, 2017](#).*

16 *Amended Eff. [June 1, 2019](#).*

17 *Temporary Amendment Eff. [August 20, 2019](#).*

18 *Amended Eff. [December 1, 2019](#).*

19 *Amended Eff. [February 1, 2020](#).*