

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Allocation for Expanding Community College
Economic Impact Grants
FY 2022-23

Request: The State Board of Community Colleges is requested to approve the allocation of \$2,000,000 to 21 community colleges. The purpose of the Expanding Community College Economic Impact Grants is to expand the capacity of community college programs with a high economic impact for their students and communities.

Strategic Plan Reference:

Theme: Economic and Workforce Impact

3.2 Offer relevant, high-quality instructional programs that meet the needs of business and industry for existing and future jobs

Background: Section 6.1(e) the 2021 Appropriations Act established a grant program for the 2022-23 fiscal year “for community colleges to apply for grant funds to expand and target efforts in specific program areas that are proven to have greater economic impacts in regions of the State.” System Office staff created a grant application process ([found here](#)) and 36 colleges submitted applications. All North Carolina community colleges were eligible to apply. Single college applications were eligible for a maximum award of \$100,000 and joint applications were eligible for a maximum award of \$125,000 per college. Applicants were asked to demonstrate the return on investment of their programs and how the grant could be used to expand program impact within the period July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023.

Return on investment data is available for all 58 colleges through research conducted by Emsi Burning Glass between June 2021 and March 2022. This research was funded through a public-private investment partnership between the Legislature and the John M. Belk Endowment. The college and state-level economic impact studies are available at BigROIforNC.org.

Rationale: The Expanding Community College Economic Impact Grant Program guidelines were posted on April 8, 2022. Notification emails were sent to community college presidents and to the North Carolina Council of Resource Development Officers, Inc. (NCCORD) on April 8, 2022. An informational webinar was held on April 13, 2022, and a recording of the webinar was shared with community college presidents and NCCORD on April 14, 2022. Applications were due to Patrick Crane by 5:00PM on May 13, 2022, and applications from 36 colleges were received by the deadline. Applications were scored by a five-person review team with System Office representatives from Economic Development, Executive, Programs and Student Services Divisions, and one outside reviewer from the Belk Center for Community College Research and Leadership at NC State University reviewed and scored each proposal using criteria identified in the Program Application Guidelines, including new capacity for high ROI programs, timeline, coordination, demonstrated labor market demand, and potential for impact. Based on the review process described, the team recommended awarding grants as identified in Table 1.

Table 1: Expanding Community College Economic Impact Grant Program

College	Program	Recommended Award
Alamance CC	Dental Assisting	\$93,908
Asheville–Buncombe Technical Community College	Nurse Aide	\$100,000
Blue Ridge CC	Welding Technology	\$100,000
Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute*	Truck Driver Training (Class A CDL)	\$125,000
Cape Fear CC	Associate Degree Nursing (ADN)	\$99,819
Craven CC	Commercial Driver’s License (CDL) Class “A”	\$100,000
Forsyth Technical CC	LPN to RN Transition Program (Licensed Practical Nurse to Registered Nurse)	\$99,445
Gaston CC	Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN)	\$100,000
Guilford Technical CC	Diesel and Heavy Equipment Technology	\$100,000
James Sprunt CC	Diesel Mechanic and Heavy Equipment Technology	\$100,000
Johnston CC	Practical Nursing	\$100,000
Martin CC*	Associate Degree Nursing (ADN)	\$62,500
McDowell Technical CC	Associate Degree Nursing (ADN)	\$100,000
Roanoke-Chowan CC*	Associate Degree Nursing (ADN)	\$62,500
Robeson CC	Welding (AAS)	\$100,000
Rowan-Cabarrus CC	Paramedic	\$100,000
Southeastern CC	Pre-Nursing Academy	\$100,000
Southwestern CC	Nursing	\$83,021
Stanly CC	Electrical Lineworker	\$100,000
Surry CC*	Truck Driver Training (Class A CDL)	\$125,000
Wayne CC	Artificial Intelligence (AI) & Automation Programming	\$48,807
TOTAL:		\$2,000,000

*Multi-college program

Fund Source and Availability: Funding is available from the 2021 Appropriations Act (S.L. 2021-180) and is available for the period July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023.

Contact:

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