

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Allocation for Food and Nutrition Services: Employment and Training Program Grant
October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022

Request: The State Board is requested to approve \$1,008,000 in funding for fifteen community colleges. Funds will be utilized to reimburse colleges for Education Navigator positions and provide scholarship funds to support Food and Nutritional Services: Employment and Training (FNS E&T) participants in accessing training opportunities. Also, the State Board is asked to approve the allocation of up to \$1,643,000 in 50% federal matching funds to be available to colleges for reimbursement of administrative and participant reimbursement expenses.

Strategic Plan Reference:

Theme: Economic and Workforce Impact

Goal: Increase the percentage of North Carolinians, particularly within underserved populations, pursuing and easily accessing education or training through North Carolina community colleges.

- Objective 1: Improve the understanding and perceived value of educational opportunities, including lifelong learning, offered by community colleges.
 - Strategy 1.1.2: Strengthen collaboration with education, community, business, and workforce partners for outreach and to support students as they transition through a seamless system of education in North Carolina.

Background: The FNS E&T Program is a part of the national Food and Nutrition Services Program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). In North Carolina, the state Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Social Services (DSS) oversees the FNS E&T Program. Involvement is voluntary and determined at the local DSS county office.

The purpose of the FNS E&T program in North Carolina is to provide employment and training assistance to participants in identified FNS E&T counties. The ultimate goal is that this employment and training assistance will lead to employment at a livable wage and enable participants to become self-sufficient.

As a partner in assisting the NC DHHS – DSS office in meeting that goal, the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) Workforce and Continuing Education Programs team has joined the SNAP-to-Skills NC Interagency Team. As a partner in this collaboration, the NCCCS will work with identified community colleges to implement programs with local DSS county offices in offering successful Employment and Training programs.

Education Navigators at the community colleges collaborate with the local DSS county office to provide educational assessments, aide in determining appropriate educational pathways, determine educational/employability plans of action, assist participants in accessing community college resources, coordinate with DSS Staff for participant supportive services, and provide outcome measures tracking.

This is the fifth year of allocations for FNS E&T Education Navigators and Scholarships. The State Board approved FC 14 on November 17, 2017, FC 02 on January 17, 2018, FC 02 on April 20, 2018, FC 05 on October 19, 2018, FC 02 on March 15, 2019, FC 03 on August 16, 2019, and FC 04 on October 16, 2020.

Method of Allocation: Colleges identified for FNS E&T Education Navigators are determined by the participation of the local DSS county office in the Employment and Training program.

Funding is recommended for all colleges where the DSS county office has submitted an FNS E&T plan to DHHS – DSS, including a community college Education Navigator. In addition, scholarship funding is recommended for all colleges where the FNS E&T Education Navigator positions are located with a pro-rata allocation based on the number of navigator positions funded at the college.

Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College is recommended for funding of three Education Navigator positions; Central Piedmont Community College, Durham Technical Community College, and Wake Technical Community College are recommended for funding of two Education Navigator positions based on the potential Employment and Training participants in the counties within their respective service areas (Buncombe, Mecklenburg, Durham, Orange, and Wake). All other colleges are recommended for funding of one Education Navigator position.

In addition to the direct FNS E&T grant funds, the DHHS – DSS has made available 50% federal matching funds to be distributed to participating colleges. Through these funds and under the USDA guidelines, colleges can request 50% reimbursement for non-federally funded administrative and participant reimbursement expenses directly related to participant engagement in the Employment and Training program. The release of funds is based on monthly request submissions from colleges, not to exceed \$1,643,000.

Attachment FC 01

Community College	Number of Education Navigator Positions	Education Navigator Position Allocation	Scholarship Allocation	Total FNS E&T Allocation
Asheville-Buncombe Technical CC	3	\$100,000	\$14,000	\$114,000
Cape Fear CC	1	\$40,000	\$7,000	\$47,000
Central Carolina CC	1	\$40,000	\$7,000	\$47,000
Central Piedmont CC	2	\$80,000	\$14,000	\$94,000
Durham Technical CC	2	\$75,000	\$14,000	\$89,000
Edgecombe CC	1	\$50,000	\$7,000	\$57,000
Forsyth Technical CC	1	\$50,000	\$7,000	\$57,000
Gaston College	1	\$40,000	\$7,000	\$47,000
Guilford Technical CC	1	\$50,000	\$7,000	\$57,000
Mitchell CC	1	\$50,000	\$7,000	\$57,000
Pitt CC	1	\$50,000	\$7,000	\$57,000
Sandhills CC	1	\$50,000	\$7,000	\$57,000
Tri-County CC	1	\$50,000	\$7,000	\$57,000
Wake Technical CC	2	\$100,000	\$14,000	\$114,000
Wilson CC	1	\$50,000	\$7,000	\$57,000
Total	20	\$875,000	\$133,000	\$1,008,000

Source of Funds: The FNS E&T program funds are contingent on the NCDHHS–DSS award through USDA.

Allocation Period: October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022

Contact:

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