

**STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
2020-21 Budget Priorities**

Budget Priority	2020-2021
<p>Employee Salaries Attracting & retaining faculty & staff to prepare North Carolina's future workforce is challenging, especially in high-demand, high-skilled areas such as nursing and the trades. NC community college average faculty salary ranks 44th in the nation and lags the NC K-12 average teacher salary and UNC System faculty salary. Request a 5% increase for community college employees giving parity with State employees. <i>(State employees received 2.5% effective July 1, 2019 and will receive an additional 2.5% effective July 1, 2020.)</i></p>	\$62,000,000 R*
<p>Enrollment Growth Request full funding for enrollment growth. Enrollment is currently estimated to increase by approximately 8,600 budget FTE, a 3.7% overall increase (3.3% increase for curriculum, 8.4% increase for short-term workforce continuing education, and -3.2% for basic skills).</p>	\$40,200,000 R*
<p>Modern and Secure College IT System Upgrade IT system serving all 58 community colleges, including online registration for short-term workforce continuing education courses. \$4 million in recurring funds is needed to continue to develop and to operate and maintain IT projects funded in the 2019 session (online short-term workforce registration & finance phase of IT modernization). Recurring funds are requested (\$1.2 million) for 8 System Office regionally-based IT security officers to work directly with colleges. Non-recurring funds for security assessments for colleges (\$2 million) & online cybersecurity training for community college employees (\$250,000).</p>	\$5,200,000 R \$2,250,000 NR
TOTAL	\$107,400,000 R \$2,250,000 NR

* Estimates will be revised using college Spring Census data in mid-March 2020.

Capital & Equipment Funding. Continue to advocate for inclusion of community colleges in pay-as-you-go funding or bonds as well as equipment needs.

Financial Aid Scholarship for Workforce Training. Need based financial aid for workforce training administered by colleges and funded by \$5,000,000 recurring from the NC Education Lottery or other non-General Fund sources.