

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Surry Community College Request for Multi-Campus Center Approval
FY 2020-21

Request: Surry Community College (SCC) requests the State Board of Community Colleges provide preliminary approval to designate the Yadkin Center, the Yadkin Valley Agriculture and Education Center, and the G. Allen Mebane IV Industrial Training Center, as a multi-campus center (MCC). The site is located at 4649 Highway 601 in Yadkinville. When granting preliminary approval, the State Board agrees to include funding (approximately \$580,000) for this location in its 2021 budget requests submitted to the Office of State Budget and Management. Final State Board approval is contingent on the General Assembly appropriating additional MCC funds for the location.

Background: The Yadkin Center – a 25,000 square foot facility with a learning center, computer labs, and classrooms – opened in 2003. Prior to 2003, SCC's Yadkin Center staff was housed at a much smaller county-owned facility, and Yadkin County classes were held at fire departments, churches, local high schools, libraries, and industrial sites.

In 2007, Yadkin County Schools and Surry Community College developed the Yadkin Early College which is housed at the Yadkin Center. The additional enrollment of students limited the amount of programming that the college could offer for other populations. However, curriculum classes were also offered to students as space allowed through various North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) programs, such as Huskins and, more recently, Career and College Promise (CCP). In addition, the Corporate and Continuing Education Division continued to provide programming and customized industry training, particularly in the late afternoons and evenings.

In 2012, a joint county-college facility was planned as the second building on the Yadkin Center property – the Yadkin Valley Agriculture and Education Center. The project is a cooperative venture between Yadkin County Commissioners and Surry Community College. The 34,000 square foot facility provides shared space. The ground floor added classrooms and training space for college-sponsored programs and classes. The second floor is designated for personnel and offices that serve the agricultural community.

The G. Allen Mebane IV Industrial Training Center and a truck driving range are also located on the property. Construction began in September of 2017, and classes began in August 2018. The facility includes five traditional classrooms and two large labs, one for Computer-Integrated Machining (CIM) and one for welding. One of the five traditional classrooms houses the simulators for CIM. The college offers certificates, diplomas, and degrees in advanced manufacturing in the G. Allen Mebane IV Industrial Training Center.

Rationale: Surry Community College provided the following justification to meet the criteria established in 1B SBCCC 200.3 for MCC designation.

1. The MCC is in a location that provides geographic access.

State Board Code requires that the MCC is established in a location that provides geographic access to community college programs and services in a location within the college service area that is at least ten (10) miles from the main campus or other MCC locations. The Surry Community College - Yadkin Center is located at 1001 College Drive, Yadkinville, NC 27055. This Center is 17 miles, following the most direct route, from Surry Community College's main campus, which is located on 630 South Main Street, Dobson, NC 27017.

2. Programs and services provided are based on appropriate student demand and needs.

Yadkin's unemployment rate has traditionally been below the state average, making the hiring of skilled personnel difficult. This hiring difficulty is felt even more keenly in the advanced manufacturing field where the pipeline of skilled labor is not sufficient for demand. In order to address this gap, the college opened mechatronics, welding, and machining programs at the Yadkin Center.

Despite workforce shortages, Yadkin County business and industry still seeks growth. Several of the county's major employers have announced or completed major expansions. Lydall Thermal Acoustical recently added a 90,000 sq. ft. manufacturing and warehouse facility as well as a 24,000 sq. ft. office addition. B & G Foods announced plans to expand its bakery operations and invest \$7.6 million at its Yadkinville operation. North Carolina Tobacco International began manufacturing in East Bend and agreed to create a minimum of 62 jobs and invest over \$5 million in machinery and equipment over the next two years.

The Golden LEAF Foundation, recognizing the Center's potential to expand the area's skilled workforce, provided the college a construction grant in the amount of \$200,000 and an equipment grant totaling \$800,000. The college has met or exceeded several benchmarks established in the grant plan, as indicated below:

- Number of students enrolled in credit programs, unduplicated: 135 (projected)/180 (actual)
- Number of students completing non-credit (CE) courses: 310 (projected)/605 (actual)
- Number of industry-recognized/third-party credentials earned: 410 (projected)/583 (actual)

Additionally, the college's secondary partner—Yadkin County Schools—has strong student interest in transfer and associate degree in applied science programs. Limitations in career and technical education opportunities at the secondary level have created increased demand for SCC to make these pathways available to high

school students in their critical junior and senior years in high school. The college and Yadkin County Schools have a long and successful history of partnering together for students' educational opportunities. Ongoing planning meetings between the partners have included high school program interest surveys, open house promotions, and placement of SCC Success Advisors in each of Yadkin County's high schools, Forbush and Starmount.

3. The MCC has approval from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) and programs and services shall comply with the Principles of Accreditation: Foundation for Quality Enhancement of SACSCOC.

On July 30, 2010, SACSCOC approved Surry Community College to offer the Associate in Arts degree and included the Yadkin Center in the scope of the college's current accreditation. The Yadkin Center site was further reviewed –and no recommendations noted - during SCC's 2014 SACSCOC reaffirmation.

4. County government provides support for maintenance and operation of physical plant.

Yadkin County provides \$311,000 in annual appropriations to support the Yadkin Center. Additionally, the county provides services such as landscaping and snow removal. Since the facility opened in 2003, the appropriations have increased; and the county's support is also evident in their construction of classroom and lab spaces in the newly constructed Yadkin Valley Agriculture and Education building.

Per G.S. 115D-32, the college will use annual appropriation for the utilities, telephone, internet, and custodial services. In addition, the college has a campus police department with sworn law enforcement officers who provide services to the Yadkin Center facilities.

5. An instructional program and services plan have been developed which includes appropriate details concerning program mix, staffing, and instructional support functions.

SCC has an instructional and services plan which was developed in 2009 as part of the substantive change approval process for SACSCOC. This plan was approved July 30, 2010 by SACSCOC. The program mix includes an Associate in Arts degree and certificates, diplomas, and degrees in Mechatronics, Computer-Integrated Machining, and Welding. The college continues to hold regular planning meetings regarding scheduling, facilities, and technology needs related to the expanding site. Faculty and division chairs from the respective programmatic areas, Dean of Academics, Dean of Student Services, VP Finance, VP Workforce, Technologies, and Community Education (WTCE), and the Chief Academic Officer have been involved

in these ongoing needs assessments. Yadkin County Schools' personnel—specifically the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent—have also been actively involved in the planning process.

Surry Community College provides all support services at the Yadkin Center. Staffing includes a full-time director, two success advisors, a Yadkin County Schools Early College High School liaison, and other administrative staff. Financial aid, testing center, and disability services staff provide workshops and one-on-one support for students on a regular basis and by appointment. Seamless online services are provided for registration, bookstore purchases, tutoring, library research and bill payment. The library has extensive databases that are accessible to students at Yadkin Center, and a courier service delivers hard copy books and texts as requested through the library's website.

All planning for the Yadkin Center is coordinated within the college's overall strategic planning process, and Yadkin Center needs are encompassed within this process. Programmatic and divisional heads set goals and request necessary equipment, software, and personnel relevant to those goals. Yadkin Center needs have resulted in additional faculty hires, including Arts and Sciences and welding expansion positions. Equipment needs have been met through grant funding, and ongoing needs will be built into the annual planning process.

6. The MCC is unlikely to have a significant negative impact on institutions in contiguous areas.

The Yadkin Center opened in 2003 and according to Surry Community College, contiguous institutions have not experienced a negative impact. Wilkes Community College is 33 miles from the Center and Forsyth Technical Community College's Main campus is 25 miles from the Center. In accordance with State Board Code, the college has consulted with community college institutions contiguous to the MCC.

7. Students enrolled at a MCC must be able to complete at least one associate degree at the MCC.

Surry Community College currently provides a full range of programs and services for students at the Yadkin Center. The Yadkin Early College (enrollment of 231 students) is located at the Center. The college expanded course offerings in 2016 so that students are now able to complete a college transfer degree (Associate of Arts) without leaving the Yadkin Center. Students may also complete the following credentials at Yadkin Center:

- Mechatronics degree, diploma, and certificate
- Welding diploma and certificate
- Machining diploma and certificate

- Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) to associate degree in Nursing (ADN) bridge program (added fall 2019)

WTCE provides extensive programming at the Yadkin Center and throughout Yadkin County. Specifically, SCC has offered Fire, EMS, and law enforcement courses. The college also offers a Truck Driving program in partnership with Caldwell Community College. Customized training is provided at industrial sites throughout the county as well as at the Center location. In addition, Basic Skills and ESL courses are offered. In spring 2020, WTCE offered its first electrician's academy at the Yadkin Center.

8. The duplication of instructional support and other cost expenses are justifiable from cost effectiveness and quality perspectives.

Since Yadkin County is part of SCC's service area, it is imperative that SCC provide Yadkin citizens with high demand programs that meet the needs of the service area and contribute to the economic development of Yadkin County. Since SCC's Dobson campus is 30 minutes away from Yadkin County's center, it is extremely difficult for Yadkin County students to take advantage of the Career and College Promise offerings that Surry County secondary partners enjoy.

Complicating scheduling challenges, SCC currently provides a schedule of classes that meet the needs of three Surry County LEAs: Elkin City, Mount Airy, and Surry County. These schedules do not allow for adjustments that would make the courses accessible to Yadkin County students—either in terms of ability to get to the courses on time or availability of additional seats and/or lab spaces to accommodate Yadkin County students. For these reasons, strategic programmatic replication is justified.

Surry Community College places primary responsibility for the content, quality, and effectiveness of the curriculum with its faculty. SCC's Academic Division is organized in such a way that those most familiar with the content of the programmatic area have direct oversight for the curriculum. Lead instructors bear the first level of responsibility for ensuring their programs maintain quality and viability standards.

Courses offered at the Yadkin Center must meet the same requirements as courses offered at the Main Campus. Responsibilities of lead instructors include planning and evaluating the instructional program, which includes participating actively in the strategic planning process and assessing student learning outcomes, as well as tracking and monitoring course revisions, course development, software changes, textbooks, and any other issues impacting the quality and currency of the program. All faculty teaching at the Yadkin Center meet the same educational standards as all SCC faculty.

9. The MCC must enroll a minimum of 300 budget FTE.

System Office staff have confirmed that the FTE for the Yadkin Center meets this criterion. The 2019-20 actual FTE was 374.

10. The physical facility or facilities for the MCC must be owned or leased on a long-term basis by the college.

The Yadkin Center buildings are sited on property owned by SCC's Board of Trustees. The G. Allen Mebane IV Industrial Training Center was constructed with Connect NC Bond funds approved by the citizens of NC.

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