

**STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES**  
**Revised Allocation to Support Rural College Broadband Access**  
**July 1, 2021 through December 31, 2024**

**Request:** The State Board of Community Colleges is requested to approve an increase of \$750,000 to the allocation for federal State Fiscal Recovery Funds. The new total allocation will be \$15,000,000 for costs allowed within the 2021 Appropriations Act and federal American Rescue Plan Act timeframe.

**Strategic Plan Reference(s):**

System Funding and Effectiveness

Goal 5: Increase state aid funding allocations, streamline the allocation formula, and implement practices to improve system effectiveness.

- Objective 5.3: Align System Office support to colleges' needs.
- Objective 5.4: Provide the North Carolina Community College System with data and technology systems that provide best-in-class support for core business functions.

**Background:** In December 2021, the State Board approved Finance Committee item FC 02, a contract amendment of up to \$750,000 with the NCSU Friday Institute to provide support services for the "Broadband Access for Rural Community Colleges."

In January 2022, the State Board approved Finance Committee item FC 02, an allocation of up to \$14,250,000 from federal State Fiscal Recovery Funds received by North Carolina from the American Rescue Plan Act to deliver critical, college specific IT infrastructure and network security improvements for 25 colleges serving students at campuses in our System's most rural and economically challenged regions.

**Rationale:** The \$750,000 contract amendment with the NCSU Friday Institute is no longer required. Instead, funds are requested to be directed to the twenty-five colleges outlined in the SBCC approval of FC 02 In January 2022. This will result in a revised amount not to exceed \$15,000,000.

**Time Period:** The State Fiscal Recovery Act funds are available through December 31, 2024.

**Fund Source and Availability:** Funding is available through an appropriation of State Fiscal Recovery Funding in the 2021 Appropriations Act (Session Law 2021-180).

**Contact(s):**

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