



STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Public Comments

Proposed Amendment 1B SBCCC 200.3 – “Establishing Multi-Campus Centers” Comment Period Ending 22 August 2019

	Commenter	Page and Line #	Public Comment	System Office Response
1.	Rowan Cabarrus CC Dr. Carol Spalding President	Section 9 Page 2, Lines 25-31 Page 3, lines 1-3	<p>Our comments on the proposed changes to multi-campus centers are primarily focused on the impact of the growing enrollment of online students and the tradition of attributing all online FTE to the main campus. As such, we are providing suggested revisions to more accurately address the instructional support services provided at multi-campus center locations for students who take a combination of online and face-to-face or hybrid courses. Please see the attached copies of the MCC Policy: 1) with track changes on so that you can review our recommendations highlighted in red and 2) a clean copy with all changes accepted.</p> <p><u>Proposed Revisions for Section 9 Verbiage</u></p> <p><i>The MCC must enroll a minimum of 300 (curriculum, occupational extension, or basic skills) budget FTE. Budget FTE for the MCC includes: 1) Budget FTE earned via students enrolled in face-to-face or hybrid instruction originating from and delivered at that MCC location; 2) All budget FTE earned via students who enroll in one or more online sections and one or more face-to-face or hybrid course(s) originating from and delivered at that multi-campus location. If an MCC drops below the minimum budget FTE (Level 1 MCC minimum is 300 and Level 2 MCC minimum is 1,201), the System Office will provide the college president with a written notification that this drop occurred after that year’s budget allocations are approved by the State Board. If the MCC’s budget FTE remains below the minimum in the subsequent fiscal year, the MCC budget allocation for that MCC will be reduced</i></p>	<p>System Office Recommendation:</p> <p>The suggestions proposed are the same as those that were considered by the State Board in March 2019 when the Board adopted 1B SBCCC 200.3 as a new rule. The System Office Response in March 2019 stated that the decision to include the suggestions in the new rule was a policy decision for the State Board. The State Board declined to include the suggestions in the rule. As to whether the State Board should consider these suggestions in the context of this proposed amendment to the rule, again, it is a policy decision for the State Board. However, the amendment in question is simply a conforming amendment to reflect the soon to be adopted rule that defines the types of instruction (traditional, blended, hybrid, online).</p>

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			<p><i>proportionately to the FTE decline. If the MCC's budget FTE continues to remain below the minimum in the third fiscal year, the budget allocation for a Level 1 MCC will be eliminated, and it will no longer be designated as a MCC, and for a Level 2 MCC, the MCC will be categorized as a Level 1 MCC. A college must follow the MCC approval process to re-establish an MCC in any future year.</i></p> <p>The current assignment of online FTE exclusively to the main campus appears to be simply a state reporting "ICR" process and does not appropriately address the instructional support required at the multi-campus. Students taking face-to-face or hybrid courses at MCCs, who also take one or more online course(s), are supported by financial aid, advising, and other instructional support services located at the MCC and should have their full schedule and FTE attributed to that MCC. Currently, all online FTE to the College's main campus regardless of where those services are provided, therefore misrepresenting the amount of FTE and therefore the students that the MCC supports.</p> <p>At Rowan-Cabarrus, we now generate more FTE from Cabarrus County than we do from Rowan County, but Rowan County is where our Main Campus is located. At our Cabarrus South Campus, we provide a full complement of administrative support, financial aid advising, admissions staff, advisors, a second "Navigation Station" with customer service representatives assisting students as they walk in, as well as providing a testing center and a fully functioning library/learning resource center with tutoring services. Last year, students who were enrolled in face-to-face classes at South Campus and one or more online course(s), generated 312 FTE from online classes supported by administrative/instructional support at South Campus, however, the 312 FTE was attributed to the main campus.</p>	

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			<p>Our attached revisions also include a suggested change in the way the funding for an FTE decline is calculated for MCCs. Rather than a 50% drop in funding, we suggest decreasing funding proportionately to the FTE decline during the three-year transition period. Our system’s practice is to use a two or three year rolling average before budgets are cut and we do not cut these budgets by a draconian 50% after one year.</p> <p>In summary, currently all online FTE is credited to a college’s main campus and no online FTE is attributed to the MCC even though the instructional support for those online students is provided at the MCC. By revising the MCC policy and criteria as suggested in our revisions, we can more fairly address this issue.</p>	



1 **State Board of Community Colleges Code**

2 **TITLE 1. COMMUNITY COLLEGES**

3
4 **CHAPTER B. COLLEGE OPERATIONS**

5
6 **SUBCHAPTER 200. PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY**

7
8 **1B SBCCC 200.3 Establishing Multi-Campus Centers**

9 (a) Definition. A multi-campus center (“MCC”) is a convenience location in the community
10 college service area to provide appropriate population and geographic access for
11 community outreach, testing, faculty and staff offices, as well as literacy, continuing
12 education, and curriculum instruction. Students may complete certificates, diplomas,
13 and associate degrees at MCC locations. Comprehensive instructional support
14 functions including, but not limited to libraries and student development services, are
15 parts of the operation. An MCC must provide students the opportunity to complete at
16 least one associate degree at the MCC.

17 (b) Purpose. The purpose of the SBCC’s policy on MCCs is to help ensure that
18 appropriate geographic access to community college programs and services is
19 provided to students while minimizing the unnecessary duplication and proliferation
20 of facilities and while minimizing the negative impact on existing community college
21 campuses and centers.

22 (c) Establishment and Maintenance. To establish and maintain an MCC designation,
23 colleges must satisfy all of the following criteria:

- 24 (1) The MCC is established in a location that provides geographic access to
25 community college programs and services in a location within the college service
26 area that is at least ten (10) miles from the main campus or other MCC locations
27 or the college must provide evidence that the MCC is established in a location
28 where the main campus or other MCC locations cannot adequately provide
29 community college programs and services. This provision only applies to MCCs
30 established after the effective date of this rule.

- 1 (2) Colleges shall provide programs and services based on evidence of student
2 demand and needs.
- 3 (3) Colleges shall obtain prior approval and maintain approval of the MCC from the
4 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges
5 (SACSCOC). Programs and services provided through MCCs shall comply with
6 The Principles of Accreditation: Foundation for Quality Enhancement of
7 SACSCOC.
- 8 (4) County government provides support for maintenance and operation of the MCC
9 physical plant.
- 10 (5) The college has developed an instructional program and services plan including,
11 but not limited to a description of programs, staffing, and instructional support
12 functions.
- 13 (6) The SBCC determines that the MCC is unlikely to have a significant negative
14 impact on institutions contiguous to the MCC. The college shall consult with
15 community college institutions contiguous to the MCC, and the community
16 college institutions that are contiguous to the MCC may provide evidence that the
17 MCC has or is likely to have a significant negative impact on college or program
18 specific enrollment.
- 19 (7) Students enrolled at an MCC must be able to complete at least one associate
20 degree at the MCC.
- 21 (8) Evidence that the duplication of instructional support and other cost expenses
22 are justifiable from cost effectiveness and quality of support services
23 perspectives.
- 24 (9) The MCC must enroll a minimum of 300 (curriculum, occupational extension, or
25 basic skills) budget FTE via ~~face-to-face~~ traditional, blended, or hybrid instruction
26 originating from and delivered at that MCC location. If an MCC drops below the
27 minimum budget FTE (Level I MCC minimum is 300 and Level 2 MCC minimum
28 is 1,201), the System Office will provide the college president with a written
29 notification that this drop occurred after that year's budget allocations are
30 approved by the State Board. If the MCC's budget FTE remains below the
31 minimum in the subsequent fiscal year, for a Level 1 MCC, the budget allocation

1 for that MCC will be reduced by fifty percent (50%), and for a Level 2 MCC, the
2 budget allocation will be reduced by 50% of the difference between Level 2 and
3 Level 1 funding. If a Level 2 MCC's budget FTE continues to remain below the
4 minimum in the third fiscal year, the MCC will be recategorized as a Level 1 MCC
5 and its budget allocation will be decreased to the Level 1 funding. If a Level 1
6 MCC's budget FTE continues to remain below the minimum in the third fiscal
7 year, the MCC will no longer be designated as an MCC, and its budget allocation
8 will be eliminated. A college must follow the MCC approval process to re-
9 establish an MCC in any future year.

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

12 (d) The College of The Albemarle Dare County Campus and Gaston College Kimbrell
13 Campus and Textile Technology Center MCCs established by the General Assembly
14 are exempted from 1B SBCCC 200.3(c)(9).

15 (e) Colleges shall comply with the following steps to obtain approval for MCC
16 designation.

17 (1) Step 1 – Initial State Board Review and Recommendation. Community colleges
18 seeking a MCC designation must submit their application to the State Board of
19 Community Colleges (“State Board”) for approval by September 15th of each
20 year. Community colleges’ applications shall include information responding to
21 the criteria specified in 1B SBCCC 200.3(c)(1) - (c)(10).

22 (A) If a community college meets all of the criteria specified in 1B SBCCC
23 200.3(c), then the State Board shall recommend approval of the MCC
24 designation.

25 (B) If a community college does not meet all of the criteria specified in 1B SBCCC
26 200.3(c)(1) – (c)(10), but provides evidence of being able to meet all of the
27 criteria by the enactment of the budget for that fiscal year, the State Board
28 shall recommend conditional approval. The State Board’s recommendation
29 for conditional approval shall specify the criteria in 1B SBCCC 200.3(c)(1) –
30 (c)(10) the college must satisfy to receive final State Board approval that is
31 contingent upon the General Assembly appropriating funds.

1 (2) Step 2 - Appropriation of Funds by the General Assembly. If the State Board
2 recommends the MCC for approval or for conditional approval, the System Office
3 shall include the State Board's recommendation in the budget request provided
4 to the Office of State Budget and Management and to the General Assembly. If
5 the General Assembly appropriates funds for the MCC, the State Board's
6 recommendation moves to Step 3. If the General Assembly does not appropriate
7 funds, the college shall annually certify in writing to the System Office by
8 September 15th that there are no changes in the MCC application, and the
9 System Office shall resubmit the college's MCC request as a part of the annual
10 budget process in subsequent years, unless the college withdraws its request.

11 (3) Step 3: State Board Approval. If the General Assembly appropriates recurring
12 funds to support the MCC consistent with the existing funding formula and if the
13 college satisfies any conditions specified by the State Board by the enactment of
14 the budget for that fiscal year, the State Board shall approve the MCC
15 designation. If the State Board approves the MCC designation, the State Board
16 shall allocate recurring funds to the college for the newly approved MCC.

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18 *History Note: Authority G.S. 115D-5;*

19 *Eff. [May 1, 2019](#).*
20 *Amended*

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