

**STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES**  
**Prison Education Funds Allocation:**  
**Allocation for Small College Prison Program Start-Up – Halifax CC and Pamlico CC**

**Request:** The State Board of Community Colleges is asked to approve the allocation of \$25,000 each to the following two small colleges for the start-up of one or more prison education courses at prisons in their respective service areas, as specified below:

<b>Small College/Designated Prison</b>	<b>Designated Course(s)</b>	<b>Allocation</b>
<b>Halifax Community College</b> <i>Caledonia Correctional Institution</i>	Curriculum and/or Continuing Education Course(s) in Small Engine Repair	<b>\$25,000</b>
<b>Pamlico Community College</b> <i>Pamlico Correctional Institution</i>	Curriculum and/or Continuing Education Course(s) in Upholstering	<b>\$25,000</b>

**Background:** In 1999, the NC General Assembly appropriated recurring funds in the amount of \$50,000 to assist small community colleges that could not otherwise afford it to start education and training programs for inmates housed in state prisons in their respective service areas (S.L. 1999-237). The legislative intent was to provide funds to support the initial year of instruction since community colleges have no other funds appropriated for the start-up of Basic Skills, Continuing Education, or Curriculum courses. This funding is allocated specifically for course start-up because colleges will generate FTE to support continuation of instruction.

**Method of Allocation:** Allocation recommendations are made by the Educational Services staff of the NC Department of Public Safety's Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice (DACJJ). The System Office provided DACJJ with a list of colleges meeting the definition of "small college," defined as colleges with FY 2015-16 total FTE budgeted enrollment of less than 2,500. DACJJ officials reviewed the educational needs of inmates in the prisons served by the eligible small colleges and made the funding recommendation above. The programming recommendations are based on selection criteria consistent with priorities established by DACJJ as a result of the 2010 Legislative Continuation Review of Prisoner Education and subsequent legislation, including the Justice Reinvestment Act.

**Conditions of Awards:** The college must have separate captive course approval by the State Board of Community Colleges to offer the course(s) designated above before it may expend the funds allocated through this grant. Any course taught without such captive course approval will not yield any full-time equivalent (FTE) funding, per G.S. 115D-5 (c). At the end of the fiscal year, unexpended fund balances will be reviewed by DACJJ and may be approved for carryforward if the initial program start-up phase must cross fiscal years due to operational circumstances. Funds will not be approved for carryforward beyond one fiscal year after the initial allocation unless DACJJ and the System Office jointly determine that special circumstances have prevented the timely startup of the new prison education course(s).

The primary purpose of these funds is to cover first-year instructor costs for one or more course(s) designated in the table above. The funds must be expended for these specified courses unless conditions change at a prison and DACJJ provides the college with authorization in writing to apply funds to the start-up of other priority course(s). Use of these funds to cover typical start-up costs other than instructor salary (namely, instructional supplies and/or related instructional equipment) is not strictly prohibited; however, the college must receive explicit approval from DACJJ to do so.

**Fund Source and Availability:** Funding is available through the State General Fund as appropriated to the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice and subsequently transferred to the System Office. The allocation period is March 18, 2016, through June 30, 2016. Because these funds are being allocated late in the current fiscal year, DACJJ has pre-approved carryforward of these funds for FY 2016-17. Carryforward of these funds beyond this allocation period requires additional approval by DACJJ and the System Office, as outlined in the conditions above.

**Contact(s)**

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