

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Allocations for BioNetwork Host Colleges

Request: The State Board is asked to approve the remaining \$625,469 from the initial 2014-2015 BioNetwork allocation for distribution to five of the BioNetwork host colleges for the remainder of the 2014-2015 fiscal year ending on June 30, 2015. This final distribution is based on an assessment of the critical needs of the biotechnology and life science industry.

Background: Data from a recent Battelle report conducted through the North Carolina Biotechnology Center reveals that North Carolina has experienced a 30.9% increase in bioscience jobs, which is significantly higher than the 1% growth in the North Carolina private sector, equating to an additional \$14 billion in economic development. The report also reveals that nearly 50% of all new jobs in North Carolina are life science jobs. In the last several months, BioNetwork has been touted as a key economic development resource in luring an additional 1,300 bioscience jobs to the State. In addition, BioNetwork recently celebrated the opening of the first biofuels testing lab in the southeastern United States at the BioNetwork Natural Products Laboratory hosted by Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College (A-B Tech). With the current and expected growth in the biotechnology and life science industry sector, BioNetwork is poised to offer education, training, and laboratory resources to this critical industry sector of the State. The additional allocations will be used to fund personnel, equipment, and operating expenses at five of our host colleges to ensure our responsive, qualified, and relevant service to the growing biotechnology and life science workforce needs.

Method of Allocation: The Executive Director of BioNetwork and Life Science Initiatives is recommending funding to the host colleges that will enable them to meet their remaining education and training needs for this fiscal year. The Executive Director of BioNetwork and Life Science Initiatives reserves the right to recall unused funding for reallocation to other BioNetwork host colleges as needed.

Recommended Host College Budget Allocations:

Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College **\$300,469**

Focus Area: Industry Training - Food, Beverage, and Natural Products

Location: A-B Tech's Enka Site

The BioNetwork staff in the Food, Beverage, and Natural Products industry sector provides relevant onsite and industry-site training and education through NCWorks Customized Training in addition to open enrollment short courses. The Natural Products Laboratory has become a national center for natural products innovation where researchers and entrepreneurs can find start-up information, educational programs, support coordination, mentoring, and referrals to launch their enterprise. A-B Tech's BioNetwork staff also assists the NCCCS Small Business Center Network and offers a variety of seminars and workshops on biotechnology and life science topics for industry, educators, and North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) students.

Forsyth Technical Community College **\$32,000**

Focus Area: National Center for Biotechnology Workforce; Analytical Laboratory;
 Mobile Training Laboratory

Location: Wake Forest University's Innovation Quarter

The National Center for the Biotechnology Workforce represents, enables, and provides leadership at the national level for the biotechnology workforce with compatible organizations, educational, and training institutions. The National Center for the Biotechnology Workforce currently receives approximately 49%

of its salary and benefit costs through funding from national grants, but gap funding is provided for the remaining salary and benefit costs as well as operational costs through BioNetwork. Funding for Forsyth Community College also includes operational costs for the Analytical Laboratory and the Mobile Training Laboratory, which provide analytical equipment for biotechnology and life science industry training.

Gaston College

\$75,000

Focus Area: Technology Services - Learning Solutions Center

Location: Gaston Community College Campus

The Learning Solutions Center has the responsibility for transforming courses into distance learning or interactive, electronic digital-learning formats for colleges in the NCCCS. The Learning Solutions Center also creates interactive, electronic training and educational modules, videos, and virtual learning objects for industry training across the State and maintains the Web presence for BioNetwork.

Pitt Community College

\$18,000

Focus Area: Education and Industry Engagement

Location: Technology Enterprise Center

The activities at Pitt Community College focus on developing and coordinating state-wide education and industry engagement activities. Educational engagement includes training community college faculty to understand and incorporate learning tools within their curriculum to advance the knowledge and skills of their students for successful entry into the biotechnology and life science workforce; developing and delivering presentations that help K-12 and community college students connect educational pathways to career goals, and presenting workshops and seminars to help educators and students understand the benefits and the variety of careers in the life science sector. The staff also focuses on industry engagement, including maintaining awareness of the current and future needs of the North Carolina biotechnology and life science industry and communicating and promoting BioNetwork services throughout the State.

Wake Technical Community College

\$200,000

Focus Area: Industry Training - Biomanufacturing

Location: BTEC on NCSU's Centennial Campus

The BioNetwork Capstone Center focuses on offering hands-on, short course training in biomanufacturing and pharmaceutical operations to incumbent workers, new hires, and community college students in a simulated cGMP (current Good Manufacturing Practice) facility. The activities of the Capstone Center include providing biomanufacturing training through NCWorks Customized Training, and providing open enrollment short courses, workshops, and seminars to industry, educators, and NCCCS students.

Fund Source and Allocation Period: Funding is available from the FY 2014-2015 State General Fund appropriations for BioNetwork. The allocation time period is February 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015.

Contact Person:

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