

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Contract for Learning Management System Licenses

Request: The State Board is asked to approve a one year contract extension with Blackboard®, Inc. for licenses for the Learning Management System (LMS) for the period July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016. This is the fifth year of a five-year contract. The cost of Blackboard LMS licenses for 22 colleges and the System Office is \$831,328.

Background: In March 2010, the North Carolina Community College System Office decided to support two learning management systems for the 58 community colleges: Blackboard, a licensed LMS, and Moodle®, an open source LMS. Each community college chooses the LMS that best suits the needs of that college and the learning community it serves. The System Office provides the contracts for the LMSs and provides support services through training and information resources of the Virtual Learning Community and the NC Learning Object Repository.

Rationale for Contract: This contract is a system-wide master terms contract negotiated by North Carolina Community College System Office personnel to realize cost savings for all colleges using Blackboard LMS products and services. A five-year license commitment locked in a price increase of no more than three percent (3%) per year for colleges that chose to be on the Blackboard contract for all five years. This contract includes the license for the NCCCS Virtual Learning Community. Flexibility has been added to this contract to allow for the addition of colleges from the master contract at the time of each annual renewal. An annual survey each spring of the colleges determines which colleges require a Blackboard license for the following fiscal year.

NCCCS institutions electing to use Blackboard in the fifth year of this contract include:

Beaufort Community College	Halifax Community College
Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute	Johnston Community College
Cape Fear Community College	Martin Community College
Catawba Valley Community College	McDowell Technical Community College
Central Carolina Community College	Montgomery Community College
Central Piedmont Community College	Piedmont Community College
Cleveland Community College	Richmond Community College
Coastal Carolina Community College	Rowan-Cabarrus Community College
Fayetteville Technical Community College	Southwestern Community College
Forsyth Technical Community College	Wake Technical Community College
Gaston College	Western Piedmont Community College

Method of Procurement: In accordance with the procurement practice of the State of North Carolina, approval is being sought by outside purchasing authorities. Approval of the contract by the State Board is contingent upon approval by the State IT Procurement Office.

Contract Amount and Time Period: The contract is for the amount of \$831,328 for the period July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016.

Fund Source and Availability: This contract is funded from the FY2015-2016 State General Fund appropriation, contingent upon availability.

Contact:

Dr. Saundra Williams
Senior Vice President and Chief of Technology
Technology Solutions and Distance Learning

Katherine Davis
eLearning Specialist, Learning Technology Systems