

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Surry Community College Request for Multi-Campus Center Approval
FY 2017-18

Request: Surry Community College (SCC) requests the State Board provide preliminary approval to designate the Yadkin Center, the *Yadkin Valley Agriculture and Education Center*, and the *G. Allen Mebane IV Industrial Training Center*, as a multi-campus center (MCC). The site is located at 4649 Highway 601 in Yadkinville, NC. When granting preliminary approval, the State Board agrees to include funding (approximately \$550,000) for this location in its 2018 budget requests submitted to the Office of State Budget and Management. Final State Board approval is contingent on the General Assembly appropriating additional MCC funds for the location.

Background: The Yadkin Center - a 25,000 square foot facility with a learning center, computer labs, and classrooms - opened in 2003. This site is approximately 20 miles from the main campus. Prior to 2003, SCC's Yadkin Center staff was housed at a much smaller county-owned facility, and Yadkin County classes were held at fire departments, churches, local high schools, libraries, and industrial sites.

In 2007, Yadkin County Schools and Surry Community College developed the Yadkin Early College which is housed at the Yadkin Center. The additional enrollment of students limited the amount of programming that the college could offer for other populations. However, curriculum classes were also offered to students - as space allowed - through various North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) programs, such as Huskins and, more recently, Career and College Promise (CCP). In addition, the Corporate and Continuing Education Division continued to provide programming and customized industry training, particularly in the late afternoons and evenings.

In 2012, a joint county-college facility was planned as the second building on the Yadkin Center property - the *Yadkin Valley Agriculture and Education Center*. The project is a cooperative venture between Yadkin County Commissioners and Surry Community College. The 34,000 square foot facility provides shared space. The ground floor added classrooms and training space for college-sponsored programs and classes. The second floor is designated for personnel and offices that serve the agricultural community.

The *G. Allen Mebane IV Industrial Training Center* and a truck driving range will also be located on the property. Construction is expected to begin in the summer of 2017, with classes beginning in summer 2018. The *G. Allen Mebane IV Industrial Training Center* will include five traditional classrooms and two large labs (one for Computer-Integrated Machining-CIM- and one for Welding). One of the five traditional classrooms will house the simulators for CIM. The College plans to offer certificates, diplomas, and degrees in advanced manufacturing in the *G. Allen Mebane IV Industrial Training Center*.

Rationale: Surry Community College provided the following justification to meet the nine criteria, established by the State Board at its January 17, 2014 meeting, for MCC designation.

1. An adequate population base must exist to support the multi-campus operation.

The population of Yadkin County is 38,406 (2016). Yadkin County includes the municipalities of Boonville, Jonesville, Yadkinville and East Bend. Several large manufacturers – including Unifi, Lydall, B&G Foods, Indera Mills, Austin Enclosures, Hibco Plastics, and Philips-Van Heusen – are located within the county. Surry Community College works collaboratively with the local industry to provide intensive customized training.

The Yadkin Early College is located at the Yadkin Center, with an enrollment of 231 students during 2016-17. Career and College Promise enrollment at the Center is 92 students for 2016-17.

2. Programs and services provided are based on appropriate student demand and needs.

A shortage of skilled workers is evident in Yadkin County, and this absence of labor makes hiring difficult for area manufacturers. Several of the county's major employers have announced or completed major expansions. Lydal Thermal Accoustical recently added 90,000 square feet of manufacturing and warehouse space to their facility, as well as a 24,000 square feet office addition. B & G Foods announced plans to expand its bakery operations and invest \$7.6 million at its Yadkinville operation. North Carolina Tobacco International has begun manufacturing in East Bend and has agreed to create a minimum of 62 jobs and invest over \$5 million in machinery and equipment over the next two years. The demand for skilled labor with advanced manufacturing skills led to plans to offer Mechatronics and Welding programs at the Yadkin Center. Yadkin's unemployment rate has traditionally been below the state average, making hiring of skilled personnel difficult.

Additionally, the College's secondary partner - Yadkin County Schools - has strong student interest in the transfer and associate in applied science programs. Limitations in career and technical education opportunities at the secondary level have created increased demand for SCC to make these pathways available to high school students in their critical junior and senior years in high school. The College and Yadkin County Schools have a long and successful history of partnering together for students' educational opportunities. Ongoing planning meetings between the partners have included high school program interest surveys, open house promotions, and placement of SCC Success Advisors in each of Yadkin County's high schools, Forbush and Starmount.

Surry Community College currently provides a full range of programs and services for students at the Yadkin Center. The Yadkin Early College (enrollment of 231 students) is located at the Center. The College has expanded course offerings in 2016 so that students are now able to complete a college transfer degree (Associate of Arts) without leaving the Yadkin Center. Plans are underway for a Mechatronics diploma in the fall of 2017, with a welding and CIM diploma to follow in summer 2018. Corporate and Continuing Education training in welding and electrical are planned for fall 2018. Courses within the degree programs are currently scheduled for fall 2017, such as BPR 111, MAC 111, MAC 121, and ELC 128.

Corporate and Continuing Education provides extensive programming at the Yadkin Center and throughout Yadkin County. Specifically, SCC has offered Fire, EMS, and law enforcement courses. Recently the College began offering a Truck Driving program in partnership with Caldwell Community College. Customized training is provided at industrial sites throughout the county as well as at the Center location. In addition, Basic Skills and ESL courses are offered.

3. Programs and services provided through multi-campus centers comply with the *Criteria for Accreditation* of the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

On July 30, 2010, SACSCOC approved Surry Community College to offer 50% or more of the Associate in Arts degree and included the Yadkin Center in the scope of the College's current accreditation. The site was further reviewed - and no recommendations noted - during SCC's 2014 reaffirmation.

4. Adequate county government maintenance and operation of physical plant support is available.

Yadkin County provides \$228,688 in annual appropriations to support the Yadkin Center. Additionally, the county provides services such as landscaping and snow removal. Since the facility opened in 2003, the appropriations have increased, and the county's support is also evident in their construction of classroom and lab spaces in the newly constructed *Yadkin Valley Agriculture and Education* building.

The Yadkin Center buildings are sited on property owned by SCC's Board of Trustees. The *G. Allen Mebane IV Industrial Training Center* is being constructed with Connect NC Bond funds approved by the citizens of North Carolina. The College is responsible for the building maintenance (utilities, telephone, internet, and custodial services). In addition, the College has a campus police department with sworn law enforcement officers, who provide services to the Yadkin Center facilities.

5. An instructional program and services plan has been developed which includes appropriate details concerning program mix, staffing, and instructional support functions.

SCC has an instructional and services plan which was developed in 2009 as part of the substantive change approval process for SACSCOC. This plan was approved July 30, 2010. The program mix includes an Associate in Arts degree and certificates, diplomas, and degrees in Mechatronics, Computer- Integrated Machining, and Welding. The College continues to hold regular planning meetings regarding scheduling, facilities, and technology needs related to the expanding site. Faculty and division chairs from the respective programmatic areas; Dean of Arts and Sciences; Dean of Business, Technologies, and Health Sciences; Dean of Enrollment Services; VP Technology Services, VP Finance, VP Corporate and Continuing Education, and the Chief Academic Officer have been involved in these ongoing needs assessments. Yadkin County Schools' personnel - specifically the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent - have also been actively involved in the planning process.

SCC provides all support services at the Yadkin Center. Staffing includes a full-time Director, two Success Advisors, and other administrative staff. Financial aid, testing center, and disability services staff provide workshops and one-on-one support for students on a regular basis and by appointment. Seamless online services are provided for registration, bookstore purchases, tutoring, library research and bill payment. The library has extensive databases that are accessible to students at Yadkin Center, and a courier service delivers hard copy books and texts as requested through the library's website.

All planning for the Yadkin Center is coordinated within the College's overall strategic planning process, and Yadkin Center needs are encompassed within this process. Programmatic and divisional heads set goals and request necessary equipment, software, and personnel relevant to those goals. Yadkin Center needs have resulted in additional faculty hires, including an Arts and Sciences expansion position and new hire plans for fall 2017 in advanced manufacturing. Equipment needs have been met through grant funding, and ongoing needs will be built into the annual planning process.

6. The multi-campus center does not have a negative impact on institutions in contiguous areas.

The Yadkin Center opened in 2003 and contiguous institutions have not experienced a negative impact. Wilkes Community College is 33 miles from the Center and Forsyth Technical Community College's Main campus is 25 miles from the Center.

- 7. Students enrolled at a multi-campus location must be able to complete at least one associate degree at the campus that requests the multi-campus designation.**

Surry Community College is approved by SACSCOC to offer the two-year Associate in Arts degree at the Yadkin Center. Students will be able to pursue the Mechatronics degree in 2017-18, plus a welding diploma and a Computer-Integrated Machining diploma 2018-2019. Students will also be able to earn CCE credit and training in electrical and welding.

- 8. The duplication of instructional support and other cost expenses are justifiable from cost effectiveness and quality perspectives.**

Since Yadkin County is part of SCC's service area, it is imperative that SCC provide Yadkin citizens with high-demand programs that meet the needs of the service area and contribute to the economic development of Yadkin County. Since SCC's Dobson campus is 19 miles and 30 minutes away from Yadkin County's center, it is impossible for Yadkin County students to take advantage of the Career and College Promise offerings that Surry County secondary partners enjoy.

Complicating these scheduling challenges, SCC currently provides a schedule of classes that meet the needs of three Surry County Local Education Agencies (LEA): Elkin City, Mount Airy, and Surry County. These schedules do not allow for adjustments that would make the courses accessible to Yadkin County students - either in terms of ability to get to the courses on time or availability of additional seats and/or lab spaces to accommodate Yadkin County students. For these reasons, strategic programmatic replication is justified.

SCC places primary responsibility for the content, quality, and effectiveness of the curriculum with its faculty. SCC's Academic Division is organized in such a way that those most familiar with the content of the programmatic area have direct oversight for the curriculum. Lead instructors bear the first level of responsibility for ensuring their programs maintain quality and viability standards.

Courses offered at the Yadkin Center must meet the same requirements as courses offered at the Main Campus. Responsibilities of lead instructors include planning and evaluating the instructional program, which includes participating actively in the strategic planning process and assessing student learning outcomes, as well as tracking and monitoring course revisions, course development, software changes, textbooks, and any other issues impacting the quality and currency of the program. All faculty teaching at the Yadkin Center will meet the same educational standards as all SCC faculty.

9. The multi-campus operation must enroll a minimum of 300 budget FTE.

The data provided by SCC includes instruction delivered at the Yadkin Center as well as online and hybrid enrollment of Yadkin County residents. The FTE for instruction delivered at the Yadkin Center does not currently meet the minimum 300 budget FTE requirement. In addition, the online and hybrid FTE delivered at the main campus is not applicable to the Yadkin Center. Therefore, the minimum 300 FTE has not yet been achieved.

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that this request be tabled until the Yadkin Center location has achieved 300 budget FTE for instruction occurring at that location, exclusive of the online student enrollment. SCC may submit an addendum to their 2017 request to provide documentation of the 300 budget FTE.

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