

**STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES**  
**BioNetwork Allocation Request for Host Colleges**

**Request:** The State Board is asked to approve \$2,122,023 to be allocated to the BioNetwork host colleges for the current operational funds for salaries, equipment, and other costs for the remaining two quarters of fiscal year (FY) 2016-17. After reviewing the critical biotechnology and life science industry workforce needs across the State with the host colleges, economic and workforce development groups, and industry and education representatives to assess the most efficient and effective distribution of the additional funds to host colleges, the following recommendations were developed to meet the statewide needs for the remaining two quarters of the FY 2016-17.

**Background:** BioNetwork serves as a key economic development resource by helping to produce and sustain a high-quality workforce for the bioscience industry. The bioscience industry provides over \$73 billion dollars in annual economic activity and contributes \$1.7 billion in state and local government revenues. Since 2001, North Carolina's bioscience industry employment has grown 30.9%, which is four times higher than the national growth rate, employing over 61,000 citizens with an average salary of over \$81,000. With the current and expected growth in the bioscience industry sector, BioNetwork is poised to offer education, training, and laboratory resources to this critical North Carolina industry sector to help employers find qualified workers and to help individuals gain critical employment skills. The recommended allocations will be used to fund personnel, equipment, and operating expenses at the host colleges to ensure the responsive, qualified, and relevant service to North Carolina's growing bioscience workforce needs. Even though the BioNetwork staff are employees of the host colleges, these positions function as statewide resources for training and education in the biosciences, and they may not be utilized for instruction generating budget FTE. The BioNetwork staff and resources are positioned strategically at host colleges to provide the most cost-effective and responsive service for our industry and education stakeholders. The positioning of BioNetwork resources are continuously assessed to meet the State's workforce and economic development needs for the bioscience industry sector.

**Method of Allocation:** The recommended allocations are based on input from the BioNetwork host colleges, evaluation of the prior year's metrics, and industry growth projections derived from engagement with workforce development stakeholders. 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. Colleges may not transfer or use funds provided through this allocation for any other purpose. Colleges may not use any of these funds to meet their management flexibility reduction or for any reversion (if required) unless specifically directed by the North Carolina Community College System Office.

Host College	Allocation Recommendation	Time Frame
A-B Technical CC	\$433,408	January 1, 2017 – June 30, 2017
Forsyth Technical CC	\$236,625	January 1, 2017 – June 30, 2017
Gaston College	\$430,164	January 1, 2017 – June 30, 2017
Pitt CC	\$350,785	January 1, 2017 – June 30, 2017
Wake Tech CC	\$671,041	January 1, 2017 – June 30, 2017

**Fund Source and Allocation Period:** Funding is available from the FY 2016-17 General Fund Appropriations for BioNetwork. The allocation time period is January 1, 2017 through June 30, 2017.

**Contact Person:**

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