

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Allocations for Supporting Alignment for Student Success

Request: The State Board is asked to approve \$79,000 to seven institutions of higher education to fulfill the purposes of a statewide, educational, cross-sector alignment initiative.

Rationale: In 2011, the NC Community College System signed on as the fiscal agent for a joint statewide NC Ready for Success grant funded by the Lumina, Gates and Hewlett Foundations. The aims of this larger grant initiative are to build connections across NC's K-12 sector and all of the institutions of higher education in North Carolina (community colleges, UNC campuses as well as private colleges and universities). This past spring, an RFP was distributed across the state to encourage colleges and universities to submit proposals for SASS (Supporting Alignment for Student Success) Mini-Grants. The purpose of these mini-grants is to encourage innovative ways to bridge the gaps of knowledge between what's expected of NC students in grades K-12 and career and college expectations. This allocation provides resources to the highest ranked proposals based on a scoring process that used a rubric of elements deemed necessary for successful completion over the academic year 2013-2014. An explicit component of all proposals asked applying institutions to promote greater awareness of standards, assessments and alignments across all partners within NC's K-12 districts, community colleges, UNC campuses and private colleges and universities.

Method of Allotment: On May 15, 2013, the Office of K-12 and Higher Education Alignment Initiatives advertised the release of the SASS Mini-Grant RFP to over 700 recipients via a website and email distribution. All Chief Academic Officers across all of the state's 58 community colleges, 17 UNC campuses and 38 private college and universities were informed of the invitation to submit proposals. The SASS Mini-Grant RFP was framed around two tiers of funding: Tier I offered up to \$15,000 for proposals that fit within one of three specific categories that included a set of videos highlighting efforts to align instruction with the new NC Standard Course of Study, a specific set of professional development activities, and an educator self-assessment guide. Tier II offered up to \$10,000 for a less specific set of professional development activities. The NC Ready for Success Steering Committee received twenty-three proposals. Sixteen of these proposals were Tier I and seven were Tier II proposals and reflected a broad geographical distribution from across the state. Of the lead institutions applying as fiscal agents, seven were from private institutions, and sixteen were from UNC system schools. Community colleges were featured as partners within six of the proposals. An appointed selection committee was created based on representatives from the NC Ready for Success Steering Committee. Nine representatives were identified from across community colleges, private colleges and universities, UNC, and the NC Department of Public Instruction. Representing the NC Community College System Office were Wanda Barker, Jennifer Frazelle, and Cynthia Liston. Representing the UNC System were Austin Lacy and Tiffany Watts. Representing the Department of Public Instruction was Debbie Hill, Alex Kaulfuss, and Johannah Maynor. Bradley McClure and John D. Denning represented the NC Ready for Success Steering Committee. An initial meeting was held July 1, 2013 to discuss the RFP process, the grant proposals, and to receive training on the use of the rubric used for scoring. The rubric focused on the necessity of alignment between IHE's and LEA's, North Carolina's Revised Standard Course of Study, and the degree to which proposals demonstrated the potential for statewide replication. Members of the selection committee submitted their independently

ranked scores which were then used to develop a composite ranking of the highest ranked proposals. After a thorough review of the scoring rubric and a discussion about the proposals that were most aligned to the stated objectives of the SASS Mini-Grant project, the selection committee ranked each of the following as the highest proposals and recommended them for selection. The NC Ready for Success Steering Committee, led by the Chief Academic Officers of the NC Community College System (Dr. Sharon Morrissey), the UNC System (Dr. Suzanne Ortega) and the NC Department of Public Instruction (Dr. Rebecca Garland) approved these recommendations and support the funding of these proposals at the amounts indicated below.

Allotment Period: The period of this allotment is from August 17, 2013 to April 30, 2014.

Fund Source and Availability: Funding is available from a Core to College grant awarded by Rockefeller Philanthropy Partners and the Lumina, Gates, and Hewlett Foundations.

Contact:

Dr. John D. Denning, State Director
K-12 and Postsecondary Alignment Initiatives

Attachment FC 7

Lead Organization/Fiscal Agent	Higher Education Partners	2013-2014 Requested Allotment	2013-2014 Recommended Allotment
Recommended for Funding			
Appalachian State University	Caldwell CC, Catawba Valley CC	\$15,000	\$13,000
UNC-Greensboro	Uses statewide technology to connect to colleges and other partners	\$15,000	\$13,000
UNC-Wilmington	Cape Fear CC, Coastal Carolina CC	\$13,000	\$13,000
Wake Forest University	UNC-Greensboro, Uses statewide technology to connect to colleges and other partners	\$15,000	\$13,000
North Carolina State University		\$10,000	\$9,000
UNC-Pembroke	Richmond CC, Robeson CC, vSandhills CC, and Bladen CC	\$10,000	\$9,000
Western Carolina University	Asheville-Buncombe Technical CC, Blue Ridge CC, Haywood CC, Isothermal CC, Maryland CC, McDowell Technical CC, Tri-County CC, Brevard College, Mars Hill College, Montreat College, and Warren Wilson College	\$23,000	\$9,000
Total		\$101,000	\$79,000

Not Recommended for Funding			
Barton College		\$10,000	\$0
Campbell University	Barton College	\$15,000	\$0
Chowan University	East Carolina University, Appalachian State University, UNC-Greensboro	\$15,000	\$0
East Carolina University		\$15,000	\$0
East Carolina University		\$15,000	\$0
Elizabeth City State University		\$15,000	\$0
Fayetteville State University	Fayetteville Technical CC	\$15,000	\$0
Meredith University		\$15,000	\$0
North Carolina Central University		\$15,000	\$0
North Carolina State University	Develops statewide technology to connect to colleges and other partners	\$15,000	\$0
Pfeiffer University	Stanly CC	\$15,000	\$0
St. Augustine University		\$9,000	\$0
UNC-Chapel Hill		\$15,000	\$0
UNC-Greensboro		\$10,000	\$0
Western Carolina University	UNC-Asheville, Uses statewide technology to connect to colleges and other partners	\$15,000	\$0
Western Carolina University	Southwestern CC	\$10,000	\$0
Total		\$219,000	\$0