

INCREASE STUDENT ENROLLMENT & COMPLETION

Improve student completion rates by investing in student supports.

Problem: Students who are not successful in college-level English and math courses are significantly less likely to complete a credential.

Solution: *No new appropriation needed.* Retain funding that would otherwise be cut because of FTE enrollment decline & reinvest those funds into locally determined student success strategies, such as tutoring labs, etc.

Increase enrollment in key community college programs.

Problem: Students and families are unaware of existing high tech and high paying job opportunities. Closing the Interest Gap by removing misconceptions about jobs in key industries, such as manufacturing, is essential.

Solution: Appropriate funds to promote career awareness through various media and user-friendly tools to provide labor market data to faculty, students, and families.

Support development of competency-based education (CBE).

Problem: One of the greatest limitations in education is not allowing students to progress once they have demonstrated mastery of specific knowledge and skills.

Solution: Develop a competency-based education (CBE) program and uniform system of granting credit for prior learning. These funds would continue the work already underway to develop models for scaling CBE programs system-wide.

SUPPORT RECRUITMENT & RETENTION OF QUALITY FACULTY & STAFF

Problem: NC average faculty salaries continue to rank well below other southeastern states.

Solution:

- Provide funds for an additional 2% salary increase for community college employees. These additional funds could be combined with the existing additional \$10 million appropriation already in the 2016-17 budget to give an overall 3% increase.
- Authorize colleges to use performance-based carryforward funds for employee bonuses.

ADDRESS EQUIPMENT NEEDS

Problem: To be ready for 21st century jobs, students must be trained on 21st century equipment.

Solution: Provide non-recurring funds for colleges to purchase equipment.

2016-17

\$26.2 million R

\$2 million R
(These funds would be matched by private funds.)

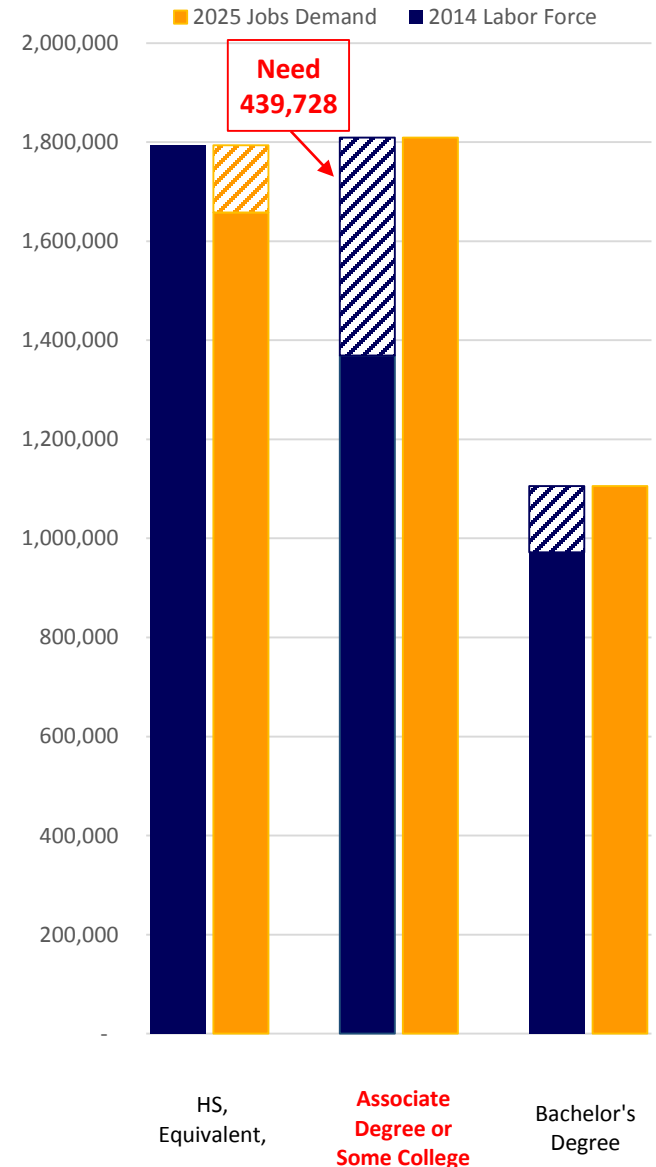
\$500,000 NR

\$24 million R

Special provision

\$15 million NR

NC Current Worker Supply vs. Future Job Demand



Source: NC Dept. of Commerce, LEAD