

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Curriculum Program Applications
Fast Track for Action [FTFA*]

Request: The State Board of Community Colleges is asked to approve the curriculum programs at the listed colleges on the condition that equipment funds are available to the colleges and operating funds generated by the budget formula will permit the offering of these programs without any special allocation of funds.

Blue Ridge Community College
Human Services Technology (A45380)
Human Services Technology/Substance Abuse (A4538E)
Human Services Technology/Social Services (A4538D)

Mitchell Community College
Paralegal Technologies (A25380)

Surry Community College (A15410)
Sustainable Agriculture Technology

Background: Program applications must meet the following criteria in order to be placed on the Fast Track For Action (FTFA) program approval request presented to the State Board of Community Colleges as part of the consent agenda:

- The curriculum program title currently exists within the System and does not require the creation of a new program title and new curriculum standard;
- The application is complete, requires no further analysis or documentation, and has the endorsement of Academic Programs;
- There are no negative impact assessments from other colleges; and
- The college does not go outside of its service area for planning purposes.

Contact(s):

Dr. Lisa Eads
Director

**PROGRAM APPLICATION
SUMMARY EVALUATION REPORT
Blue Ridge Community College
Human Services Technology(A45380)**

Program Planning: Blue Ridge Community College is seeking approval for the Human Services Technology (A45380) program to begin Fall 2020. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of Henderson County and Transylvania County. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Blue Ridge Community College on December 3, 2019. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Blue Ridge Community College have certified the following:

- The proposed program will enhance the workforce of North Carolina, will provide educational and training opportunities consistent with the mission of the college, and will not duplicate the opportunities currently offered.
- They have assessed the need for the proposed program and the resources required to maintain a viable program and certify that the college can operate the proposed program efficiently and effectively within the resources available to the college.
- The college will complete a program accountability report including student success measures, enrollment trends, completion rates, and employment data three years after implementation of the program.

Program Rationale: Blue Ridge Community College indicates the following:

- According to community health assessments in 2018, both Henderson and Transylvania County are experiencing a crisis in the areas of obesity, substance abuse and mental health. In Henderson County, 68.5 % of adults are reported to be overweight or obese. Residents of Transylvania county report obesity as their number one health concern. Overdose deaths continue to rise in the service area. In 2017, Henderson County reported administration of Narcan to over 200 patients with high dose Narcan being required in many cases. The suicide rate in each county exceeds the state average. Henderson County has prioritized mental health as the greatest priority followed by substance abuse.
- The EMSI Occupational Snapshot Report provided by Mountain Area Workforce Development Board reports a need for 264 Human Services employees to support this size service area with only 178 employees available. There have been 199 jobs posted in the service area for Human Services employment in the past 12 months.

- Two meetings of community partners were held to discuss the need for more Human Services employees in Henderson and Transylvania Counties. A survey of local businesses and agencies was done to gauge interest in the program. The survey was completed by 39 individuals with a total of 16 indicating their desire to serve on an advisory council for the program.
- Letters of support were received from Gardner Webb University and the Mountain Area Workforce Development Board as well as support for the Pisgah Health Foundation Grant to develop a program to increase human services and social services talent in the region. A letter of support was also received from Henderson County Department of Social Services in support for the local effort invest in education to fill the gaps in the local workforce.
- Currently 71 Human Services Assistant entry level jobs are open in the service area. The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 13 % increase in need 2018-2028.

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs:

Thirty -five community colleges are approved to offer the Human Services Technology Program. This program does not contain a clinical component; therefore, three contiguous colleges were provided with a program impact assessment from Blue Ridge Community College. Two colleges were in agreement with the impact assessment and agree that there will be no negative impact on their colleges. Isothermal Community College was not in agreement with the impact assessment. A resolution was reached January 17,2020 with an impact resolution form included with the application. It was concluded that the area of Western North Carolina is in such great need of Human Services Technology that this new program will not impact either college. Further, the two colleges have determined they would enjoy working together as the need arises. "Collaboration between Isothermal Community College and Blue Ridge Community College will be advantageous for the Human Services Technology programs at both Institutions as we continue to grow all concentrations under this parent program."

Implementation of Collaborative Plan: Not Applicable

Curriculum Design: The proposed program of study is in compliance with the State Board approved curriculum standard.

The Human Services Technology curriculum prepares students for entry-level positions in institutions and agencies which provide social, community, and educational services. Along with core courses, students take courses which prepare them for specialization in specific human service areas.

Students will take courses from a variety of disciplines. Emphasis in core courses is placed on development of relevant knowledge, skills, and attitudes in human services. Fieldwork experience will provide opportunities for application of knowledge and skills learned in the classroom.

Graduates should qualify for positions in mental health, childcare, family services, social services, rehabilitation, correction, and educational agencies. Graduates choosing to continue their education may select from a variety of transfer programs at senior public and private institutions.

Contact(s):

Dr. Lori Byrd
Associate Director

**PROGRAM APPLICATION
SUMMARY EVALUATION REPORT
Blue Ridge Community College
Human Services Technology/Social Services (A4538D)**

Program Planning: Blue Ridge Community College is seeking approval for the Human Services Technology/Social Services (A4538D) program to begin Fall 2020. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of Henderson County and Transylvania County. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Blue Ridge Community College on December 3, 2019. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Blue Ridge Community College have certified the following:

- The proposed program will enhance the workforce of North Carolina, will provide educational and training opportunities consistent with the mission of the college, and will not duplicate the opportunities currently offered.
- They have assessed the need for the proposed program and the resources required to maintain a viable program and certify that the college can operate the proposed program efficiently and effectively within the resources available to the college.
- The college will complete a program accountability report including student success measures, enrollment trends, completion rates, and employment data three years after implementation of the program.

Program Rationale: Blue Ridge Community College indicates the following:

- According to community health assessments in 2018, both Henderson and Transylvania County are experiencing a crisis in the areas of obesity, substance abuse and mental health. In Henderson County, 68.5% of adults are reported to be overweight or obese. Residents of Transylvania county report obesity as their number one health concern. Overdose deaths continue to rise in the service area. In 2017, Henderson County reported administration of Narcan to over 200 patients with high dose Narcan being required in many cases. The suicide rate in each county exceeds the state average. Henderson County has prioritized mental health as the greatest priority followed by substance abuse.
- The EMSI Occupational Snapshot Report provided by Mountain Area Workforce Development Board reports a need for 264 Human Services employees to support this size service area with only 178 employees available. There have been 199 jobs posted in the service area for Human Services employment in the past 12 months.

- Two meetings of community partners were held to discuss the need for more Human Services employees in Henderson and Transylvania Counties. A survey of local businesses and agencies was done to gauge interest in the program. The survey was completed by 39 individuals with a total of 16 indicating their desire to serve on an advisory council for the program.
- Letters of support were received from Gardner Webb University and the Mountain Area Workforce Development Board as well as support for the Pisgah Health Foundation Grant to develop a program to increase human services and social services talent in the region. A letter of support was also received from Henderson County Department of Social Service in support for the local effort invest in education to fill the gaps in the local workforce.
- Currently 107 Social Services entry level jobs are open in the service area. The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 13% increase in need 2018-2028.

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs:

Thirty -five community colleges are approved to offer the Human Services Technology Program. This program does not contain a clinical component; therefore, three contiguous colleges were provided with a program impact assessment from Blue Ridge Community College. Two colleges were in agreement with the impact assessment and agree that there will be no negative impact on their colleges. Isothermal Community College was not in agreement with the impact assessment. A resolution was reached January 17,2020 with an impact resolution form included with the application. It was concluded that the area of Western North Carolina is in great need of Human Services Technology that this new program will not impact either college. Further, the two colleges have determined they would enjoy working together as the need arises. "Collaboration between Isothermal Community College and Blue Ridge Community College will be advantageous for the Human Services Technology programs at both Institutions as we continue to grow all concentrations under this parent program."

Implementation of Collaborative Plan: Not Applicable

Curriculum Design: The proposed program of study is in compliance with the State Board approved curriculum standard.

The Human Services Technology/Social Services concentration prepares students for direct service delivery work in social service agencies. The curriculum enables students to link theory and practice through interactive classroom activities developing a skill-based academic foundation.

Course work includes the history of the social service movement, ethical issues, case management, diversity issues, law in the practice of social work, and community resources. Students also gain skills in interviewing and counseling techniques.

Graduates should qualify for employment with local, county, state, and federal government social service agencies. Employment includes family and child assistance, rehabilitation health services,

medical assistance, youth services, aging, and developmentally disabled programs in public and private settings.

Contact(s):

Dr. Lori Byrd
Associate Director

**PROGRAM APPLICATION
SUMMARY EVALUATION REPORT
Blue Ridge Community College
Human Services Technology/Substance Abuse (A4538E)**

Program Planning: Blue Ridge Community College is seeking approval for the Human Services Technology/Substance Abuse (A4538E) program to begin Fall 2020. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of Henderson County and Transylvania County. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Blue Ridge Community College on December 3, 2019. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Blue Ridge Community College have certified the following:

- The proposed program will enhance the workforce of North Carolina, will provide educational and training opportunities consistent with the mission of the college, and will not duplicate the opportunities currently offered.
- They have assessed the need for the proposed program and the resources required to maintain a viable program and certify that the college can operate the proposed program efficiently and effectively within the resources available to the college.
- The college will complete a program accountability report including student success measures, enrollment trends, completion rates, and employment data three years after implementation of the program.

Program Rationale: Blue Ridge Community College indicates the following:

- Henderson County is listed as high-risk county in NC for opioid related deaths meaning they had higher than the national rate of 12.5 opioid related deaths per 100,000 people. According to the Henderson County Sheriff's Department, as many as 3-4 deaths per month are attributed to overdose, 7-10 overdoses weekly are treated by first responders and 80-85% of all crimes in Henderson County are linked to substance abuse. In 2017, Henderson County reported administration of Narcan to over 200 patients with high dose Narcan being required in many cases.
- The EMSI Occupational Snapshot Report provided by Mountain Area Workforce Development Board reports a need for 264 Human Services employees to support this size service area with only 178 employees available. There have been 199 jobs posted in the service area for Human Services employment in the past 12 months.
- Two meetings of community partners were held to discuss the need for more Human Services employees in Henderson and Transylvania Counties. A survey of local businesses and agencies was done to gauge interest in the program. The survey was

completed by 39 individuals with a total of 16 indicating their desire to serve on an advisory council for the program.

- Letters of support were received from Gardner Webb University and the Mountain Area Workforce Development Board as well as support for the Pisgah Health Foundation Grant to develop a program to increase human services and social services talent in the region. A letter of support was also received from Henderson County Department of Social Service in support for the local effort invest in education to fill the gaps in the local workforce.
- Currently 10 Social Services/Substance Abuse entry level jobs are open in the service area. The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 13% increase in need 2018-2028.

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs:

Thirty-five community colleges are approved to offer the Human Services Technology Program. This program does not contain a clinical component; therefore, three contiguous colleges were provided with a program impact assessment from Blue Ridge Community College. Two colleges were in agreement with the impact assessment and agree that there will be no negative impact on their colleges. Isothermal Community College was not in agreement with the impact assessment. A resolution was reached January 17, 2020 and an impact resolution form included with the application. It was concluded that the area of Western North Carolina is in great need of Human Services Technology that this new program will not impact either college. Further, the two colleges have determined they would enjoy working together as the need arises. "Collaboration between Isothermal Community College and Blue Ridge Community College will be advantageous for the Human Services Technology programs at both Institutions as we continue to grow all concentrations under this parent program."

Implementation of Collaborative Plan: Not Applicable

Curriculum Design: The proposed program of study is in compliance with the State Board approved curriculum standard.

The Human Services Technology/Substance Abuse concentration prepares students to assist in drug and alcohol counseling, prevention-oriented educational activities, rehabilitation with recovering clients, managing community-based programs, counseling in residential facilities, and pursuit of four-year degrees.

Course work includes classroom and experiential activities oriented toward an overview of chemical dependency, psychological/sociological process, the twelve Core Functions, intervention techniques with individuals in groups, and follow-up activities with recovering clients.

Graduates should qualify for positions as substance abuse counselors, DUI counselors, halfway house workers, residential facility employees, and substance education specialists. With

educational and clinical experiences, graduates can obtain certification by the North Carolina Substance Abuse Board.

Contact(s):

Dr. Lori Byrd
Associate Director

**PROGRAM APPLICATION
SUMMARY EVALUATION REPORT
Mitchell Community College
Paralegal Technologies (A25380)**

Program Planning: Mitchell Community College is seeking approval for the Paralegal Technologies (A25380) program to begin Fall 2020. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of Iredell County. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Mitchell Community College on December 4, 2019. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Mitchell Community College have certified the following:

- The proposed program will enhance the workforce of North Carolina, will provide educational and training opportunities consistent with the mission of the college, and will not duplicate the opportunities currently offered.
- They have assessed the need for the proposed program and the resources required to maintain a viable program and certify that the college can operate the proposed program efficiently and effectively within the resources available to the college.
- The college will complete a program accountability report including student success measures, enrollment trends, completion rates, and employment data three years after implementation of the program.

Program Rationale: Mitchell Community College (MCC) indicates the following:

- The proposed program is intended to address the emerging shortage of individuals prepared for paralegal positions in the service area of MCC.
- In addition to law offices and government agencies, paralegal jobs are available at banks, financial offices, insurance agencies, real estate offices, government organizations, as well as other types of businesses.
- The City of Statesville and the Town of Mooresville have 244 practicing attorneys listed with the NC Bar. Each of those attorneys have support staff that provide legal support services in the law offices.
- For the past two years, Mitchell Community College has been offering paralegal studies under the continuing education division of the college. Required labs, hardware and software, and qualified personal who hold Juris Doctorate (JD) degrees, as required by

the NC Paralegal Bar, are available to teach the courses required for the proposed degree.

- Paralegal employment opportunities are predicted to grow by 3% over the next 5 years in the county and by 5.4% across the nearby MSAs over the same time period (EMSI).
- W. A. Long, a local attorney, stated: "There is a substantial need for qualified paralegals in our community and the degree program would go a long way toward establishing a solid foundation of paralegals here in Iredell County and establishing a viable, living-wage career opportunity for a number of community members."
- Letters of support for the proposed program were received from Downtown Statesville Development Corporation, City of Statesville Mayor, Attorney Edward Tarantino, and the Law Office of W.A. Long.

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs: Twenty community colleges are approved to offer the Paralegal Technologies program. An impact assessment was sent to colleges approved for the same program and located in contiguous service areas. ***No negative impact responses were received.***

Implementation of Collaborative Plan: Not Applicable

Curriculum Design: The proposed program of study is in compliance with the State Board approved curriculum standard.

Curriculum Description as Designated on Curriculum Standard: *The Paralegal Technology curriculum prepares individuals to work under the supervision of attorneys by performing routine legal tasks and assisting with substantive legal work. A paralegal/legal assistant may not practice law, give legal advice, or represent clients in a court of law.*

Course work includes substantive and procedural legal knowledge in the areas of civil litigation, legal research and writing, real estate, family law, wills, estates, trusts, and commercial law. Required courses also include subjects such as English, mathematics, and computer utilization.

Graduates are trained to assist attorneys in probate work, investigations, public records search, drafting and filing legal documents, research, and office management. Employment opportunities are available in private law firms, governmental agencies, banks, insurance agencies, and other business organizations.

Contact(s):

Dr. Hilmi Lahoud
Senior Program Administrator

**PROGRAM APPLICATION
SUMMARY EVALUATION REPORT
Surry Community College
Sustainable Agriculture (A15410)**

Program Planning: Surry Community College is seeking approval for the Sustainable Agriculture (A15410) program to begin Fall 2020. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of Surry and Yadkin Counties. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Surry Community College on November 12, 2019. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Surry Community College have certified the following:

- The proposed program will enhance the workforce of North Carolina, will provide educational and training opportunities consistent with the mission of the college, and will not duplicate the opportunities currently offered.
- They have assessed the need for the proposed program and the resources required to maintain a viable program and certify that the college can operate the proposed program efficiently and effectively within the resources available to the college.
- The college will complete a program accountability report including student success measures, enrollment trends, completion rates, and employment data three years after implementation of the program.

Program Rationale: Surry Community College (SCC) indicates the following:

- SCC asserts that replacing the current Sustainable Horticulture program with Sustainable Agriculture will better align with the community needs and will drive the economic development of the region.
- SCC serves Surry and Yadkin counties where there is a rich tradition of agriculture including tobacco, cattle, soybeans, corn, poultry, and hogs. In more recent years there has been a movement toward small farms, local food provision, and attention to environmental impacts of farming.
- According to the USDA (2017), Surry and Yadkin rank in the top 10 counties for farm cash receipts for production of cattle, eggs, and dairy. Surry County reports nearly \$200 million and Yadkin reports over \$100 million in cash receipts annually.
- Notably, Surry County is home to Wayne Farms who is the 2nd largest employer in Surry County (1000 employees and 130 growers) and is the 6th largest poultry producer in the United States.

- The NC Department of Commerce (2019), projects a 0.06% annualized growth rate for agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting for the years 2017-2026 with an average wage of \$672.50 weekly. Annualized employment growth rates in the agricultural tourism sector and food manufacturing jobs are also projected to increase.
- According to reports from each county (2016), between 2007-2012, Surry and Yadkin counties experienced significant increases (150% and 100%) in the number of farms involved in agritourism and the number of farmers markets and direct-to-consumer sales. In addition, farmers in these counties also supply area restaurants.
- Surry and Yadkin counties are home to the state's first federally recognized American Viticulture Appellation; therefore, these counties are at the heart of wine tourism. Surry Community College has been a major developer of North Carolina's wine industry by offering curriculum credentials in viticulture, enology, wine marketing and tasting room education. SCC is home to the N.C. Center for Viticulture and Enology and N.C. Wine Quality Alliance Program.
- Although, state data show a modest increase in agriculture jobs, EMSI Q3 (2018) data predict a regional increase in agricultural jobs of 5.8%.
- In a survey of local high school students, 38% of 256 respondents indicated that an agriculture program at Surry Community College would be of interest to them. Forty percent responded that they are specifically interested in agricultural science.
- SCC currently collaborates with Surry County Schools to meet the demand for agricultural education. Three area high schools have partnered with SCC and community businesses to create live agricultural labs on site: a cattle lab at North Surry High School and poultry labs at Surry Central High School and East Surry High School.
- SCC plans to develop live labs on their new 58-acre campus. SCC is the home of the N.C. Center for Viticulture and Enology and one of the only community colleges in the state that is a certified bee campus. They currently have a 5-acre wine grape vineyard, natural walking trails, native pollinator habitats, and historic tobacco barns. In 2018, the General Assembly designated special funding that will allow the establishment of a viticulture/agriculture education building with hydroponic and closed-container crop production, a wine tasting/event facility, an open-air barn to be used as event space, small apple orchard, and a state-of-the-art pesticide containment facility. SCC plans to offer instruction in nontraditional agricultural enterprises using the closed-container resources in the viticulture/agriculture education building.
- Surry County Schools has requested that SCC provide two-year credentials and support transfer to the university level. In Fall 2019, SCC had 15 unduplicated students in Animal Science class in which 11 were Career and College Promise (CCP) students. SCC is currently finalizing an articulation agreement with North Carolina A&T University that will allow CCP and traditional students to transfer. SCC is pursuing a similar articulation

opportunity for Sustainable Agriculture.

- According to the UNC Charlotte Urban Institute (2019), the latest census data records the average age of farmers in N.C. is 59 and the number of farms is declining annually. To sustain farming production in N.C., there will need to be younger farmers to replace aging farmers as they retire.
- The college plans to pursue a Career and College Promise pathway(s) for high school students if approved for the program.
- Graduates of the Sustainable Agriculture program will be qualified to manage a profitable, environmentally sound, community-based small farm or agricultural business. They will also be able to pursue entrepreneurial opportunities.
- Letters of support were received from Sanders Ridge Farms and Hunter Farms Family Produce.

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs: Seven colleges are approved to offer the Sustainable Agriculture (A15410) program. An impact assessment was sent to colleges located in contiguous counties. ***No negative impact responses were received.***

Implementation of Collaborative Plan: Not Applicable

Curriculum Design: The proposed program of study is in compliance with the State Board approved curriculum standard.

Curriculum Description as Designated on Curriculum Standard:

The Sustainable Agriculture curriculum is designed to provide the entrepreneurial and technical skills necessary to manage a profitable, environmentally sound, community based small farm or agricultural business. The objective is the development of a workforce knowledgeable in sustainable agriculture practices. Students will learn the fundamentals of agriculture, focusing on crop production and business.

Emphasis is placed on entrepreneurial and field training. Students will also learn the basic principles of our economic system and government policies and programs relating to agriculture.

Graduates should qualify for a variety of jobs in agricultural businesses such as equipment, feed, and agricultural supply sales; store management; farm operations; wholesale and retail produce management; nursery operations; and environmental and agricultural education.

This program focuses on agricultural principles and practices that, over the long term, enhance environmental quality, make efficient use of nonrenewable resources, integrate natural biological cycles and controls, and are economically viable and socially responsible; and that may prepare individuals to apply this knowledge to the solution of agricultural and environmental problems. Potential course work includes instruction in principles of agroecology,

crop and soil sciences, entomology, horticulture, animal science, weed science and management, soil fertility and nutrient cycling, applied ecology, agricultural economics, and rangeland ecology and watershed management.

Contact(s):

Dr. Mary Olvera
CTE Coordinator