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 program at the listed college on the condition that equipment funds are available to the college and operating funds generated by the budget formula will permit the offering of the program without any special allocation of funds.

Cape Fear Community College
Health and Fitness science (A45630)

Central Carolina Community College
Bioprocess Technology (A50440)

Rockingham Community College
Emergency Medical Science (A45340)

Sampson Community College
Surgical Technology (A45740)

Surry Community College
Emergency Medical Science (A45340)

Wilkes Community College
Agriculture Technology (A15100)

**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 Planning
Cape Fear Community College is seeking approval for the Health and Fitness Science (A45630) program to begin Fall, 2020. The planning area is defined as the college’s service area of New Hanover and Pender Counties. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Cape Fear Community College on November 13, 2019. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Cape Fear 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
Cape Fear Community College (CFCC) indicates the following:

- The growth of the service area’s retirement and young professional populations has positive implications for the local fitness industry as both of these populations tend to seek out recreation and fitness activities as part of an active lifestyle.
- The area’s tourism industry and the unique role as a retirement and tourism destination present demand for fitness professionals.
- Recent employment projections for fitness related fields suggest significant growth in fitness occupations at both state and national levels. Projected growth rate for fitness related occupations is 13% at a median salary of $39,820 per year. At the state level, the North Carolina Department of Commerce projects a net growth of over 1500 new positions for fitness trainers and aerobics instructors from 2017-2026.
- CFCC intends to develop a Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathway for Health and Fitness Science to coincide with the traditional certificate that will be offered through this program. This pathway would allow qualifying juniors and seniors in New Hanover
and Pender County high schools to enroll in health and fitness science courses tuition free and earn college credit. Local high school partners have voiced support for creation of this program.

- Additionally, CFCC will develop an articulation agreement with the University of North Carolina Wilmington’s (UNCW) College of Health and Human Services to provide opportunities for students to pursue a baccalaureate in Exercise Science. A letter of support from UNCW was provided.

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs
Ten community colleges are approved to offer the Health and Fitness Science program. This program does not contain a clinical component; therefore, colleges in contiguous counties, Brunswick Community College and Coastal Carolina Community College, were provided with a program impact assessment from Cape Fear Community College. Both colleges approved to offer the program are in agreement with the impact assessment.

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 Health and Fitness Science program is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary for employment in the fitness and exercise industry. Students will be trained in exercise science and be able to administer basic fitness tests and health risk appraisals, teach specific exercise and fitness classes and provide instruction in the proper use of exercise equipment and facilities. Graduates should qualify for employment opportunities in commercial fitness clubs, YMCA’s/YWCA’s, wellness programs in business and industry, Parks & Recreation Departments and other organizations implementing exercise & fitness programs.

Contact(s):
Dr. Lori Byrd
Associate Director
Program Planning: Central Carolina Community College is seeking approval for the Bioprocess Technology (A50440) program to begin Summer, 2020. The planning area is defined as the college’s service area of Lee, Harnett, and Chatham counties. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Central Carolina Community College on July 24, 2019. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Central Carolina 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: Central Carolina Community College (CCCC) indicates the following:

- Pfizer is expanding its Sanford plant with a $500 million facility investment that is expected to create 300 new job openings.
- KroGen Pharmaceuticals announced the development of a $7 million facility in the Lillington area that is projected to create approximately 100 new job openings.
- NCWorks.gov posted 69 bioprocess job openings in the Triangle South Development Region and 77 in the expanded region.
- There were 147 job openings posted by the NC Biotech Center state-wide; 125 within a 60-mile radius of Lee County main campus.
- Eli Lilly announced in January of 2020, a $470 million expansion project into the City of Durham with approximately 460 new jobs expected to be generated.
- Pfizer sent a letter of support for the program to the college.
Letters of support to the college for the bioprocess program were received from Sanford Area Growth Alliance and Sanford Area Chamber of Commerce.

CCCC was invited as a participating partner college in a National Institute for Innovation in Manufacturing Biopharmaceuticals (NIIMBL) grant that is designed to provide gainful support of military personnel in the biotechnical industry.

CCCC has a very effective Career and College Promise dual-enrollment program that will provide an excellent bioprocessing career pathway for participating high school students.

**Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs:** Two community colleges are approved to offer the Bioprocessing Technology 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 Bioprocess Technology curriculum is designed to prepare individuals to work as Process Operators in biological products manufacturing facilities. Students will combine basic science and communication skills, manufacturing technologies, and good manufacturing practices in the course of study. Students will be expected to develop a strong basic science foundation with a sound understanding of the major technologies employed in the industry. They will also be expected to develop collaborative and disciplined work ethics while consistently practicing problem-solving skills. Upon successful completion of the program, individuals should possess the necessary skills to qualify for employment in a variety of Bioprocessing industries.

**Contact(s):**
Dr. Frank Scuiletti
Senior Program Administrator
Program Planning: Rockingham Community College is seeking approval for the Emergency Medical Science (A45340) program to begin Fall 2020. The planning area is defined as the college’s service area of Rockingham County. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Rockingham Community College on May 21, 2019. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Rockingham 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:
Rockingham Community College (RCC) indicates the following:

- The college currently offers coursework in Emergency Medical Services through workforce continuing education. The purpose of the AAS Emergency Medical Science program is to meet the need for paramedics in the community, as well as to create a bridge option for current paramedics to access the educational credentials necessary to meet expected degree requirements of the NC Office of Emergency Medical Services.

- The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that employment of Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics is expected to grow by 24% from 2014 to 2024, much faster than the average for all occupations. Emergencies, such as car crashes, natural disasters, and acts of violence, will continue to create demand for EMTs and Paramedics.

- RCC received numerous letters of support, including those from local employers Rockingham County Department of Emergency Services and Moses Cone/Anne Penn Hospital.
• RCC offers Emergency Medical Services training through workforce continuing education and already has the equipment and supplies, which will minimize expenses. Resources to support the AAS program include the new, on-campus Owens Simulation Hospital that includes two Emergency Department trauma rooms, a check-in area, and a covered ambulance bay.

**Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs:** Thirty-eight community colleges are approved to offer the Emergency Medical Science program. This program contains a clinical component; therefore, each of these colleges was provided with a program impact assessment from Rockingham Community College. **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 the Curriculum Standard:**
The Emergency Medical Science curriculum provides individuals with the knowledge, skills and attributes to provide advanced emergency medical care as a paramedic for critical and emergent patients who access the emergency medical system and prepares graduates to enter the workforce. Students will gain complex knowledge, competency, and experience while employing evidence-based practice under medical oversight and serve as a link from the scene into the healthcare system. Graduates of this program may be eligible to take state and/or national certification examinations. Employment opportunities include providers of emergency medical services, fire departments, rescue agencies, hospital specialty areas, industry, educational and government agencies.

**Contact(s):**
Tonya Clark
EMS Training Specialist
Program Planning
Sampson Community College is seeking approval for the Surgical Technology (A45740) program to begin Fall, 2020. The planning area is defined as the college’s service area of Sampson County. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Sampson Community College on August 13, 2019. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Sampson 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
Sampson Community College (SCC) indicates the following:

- Sampson Regional Medical Center (SRMC) requested SCC to seek approval to offer the surgical technology program due to inability to secure trained individuals for surgical technology positions. Sampson Regional Medical Center has expressed a desire to partner with the college to facilitate quality learning experiences for students enrolled at SCC.

- According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, surgical technology employment is projected to grow 12 percent from 2016 to 2026. Surgical intervention increases with the advancement in technology and the aging of the population. The average age in Sampson County is 40 years old. Older adults, 65 years old and older, make up 17.8% of the population.

- The average wage for surgical technologists is $43,472 in North Carolina. Surgical technologist positions are hard to fill in small rural hospital systems such as Sampson Regional Medical Center.

- Letters of support have been received from local physicians and surgeons including Dr. Robert Regan, Dr. Fleury-Guzman and Dr. Shawn Howerton. Dr. Robert Regan, a local urologist, feels that locally trained technologists would be more committed to patients,
more readily understand the unique needs of the community and tend to remain in the area after graduation.

- A survey of student interest was done of all Sampson Community College students. A total of 66 students completed the survey. The number of students interested in the program was 62.1%, with 24.2% responding that they may be interested in the program.

- Sampson County public high schools were also surveyed with 151 surveys completed. 62.3% of surveyed students expressed interest in the program with 72.2% indicating interest in a Career and College Promise Pathway, if offered.

**Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs**

Twenty community colleges are approved to offer the Surgical Technology program. This program does contain a clinical component; therefore, all colleges were provided with a program impact assessment from Sampson Community College. Nineteen colleges responded with positive impact assessments in agreement and support of the program. Fayetteville Technical Community College responded with a negative impact assessment. Their concerns include limitation in number of clinical sites and proximity of Sampson Community College to three existing programs: Fayetteville Technical Community College, Sandhills Community College and Robeson Community College. A verbal resolution was reached during a meeting between the college presidents of Sampson Community College and Fayetteville Technical Community College. Sampson Community College agreed to not use any clinical site used by FTCC.

**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 Surgical Technology curriculum prepares individuals to assist in the care of the surgical patient in the operating room and to function as a member of the surgical team. Students will apply theoretical knowledge to the care of patients undergoing surgery and develop skills necessary to prepare supplies, equipment, and instruments; maintain aseptic conditions; prepare patients for surgery; and assist surgeons during operations. Employment opportunities include labor/delivery/emergency departments, inpatient/outpatient surgery centers, dialysis units/facilities, physicians’ offices, and central supply processing units. Students of Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) accredited programs are required to take the national certification exam administered by the National Board on Certification in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA) within a four-week period prior to or after graduation.

**Contact:**

Dr. Lori Byrd
Associate Director
Program Planning
Surry Community College is seeking approval for the Emergency Medical Science (A45340) 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:

- Surry Community College currently offers coursework in emergency medical services through continuing education. Surry Community College would only be the third Emergency Medical Science program (AAS) in the Northwestern section of North Carolina. The purpose of the AAS Emergency Medical Science program is to provide a bridge program for Certified Paramedics to achieve the Associate Degree suggested by the Office of Emergency Medical Services. In addition, to meet needs of the community for future paramedics and instructors in the service area. The basic EMS programs are currently taught in continuing education.

- According to Surry Economic Development Partnership, unemployment is 3.5%. The EMS, AAS program will provide opportunities to further decrease the unemployment rate through expanded opportunities for education and employment. There are currently 29 related jobs in the SCC service area. With the large number of existing jobs, turnover and retirements will continue to generate demand for a highly trained workforce of paramedics in each county. The proposed program will ensure a pipeline of appropriately trained and credentialed paramedics for the service area.
• Growth across the state in this area is expected to be 6.8% by 2028 bringing a projected 762 new jobs to the state.

• Emergent care and the growing elderly population are reasons for the projected increase in need for paramedics. Growing numbers of emergencies common in the elderly such as strokes and heart attacks as well as motor vehicle accidents continue to require paramedic services. Two full-service hospitals in Surry County, ambulance services, rescue squads, physician offices, home health and outpatient facilities in Surry and Yadkin counties will employ graduates of this program.

• Letters of support from Surry County Emergency Services and Carroll County, Virginia Emergency Services are included in the application.

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs
Thirty-eight community colleges are approved to offer the Emergency Medical Science program. This program contains a clinical component; therefore, each college was provided with a program impact assessment from Surry Community College. **All colleges approved to offer the program are in agreement with the impact assessment.**

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 Emergency Medical Science curriculum provides individuals with the knowledge, skills and attributes to provide advanced emergency medical care as a paramedic for critical and emergent patients who access the emergency medical system and prepares graduates to enter the workforce. Students will gain complex knowledge, competency, and experience while employing evidence-based practice under medical oversight and serve as a link from the scene into the healthcare system. Graduates of this program may be eligible to take state and/or national certification examinations. Employment opportunities include providers of emergency medical services, fire departments, rescue agencies, hospital specialty areas, industry, educational and government agencies.

Contact(s):
Dr. Lori Byrd
Associate Director
Program Planning: Wilkes Community College is seeking approval for the Agribusiness Technology (A15100) program to begin Fall 2020. The planning area is defined as the college’s service area of Wilkes, Ashe and Alleghany Counties. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Wilkes Community College on October 10, 2019. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Wilkes 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:
Wilkes Community College (WCC) indicates the following:

- WCC states that offering the Agribusiness Technology program will respond to changes such as loss of manufacturing and corporate jobs by engaging in the beef and poultry industries, the Christmas tree industry, family farms and other farm related businesses. According to the 2020 NC County Distress rankings, Wilkes is a Tier 1 county and Ashe and Alleghany are Tier 2 counties.

- According to the USDA (2017), there are 2,244 farms in WCC’s service area. In 2017, Wilkes County ranked 7th in North Carolina for overall cash receipts valued at over 200 million dollars. Additionally, Wilkes county ranks 3rd in broilers and beef cattle, 5th in hay production, 10th in layers, and 13th in dairy cattle. Alleghany ranks 6th for all cattle and Ashe County ranks 10th for all cattle.
• Alleghany and Ashe counties are nationally ranked for Christmas tree production. Alleghany ranks 3rd in the state and 6th in the nation while Ashe ranks 1st in the state and 2nd in the nation.

• Forestry is also an important aspect of the region; WCC’s service area is part of an eight-county region that ranks first in hardwood production. There is over a half-million acres of privately-owned timberland in the three counties WCC serves. This forest sector, which includes forestry, logging, and forest products, has a total economic contribution of approximately 400 million dollars and employs over 1,700 individuals in the trade.

• Currently, WCC offers the Animal Science Technology program and Horticulture Technology program. The advisory committee recommended that in addition to plant and animal production skills, there is a need for stronger agribusiness skills in their service area.

• 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. WCC’s three-county service area has 1,326 farmers who are sixty-five and over, but only 830 who are classified as new and beginning farmers. This lack of new entrepreneurs is troubling as we may be facing global food shortages predicted by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) by the year 2050.

• As the younger generations take on more responsibility for the family businesses, they find they need additional education because the agriculture industries have become more technology oriented and, to a greater degree than their parents, they are often competing in a state- and nation-wide agricultural economy dominated by large corporate farms.

• Brent West, HR manager at Tyson Foods, Wilkesboro, speaks to their need for employees, “As the largest agriculture employer in the area, we are constantly looking for highly qualified candidates to fill positions from operations and food safety, to live production and supply chain. Adding a degree in Agribusiness will help fill a need in our company by providing candidates who not only know the sciences associated with agriculture, but also have a background in what it takes to make a business successful in today’s environment.”

• The Agribusiness Technology curriculum will be taught by utilizing multiple delivery methods. The students taking this curriculum will have the option to take the general education classes and the computer skills class in either traditional settings at any of our three locations or online.

• The seven production classes will be taught in the traditional lab format due to the hands-on experience necessary for these types of classes. The remaining classes will
likely be taught as blended or hybrid courses. These classes will offer the lecture hours online with the lab being taught on campus in the traditional method.

- The mix of course delivery methods will allow flexibility for students who may be juggling work and education, those who live in Ashe and Alleghany counties, and those who are challenged by transportation costs in this expansive rural region.

- Work-based learning is an important aspect of this program and will be scheduled primarily during the summer months when employment opportunities are more plentiful.

- In addition to the degree, four of the cornerstone classes of the degree will be offered as a local, stand-alone certificate with can also be a valuable complementary credential for those who graduate from the WCC Applied Science Technology and/or Horticulture Technology programs.

- WCC currently has agriculture-related articulation agreements with NC A&T and plan to pursue a similar agreement for the Agribusiness Technology program. They are also exploring agreements with the University of Mount Olive, Brevard College, and Appalachian State University.

- At this time, WCC does not plan to offer the Agribusiness as a CCP pathway, however; they do have CCP pathways for Animal Science and Horticulture which share common courses with the Agribusiness degree.

- Graduates of the Agribusiness Technology program will be qualified to work and 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 Tyson Foods, Mountain View Hardware, Piedmont Farm Systems, Carolina Farm Credit, Alleghany County Board of Commissioners, Wilkes County Manager, Alleghany County Chamber of Commerce, and Wilkes County Chamber of Commerce.

**Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs:** Sixteen colleges are approved to offer the Agribusiness Technology (A15100) 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 Agribusiness Technology 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 prepares individuals to manage agricultural businesses and agriculturally related operations within diversified corporations. Potential course work includes instruction in agriculture, agricultural specialization, business management, accounting, finance, marketing, planning, human resources management, and other managerial responsibilities.

**Contact(s):**
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