

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.

Fayetteville Technical Community College
Entertainment Technologies (A25190)

Isothermal Community College
Dental Hygiene (A45260)

McDowell Technical Community College
911 Communication and Operations (A55470)

Tri-County Community College
Medical Sonography (A45440)

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):

Michelle Lair
Director of Academic Programs

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Program Application
Summary Evaluation Report
Fayetteville Technical Community College
Entertainment Technology (A25190)

Program Planning: Fayetteville Technical Community College is seeking approval for the Entertainment Technology (A25190) program to begin Fall 2023. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of Cumberland County. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Fayetteville Technical Community College on November 21, 2022. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Fayetteville 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: Fayetteville Technical Community College (FTCC) indicates the following:

- The proposed program is intended to address the shortage of individuals prepared for entertainment technology careers in the service area of FTCC. In addition, the proposed program will benefit the college's ongoing efforts to increase offerings in fine arts as well as help support the cultural needs of the community.
- Graduates of the Entertainment Technologies will have a wide range of skills, which will make them eligible for a variety of jobs including musician, sound engineer, lights operator, stagehand, event planning, arts administration, music production, recording engineer, and DJ. Graduates of the proposed program will also be able to pursue entrepreneurial opportunities in the entertainment technology field.

- According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, the national projected rate of growth for jobs related to broadcast, sound, and video production between 2021 and 2031 is 10%. According to the same source, the national median wage for broadcast, sound, and video technicians in 2021 was \$23.46 per hour.
- According to the 2018-2028 North Carolina Department of Commerce employment projections, the projected new job openings related to arts, design, entertainment, and media occupations will increase by 3,131 jobs statewide.
- According to a job search for entertainment Technology-related jobs in the college's service area, a total of 26 positions were available. The search was conducted on google job search on February 20, 2023. The job search did not include the many entrepreneurship opportunities the proposed program prepares students for.
- Required labs, hardware and software are in place to offer the program. Current qualified FTCC full-time and adjunct instructors are available to teach the courses required for the proposed degree.
- Letters of support for the program were received from Mr. Mark Pezella (owner/president at Five Star Entertainment), Andy Pow (owner/founder at Digital Wave Recording), Emory Anderson (Executive Pastor of Weekend Experience at Manna Church), Kelvin Draughon (President at Draughon Brothers Inc.) and Mary Kate Burke (Artistic Director at Cape Fear Regional Theater). Letters of support stated the needs for the program and willingness to offer internship and work-based learning opportunities for the prospective students enrolled in the program.
- Upon approval, the college will pursue bilateral agreement opportunities with Fayetteville State University and the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. As well as other four-year public and provide institutions in North Carolina.
- During the Fall Semester of 2022, the music faculty at FTCC surveyed the college student population about the proposed program. More than 100 students expressed interest in taking courses related to entertainment technology or enrolling in the program.

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs: Two community college are currently approved to offer the Entertainment Technology program. The colleges approved for the program are not located in contiguous county to FTCC. **Therefore, an impact assessment was not required.**

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:

This curriculum prepares individuals for entry-level employment in entertainment, particularly in the fields of sound and lighting. Instruction not only provides training in these technical aspects, but also prepares students to manage careers in this contract-to-contract type of work. Course work includes exposure to the entire live concert and sound recording processes. Course work will also include music fundamentals, entertainment law and marketing/promotion. Students will also receive course work in electronic music. Graduates may find employment as entry-level crew and/or production assistants in concert or event setups, with recording companies, or sound/lighting companies. Graduates will also be prepared to manage their careers (or others' careers) in the sound/lighting area or professional music entertainment.

Contact(s):

Dr. Hilmi Lahoud
Senior Program Administrator

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Program Application

Summary Evaluation Report

Isothermal Community College

Dental Hygiene (A45260)

Program Planning: Isothermal Community College is seeking approval for the Dental Hygiene Associate (A45260) program to begin Fall 2023. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of Polk and Rutherford Counties. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Isothermal Community College on September 27, 2022. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Isothermal 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: Isothermal Community College (ICC) indicates the following:

- According to U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics data, the job outlook for dental hygienists is better than average nationally. The number of jobs is expected to grow by 11% by 2030. In 2020, there were over 206,100 jobs in dental hygiene. About 15,500 openings for dental hygienists are projected each year, on average, over the next ten years.
- According to the North Carolina Department of Commerce, in 2018, there were 5,834 dental hygienist positions in the state of North Carolina. By 2028, that number is anticipated to be 8,275 which is a 21% growth rate. The growth rate for dental hygienists in North Carolina is much higher than that of the national growth rate.
- Some of the projected growth in this occupation is due to the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that began in 2020. Demand for dental services will also increase as the large baby-boom population ages and as people keep more of their original teeth than in previous generations. Studies linking oral health and general health, along with

efforts to expand access to oral hygiene services, will continue to drive demand for preventive dental services, including those performed by hygienists.

- The U.S. Department of Labor reports as of May 2020 that the national median annual wage for a dental hygienist was \$77,090 which equates to over \$37 per hour. The North Carolina Department of Commerce showed the 2018 annual median wage for a dental hygienist to be \$70,720 or \$34 per hour. This is a livable wage. It is important to consider launching programs that will lead to a livable wage for completers.
- The U.S. Department of Labor also says North Carolina is in the top 28% of states in the nation in regard to the number of dental hygienist positions available. According to the American Dental Association's "Find a Dentist" search, there are over 100 general dentistry practitioners within a 30-mile radius of the Isothermal Community College service region.
- North Carolina Dental Society recently reached out in September 2022 to the College again with a letter of support in favor of the College starting a dental hygiene program. The letter further states that North Carolina is currently in a crisis in the dental profession of not having enough qualified members of the dental team, most specifically, dental hygienists. The North Carolina Dental Society has stated that some offices have even had to cancel patients due to the dental hygienist shortage.
- The dental hygiene program complements the College's existing dental assisting program. Students who complete the dental assisting program would have a couple of their classes be able to also count towards a dental hygiene associate degree. The selective admissions process would provide admission points towards dental hygiene acceptance for students who have completed the dental assisting diploma.

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs: Fourteen community colleges are approved to offer the Dental Hygiene program. This program contains a clinical component; therefore, each college was provided with a program impact assessment from Isothermal Community College. **Fourteen colleges approved to offer the program were 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 Dental Hygiene curriculum provides individuals with the knowledge and skills to assess, plan, implement, and evaluate dental hygiene care for the individual and the community. Students will learn to prepare the*

operator, take patient histories, note abnormalities, plan care, teach oral hygiene, clean teeth, take x-rays, apply preventive agents, complete necessary chart entries, and perform other procedures related to dental hygiene care. Graduates of this program may be eligible to take national and state/regional examinations for licensure which are required to practice dental hygiene. Employment opportunities include dental offices, clinics, schools, public health agencies, industry, and professional education.

Contact(s):

Dr. Lori H. Byrd
Associate Director

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Program Application
Summary Evaluation Report
McDowell Technical Community College
911 Communication and Operations (A55470)

Program Planning: McDowell Technical Community College (MTCC) is seeking approval for the 911 Communication and Operations (A55470) program to begin Fall 2023. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of McDowell County. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at McDowell Technical Community College on November 10, 2022. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of McDowell Technical 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: McDowell Technical Community College indicates the following:

- In North Carolina, 911 calls are managed by Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), such as county communications centers, sheriffs' offices, and police departments, that dispatch calls to appropriate public safety personnel. According to state 911 Board statistics, North Carolina PSAPs answered 7.5 million 911 calls in 2021.
- Employees who manage these calls are designated as telecommunicators, which is defined in General Statute as 911 call takers, dispatchers, radio operators, data terminal operators, or any combination of such call-taking functions.
- State law related to PSAP funding requires that telecommunicators have at least 40 hours of industry-recognized training in basic telecommunicator operations, plus specific training in basic emergency medical dispatch. In addition, PSAPs typically

require or encourage additional training to ensure that these “first” first responders are prepared to effectively operate within and manage the state’s 911 system.

- The new 911 Communication and Operations program is uniquely designed to provide technical and managerial education for new and seasoned telecommunicators. Topics include 911 communications and operations, Geographic Information System (GIS)/Global Positioning System (GPS), public administration, crisis intervention, and incident command.
- A letter of support was received from the Director of the McDowell County Emergency Services, the agency that manages the McDowell County 911 Communication Center. The 911 Communication Center answers emergency and non-emergency calls for fire, rescue, EMS, and law enforcement 24-hours a day/seven days a week, and is also responsible for sending appropriate utilities to support incident response and for monitoring weather events in compliance with the National Weather Service standards. The McDowell 911 Communication Center employs 24 full-time and 16 part-time staff, plus reserve dispatchers that assist during times of emergency or disaster situations. The Director indicates that this program will be beneficial to both new and current employees to help with recruitment, retention, and promotion for telecommunicators in the County.
- According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), employment of public safety telecommunicators is projected to grow 8 percent nationwide from 2020 to 2030, about as fast as the average for all occupations. Chmura’s JobEQ reports that expected growth for Public Safety Telecommunicators and Dispatchers is 0.6 percent over the next three years and that McDowell and neighboring counties will need 40 new employees annually to keep up with demand. Demand is expected to increase overall due to general population growth and the commensurate increase in 911 volume, as well as the need to fill vacancies due to attrition/retirement.
- According to the BLS, the nationwide median annual wage for a public safety telecommunicator was \$46,670 in May 2021. According to NCcareers.org, the annual wage range for police, fire, and ambulance dispatchers in North Carolina ranges is \$27,640 to \$48,310, with the annual NC median wage being \$36,470.

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs: One college is approved to offer the 911 Communication and Operations (A55470) program. The approved college is not located in a contiguous county to McDowell Technical Community College. **Therefore, an impact assessment was not required.**

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 911 Communication and Operations curriculum is designed to provide new students, as well as current practitioners, with knowledge and skills in the areas necessary for entrance or advancement within emergency communications. Coursework includes concepts and skills in telecommunication systems, basic software and GIS/GPS, communications, documentation, public administration, personnel management and supervision, grant writing, professional ethics, cultural awareness, mental health awareness, and adaptation to technology within emergency communication organizations. Graduates should qualify for employment and advancement in the public safety telecommunications field with a variety of employers, including local government emergency communications centers, county sheriffs' offices, local law enforcement, fire and EMS agencies, emergency management, and related emergency dispatch operations.

Contact(s):

Tracy McPherson
Director, Public Safety Training Programs

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
PROGRAM APPLICATION
SUMMARY EVALUATION REPORT
Tri -County Community College
Medical Sonography (A45440)

Program Planning: Tri-County Community College is seeking approval for a new program, Medical Sonography, to begin Fall 2023. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of Cherokee, Clay and Graham Counties. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Tri-County Community College on June 9, 2022. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Tri-County 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: Tri-County Community College (TCCC) indicates the following:

- Tri-County Community College received a grant from Golden Leaf of \$1,000,000 to fund the program. The cost of equipment and supplies for the program total \$375,000, while the remainder of the funds, \$625,000, will be used to prepare an educational lab and simulation space for the program. This 2,500 square-foot space will be an annex of the existing Allied Health facility on the Main Campus of Tri-County Community College.
- The nearest medical sonography program to Tri-County Community College is 63 miles away. This project will serve Cherokee, Clay, and Graham Counties, the three westernmost rural Appalachian counties in North Carolina. This economically distressed region will benefit from this program, as it will provide new avenues of affordable and hands-on education that our local employers need.
- The College's existing healthcare partners have expressed their excitement about the opportunities provided by the proposed Medical Sonography Program and have

committed to serving as clinical locations. Additionally, the College made a new partnership with Fannin Regional Hospital and its associated sites and offices. The Medical Sonography students will be the first TCCC students to use Fannin Regional as a clinical site.

- The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projects that sonographers will experience job growth of 10% from 2021 to 2031 and that the median salary for the profession of \$77,740 per year exceeds average salaries in this region. Medical Sonographers in the College's service area earn salaries of \$77,528 (Cherokee County), \$77,592 (Clay County) and \$77,968 (Graham County), according to Zippia.com.
- Students who complete the Medical Sonography Program will earn more than the average wages for the area, comparatively: an average of \$3,700 more annually than those employed in the area in the Tier 1 Private Sector.
- With the aging demographic of North Carolina, sonographers are more necessary than ever before. In the next five to ten years, many sonography positions will be opened due to individuals entering retirement. The average age of a sonographer nationally is over 42 years old.

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs: Twelve community colleges are approved to offer the Medical Sonography program. This program does contain a clinical component; therefore, all colleges were provided with a program impact assessment from Tri-County Community College. Eleven colleges responded with positive impact assessments in agreement and support of the program. One college responded with no but were still in support of the approval of the program. **No negative impact assessments were received.**

Implementation of Collaborative Plan: Not Applicable

Curriculum Design: The proposed program of study is in compliance with similar State Board approved programs of study. The curriculum standard and courses will be presented for approval at the CCRC per protocol.

Curriculum Description as Designated on Curriculum Standard:

The Medical Sonography curriculum provides knowledge and clinical skills in the application of high frequency sound waves to image internal body structures. Course work includes physics, cross-sectional anatomy, abdominal, introductory vascular, and obstetrical/gynecological sonography. Competencies are attained in identification of normal anatomy and pathological processes, use of equipment, fetal growth and development, integration of related imaging, and patient interaction skills. Graduates of accredited programs may be eligible to take examinations in ultrasound physics and instrumentation and specialty examinations

administered by the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers and find employment in clinics, physicians' offices, mobile services, hospitals, and educational institutions.

Contact(s):

Dr. Lori Byrd
Associate Director