

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
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):

Dr. Lisa Eads
Associate Vice President, Programs

**PROGRAM APPLICATION
SUMMARY EVALUATION REPORT
Fayetteville Technical Community College
Medical Sonography (A45440)**

Program Planning: Fayetteville Technical Community College is seeking approval for the Medical Sonography (A45440) program to begin Fall 2021. 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 June 15, 2020. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Fayetteville 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: Fayetteville Technical Community College (FTCC) indicates the following:

- The EMSI Report states that in 2017, medical sonography jobs in Cumberland County remained unfilled by a total of 41 jobs. The projected growth in this area from 2017-2029 is 24.4%. FTCC Economic Overview and Educational Gap Analysis from the EMSI report of July 2019, recommended program additions in Diagnostic Medical Sonographers. Regional Data 2018-2028 showed annual job openings of 40 with annual regional completers of 13 resulting in a gap of 27. The median hourly wage is \$31.66. In NC, there are 146 annual openings for medical sonographers. There are currently, 71 graduates per year in the state of NC. In 2017, there were only 40 completers of Medical Sonography programs within a 120-mile radius of Cumberland County. Those completers were from Pitt Community College, South Piedmont Community College, Cape Fear Community College and Johnston Community College.
- Letters of support were received from the Cape Fear Valley Health System and the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Fayetteville.
- A student survey was done to evaluate interest in the medical sonography program. A total of 64 students were surveyed with 87.5% expressing interest in the program.

- The regional service area of Fayetteville Technical Community College currently has two medical sonography programs. The administrators of the imaging department at Cape Fear Valley Health System and the Department of Veteran Affairs Medical Center in Fayetteville expressed concern regarding the high turnover rate of medical sonographers in the service area. Cumberland county has a large military presence making the work force more transitory in nature. Filling open positions is often more difficult due to the unique nature of the community. The local area has two local hospitals and two government hospitals in the service area. A large, new outpatient imaging center has also opened in Cumberland County. Data for both state and local hospitals show that combined they will add about 1500 jobs over the next ten years.

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs: Ten community colleges are approved to offer the Medical Sonography program. This program contains a clinical component; therefore, each college was provided with a program impact assessment from Fayetteville Technical Community College. **Initially, six colleges approved to offer the program were in agreement with the impact assessment. Three colleges were not in agreement but did support the college in applying for the program and one college did not agree with the impact assessment and did not support the college applying for the program.** A meeting was held on May 26, 2020 with Mr. Morton of Cape Fear Community College. Discussion was on current employment data, the number of graduates related to the number of job postings and the unique nature of the FTCC service area with the military being mobile. Mr. Morton agreed to change his response to yes in support of the application. A signed impact resolution form was included in the application packet.

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 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):

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Associate Director