

**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.

Isothermal Community College
Human Services Technology (A45380)

Sampson Community College
Agribusiness Technology (A15100)

Wake Technical Community College
Electroneurodiagnostic Technology (A45320)

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):

Jennifer Frazelle
Director

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

Program Planning: Isothermal Community College is seeking approval for the Human Services Technology (A45380) program to begin Fall 2019. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of Rutherford and Polk 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 25, 2018. 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 the 2018 NC Career Occupational Profiles "the number of social and human service assistants in North Carolina is expected to increase from 11,250 in 2014 to 12,990 in 2024, for an annual growth rate of 1.5%, which is faster than average."
- ICC noted their service area tends to have a higher percentage of people with a disability diagnosis. The U.S. Census Bureau 2012-2016 data revealed that 16.4% of people ages 65 and under identify as a person with a disability in Rutherford County. Compare this statistic to Wake County who reports only 5.8% and it is evident that there is a proportionately higher percentage of residents with disabilities in ICC's service area. The program will enable more people to be educated to serve these populations.
- ICC completed a quick search of human services jobs for Rutherford and Polk counties on the NC Works website and located twenty-two matches indicating job opportunities in human services.

- The Executive Director for the Community Health Council of Rutherford County indicated that their group is comprised of the leaders of the twenty-five agencies in Rutherford County that is responsible for addressing health concerns in their area. At their September 5th meeting they voted unanimously to support a Human Service Technology program at ICC.
- The Executive Director of Hands of Hope for Life, Inc. submitted a letter of support and indicated: *“We desire our staff to be local residents as they have a stake in the outcome of the area we serve....The individual seeking to receive a human services degree for employment in the area they live allows them to learn the curriculum and apply it to their local needs. Hands for Hope will certainly support the college’s effort to provide this degree program locally.”*
- Vaya Health, the local behavioral management entity for Rutherford and Polk counties is supportive of ICC offering human services and building articulation agreements for students to continue their coursework. They report, *“there is frequently high turnover rate for service providers. Finding qualified individuals continues to be a challenge, which makes partnerships with colleges and universities even more critical.”*
- The Director of the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce, submitted a letter of support and indicated: *“We are in full support of this degree....in addition to being qualified for entry level positions in mental health, child care, family services, social services, rehabilitation, etc.; they could be utilized in assisting workers who may be debilitated by ‘life problems’ in finding solutions which would make them more valuable workers and increase productivity for the manufacturer.”*
- If approved for the program, ICC plans to pursue bilateral transfer agreements with Appalachian State University, Fayetteville State University, Western Carolina University, Gardner-Webb University and Lees-McRae College.

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs: Thirty-four community colleges are approved to offer the Human Services 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 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, child care, 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):

Renee Batts
Associate Director

**PROGRAM APPLICATION
SUMMARY EVALUATION REPORT
Sampson Community College
Agribusiness Technology (A15100)**

Program Planning: Sampson Community College is seeking approval for the Agribusiness Technology (A15100) program to begin Spring, 2019. 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 June 12, 2018. 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:

- Graduates of the program will be able to pursue entrepreneurial opportunities. The college will provide assistance to entrepreneurs through their Small Business Center which will provide business counseling, seminars and workshops.
- Sampson County ranks first in the state of North Carolina in total agriculture cash receipts. (U.S. Department of Agriculture - 2015)
- If approved for the program, SCC plans to pursue bilateral agreements with North Carolina State University and North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University.
- If approved for the program, SCC plans to provide a Career and College Promise pathway.
- Sampson County Schools, Clinton City Schools, and Harrells Christian Academy have an annual enrollment of over 1,000 students in Agricultural Education/Future Farmers of America courses. (State Agricultural Education Leader/State FFA Advisor)
- North Carolina is 10th in agricultural case receipts. (US Department of Agriculture)

- The college conducted a survey among area high schools. Sixty-three expressed interest in enrollment in the program.
- The college conducted a survey among their current students in various programs and 26 students out of 43 completing the survey expressed interest in the program.
- According to the US Department of Agriculture, *half of all current farmers in the United States are likely to retire in the next decade.*
- The Director of Human Resources for Murphy Family Ventures, which operates extensive swine and poultry operations concentrated in Sampson and Duplin counties, submitted a letter of support for the proposed program and stated: *The long-term viability of our business is dependent upon our ability to continue to staff our operations with well-trained individuals. This proposed new program could be an important addition to our existing efforts to identify and attract quality individuals who are interested in agribusiness careers in southeastern North Carolina.*
- The Senior Vice President of Prestage Farms provided a letter of support and indicated: *We employ 1, 500 people in North Carolina in the agribusiness field and would benefit greatly from additional applicants that are prepared to enter our industry with the knowledge necessary to succeed. Nationwide, North Carolina is among the leaders in poultry, pork and sweet potato production just to name a few; therefore, our state as a whole would benefit from additional education opportunities in the agribusiness field.*
- The Human Resources Manager (South Central Region) of Smithfield Hog Production submitted a letter of support and indicated: *The establishment of this degree will be of significant value to both the agriculture industry as well as the community as it will provide individuals with the necessary skills to pursue a career in the agriculture industry. As a company that employs a large number of agribusiness employees, the benefits will be seen in various areas of the company. There are vast opportunities for graduates of this degree program within Smithfield as well as other leading agriculture companies.*
- The Director of the Agribusiness Center and Division of Agriculture chair at the University of Mount Olive provided a letter of support and stated: *The opportunities that this will afford to students in the region will be multi-faceted. Sampson County is home to a number of global agribusiness entities that are finding themselves in need of well-trained employees in various areas of business and management.*
- The State Agricultural Education Leader/State FFA Advisor provided a letter of support for the proposed program and indicated: *Sampson County and southeastern North Carolina are fortunate to be the home of numerous companies and businesses that have thrived from the growing agribusiness industry. They can only survive if they can find qualified, educated employees – many of whom are raised locally and want to stay in their home communities.*

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs: Eleven community colleges are approved to offer the Agribusiness Technology program. Three of these colleges (Bladen Community College, James Sprunt Community College, and Wayne Community College) are in counties contiguous to Sampson Community College's service area. **Bladen CC is supportive of the proposed program. James Sprunt CC initially disagreed with the impact assessment and was not supportive of the proposed program, however further discussion has resulted in support from James Sprunt CC for Sampson CC to see approval of the program. Wayne CC disagreed with the impact assessment but is supportive of Sampson CC seeking approval for the program.**

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:

These curriculum are 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. Agribusiness Technology: A program that 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):

Jennifer Frazelle
Director

**PROGRAM APPLICATION
SUMMARY EVALUATION REPORT
Wake Technical Community College
Electroneurodiagnostic Technology (A45320)**

Program Planning: Wake Technical Community College is seeking approval for the Electroneurodiagnostic Technology (A45320) program to begin Fall 2019. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of Wake County. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Wake Technical Community College on June 19, 2018. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Wake 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: Wake Technical Community College (WTCC) indicates the following:

- According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Electroneurodiagnostic Technologists (EDT) are projected to increase 22% or 33,100 future job openings between 2012-2022.
- In Spring 2018, the college conducted a survey of 268 pre-allied health students enrolled in anatomy and physiology courses regarding their interest in an EDT program. Seventy-one percent of the students expressed interest in the field, with seventy percent expressing interest in completing a degree program in the discipline.
- The President at WakeMed submitted a letter of support and indicated: *"At WakeMed, we are deeply committed to recruiting and retaining exceptional clinical staff. Wake Tech has been an excellent partner in helping us to do so. We have no reservations hiring hundreds of Wake Tech nursing, imaging, pharmacy, lab and emergency medical technicians because of their proven track record of graduating well-prepared, skilled, capable workers. We have no doubt this will also be the case for the EDT program."*

- The President at Duke Raleigh Hospital submitted a letter of support and indicated: *“we offer many EDT (neurodiagnostic technician) opportunities across several settings... I realize the EDT Technology degree would help prepare students for positions in the Wake County area and beyond-the rapidly growing and aging population in our region is the main reason Wake Tech should add the EDT technology program to the curriculum offerings.”*
- The President at UNC Rex Healthcare wrote a letter of support and indicated: *“The projected growth of stroke, cerebrovascular disease and sleep disorder diagnostic complications in Wake County places UNC Rex at the forefront of demand for well-trained EDTs. Our technologists support the outpatient, inpatient, critical care, operating room, and homecare settings, providing comprehensive diagnostic testing, as well as, continuous intensive care monitoring of critical care patients.”*
- The Chief of the Division of Sleep and Epilepsy at UNC Hospital -Department of Neurology wrote a letter of support and indicated: *The clinical need for more individuals with these skills is growing with no clear pathway to meet these demands. At the UNC Department of Neurology and the Clinical Neurophysiology Laboratory, we are happy to help support this effort by being a clinical support site.”*
- The Director of Clinical Neurophysiology Labs at UNC Hospital wrote a letter of support and stated, *“There is a national shortage of technologists to fill pen positions in this field. There is also limited availability for educational opportunities or programs for students... The national credentialing exam has also made a movement forward to enhance the educational requirements of labor in the field by changing the minimum requirements for eligibility to be an associate degree or higher...Positions in the field are no longer eligible to take the exam if they only have on the job training.”*
- The Director & Associate Professor at UNC Chapel Hill/UNC Charlotte Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science Department submitted a letter of support and indicated: *“As an educator, I believe the implementation of this program will be beneficial to laboratories across NC, and also provide a new pathway for EDT graduates to complete their associate degree; and transfer to UNC to complete a BS degree in Neurodiagnostics and Sleep Science.”* .

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs: Two community colleges are approved to offer the Electroneurodiagnostic Technology program. This program contains a clinical component; therefore, each college was provided with a program impact assessment from

Wake Technical 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 Electroneurodiagnostic Technology curriculum is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills to obtain recordings of patients' nervous system function through the use of electroencephalographic equipment and other electrophysiological devices. Course work includes communication skills with patients and healthcare personnel, taking appropriate patient histories, electrode application, documentation of patients' clinical status, electrical waveform recognition, management of medical emergencies, and preparation of descriptive reports for the physician. Graduates should qualify for the ABRET (American Board of Registration of EEG and EP Technologists) Exam and, working under the supervision of a qualified physician, may be employed by hospitals or private offices of neurologists and neurosurgeons.*

Contact(s):
Renee Batts
Associate Director