

**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.

Edgecombe Community College
Emergency Medical Science (A45340)

Richmond Community College
Emergency Medical Science (A45340)

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

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Program Application
Summary Evaluation Report
Edgecombe Community College
Emergency Medical Science (A45340)

Program Planning

Edgecombe 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 Edgecombe County. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Edgecombe Community College on August 8, 2019. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Edgecombe 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

Edgecombe Community College (ECC) indicates the following:

- Edgecombe Community College currently offers coursework in emergency medical services through continuing education. The purpose of the AAS Emergency Medical Science program is to meet the growing 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 the requirements of the NC Office of Emergency Services by 2023.
- Edgecombe County's current unemployment rate is 8.1%, exceeding the national average. Healthcare occupations add more jobs on average than any other group of occupations with the expected growth rate to be 19% from 2014 -2024. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects: employment of emergency medical technicians and paramedics is expected to grow by twenty-four percent from 2014 to 2024, much faster than the average for all healthcare occupations.

- Edgecombe County's aging population with higher than average poverty rate and a high incidence of chronic diseases continues to support a need for emergency healthcare workers.
- The Occupational Outlook Handbook published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports the median annual wage for EMTs and Paramedics to be \$33,380 in 2017. The entry level salary for paramedics now is \$35,000 - \$45,000 per year.
- Currently, ECC offers emergency medical services through continuing education and already has the equipment and supplies which will minimize expenses.

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs

Thirty-five 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 Edgecombe 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

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Program Application
Summary Evaluation Report
Richmond Community College
Emergency Medical Science (A45340)

Program Planning

Richmond 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 Richmond County and Scotland County. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Richmond Community College on June 4, 2019. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Richmond 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

Richmond Community College indicates the following:

- Richmond Community College currently offers coursework in emergency medical services through continuing education. The purpose of the AAS Emergency Medical Science program is to meet the growing 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 the requirements of the NC Office of Emergency Services by 2023.
- The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects: *employment of emergency medical technicians and paramedics is expected to grow by twenty-four percent 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.*

- According to US Bureau of Labor Statistics Career Outlook, there will be an estimated demand for an additional 184 emergency medical technicians between 2019 – 2028 within a 50-mile radius of Richmond Community College. There are currently 2,792 Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics in this same area. There will also be a need to replace those workers as they leave and retire from positions.
- A survey of nine potential employers was done in the Richmond and Scotland County area. Six employers expressed interest in the program, two were volunteer only organizations and one gave no response because they did not offer medical science. All the employers who responded positively have plans to hire qualified EMS employees on a regular basis.
- A Program of Interest Survey was disseminated to all junior and senior students in Richmond and Scotland Counties. Results revealed 28% of the high school students expressed interest in the program. Traditional community college students and early college students were surveyed with 85% of traditional students and 15% of early college students expressing interest.
- A letter of support was received from First Health Regional EMS System. Barry Britt, Administrative Director, stated the demand for both EMTs and Paramedics far outweigh the available supply.
- Currently, Richmond Community College offers emergency medical services through continuing education and already has the equipment and supplies which will minimize expenses.

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs

Thirty-five 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 Richmond 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