

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.

Alamance Community College

Agribusiness Technology (A15100)

Agriculture Education (A15330)

Emergency Medical Science (A45340)

Sustainable Agriculture (A15410)

Sandhills Community College

Computed Tomography & Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technology
(Diploma) (D45200)

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. Deana Guido

Director of Academic Programs

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

Program Planning: Alamance Community College is seeking approval for the Agribusiness Technology (A15100) program to begin Fall 2021. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of Alamance County. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Alamance Community College on January 8, 2018. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Alamance 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: Alamance Community College (ACC) indicates the following:

- ACC was gifted 47 acres of farmland near the college, which is currently the Bill and Nancy Covington Education Center. Use of the land is restricted to agricultural, horticultural, forestry, and educational purposes. It allows the opportunity to fully develop and expand agricultural-related programming and it will serve as a natural laboratory for the proposed program.
- In 2018, a collaborative group of stakeholders began plans for the development of the site. The Master Plan was developed by BSA Life Structures in partnership with Cole, Jenest & Stone. In February 2020, the Board approved the final Master Plan, to include an Agricultural Sciences building, greenhouses, barns, and crop and animal grazing areas. The buildings will fit within the rural context of the site and are laid out based on the model of a working farm.
- The proposed program was endorsed by the college's Horticulture Advisory Committee in the fall of 2017 and reaffirmed in the fall of 2018.

- State and regional data support the need for this program at ACC. According to the North Carolina Department of Commerce's projections for 2014-2024, agriculture-related occupations should see 644 total job openings in the Greensboro region, with the majority of those positions coded as managerial. The Raleigh/Durham region is expected to have 1,147 positions.
- County data supports that agriculture is a vital part of Alamance County's economy. The most recent US Department of Agriculture census for Alamance County was completed in 2017. Based on the data presented in that report, Alamance County has 720 farms utilizing a total of 80,042 acres, which equates to nearly 30% of the County's total acreage. The market value of agricultural products sold in Alamance County was \$42 million, a 27% increase in five years.
- The average age of farmers in Alamance County is 57.7, with 34% of farmers in the county aged 65 and older. In addition, 98% of Alamance County's farms are classified as family farms. As these farmers begin to retire and the younger generation begins to manage farming operations, they will require training not only in day-to-day farm operations but also in the business management of the farm.
- Many supporters throughout our community agree that this program will be vital in our area to provide a skilled and educated workforce. Vaughn Willoughby, local agribusiness owner and President of the Alamance County Farm Bureau Federation stated, "North Carolina's leading industry is agri-business and agriculture, presently around \$85 billion dollars. In today's world we see population increasing and farmland shrinking. This is especially true in North Carolina. We need help in the agriculture sector with quality trained men and women to lead this dynamic industry. The proposed Agribusiness Technology program at Alamance Community College is exactly what's needed at exactly the right time. Many agribusiness companies are in dire need of highly trained employees to help the continued growth of their businesses."
- Dana Massey, president of a local agribusiness, Plantworks Nursery, Inc., has also expressed support for an Agribusiness program at ACC, stating, "As a greenhouse owner, this program is of utmost importance to future employees, vendors, salesmen, and potential owners. Giving students the opportunity to not only learn the fundamentals of agriculture but also business is a dynamic duo for the future of our industry."
- ACC currently has bilateral agreements with North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University related to the Horticulture Technology program, each representing potential partners for future agreements in the Agribusiness Technology program.
- NC A&T has expressed interest in entering a 2+2 articulation agreement with the Agribusiness Technology Associate of Applied Science program. Dr. Antoine Alston,

Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Studies at NC A&T, states that “this partnership has the potential to maximize and provide access and opportunity to students interested in careers within the Agricultural Sciences.”

- The University of Mount Olive has expressed interest in partnering with ACC to ensure that students have access to academic and career pathways in agriculture. According to Sandra Maddox, the Dean of University of Mount Olive’s School of Agriculture and Biological Sciences, “We will fully support a seamless transition of ACC students in their pursuit of any of our 7 agricultural Bachelor of Science degree programs.”
- The college plans to build an Agribusiness Career and College Promise pathway that feeds into the associate degree, which in turn prepares students to enter careers in the industry and/or to earn a four-year degree in a related field.
- Letters of support were received from Alamance County Farm Bureau Federation, Plantsworks Nursery, University of Mount Olive, and North Carolina A&T University.

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs: Eighteen 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):

Dr. Mary Olvera
CTE Coordinator

**PROGRAM APPLICATION
SUMMARY EVALUATION REPORT
Alamance Community College
Agriculture Education (A15330)**

Program Planning: Alamance Community College is seeking approval for the Agriculture Education (A15330) program to begin Fall 2021. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of Alamance County. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

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

- The Agriculture Education program will prepare students to become extension agents, farm management specialists, 4-H specialists, crop service representatives and to work in environmental community education programs.
- ACC was gifted 47 acres of farmland near the college, which is currently the Bill and Nancy Covington Education Center. Use of the land is restricted to agricultural, horticultural, forestry, and educational purposes. It allows the opportunity to fully develop and expand agricultural-related programming and it will serve as a natural laboratory for the proposed program.
- In 2018, a collaborative group of stakeholders began plans for the development of the site. The Master Plan was developed by BSA Life Structures in partnership with Cole, Jenest & Stone. In February 2020, the Board approved the final Master Plan, to include an Agricultural Sciences building, greenhouses, barns, and crop and animal grazing areas. The buildings will fit within the rural context of the site and are laid out based on the model of a working farm.

- The proposed program was endorsed by the college's Horticulture Advisory Committee in the fall of 2017 and reaffirmed in the fall of 2018.
- State and regional data support the need for this program at ACC. According to the North Carolina Department of Commerce's projections for 2014-2024, agriculture-related occupations should see 644 total job openings in the Greensboro region, with the majority of those positions coded as managerial. The Raleigh/Durham region is expected to have 1,147 positions.
- In addition, a key word search using "Agriculture Education" on several job search engines (ZipRecruiter, Indeed, and Monster) revealed up to 280 job postings within 50 miles of the college. This information was shared with students in the Alamance-Burlington School System to determine student interest in an Agriculture Education program at the college. Ninety-five (95) students signed a survey indicating interest in the program.
- County data supports that agriculture is a vital part of Alamance County's economy. The most recent US Department of Agriculture census for Alamance County was completed in 2017. Based on the data presented in that report, Alamance County has 720 farms utilizing a total of 80,042 acres, which equates to nearly 30% of the county's total acreage. The market value of agricultural products sold in Alamance County was \$42 million, a 27% increase in five years.
- The average age of farmers in Alamance County is 57.7, with 34% of farmers in the county aged 65 and older. In addition, 98% of Alamance County's farms are classified as family farms. As these farmers begin to retire and the younger generation begins to manage farming operations, they will require training not only in day-to-day farm operations but also in the business management of the farm.
- Local agribusiness owner and President of the Alamance County Farm Bureau Federation, Vaughn Willoughby, states that agriculture-related businesses and products contribute over \$90 billion to the state economy, and that training programs are essential to maintain and to grow the agriculture industry. He stated, "The needs are many, extension field agents, farm management specialists, crop specialists, sales positions for agricultural products, environmental educators, agri-tourism, crop production and many more. Many of these support positions are vital to the agricultural community. There is great demand for trained qualified men and women to fill these positions." He goes on to explain that the proposed Agriculture Education program at ACC "will be both invaluable to our community and the agribusiness world."
- ACC currently has bilateral agreements with North Carolina State University, North Carolina A&T University and University of Mount Olive related to the Horticulture Technology program, each representing potential partners for future agreements in the Agriculture Education program.

- University partners are willing to partner with ACC to articulate coursework to university programs in Agriculture Education. Dr. Antoine Alston, from North Carolina A&T State University, stated, “The purpose of this correspondence is to acknowledge the willingness of the Agricultural Education Program at NC A&T State University to create a 2+2 Articulation Agreement with the proposed Agricultural Education Associate of Applied Science program at Alamance Community College. This partnership has the potential to maximize and provide access and opportunity to students interested in careers within the Agricultural Sciences. We have a long-standing reputation for 2+2 partnerships in Agricultural Education with community colleges across The State of North Carolina.”
- The Dean of University of Mount Olive’s School of Agriculture and Biological Sciences has indicated that agriculture programs at ACC “will expand opportunities for students” and stated that the university will “continue to be a willing partner in these educational efforts.”
- Due to the importance of agriculture in Alamance County, it is imperative to put in place training for educators in local schools and cooperative extension services to help our industry members to be successful and profitable; this in return helps the rest of our community.
- The college plans to build an Agriculture Education Career and College Promise pathway that feeds into the associate degree, which in turn prepares students to enter careers in the industry and/or to earn a four-year degree in a related field.
- Letters of support were received from Alamance County Farm Bureau Federation, University of Mount Olive, and North Carolina A&T University.

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs: Two colleges are approved to offer the Agriculture Education (A15330) program. The two approved colleges are not located in contiguous counties, therefore, impact assessments were not required, as a result; *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 Agriculture Education 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 is designed to provide students with agriculture and education foundation courses. Course work focuses on the foundational aspects of agriculture and education theory. Students will be introduced to classroom theory and management as well as soil, plant, and animal science. This curriculum will provide students with the knowledge and skills to be eligible to become extension agents, farm management specialists, 4-H specialists, crop service representatives, agri-tourism tour guides or work in agriculture sales, or environmental community education programs. Successful completion of the program will provide students with an opportunity to articulate their coursework to university programs in Agriculture Education.

Contact(s):

Dr. Mary Olvera
CTE Coordinator

**PROGRAM APPLICATION
SUMMARY EVALUATION REPORT
Alamance Community College
Emergency Medical Science (A45340)**

Program Planning: Alamance Community College is seeking approval for the Emergency Medical Science (A45340) program to begin Fall 2021. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of Alamance County. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Alamance Community College on October 12, 2020. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Alamance 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: Alamance Community College (ACC) indicates the following:

- The college currently offers coursework in Emergency Medical Services (EMS) through the Continuing Education division. The current EMS program is fully accredited by the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP). If approved, the college intends to offer both Continuing Education and Curriculum EMS courses.
- The Continuing Education EMS program has already built a strong foundation of state-of-the-art training equipment, to include remotely operated mannequins to simulate emergency medical scenarios. In conjunction with ACC's Nursing and Distance Learning departments, the college recently received a \$741,695.00 that will allow the college to provide distance-learning instruction to all 20 fire and EMS stations in Alamance County. There are also plans for a new training facility within the next few years.

- The proposed program will be offered in collaboration with many of the Health Science programs already established at ACC, including Nursing, Medical Assisting and Nurse Aide, providing opportunities for integration of curricula and sharing of resources.
- According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the job outlook nationally for EMTs and Paramedics is projected to grow by 7% from 2018 to 2028, a growth rate that is greater than the average for all occupations. The need for EMTs and Paramedics in rural areas and smaller metropolitan areas will continue.
- According to the NC Bureau of Labor, the EMS profession in North Carolina is expected to grow at a rate of 10% by 2026. These estimates are the result of a rapidly growing NC population, the broader employment of Paramedics in hospital and clinical settings, and the increased utilization of Paramedics among EMS agencies to provide alternative response models to their service areas. Annual EMS employee attrition rates statewide range between 10-15% per agency, with 46% of North Carolina agencies actively seeking Paramedics to fill full- and part-time vacancies.
- Centrally located between the Triad and Triangle areas of NC, Alamance County is positioned within an hour of five major healthcare systems and six urban EMS systems and is a relatively short distance from 40% of the active EMS agencies in NC. The population of Alamance County is expected to increase by 14% in the next ten years. An increase in the number of specialized medical facilities will require more EMTs and Paramedics to transfer patients with specific conditions to these facilities for treatment.

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs: Forty-three 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 Alamance 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 APPLICATION
SUMMARY EVALUATION REPORT
Alamance Community College
Sustainable Agriculture (A15410)**

Program Planning: Alamance Community College is seeking approval for the Sustainable Agriculture (A15410) program to begin Fall 2021. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of Alamance County. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

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

- The Sustainable Agriculture program prepares students to apply knowledge of agricultural principles and practices that enhance environmental quality, make efficient use of nonrenewable resources, integrate natural biological cycles and controls, and that are economically viable and socially responsible.
- The proposed program builds on a strong foundation of two of the college's thriving programs, Horticulture Technology and Animal Care and Management, providing opportunities to integrate curricula, share assets, and optimize resources.
- ACC was gifted 47 acres of farmland near the college, which is currently the Bill and Nancy Covington Education Center. Use of the land is restricted to agricultural, horticultural, forestry, and educational purposes. It allows the opportunity to fully develop and expand agricultural-related programming and it will serve as a natural laboratory for the proposed program.

Attachment PROG 04D

- In 2018, a collaborative group of stakeholders began plans for the development of the site. The Master Plan was developed by BSA Life Structures in partnership with Cole, Jenest & Stone. In February 2020, the Board approved the final Master Plan, to include an Agricultural Sciences building, greenhouses, barns, and crop and animal grazing areas. The buildings will fit within the rural context of the site and are laid out based on the model of a working farm.
- The proposed program was endorsed by the college's Horticulture Advisory Committee in the fall of 2017 and reaffirmed in the fall of 2018.
- State and regional data support the need for this program at ACC. According to the North Carolina Department of Commerce's projections for 2014-2024, agriculture-related occupations should see 644 total job openings in the Greensboro region, with the majority of those positions coded as managerial. The Raleigh/Durham region is expected to have 1,147 positions.
- In addition, a key word search using "Agriculture" on several job search engines (ZipRecruiter, Indeed, and Monster) revealed up to 538 job postings within 50 miles of the college. This information was shared with students in the Alamance-Burlington School System to determine student interest in a Sustainable Agriculture program at the college. One hundred and twenty-three (123) students signed a survey indicating interest in the program.
- County data supports that agriculture is a vital part of Alamance County's economy. The most recent US Department of Agriculture census for Alamance County was completed in 2017. Based on the data presented in that report, Alamance County has 720 farms utilizing a total of 80,042 acres, which equates to nearly 30% of the county's total acreage. The market value of agricultural products sold in Alamance County was \$42 million, a 27% increase in five years.
- The average age of farmers in Alamance County is 57.7, with 34% of farmers in the county aged 65 and older. In addition, 98% of Alamance County's farms are classified as family farms. As these farmers begin to retire and the younger generation begins to manage farming operations, they will require training not only in day-to-day farm operations but also in the business management of the farm.
- Local agribusiness owner and President of the Alamance County Farm Bureau Federation, Vaugh Willoughby, states that agriculture-related businesses and products contribute over \$90 billion to the state economy, and that training programs are essential to maintain and to grow the agriculture industry. He stated, "As Alamance County Farm Bureau President I see and hear the concerns and issues many farms and agri-business owners are facing. Aside from weather and commodity prices, qualified skilled professionals are the missing link. The companies that support our farms need employees that can deliver information and be problem solvers.... Please join me in the

establishment of these agricultural education programs at Alamance Community College. As our industry continues to grow we will need to grow with it and programs such as these will help sustain that growth.”

- Local community business partner and owner of Haw River Mushrooms, Laura Stewart, stated this about the development of the Sustainable Agriculture program at Alamance Community College, “North Carolina’s agricultural economy is growing rapidly, and we are seeing some of the most innovative farms in the nation get their start right here in NC. However, I have also seen many promising young farmers burn out early due to preventable mistakes that a program like a certificate in Sustainable Ag could help prevent. It’s my belief that there is not currently enough programming like this offered in our state, and ACC is uniquely situated to successfully fulfill the gap.”
- ACC currently has bilateral agreements with North Carolina State University, North Carolina A&T University and University of Mount Olive related to the Horticulture Technology program, each representing potential partners for future agreements in the Agriculture Education program.
- The college plans to build an Sustainable Agriculture Career and College Promise pathway that feeds into the associate degree, which in turn prepares students to enter careers in the industry and/or to earn a four-year degree in a related field.
- Letters of support were received from Alamance County Farm Bureau Federation, Haw River Mushrooms Inc., University of Mount Olive, and North Carolina A&T University.

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs: Eight colleges are approved to offer the Sustainable Agriculture (A15410) 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 Sustainable Agriculture 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 focuses on agricultural principles and practices that, over the long term, enhance environmental quality, make efficient use of nonrenewable resources, integrate natural biological cycles and controls, and are economically viable and socially responsible; and that may prepare individuals to apply this knowledge to the solution of agricultural and environmental problems. Potential course work includes instruction in principles of agroecology, crop and soil sciences, entomology, horticulture, animal science, weed science and management, soil fertility and nutrient cycling, applied ecology, agricultural economics, and rangeland ecology and watershed management.

Contact(s):

Dr. Mary Olvera
CTE Coordinator

**PROGRAM APPLICATION
SUMMARY EVALUATION REPORT
Sandhills Community College
Computed Tomography & Magnetic Resonance Imaging (D45200)**

Program Planning: Sandhills Community College is seeking approval for the Computed Tomography & Magnetic Resonance Imaging (D45200) program to begin Fall 2021. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of Moore and Hoke counties. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Sandhills Community College on October 7, 2019. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Sandhills 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: Sandhills Community College (SCC) indicates the following:

- A survey of potential employers revealed an anticipated average of 8 to 16 job openings each year for graduates of the program which exceeds the college enrollment expectations.
- US Bureau of Labor Statistics considers radiologic technologists to have a "faster than average" job growth and are predicted to have an 9% employment growth rate between 2018-2028. Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) technicians are considered to have a "faster than average" growth rate and are predicted to have an 11% employment growth rate between 2018 -2028. According to O'NET, there is an anticipated 16% growth rate in employment opportunities for radiologic technologists and technicians in North Carolina between 2016-2026. According to BLS, applicants with multiple certifications have the best job prospects.

- Survey data from potential employers estimated the average annual, entry level salary to be \$46,928.65 and an annual average experience -level salary of \$59,685 for CT technologists.
- The college anticipates enrollment of 8-10 students initially with subsequent annual enrollment of 10-12 students for the CT certificate program.

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs: Seven Colleges are approved to offer the Computed Tomography and Magnetic Resonance Imaging Program. This program does contain a clinical component; therefore, all colleges approved to offer this program were provided with a program impact assessment from Sandhills Community College. **All colleges approved to offer the program 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 Computed Tomography and Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technology curriculum prepares the individual to use specialized equipment to visualize cross-sectional anatomical structures and aid physicians in the demonstration of pathologies and disease processes. Individuals entering this curriculum must be registered or registry- eligible radiologic technologist, radiation therapist, or nuclear medicine technologist. Course work prepares the technologist to provide patient care and perform studies utilizing imaging equipment, professional communication, and quality assurance in scheduled and emergency procedures through academic and clinical studies. Graduates may be eligible to sit for the American Registry of Radiologic Technologist Advanced-Level testing in Computed Tomography and/or Magnetic Resonance Imaging examinations. They may find employment in facilities which perform these imaging procedures.

Contact(s):

Dr. Lori H. Byrd
Associate Director