

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Cooperative Innovative High School (CIHS) Application Approval

Request: At the request of staff, the State Board of Community Colleges is asked to approve the application for a new Cooperative Innovative High School (CIHS) for the 2020-2021 school year.

Strategic Plan Reference(s):

Theme: Economic and Workforce Impact

Goal 3: Ensure the educational pipeline prepares a workforce possessing the interest, knowledge, skills, and abilities to meet the needs of employers, now and into the future.

- Objective 3.1. Collaborate with stakeholders to promote a workforce system that fosters innovation and establishes seamless connections among community colleges, K-12 education, universities, workforce and economic development partners, and business and industry.
 - Strategy 3.1.2. Partner with high schools, universities, and workforce development entities and engage with employers and industry associations at the regional/local levels to identify workforce needs and establish educational and training programs collaboratively and comprehensively.

Background: During the 2011 legislative session, the General Assembly established the following criteria to define a cooperative innovative high school (G.S. 115C-238.50A):

- a) It has no more than 100 students per grade level;
- b) It partners with an institution of higher education to enable students to concurrently obtain a high school diploma and begin or complete an associate degree program, master a certificate or vocational program, or earn up to two years of college credit within five years
- c) It is located on the campus of the institution of higher education, unless the governing Board . . . specifically waives the requirement through adoption of a formal resolution.

Rationale: New cooperative innovative high school (CIHS) applications are submitted to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. CIHS Applications are reviewed by the Joint Advisory Committee (JAC), which includes members from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, the North Carolina Community College System, the University of North Carolina General Administration, and the North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities.

Once JAC members review each of the cooperative innovative high school applications, recommendations for application approvals are sent from the JAC to the State Board of Education. New cooperative innovative high schools (CIHS) must be approved by the State Board of Education and then are sent to the State Board of Community Colleges for approval. New CIHS applications were presented to the State Board of Education and were approved. Cooperative innovative high school applications also include location waivers if the school is not located on a community college campus.

Contact(s):

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 Director



**JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE REVIEW SUMMARY 2020-2021
 COOPERATIVE INNOVATIVE HIGH SCHOOL (CIHS) APPLICATION**

Applications for New CIHS (1)

Proposed Name of CIHS	LEA Partner	IHE Partner	Funding Request	Location Waiver Requested	JAC Recommendation
GASTON EARLY COLLEGE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES	Gaston County Public Schools	Gaston College	Yes	No - Located on the college campus	Approve to open with funding

The Joint Advisory Committee recommends the Cooperative Innovative High School (CIHS) application listed above to the State Board of Education and the State Board of Community Colleges for approval to open with funding for 2020-2021 school year. Note: All funding requests go to the General Assembly for allocation and final approval.