

**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 college and operating funds generated by the budget formula will permit the offering of the program without any special allocation of funds.

Cape Fear Community College  
Medical Laboratory Technology (A45420)

Wayne Community College  
Entertainment Technologies (A25190)

**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

**STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES**  
**Program Application**  
**Summary Evaluation Report**  
**Cape Fear Community College**  
**Medical Laboratory Technology (A45420)**

**Program Planning**

Cape Fear Community College (CFCC) is seeking approval for the Medical Laboratory Technology (A45420) program to begin Fall, 2022. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of New Hanover and Pender counties. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Cape Fear Community College on July 22, 2021. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Cape Fear 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**

Cape Fear Community College indicates the following:

- CFCC received a request last Spring to seek approval to offer the Medical Laboratory Technology program. Representatives from the Coastal Carolinas Health Alliance (CCHA) and New Hanover Regional Medical Center shared existing and projected workforce needs for medical laboratory technicians in the area's hospital and health care provider labs. Workforce needs are increasing due to increasing population, aging population, and impending retirements of an entire generation of technicians.
- Nationally, the projected career outlook projects growth of 7% with 21,600 new openings between 2019 -2029. In North Carolina, the projected career growth rate is double the national average, with a 14% increase in openings from 2018-2028. According to NCcareers.org, the average annual growth rate for openings in North Carolina between 2017 and 2026 is projected to be 1.3% while the annual growth rate in the Wilmington area for this period is 1.8%.
- Current salaries for medical laboratory technicians are competitive with a salary range based on experience and training. In the Wilmington area technician salaries in 2020

ranges from approximately \$34,350 to \$74,680 annually with an average annual salary of \$50,330.

- Letters of support as well as letters of intent and/or clinical affiliation agreements to support clinical placements of students were received from nine hospitals and healthcare systems in the region.
- The proposed program would support the initiatives of the Academic Advisory Council (AAC), which was developed as a part of Novant/UNC and NHRMC collaboration. The mission of this council is to identify and develop new health care programs to meet the workforce needs of Southeastern North Carolina.
- CFCC identified existing space to house the program and plans to collaborate with UNC Wilmington to develop a local articulation agreement for Medical Laboratory Technology students to transfer to the Medical Laboratory Scientist program in the School of Health and Applied Human Sciences.

### **Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs**

Sixteen community colleges are approved to offer the Medical Laboratory Technology program. This program contains a clinical component; therefore, all colleges were provided with a program impact assessment from Cape Fear Community College. Fifteen colleges responded with positive impact assessments in agreement and support of the program. One program responded with support for the program but disagreeing with the impact assessment with concern regarding clinical placement and impact on their enrollment numbers. Both colleges, however, support the application in the best interest of the medical laboratory community.

### **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 Laboratory Technology curriculum prepares individuals to perform clinical laboratory procedures in chemistry, hematology, microbiology, and immunohematology that may be used in the maintenance of health and diagnosis/treatment of disease. Course work emphasizes mathematical and scientific concepts related to specimen collection, laboratory testing and procedures, quality assurance and reporting/recording and interpreting findings involving tissues, blood, and body fluids. Graduates may be eligible to take the examination given by the Board of Certification of the American Society for Clinical Pathology. Employment opportunities include laboratories in hospitals, medical offices, industry, and research facilities.

### **Contact(s):**

Dr. Lori Byrd  
Associate Director

**STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES**  
**Program Application**  
**Summary Evaluation Report**  
**Wayne Community College**  
**Entertainment Technology (A25190)**

**Program Planning:** Wayne Community College is seeking approval for the Entertainment Technology (A25190) program to begin Fall 2022. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of Wayne County. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Wayne Community College on July 27, 2021. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Wayne 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:** Wayne Community College (WCC) indicates the following:

- The proposed program is intended to address the merging shortage of individuals prepared for entertainment technology careers in the service area of Wayne Community College. In addition, the proposed program will benefit the college's ongoing efforts to increase offerings in fine arts as well as help support the cultural needs of the community.
- According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the national overall employment of broadcast, sound, and video technicians is projected to grow by 21 percent from 2020 to 2030, much faster than the average for all occupations.
- According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, about 18,000 openings for broadcast, sound, and video technicians are projected each year, on average, over the decade. Many of those openings are expected to result from the need to replace workers who transfer to different occupations or exit the labor force, such as to retire.

- According to the Occupational Outlook Handbook published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the median hourly pay for Broadcast, Sound, and Video technicians is \$24.04 per hour.
- According to the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Job openings related to the entertainment technology are found in educational, broadcast, and governmental settings with pay averaging \$50,000 a year. This data does not include information regarding those graduates who will open their own businesses in this field.
- Required labs, hardware and software are in place to offer the program. Current qualified WCC full-time and adjunct instructors are available to teach the courses required for the proposed degree. Any additional equipment needs can be purchased through the institution's normal budget process.
- Graduates of the proposed program will also be able to pursue entrepreneurial opportunities. The proposed degree lends itself towards entrepreneurs in event planning, music producing, and music promotion.
- According to a recent Google search for entertainment technology related jobs in the college's service area, a total of 22 positions were available. The search was conducted on September 8, 2021, and included event planning, recreation, and music related jobs in the Goldsboro/Wayne County area.
- Letters of support for the proposed program were received from Mr. Rico Dawson, a music teacher and a singer-songwriter with Rico Dawson Music and Mr. Tyler Davis, a Goldsboro-based independent musician and business owner. An additional letter of support was received from "the bridge" providing support for the program and expressing interest in contracting with WCC's Entertainment Technology students to help with their events in Wayne County.
- During the Fall Semester of 2021, WCC surveyed 8 students taking fine arts courses, 6 (75%) out of the 8 students who completed the survey, expressed interest in taking courses related to entertainment technology or enrolling in the program.

**Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs:** One community college is currently approved to offer the Entertainment Technology program. The college approved for the program is not located in a contiguous county to WCC. **Therefore, an impact assessment was not required.**

**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:**

This curriculum prepares individuals for entry-level employment in entertainment, particularly in the fields of sound and lighting. Instruction not only provides training in these technical aspects, but also prepares students to manage careers in this contract-to-contract type of work. Course work includes exposure to the entire live concert and sound recording processes. Course work will also include music fundamentals, entertainment law and marketing/promotion. Students will also receive course work in electronic music. Graduates may find employment as entry-level crew and/or production assistants in concert or event setups, with recording companies, or sound/lighting companies. Graduates will also be prepared to manage their careers (or others' careers) in the sound/lighting area or professional music entertainment.

**Contact(s):**

Dr. Hilmi Lahoud  
Senior Program Administrator