REQUEST: At the request of staff, the State Board of Community Colleges is asked to approve the location waiver request for established Cooperative Innovative High Schools (CIHS) that are not located on a N.C. Community College campus. The list of CIHS seeking a location waiver is indicated in the chart on the next page.

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.

Additionally, S.L. 2011 Section 7.1A.(k) requires that “Cooperative innovative high schools . . . shall meet the requirements of G.S. 115C-238.50A no later than July 1, 2014. Any cooperative innovative high school which fails to meet the requirements by that date shall no longer be authorized as a cooperative innovative high school.”

Rationale: If the community college partners with a local school board to offer a cooperative innovative high school (i.e., early college, middle college, STEM high school, etc.) that is not located on the college’s campus, the CIHS may request a State Board waiver for the location of the school. This waiver request applies only to a cooperative innovative high school that has already been approved by the State Board of Education and the State Board of Community Colleges and that is not located on the community college campus.
Contact(s):
Dr. Lisa Eads
Program Coordinator
### CIHS Location Waiver Request (for Existing CIHS Programs not on N.C. Community College Campuses)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College Name</th>
<th>CIHS Name</th>
<th>Approval Year</th>
<th>Current Location</th>
<th>Waiver Rationale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>McDowell Technical Community College</td>
<td>McDowell Academy for Innovation</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>172 Lukin Street, Marion, NC 28752</td>
<td>McDowell Academy for Innovation (MAI) was approved as a Cooperative Innovative High School in 2017. MAI planned to open in the fall of 2017 on the campus of McDowell Technical Community College (MTCC). However, due to the timing of the state budget approval in June 2017, a decision was made by the school system and college to delay opening to the fall of 2018. The space that was originally planned to house MAI was part of a larger county owned facility on campus. That space has since been reallocated to another program, thus the need for a location waiver for MAI. The McDowell Academy for Innovation (MAI), will be located at 172 Lukin Street. This location has easy access to MTCC and many of the manufacturing partners who will provide work-based learning opportunities for students. Because of the close location, several of the courses within the curricula will be taught by MTCC faculty at the MAI while more equipment-centric courses will be taught at McDowell Tech. MTCC and McDowell County Schools already partner with a bus schedule to move students between various locations which will also benefit MAI.</td>
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