

**STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Curriculum Program Application**

The State Board will be asked to approve the curriculum program at the college listed on the condition that equipment funds are available to the college and operating funds generated by the budget formula will permit the offering of this program without any special allocation of funds.

Sandhills Community College
Aviation Management and Career Pilot Technology (A60180)

Contact Person:

Jennifer Frazelle, Director

**PROGRAM APPLICATION
SUMMARY EVALUATION REPORT
Sandhills Community College
Aviation Management and Career Pilot Technology (A60180)**

Program Planning: Sandhills Community College (SCC) is seeking approval for the Aviation Management and Career Pilot Technology (A60180) program to begin Fall 2018. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of Hoke and Moore counties, in addition to Chatham, Cumberland, Lee, Montgomery, Richmond, Robeson and Scotland, counties. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at SCC on April 11, 2017. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of SCC 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 indicated the following:

- The Bureau of Labor Statistics suggests that employment opportunities for pilots, co-pilots, and flight engineers will increase by 5% over the next 20 years.
- According to the Occupational Outlook Handbook, entry-level employees are expected to earn \$40,000 annually for those employed in aviation management, while graduates employed in career piloting are expected to earn approximately \$60,000.
- Sandhills Community College surveyed employers who anticipated 12 annual employment positions which aligns nicely with projected program enrollment. Emerging growth in unmanned air systems (drones) may add to these projections.
- SCC is working with their partnering SCC Foundation and local economic development partners to build funding they hope will offset the cost of flight instruction.
- The college surveyed potential students and found that 15-20 students would be interested in enrolling in the program annually.

- Moore County Airport is located approximately one mile northeast of the college's main campus.
- The college has worked with Moore County Airport Authority to determine the viability of the program within the college's service area. The Airport Authority, local industry, military veterans, and potential employers were very supportive of the program.
- There are limited programs of this nature in operation across the state, none within the Sandhill's region.

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs: Four colleges are approved to offer the Aviation Management and Career Pilot Technology program. None of these colleges are contiguous to the planning area of Sandhills Community College, **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: *The Aviation Management and Career Pilot Technology curriculum prepares individuals for a variety of aviation and aviation-related careers including the commercial airlines, general aviation, the aerospace industry, the military, unmanned aircraft systems industries, and state and federal aviation organizations. Course work includes fundamentals of flight, aerodynamics, aircraft performance, meteorology, navigation, federal regulations, aviation management, unmanned aircraft systems, and instrument and commercial ground training, flight and simulator training, and entrepreneurship or business management training. Graduates may earn a commercial pilot certificate with an instrument rating, specialize in aviation management or in unmanned air systems, and may find employment as commercial, corporate, and military pilots, fixed base operators and airport managers, as pilots or technicians in the unmanned aircraft systems industry, or as flight instructors, and flight dispatchers.*

Contact Person:

Dr. Frank Sculetta
Program Coordinator