

**STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES  
CURRICULUM PROGRAM APPLICATIONS  
Fast Track for Action [FTFA\*]**

**\*Fast Track For Action:** Program applications must meet the following criteria in order to be placed on the 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.

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 these program without any special allocation of funds.

**Central Carolina Community College**  
Health Information Technology (A45360)

**McDowell Technical Community College**  
Emergency Management (A55460)

**Roanoke-Chowan Community College**  
Emergency Medical Science (A45340)

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**PROGRAM APPLICATION  
SUMMARY EVALUATION REPORT  
Central Carolina Community College  
Health Information Technology (A45360)**

**I. Program Planning**

Central Carolina Community College is seeking approval for the Health Information Technology (A45360) program to begin Fall, 2016. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of Lee, Harnett and Chatham counties. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Central Carolina Community College on February 11, 2015. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Central Carolina 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.

**II. Program Rationale**

Central Carolina Community College (CCCC) indicates the following:

- In Fall 2014, CCCC conducted a health sciences program planning survey with all hospital CEOs, Chief Nursing Officers, and hiring managers in their service area. Approximately 81% of the respondents indicated that the Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT) was in high demand in their agencies.
- According to the NC Department of Commerce, the local job demand in the Triangle South Workforce Development region in the state will experience an 11.1% and 12.5% increase respectively for Health Information Technicians (HIT) and Health Technologists until 2020.
- In April 2015, 337 HIT job openings were advertised on NCworks.gov. O-Net Online lists HIT's as a bright outlook occupation that is expected to grow rapidly between 2012-2022.
- The Employment Security Commission of NC/NC Labor & Economic Analysis Commerce estimates a 22% increase with a projection of 260 annual job openings. National data indicates that the annual employment demand for HIT's will increase 22% or 9,040 job openings.

- North Carolina employment data indicated that 87% of HIT graduates from 2011-2012 were employed within one year of graduation. (NCtower.com)
- CCCC, through a Curriculum Student Satisfaction Survey and a survey on current and prior Continuing Education students in Medical Coding, Electronic Health Records, Medical Terminology and Anatomy and Physiology, identified 214 students potentially interested in the program.
- The Harnett Health Sciences Building recently opened on the CCCC campus in Lillington. In November 2014, a twenty-three million dollar bond referendum passed which will enable the college to build a nine million dollar Health Sciences building. Dedicated classroom and office space is planned for the HIT program.
- Womack Army Medical Center's Medical Coding Auditor/Trainer *is supportive of the implementation of HIT at CCCC. She has agreed to serve as a HIT Advisory board member and to provide placements for practicum experiences.*

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

Eleven community colleges are approved to offer the Health Information Technology program. An impact assessment was sent to each college. Initially, Edgecombe Community College (ECC) expressed objections to the statement "There should be no impact on HIT enrollment at Edgecombe Community College." CCCC responded to ECC's concern by acknowledging that there may be minimal impact (possibly 2.7%) based on current on-line enrollment from the three counties in their service area. **This issue has been resolved and the objection has been removed.**

### **IV. Implementation of Collaborative Plan**

Not Applicable

### **V. Curriculum Design**

The proposed program of study is in compliance with the State Board approved curriculum standard.

### **VI. Curriculum Description as Designated on Curriculum Standard**

*The Health Information Technology curriculum provides individuals with the knowledge and skills to process, analyze, abstract, compile, maintain, manage, and report health information. Students will supervise departmental functions; classify, code, and index diagnoses and procedures; coordinate information for cost control, quality management, statistics, marketing, and planning; monitor governmental and non-governmental standards; facilitate research; and design system controls to monitor patient information security. Graduates of this program may be eligible to write the national certification examination to become a Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT). Employment opportunities include hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, nursing homes, health insurance organizations, outpatient clinics, physicians' offices, hospice, and mental health facilities.*

**Contact Person:** Ms. Renee Batts

**PROGRAM APPLICATION  
SUMMARY EVALUATION REPORT  
McDowell Technical Community College  
Emergency Management (A55460)**

**I. Program Planning**

McDowell Technical Community College Community College is seeking approval for the Emergency Management (A55460) program to begin Spring, 2016. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of McDowell County. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at McDowell Technical Community College on May 14, 2015. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of McDowell Technical 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.

**II. Program Rationale**

McDowell Technical Community College (MTCC) indicates the following:

- The effect of the September 11 attacks still reverberate through both public and private sector organizations. As a result, spending directed at emergency management and disaster mitigation has increased. This increased spending has increased the employment opportunities in the emergency management field. The Bureau of Labor Statistics expects employment to grow by twenty-two percent, by 2018. (US News & World Report, 2011)
- Marion's Chief of Police and the Sheriff of McDowell County expressed difficulty in finding qualified individuals to fill employment vacancies and difficulty in finding courses or programs that would be beneficial to their staff within the area.
- The Director of Staff Development and Training with the NC Department of Public Safety (DPS) indicated *they are the single-largest agency in NC, with over 26,000 full-time employees in both sworn/certified and civilian positions. I believe the creation of this Associate Degree program will benefit emergency management and criminal justice agencies by providing a better educated applicant pool, a more efficient work force, and a safer North Carolina.*
- The County Manager for McDowell County noted *the program would help improve emergency services and improve the work force. McDowell County fully endorses the initiative and offers its resources to assist.*

- McDowell County EMS is responsible for providing paramedic level emergency care to citizens and visitors of McDowell County. They respond to nearly 10,000 calls for service annually. In 2013, McDowell EMS was the first agency in western NC to develop and implement a Community Care Paramedic program. This program is designed to assist high risk patients improve health and wellness and also devote extensive time and resources to elderly patients.
- The Director of Emergency Services for McDowell County noted *Western NC is in need of an emergency management program as this will complement existing agency programs within McDowell County. McDowell Emergency Services routinely hires and promotes employees for the EMS division along with the 911 center. The ability to obtain an associate's degree in EM will be a substantial improvement in the level of education currently available for public safety employees across all disciplines within Western NC.*
- McDowell County Office of Emergency Management works to protect the citizens of McDowell County through an integrated Emergency Management framework. The four principle functions of their office are: preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation in planning for natural and man-made disasters.
- *“Nationally, the employment of Emergency Management Directors is projected to grow eight percent from 2012 to 2022, about as fast as the average for all occupations. Employment of Emergency Management Directors is expected to grow the fastest in hospitals, schools, and private companies. For example, Emergency Management Directors is projected to grow by eighteen percent in health care and social assistance and twenty-two percent in the professional, scientific, and technical services industries from 2012 to 2022.”*  
(Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor)
- MTCC plans to offer courses to local high school students through Career and College Promise. They anticipate 220 students from the high schools participating in EMT, Fire, and Law and Justice programs. The Emergency Management curriculum would provide these students with a foundation of technical and professional knowledge needed for emergency services delivery.

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

Eleven community colleges are approved to offer the Emergency Management program. **None of the approved colleges are located in a contiguous county, therefore an impact assessment was not required.**

### **IV. Implementation of Collaborative Plan**

Not Applicable

### **V. Curriculum Design**

The proposed program of study is in compliance with the State Board approved curriculum standard.

### **VI. Curriculum Description as Designated on Curriculum Standard**

*The Emergency Management curriculum is designed to provide students with a foundation of technical and professional knowledge needed for emergency services delivery in local and state government agencies. Study involves both management and technical aspects of law enforcement, fire protection,*

## Attachment PROG 8B

*emergency medical services, and emergency planning. Course work includes classroom and laboratory exercises to introduce the student to various aspects of emergency preparedness, protection, and enforcement. Students will learn technical and administrative skills such as investigative principles, hazardous materials, codes, standards, emergency agency operations, and finance. Employment opportunities include ambulance services, fire/rescue agencies, law enforcement agencies, fire marshal offices, industrial firms, educational institutions, emergency management offices, and other government agencies. Employed persons should have opportunities for skilled and supervisory-level positions.*

**Contact Person:** Ms. Renee Batts

**PROGRAM APPLICATION  
SUMMARY EVALUATION REPORT  
Roanoke-Chowan Community College  
Emergency Medical Science (A45340)**

**I. Program Planning**

Roanoke-Chowan Community College is seeking approval for the Emergency Medical Science (A45340) program to begin Spring, 2016. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of Bertie, Hertford, and Northampton counties. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Roanoke-Chowan Community College on March 24, 2015. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Roanoke-Chowan 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.

**II. Program Rationale**

Roanoke-Chowan Community College (RCCC) indicates the following:

- RCCC offers EMT and paramedic courses through continuing education. Between 2013 and 2014 RCCC experienced an increase in their EMS course enrollment from 29.43 FTE's to 63.82 FTE's.
- The Bureau of Labor and Statistics (BLS) indicates the national demand for Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics is expected to increase by 23% between 2012 and 2022 or annually 12,060 job openings. BLS projects NC is expected to have a similar increase of 22% or 480 job openings on an annual basis.
- The college provides training for fifty-two fire, rescue and law enforcement departments within their service area.
- Hertford County is one of only five counties in the state that does not require first responders to be certified Paramedics. Many first responders in the area are trained at the Emergency Medical Technician Basic Level. It is the goal of the Hertford County EMS Director to increase the skills and training level of personnel to the Paramedic level.

- The high schools in Hertford and Northampton counties are interested in the Emergency Medical Science program being available as a Career and College Promise pathway for their students.
- Letters of support for the program were submitted to RCCC by Hertford County Public Schools, Northampton County Schools, Hertford County Department of Emergency Medical Services, Bertie County Emergency Services, and Vidant Roanoke-Chowan Hospital
- The President of Vidant Roanoke-Chowan Hospital noted *first responders trained as paramedics will be able to provide higher quality care in the field resulting in better patient outcomes. The increased training program and additional clinical hours will enhance the quality of life of our area residents.*

**III. Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs**

Thirty community colleges are approved to offer the Emergency Medical Science program. An impact assessment was sent to each college. **No negative impact responses were received.**

**IV. Implementation of Collaborative Plan**

Not Applicable

**V. Curriculum Design**

The proposed program of study is in compliance with the State Board approved curriculum standard.

**VI. Curriculum Description as Designated on 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 Person:** Ms. Renee Batts