



NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

Peter Hans, President

23 October 2018

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the State Board of Community Colleges
Community College Presidents
Boards of Trustees Chairs
Community College Chief Academic Officers, Chief Admissions Officers, Basic Skills Directors, Business Officers, Continuing Education Officers, Customized Training Directors, Distance Learning, Chief Financial Officers, Financial Aid Officers, Planners, Public Information Officers, Registrars, Student Development Administrators, & Other Interested Parties

FROM: Q. Shanté Martin, *NCCCS General Counsel*

RE: **Amendment of 1D SBCCC 400.9 - "Curriculum Standards."**

On 19 October 2018, the State Board of Community Colleges voted to amend **1G SBCCC 400.9 - "Curriculum Standards."** - The change will allow the NC Community College System Office to more efficiently respond to requests to revise curriculum standards. This efficiency will expedite changes that colleges need to make to best meet industry needs. The proposed amendment also incorporates a provision to accommodate dissenting opinion among two colleges if they are the only two colleges approved to offer the curriculum.

The rule will be effective 1 November 2018. The new rule will be published on the NC Community College System's website, www.nccommunitycolleges.edu, under "State Board Code." For your convenience, a copy of the rule is attached to this memorandum.

**CC18-056
E-mail Copy**

Attachment



State Board of Community Colleges Code
TITLE 1 – COMMUNITY COLLEGES

CHAPTER D. EDUCATION

SUBCHAPTER 400. CURRICULUM

1D SBCCC 400.9 Curriculum Standards

- (a) Curriculum Standard. A curriculum standard is a document provided for each curriculum program which lists the required program description, code, courses, range of hours and allowable curriculum course prefixes. Curriculum standards shall not be duplicative of each other, must be in alignment with criteria outlined in 1D SBCCC 400.10 (e) and must be approved by the State Board of Community Colleges. Curriculum standards are maintained by the North Carolina Community College System Office and are located on their website.
- (b) Revised Curriculum Standard. A revision of an existing curriculum standard shall:
- (1) Have written concurrence by two-thirds of colleges approved to offer the curriculum program; and
 - (2) Be in alignment with criteria outlined in 1D SBCCC 400.10(e).
 - (3) The President of the North Carolina Community College System shall have the authority to approve or deny the revision of an existing curriculum standard. If only two colleges are approved to offer the curriculum, and written concurrence is not obtained from both colleges, the State Board of Community Colleges shall have the authority to approve or deny the revision to the existing curriculum standard.
- (c) On approval by the State Board of Community Colleges, a curriculum standard may exceed hours as outlined in 1D SBCCC 400.10(e)(1). Such an exception shall apply to all colleges approved to offer the curriculum program title. A two-thirds majority of colleges approved to offer the program shall agree with the conditions of the request for the exception. A request for an exception shall be justified based on one or more of the following criteria:
- (1) Additional time in the program is required by law;

- (2) Additional time in the program is required by an external regulatory, accrediting, or professional agency recognized by the State Board of Community Colleges;
- (3) Additional time in the program is justified by documented extenuating circumstances including, but not limited to the following:
 - (A) Documentation that the program will not be viable without the exception; or
 - (B) Documentation that employers have certified the competencies required for the program and the length of time needed to teach those competencies.

History Note: Authority G.S. 115D-5;

Eff. [November 1, 2017](#).

Amended Eff. [November 1, 2018](#).