

NUMBERED MEMO CC26-024

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

FROM: Jonnell Carpenter, *NCCCS General Counsel*

SUBJECT: Proposed Amendment of 1D SBCCC 400.8 – Courses for Curriculum Programs

DATE: May 19, 2026

On May 15, 2026, the State Board of Community Colleges (SBCC) initiated the rulemaking process to amend **1D SBCCC 400.8 – Courses for Curriculum Programs**. The proposed amendment would remove supplemental courses, as they are now incorporated into developmental courses. It would also extend the timeframe for designating a course as obsolete from three (3) years to five (5) years and clarify the standards for determining whether a curriculum course may receive a transfer designation. The proposed amendment is published on the NC Community College System's website, [Numbered Memos - NCCCS \(ncccommunitycolleges.edu\)](https://www.ncccommunitycolleges.edu/numbered-memos). For your convenience, a copy of the proposed rule, with the adopted language indicated, is attached to this memorandum. Strikethroughs indicate deletions of existing language and underlines indicate additions of language.

Any member of the public has the right to submit written comments on the proposed rule. Please note that any person who submits public comments on behalf of their community college should comply with their college's local process for submitting comments on a proposed rule. **Written comments on the rule must be received by no later than 5:00 p.m. on June 18, 2026.** Any member of the public has the right to request a hearing on the proposed rule. **Requests for a hearing must be received by no later than 5:00 p.m. on June 3, 2026.**

Written comments and requests for hearing shall be directed to the following address:
Jonnell Carpenter, 5001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-5001 or by email to
publiccomments@nccommunitycolleges.edu. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

CC26-024

Email Copy
Attachment



State Board of Community Colleges Code

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Form

Date: May 19, 2025

Title, Chapter, Subchapter, and Rule Number of Rule Proposed to be Adopted, Amended, or Repealed	Amendment of 1D SBCCC 400.8 – Courses for Curriculum Programs
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Specify whether the SBCC proposes to amend, adopt, or repeal a rule:

Adopt (new rule)	Amend (change existing rule)	Repeal (delete entire rule)
	X	

Rationale for proposed adoption, amendment, or repeal:	The proposed amendment would remove supplemental courses, as they are now incorporated into developmental courses. It would also extend the timeframe for designating a course as obsolete from three (3) years to five (5) years and clarify the standards for determining whether a curriculum course may receive a transfer designation.
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Proposed Effective Date of Rule	August 1, 2026
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1D SBCCC 400.8 is proposed for amendment as follows:



1 **State Board of Community Colleges Code**
2 **TITLE 1. COMMUNITY COLLEGES**

3
4 **CHAPTER D. EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

5
6 **SUBCHAPTER 400. CURRICULUM**

7
8 **1D SBCCC 400.8 Courses for Curriculum Programs**

9 (a) The Combined Course Library shall contain the following elements for all curriculum
10 program credit courses approved for the North Carolina Community College

11 System:

- 12 (1) Course prefix;
13 (2) Course number;
14 (3) Course title;
15 (4) Classroom ~~hours~~ and laboratory, clinical, and work-based learning hours
16 ~~contact—hours, if applicable;~~
17 (5) Credit hours;
18 (6) Prerequisites and corequisites, if applicable;
19 (7) Course description consisting of three sentences; and
20 (8) Tier Funding classification.

21 (b) The numbering system for curriculum courses within the Combined Course Library
22 is as follows:

- 23 (1) The numbers 001-099 shall be assigned to developmental courses ~~or~~
24 ~~supplemental courses. Supplemental courses provide supplemental skills~~
25 ~~to a specific co-requisite course or customized developmental course~~
26 ~~delivery.~~ Developmental courses are designed to address academic
27 preparedness, workforce retraining, development of general and
28 discipline-specific strategies, and barriers to learning. Developmental ~~and~~
29 ~~supplemental~~ courses do not earn credit toward a certificate, diploma or
30 degree and shall not be calculated in the student's curriculum grade point
31 average (GPA).

- 1 (2) The numbers 100-109 and 200-209 shall be assigned to certificate and
2 diploma level curriculum courses. These courses shall not be included in
3 associate degree programs.
- 4 (3) The numbers 110-189 and 210-289 shall be assigned to associate degree
5 level courses. These courses may also be included in certificate and diploma
6 programs.
- 7 (4) The numbers 190-199 and 290-299 shall be assigned to seminar or selected
8 topic courses that may be offered for a single term and which courses offer
9 content not found in existing courses. To offer the course content after the
10 initial term, the Curriculum Course Review Committee shall approve the
11 course for inclusion in the Combined Course Library.
- 12 (c) A college shall use the course information (prefix; number; title; classroom,
13 laboratory, clinical, and work-based learning ~~contact~~ hours; credit hours;
14 prerequisites and corequisites; and course description) as listed in the Combined
15 Course Library.
- 16 (d) A college may add a fourth sentence to the course description in their local college
17 catalog to clarify instructional content or instructional methodology.
- 18 (e) A college is responsible for ensuring that students have satisfied requisite course
19 requirements by documenting that they have either completed the appropriate
20 courses or have demonstrated that they have the appropriate knowledge and skills
21 required for admission to the courses as determined by the college.
- 22 (f) A college may establish a local policy for waiving requisite requirements for
23 individual students.
- 24 (g) A college may divide courses into incremental units for greater flexibility in
25 providing instruction to ~~part-time~~ students or to provide shorter units of study for
26 abbreviated calendars. Each of the following criteria applies to courses divided
27 into incremental units:
- 28 (1) A course may be divided into two or three units that are designated with an
29 additional suffix following the course prefix and number;
- 30 (2) The units shall equal the entire course of instruction, without omitting any
31 competencies;

- 1 (3) The combined contact and credit hours for the units shall equal the contact
2 and credit hours for the course;
- 3 (4) If the course is a prerequisite to another course, the student shall complete
4 all component parts before enrolling in the next course; and
- 5 (5) If the course is a corequisite to another course, the student shall take the
6 corequisite course before or in conjunction with the prospective course.
- 7 (h) The North Carolina Community College System Office shall appoint a Curriculum
8 Review Committee of representatives from Chief Academic Officers and community
9 college presidents. The Curriculum Review Committee shall have the authority to:
- 10 (1) Approve and maintain curriculum courses in the Combined Course
11 Library;
- 12 (2) Determine whether a curriculum course may meet a general education
13 designation for certificates, diplomas and associate in applied science
14 programs using the current criteria guided by criteria from institutional
15 accrediting agencies.
- 16 (3) Obsolete ~~Archive~~ curriculum courses that have not been offered by any
17 community college for ~~three~~ five consecutive years.
- 18 (i) The North Carolina Community College System and The University of North
19 Carolina shall appoint a Transfer Advisory Committee of representatives from North
20 Carolina community colleges and The University of North Carolina. The Transfer
21 Advisory Committee shall have the authority to do the following ~~in regards~~ in regard
22 to curriculum courses:
- 23 To determine whether a curriculum course may receive a transfer designation for
24 Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees, the following standards shall
25 apply:
- 26 (1) General Education (Universal General Education Transfer Component):
27 A course shall be designated as general education when it:
- 28 (A) meets current criteria established by institutional accrediting
29 agencies; and
- 30 (B) is comparable in content and rigor and accepted as equivalent for
31 transfer across the sixteen constituent institutions of The University of

1 North Carolina.

2 (2) Pre-major/Elective (Transfer) Designation:

3 A course shall be designated as a transfer pre-major or elective when it:

4 (A) supports preparation for a specific academic discipline or field of study;

5 (B) aligns with the expected knowledge, skills, and competencies of the
6 intended major; and

7 (C) demonstrates sufficient similarity in outcomes and rigor to be
8 transferable between institutions.

9 ~~To determine whether a curriculum course may meet a general education~~
10 ~~designation for Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees guided by~~
11 ~~criteria from institutional accrediting agencies.~~

12 ~~(1) To determine whether a curriculum course may meet a universal general~~
13 ~~education transfer component designation using the following standards:~~

14 ~~(A) Then current criteria established by criteria established by institutional~~
15 ~~accrediting agencies; and~~

16 ~~(B) General education equivalency at all sixteen constituent institutions of~~
17 ~~The University of North Carolina.~~

18 ~~(2) To determine whether a curriculum course may meet a premajor/elective~~
19 ~~designation for Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees using the~~
20 ~~following standards:~~

21 ~~(A) Focus on skills, techniques, and procedures specific to the student's~~
22 ~~occupation or profession;~~

23 ~~(B) Similar in intended outcomes and competencies, and so, transferable~~
24 ~~between institutions.~~

25 (j) When a student receives credit for a Combined Course Library curriculum
26 course, this credit shall be transferable to any college in the North Carolina
27 Community College System.

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29 *History Note: Authority G.S. 115D-5; S.L. 1995, c. 625;*

30 *Temporary Adoption Eff. June 1, 1997;*

31 *Eff. July 1, 1998;*

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Amended Eff. _____; [August 1, 2025](#); [December 1, 2018](#); [November 1, 2017](#); June 1, 2009; July 1, 2007; October 1, 2006; December 1, 2004; August 15, 2004.