

NUMBERED MEMO CC26-030

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: Amendment of 1D SBCCC 400.1 – Curriculum Definitions

DATE: July 21, 2026

On July 17, 2026, the State Board of Community Colleges (SBCC) voted to amend the State Board Code, **1D SBCCC 400.1 – Curriculum Definitions**. The amendment aligns terminology with the Common Course Library by replacing “Archived Course” with “Obsolete Course,” includes Work-Based Learning and Clinical in the calculation of contact hours, and requires 60 minutes for each clinical hour.

The amendment will be effective **August 1, 2026**. At that time, the amended rule will be published on the North Carolina Community College System’s website, [State Board Code - NCCCS \(ncccommunitycolleges.edu\)](https://ncccommunitycolleges.edu). For your convenience, a copy of the rule in its final form is attached to this memorandum.

CC26-030

Email Copy
Attachment

**State Board of Community College Code
TITLE 1. COMMUNITY COLLEGES**

CHAPTER D. EDUCATION PROGRAMS

SUBCHAPTER 400. CURRICULUM



1D SBCCC 400.1 Curriculum Definitions

The following terms shall have the following meanings throughout this Title.

- (a) **Obsolete Course:** A curriculum course that is archived from the Combined Course Library will be given an end term date and permanently stored in the Combined Course Library database. The course may no longer be offered by a college or be included in a proposed program of study. The course prefix and number of an obsolete course remain intact and may not be used for any other course.
- (b) **Contact Hour:** The actual time of student attendance in a class lab, Work-Based Learning or Clinical.
- (c) **Credit Hours:**
 - (1) **Class:** Credit of one semester hour is awarded for each 16 hours of lecture and other instruction provided in a class under the supervision of an instructor.
 - (2) **Clinical Practice:** Credit of one semester hour is awarded for each 48 hours of clinical practice. Each clinical hour shall consist of 60 minutes. Clinical practice provides an opportunity for health science students to apply knowledge and skills in their delivery of care in a health care setting. A qualified faculty member, clinical instructor, or preceptor, as defined by the program related approving or accrediting body, shall supervise clinical practice to provide the student with learning experiences related to the program and to monitor and assess the student's application of skills. Clinical practice may utilize experiences

that simulate realistic clinical experiences to meet the curriculum and course objectives. The percentage of simulation experiences substituting for traditional clinical practice and the qualifications of faculty providing the simulation experience must comply with the guidelines of the applicable health science accrediting and approving bodies.

- (3) Experiential Laboratory: Credit of one semester hour is awarded for each 32 hours of "experiential laboratory work." Experiential laboratory work means instruction given to a student by an instructor to increase the student's knowledge and skills without immediate student application.
- (4) Faculty Directed Laboratory: Credit of one semester hour is awarded for each 48 hours of "faculty directed laboratory." Faculty directed laboratory means instructional activities are demonstrated or conducted by an instructor with immediate student application.
- (5) Work-Based Learning: Credit of one semester hour is awarded for each 160 hours of work-based learning (WBL curriculum prefix courses). Work-based learning is the development of job skills by providing the student with employment that is directly related to the educational program and coordinated by a college representative.

History Note: Authority G.S. 115D-6.1; 115D-54; S.L. 1995, c. 625;

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

Amended Eff. [August 1, 2026](#).