

NUMBERED MEMO CC26-035

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 Adoption of 1B SBCCC 800.1 - Purpose

DATE: July 21, 2026

On July 17, 2026, the State Board of Community Colleges (SBCC) initiated the rulemaking process to adopt **1B SBCCC 800.1 – Purpose**. The proposed adoption would comply with Session Law 2026-21 which required the SBCC to adopt a policy on diversity, equity, and inclusion at community colleges. The proposed adoption is published on the NC Community College System's website, [Numbered Memos - NCCCS \(ncccommunitycolleges.edu\)](https://ncccommunitycolleges.edu). 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 August 20, 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 August 5, 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.

CC26-035

Email Copy
Attachment



State Board of Community Colleges Code

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Form

Date: July 21, 2026

Title, Chapter, Subchapter, and Rule Number of Rule Proposed to be Adopted, Amended, or Repealed	Adoption of 1B SBCCC 800.1 – Purpose
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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		
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Rationale for proposed adoption, amendment, or repeal:	This adoption is in response to Session Law 2026-21 which requires the State Board of Community Colleges to adopt a policy on diversity, equity, and inclusion at community colleges.
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Proposed Effective Date of Rule	October 1, 2026
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1B SBCC 800.1 is proposed for adoption as follows:

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



3
4 **CHAPTER B. COLLEGE OPERATIONS**

5
6 **SUBCHAPTER 800. DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION**

7
8 **1B SBCCC 800.1 Purpose**

9 Community college students, professors, administrators, and other employees shall
10 respect the dignity of others, acknowledge the right of others to express differing
11 opinions, and foster and defend intellectual honesty, freedom of inquiry and
12 instruction, and freedom of speech and association. Colleges will employ teaching
13 methods and procedures to further that intent.

14
15 History Note: Authority G.S. 115D-6.1

16 Eff. _____.