

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Student Leadership Development Program Request
FY 2026-27

Request: The State Board of Community Colleges is requested to approve up to \$40,000 in State Board Reserve Funds to support the academic year extension of the Student Leadership Development Program. The Board's initial investment funded the inaugural LeaderShape Institute curriculum and Camp Caraway residential experience. This request will provide the remaining resources necessary to complete the year-long leadership experience, including participant engagement, leadership development, professional etiquette training, in-person leadership check-ins, and graduation.

Strategic Plan References: Goal 3: Student Success

Identify and deliver professional development for student support services that reduce the main barriers to completion facing students, especially underrepresented students.

Strategy 3.1.2

Background/Rationale: The Student Leadership Development Program was successfully re-launched through the State Board's investment in partnership with the LeaderShape Institute. During the inaugural year, students representing community colleges from across North Carolina were selected through a competitive application process and participated in an immersive residential leadership institute at Camp Caraway.

Following the summer institute, we launched a continued leadership development experience through monthly virtual learning sessions, coaching, and implementation of their year-long Vision to Action projects designed to create positive changes on their campuses and within their communities.

The remaining phases of the program include two in-person leadership check-ins, continued participant engagement, professional etiquette training, and a graduation ceremony recognizing students who have successfully completed the year-long leadership experience. Funding these program components will ensure the inaugural cohort receives a comprehensive leadership experience. Completing the extended Student Leadership Development Program will also provide meaningful outcomes and assessment data to evaluate the program's long-term impact and sustainability.

Program Expenses:

Contractor/Expense	Total Expense
Personnel Leadership Development Program Coordination & Facilitation	\$4,000
Fall Leadership Development Experience (Contracted Facility, Program Delivery & Participant Services) - Central Carolina CC	\$11,750

Spring Leadership Development Experience (Contracted Facility, Program Delivery & Participant Services) - Wake Tech	\$11,750
Professional Workforce Readiness Experience (Contracted Educational Program/Keynote Speakers)	\$3,500
Vision to Action Project & Leadership Development Materials	\$1,000
Student Leadership Development Program Culminating Recognition Event (Contracted Venue & Program Delivery) - Wake Tech	\$8,000
TOTAL	\$40,000

Program Overview: Program Timeline: August 2026 – April 2027

- Monthly virtual leadership development sessions continue throughout the academic year.
- Students are implementing Vision to Action leadership projects on their campuses and within their communities.
- Two in-person leadership check-ins will provide additional leadership development, networking, project coaching, and professional skill building.
- Participants will engage in a professional etiquette luncheon designed to strengthen workplace readiness and professional communication skills. They will also participate in resume building, and interview coaching.
- Students who successfully complete all program requirements will be recognized during the Student Leadership Development Program Graduation Ceremony.
- Program outcomes and participant assessments will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the pilot and inform future program planning.

Fund Source and Availability: FY 2026-27 funding is available from the State Board Reserve. G.S. 115D-5(j) provides that "The State Board of Community Colleges shall use its Board Reserve Fund for feasibility studies, pilot projects, start-up of new programs, and innovative ideas." This request represents the continuation and successful completion of the Board-supported Student Leadership Development Program pilot and will ensure the inaugural cohort completes the full year-long leadership experience as originally envisioned.

Contact(s):

Tiffany Skouby
State Director for Student Life