

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019**

**SESSION LAW 2019-235
SENATE BILL 61**

AN ACT, CONSISTENT WITH HOUSE BILL 966 OF THE 2019 REGULAR SESSION, TO ENACT A BUDGET FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM; TO MAKE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS, TRANSFERS, AND REDUCTIONS TO THE BUDGET OF THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM; AND TO MAKE OTHER MODIFICATIONS RELATED TO THE OPERATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

PART I. APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

INTRODUCTION

SECTION 1.1. The appropriations made in this act and S.L. 2019-209 are for maximum amounts necessary to provide the services and accomplish the purposes described in the budget for the Community College System in accordance with the State Budget Act. Savings shall be effected where the total amounts appropriated are not required to perform these services and accomplish these purposes, and the savings shall revert to the appropriate fund at the end of each fiscal year, except as otherwise provided by law.

CURRENT OPERATIONS AND EXPANSION

SECTION 1.2. In addition to the appropriations set forth in S.L. 2019-209 for the Community College System, appropriations from the General Fund for the budget of the Community College System are made for the fiscal biennium ending June 30, 2021, as follows:

Current Operations – General Fund	FY 2019-2020	FY 2020-2021
Community College System		
Requirements	\$1,577,080,779	\$1,574,065,397
Less: Receipts	380,447,392	380,212,392
Net Appropriation	1,196,633,387	1,193,853,005

COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS

SECTION 1.3.(a) State funds, as defined in G.S. 143C-1-1(d)(25), are appropriated for each fiscal year of the 2019-2021 fiscal biennium, as follows:

- (1) All budget codes listed in the Governor's Recommended Budget and in the Budget Support Document for the Community College System for the 2019-2021 fiscal biennium submitted pursuant to G.S. 143C-3-5 are appropriated up to the amounts specified, as adjusted by the General Assembly in this act.
- (2) Departmental receipts up to the amounts needed to implement the legislatively mandated salary increases and employee benefit increases provided in this act for each fiscal year of the 2019-2021 fiscal biennium.



SECTION 1.3.(b) Receipts collected in a fiscal year in excess of the amounts appropriated by this section shall remain unexpended and unencumbered until appropriated by the General Assembly, unless the expenditure of overrealized receipts in the fiscal year in which the receipts were collected is authorized by G.S. 143C-6-4. Overrealized receipts are appropriated in the amounts necessary to implement this subsection.

SECTION 1.3.(c) Funds may be expended only for the specified programs, purposes, objects, and line items or as otherwise authorized by the General Assembly.

OTHER RECEIPTS FROM PENDING AWARD GRANTS

SECTION 1.4.(a) Notwithstanding G.S. 143C-6-4, the Community Colleges System Office may, with approval of the Director of the Budget, spend funds received from grants awarded subsequent to the enactment of this act for grant awards that are for less than two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000), do not require State matching funds, and will not be used for a capital project. The Community Colleges System Office shall report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations within 30 days of receipt of such funds.

The Community Colleges System Office may spend all other funds from grants awarded after the enactment of this act only with approval of the Director of the Budget and after consultation with the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations.

SECTION 1.4.(b) The Office of State Budget and Management shall work with the Community Colleges System Office to budget grant awards according to the annual program needs and within the parameters of the respective granting entities. Depending on the nature of the award, additional State personnel may be employed on a time-limited basis. Funds received from such grants are hereby appropriated and shall be incorporated into the authorized budget of the Community College System.

SECTION 1.4.(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the Community Colleges System Office may not accept a grant not anticipated in this act if acceptance of the grant would obligate the State to make future expenditures relating to the program receiving the grant or would otherwise result in a financial obligation as a consequence of accepting the grant funds.

ESTABLISHING OR INCREASING FEES

SECTION 1.5. Notwithstanding G.S. 12-3.1, for the 2019-2021 fiscal biennium, the State Board of Community Colleges is not required to consult with the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations prior to establishing or increasing a fee to the level authorized or anticipated in this act.

DIRECTED GRANTS

SECTION 1.6.(a) Directed Grants; Definitions. – For purposes of this act, the following definitions apply:

- (1) Directed grant. – Nonrecurring funds allocated by a State agency to a non-State entity as directed by an act of the General Assembly.
- (2) Non-State entity. – As defined in G.S. 143C-1-1.

SECTION 1.6.(b) Directed Grants; Requirements. – Nonrecurring funds appropriated in this act as directed grants are subject to all of the following requirements:

- (1) Directed grants are subject to the provisions of subsections (b) through (k) of G.S. 143C-6-23.
- (2) Directed grants of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) or less may be made in a single annual payment in the discretion of the Director of the Budget. Directed grants of more than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) shall be made in quarterly or monthly payments in the discretion of the Director of the Budget. The Community Colleges System Office shall

administer a directed grant to begin disbursement of funds to a non-State entity that meets all applicable requirements as soon as practicable, but no later than 100 days after the date this act becomes law.

- (3) Beginning on the first day of a quarter following the deadline provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection and quarterly thereafter, the Community Colleges System Office shall report to the Fiscal Research Division on the status of funds disbursed for each directed grant until all funds are fully disbursed. At a minimum, the report required under this subdivision shall include updates on (i) the date of the initial contract, (ii) the date the contract was sent to the entity receiving the funds, (iii) the date the Community Colleges System Office received the fully executed contract back from the entity, (iv) the contract execution date, and (v) the payment date.
- (4) Notwithstanding any provision of G.S. 143C-1-2(b) to the contrary, nonrecurring funds appropriated in this act as directed grants shall not revert until June 30, 2021.
- (5) Directed grants are for nonsectarian, nonreligious purposes only.

SECTION 1.6.(c) Directed Grants; Sunset. – This section expires on June 30, 2021.

PART II. ADJUSTMENTS TO GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS

USE OF GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

SECTION 2.1. Of the funds appropriated in this act to the Community Colleges System Office from the General Fund, the sum of thirty-two million six hundred ninety-three thousand nine hundred sixty-four dollars (\$32,693,964) for the 2019-2020 fiscal year and the sum of twenty-nine million nine hundred thirteen thousand five hundred eighty-two dollars (\$29,913,582) for the 2020-2021 fiscal year shall be used as follows:

- (1) Residency Determination Service – Two million two hundred eighty-five thousand seven hundred fifty-seven dollars (\$2,285,757) in recurring funds for each fiscal year of the 2019-2021 fiscal biennium for the statutorily required utilization of the Residency Determination Service, a centralized system for verification of residency status of postsecondary students in North Carolina.
- (2) Workforce Development Focused IT and ERP (Fund Code 1200) – Ten million five hundred fifteen thousand dollars (\$10,515,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2019-2020 fiscal year and eight million five hundred thousand dollars (\$8,500,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2020-2021 fiscal year to implement system-wide Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) solutions, including online registration for workforce development courses. These funds shall be transferred to Budget Code 26802, Fund Code 2307, and are hereby appropriated.
- (3) North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities (NCICU) Campus Police Training (Fund Code 1620) – Total tuition receipts shall be reduced by one hundred ten thousand dollars (\$110,000) in recurring funds for the 2020-2021 fiscal year, and one hundred ten thousand dollars (\$110,000) in recurring funds for the 2020-2021 fiscal year shall be provided for a tuition waiver granted to campus police officers from private colleges and universities in accordance with Section 3.2 of this act. Total requirements for this purpose shall remain the same.
- (4) Short-Term Workforce Training Parity (Fund Code 1622) – Twelve million fifty-one thousand four hundred seventy-seven dollars (\$12,051,477) in

recurring funds for each fiscal year of the 2019-2021 fiscal biennium for short-term continuing education and workforce development courses leading to industry credentials. These funds shall be used to reduce the full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment determination disparity between short-term workforce training and curriculum programs.

- (5) Career Coaches (Fund Code 1624) – One million seven hundred thirty-three thousand four hundred thirteen dollars (\$1,733,413) in recurring funds for the 2019-2020 fiscal year and two million three hundred thousand dollars (\$2,300,000) in recurring funds for the 2020-2021 fiscal year for the Career Coaches program, which places career coaches employed by local community colleges with partnering high schools.
- (6) North Carolina Military Business Center (Fund Code 1624) – Nine hundred thousand dollars (\$900,000) in recurring funds for each fiscal year of the 2019-2021 fiscal biennium for the North Carolina Military Business Center at Fayetteville Technical Community College.
- (7) South Piedmont Community College Training Center (Fund Code 1624) – One million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2020-2021 fiscal year as a directed grant for an Aseptic Training Center at South Piedmont Community College.
- (8) Piedmont Community College (Fund Code 1624) – One million one hundred seventy thousand dollars (\$1,170,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2019-2020 fiscal year to provide a matching grant in accordance with Section 3.6 of this act for an Educational and Agricultural Development Center at Piedmont Community College.
- (9) Veterinary Equipment (Fund Code 1624) – Six hundred thirty-one thousand nine hundred sixty-nine dollars (\$631,969) in nonrecurring funds for the 2019-2020 fiscal year as a directed grant to Gaston College to equip the Veterinary Medical Technology building.
- (10) Anspach Advanced Manufacturing School (Fund Code 1624) – Five hundred fifteen thousand dollars (\$515,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2019-2020 fiscal year for the Anspach Advanced Manufacturing School at the Yancey County campus of Mayland Community College for the purchase of equipment and nonrecurring operational expenses.
- (11) Randolph Community College (Fund Code 1624) – Two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2019-2020 fiscal year as a directed grant for the purchase of equipment for Randolph Community College.
- (12) Wayne Community College (Fund Code 1624) – One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2019-2020 fiscal year as a directed grant for repairs, renovations, and capital needs at Wayne Community College.
- (13) Cape Fear Botanical Gardens (Fund Code 1624) – One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2019-2020 fiscal year as a directed grant to Fayetteville Technical Community College to support the Cape Fear Botanical Gardens.
- (14) Truck Driver Training Program (Fund Code 1624) – Seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2019-2020 fiscal year as a directed grant to Johnston Community College for a truck driver training program.
- (15) McDowell Technical Community College (Fund Code 1624) – Seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2019-2020 fiscal year

as a directed grant for a pediatric patient simulator for the nursing program at McDowell Technical Community College and twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2019-2020 fiscal year as a directed grant for a Wi-Fi connectivity project at McDowell Technical Community College.

- (16) Workforce-Focused Multicampus Centers (Fund Code 1625) – Two million two hundred sixty-six thousand four hundred forty-eight dollars (\$2,266,448) in recurring funds for each fiscal year of the 2019-2021 fiscal biennium to support four approved multicampus sites as follows: Forsyth Tech Transportation Campus, RTP Campus of Wake Technical Community College, the Scotland County Campus of Richmond Community College, and the Aviation Campus of Guilford Technical Community College.

GENERAL FUND REDUCTION

SECTION 2.2. For each fiscal year of the 2019-2021 fiscal biennium, the total requirements for the Community College System shall be reduced by the sum of seventeen million three hundred sixty-one thousand one hundred ninety-two dollars (\$17,361,192), and the receipts for the Community College System shall be reduced by the sum of twelve million eight hundred eighty-four thousand two hundred sixteen dollars (\$12,884,216) for enrollment changes and formula adjustments based on the decrease in community college enrollment.

CONTINGENT GENERAL FUND AGENCY TRANSFER

SECTION 2.3. If House Bill 966, 2019 Regular Session, becomes law, or if substantially similar legislation that appropriates the sum of one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$125,000) in nonrecurring funds from the General Fund to the Department of Environmental Quality for the 2019-2020 fiscal year for the Carteret Community College Aquaculture Program becomes law, the Department of Environmental Quality shall transfer the sum of one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$125,000) in nonrecurring funds to the Community Colleges System Office for the 2019-2020 fiscal year for the Shellfish Aquaculture Demonstration Center, a collaboration between NC Sea Grant and Carteret Community College. The funds shall be used to complete construction of a shelter to cover an outdoor area with nursery tanks and a workspace that shall be used for building aquaculture gear, sorting, processing, and handling product.

PART III. MODIFICATIONS TO THE COMMUNITY COLLEGES SYSTEM

CODIFY REORGANIZATION AUTHORITY OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES SYSTEM OFFICE

SECTION 3.1. G.S. 115D-3 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115D-3. **Community Colleges System Office; ~~staff~~staff; reorganization authority.**

(a) The Community Colleges System Office shall be a principal administrative department of State government under the direction of the State Board of Community Colleges, and shall be separate from the free public school system of the State, the State Board of Education, and the Department of Public Instruction. The State Board has authority to adopt and administer all policies, regulations, and standards which it deems necessary for the operation of the System Office.

The State Board shall elect a President of the North Carolina System of Community Colleges who shall serve as chief administrative officer of the Community Colleges System Office. The compensation of this position shall be fixed by the State Board from funds provided by the General Assembly in the Current Operations Appropriations Act.

The President shall be assisted by such professional staff members as may be deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of this Chapter, who shall be elected by the State Board on nomination of the President. The compensation of the staff members elected by the Board shall be fixed by the State Board of Community Colleges, upon recommendation of the President of the Community College System, from funds provided in the Current Operations Appropriations Act. These staff members shall include such officers as may be deemed desirable by the President and State Board. Provision shall be made for persons of high competence and strong professional experience in such areas as academic affairs, public service programs, business and financial affairs, institutional studies and long-range planning, student affairs, research, legal affairs, health affairs and institutional development, and for State and federal programs administered by the State Board. In addition, the President shall be assisted by such other employees as may be needed to carry out the provisions of this Chapter, who shall be subject to the provisions of Chapter 126 of the General Statutes. The staff complement shall be established by the State Board on recommendation of the President to insure that there are persons on the staff who have the professional competence and experience to carry out the duties assigned and to insure that there are persons on the staff who are familiar with the problems and capabilities of all of the principal types of institutions represented in the system. The State Board of Community Colleges shall have all other powers, duties, and responsibilities delegated to the State Board of Education affecting the Community Colleges System Office not otherwise stated in this Chapter.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the President may reorganize the System Office in accordance with recommendations and plans submitted to and approved by the State Board of Community Colleges. If a reorganization is implemented pursuant to this subsection, including any movement of positions and funds between fund codes on a recurring basis, the President shall report by June 30 of the fiscal year in which the reorganization occurred to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and the Fiscal Research Division of the General Assembly."

COMMUNITY COLLEGE TUITION WAIVER/CAMPUS POLICE OF PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

SECTION 3.2.(a) G.S. 115D-5(b) reads as rewritten:

"(b) In order to make instruction as accessible as possible to all citizens, the teaching of curricular courses and of noncurricular extension courses at convenient locations away from institution campuses as well as on campuses is authorized and shall be encouraged. A pro rata portion of the established regular tuition rate charged a full-time student shall be charged a part-time student taking any curriculum course. In lieu of any tuition charge, the State Board of Community Colleges shall establish a uniform registration fee, or a schedule of uniform registration fees, to be charged students enrolling in extension courses for which instruction is financed primarily from State funds. The State Board of Community Colleges may provide by general and uniform regulations for waiver of tuition and registration fees for the following:

- (1) Persons not enrolled in elementary or secondary schools taking courses leading to a high school diploma or equivalent certificate.
- (2) Courses requested by the following entities that support the organizations' training needs and are on a specialized course list approved by the State Board of Community Colleges:
 - a. Volunteer fire departments.
 - b. Municipal, county, or State fire departments.
 - c. Volunteer EMS or rescue and lifesaving departments.
 - d. Municipal, county, or State EMS or rescue and lifesaving departments.
 - d1. Law enforcement, fire, EMS or rescue and lifesaving entities serving a lake authority that was created by a county board of commissioners prior to July 1, 2012.

- e. Radio Emergency Associated Communications Teams (REACT) under contract to a county as an emergency response agency.
- f. Municipal, county, or State law enforcement agencies.
- f1. Campus police agencies of private institutions of higher education certified by the Attorney General pursuant to Chapter 74G of the General Statutes.
- g. The Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice of the Department of Public Safety for the training of full-time custodial employees and employees of the Division required to be certified under Article 1 of Chapter 17C of the General Statutes and the rules of the Criminal Justice and Training Standards Commission.
- h. Repealed by Session Laws 2017-186, s. 2(hhhhh), effective December 1, 2017.
- i. The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians law enforcement, fire, EMS or rescue and lifesaving tribal government departments or programs.
- j. The Criminal Justice Standards Division of the Department of Justice for the training of criminal justice professionals, as defined in G.S. 17C-20(6), who are required to be certified under (i) Article 1 of Chapter 17C of the General Statutes and the rules of the North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission or (ii) Chapter 17E of the General Statutes and the rules of the North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission. The waivers provided for in this sub-subdivision apply to participants and recent graduates of the North Carolina Criminal Justice Fellows Program to obtain certifications for eligible criminal justice professions as defined in G.S. 17C-20(6).

...."

SECTION 3.2.(b) This section applies beginning with the 2019-2020 academic year.

NC CAREER COACHES/LOCAL MATCHING FUNDS

SECTION 3.3. G.S. 115D-21.5(c) reads as rewritten:

"(c) Application for NC Career Coach Program Funding. – The board of trustees of a community college and a local board of education of a local school administrative unit within the service area of the community college jointly may apply for available funds for NC Career Coach Program funding from the State Board of Community Colleges. The State Board of Community Colleges shall establish a process for award of funds as follows:

- (1) Advisory committee. – Establishment of an advisory committee, which shall include representatives from the NC Community College System, the Department of Public Instruction, the Department of Commerce, and at least three representatives of the business community, to review applications and make recommendations for funding awards to the State Board.
- (2) Application submission requirements. – The State Board of Community Colleges shall require at least the following:
 - a. Evidence of a signed memorandum of understanding that meets, at a minimum, the requirements of this section.
 - b. Evidence that the funding request will be matched ~~dollar-for-dollar~~ with local ~~funds-funds~~ in accordance with the following:
 - 1. Matching funds may come from public or private sources.
 - 2. The match amount shall be determined based on the development tier designation of the county in which the local school administrative unit is located where the career coach is

assigned on the date of the award of funds by the State Board of Community Colleges according to the following:

- I. If located in a tier one county as defined in G.S. 143B-437.08, no local match shall be required.
 - II. If located in a tier two county as defined in G.S. 143B-437.08, one dollar (\$1.00) of local funds for every two dollars (\$2.00) in State funds shall be required.
 - III. If located in a tier three county as defined in G.S. 143B-437.08, one dollar (\$1.00) of local funds for every one dollar (\$1.00) in State funds shall be required.
- (3) Awards criteria. – The State Board of Community Colleges shall develop criteria for consideration in determining the award of funds that shall include the following:
- a. Consideration of the workforce needs of business and industry in the region.
 - b. Targeting of resources to enhance ongoing economic activity within the community college service area and surrounding counties.
 - c. Geographic diversity of awards."

ALLOW COMMUNITY COLLEGES TO EARN FTE FOR INSTRUCTION IN LOCAL JAILS

SECTION 3.4.(a) Section 8.3(b) of S.L. 2010-31 reads as rewritten:

"**SECTION 8.3.(b)** Courses in federal prisons ~~or local jails~~ shall not earn regular budget full-time equivalents, but may be offered on a self-supporting basis."

SECTION 3.4.(b) G.S. 115D-5 reads as rewritten:

"**§ 115D-5. Administration of institutions by State Board of Community Colleges; personnel exempt from North Carolina Human Resources Act; extension courses; tuition waiver; in-plant training; contracting, etc., for establishment and operation of extension units of the community college system; use of existing public school facilities.**

...

(c) No course of instruction shall be offered by any community college at State expense or partial State expense to any captive or co-opted group of students, as defined by the State Board of Community Colleges, without prior approval of the State Board of Community Colleges. All course offerings approved for State prison inmates or prisoners in local jails must be tied to clearly identified job skills, transition needs, or both. Approval by the State Board of Community Colleges shall be presumed to constitute approval of both the course and the group served by that institution. The State Board of Community Colleges may delegate to the President the power to make an initial approval, with final approval to be made by the State Board of Community Colleges. A course taught without such approval will not yield any full-time equivalent students, as defined by the State Board of Community Colleges.

(c1) Community colleges shall report full-time equivalent (FTE) student hours for correction education programs on the basis of ~~contact hours rather than~~ student membership hours. No community college shall operate a multi-entry/multi-exit class or program in a prison facility, except for a literacy class or program.

The State Board shall work with the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice of the Department of Public Safety on offering classes and programs that match the average length of stay of an inmate in a prison facility.

...."

SECTION 3.4.(c) Beginning with the 2019-2020 academic year, community college courses offered in local jails shall earn regular budget full-time equivalents.

WAIVE TUITION/DEPENDENTS OF FALLEN CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS

SECTION 3.5.(a) G.S. 115B-1 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115B-1. Definitions.

The following definitions apply in this Chapter:

(1) Correctional officer. – An employee of an employer who is certified as a State correctional officer under the provisions of Article 1 of Chapter 17C of the General Statutes.

~~(1)~~(1a) Employer. – The State of North Carolina and its departments, agencies, and institutions; or a county, city, town, or other political subdivision of the State.

...

(4) Permanently and totally disabled as a direct result of a traumatic injury sustained in the line of duty. – A person: (i) who as a law enforcement officer, correctional officer, firefighter, volunteer firefighter, or rescue squad worker suffered a disabling injury while in active service or training for active service, (ii) who at the time of active service or training was a North Carolina resident, and (iii) who has been determined to be permanently and totally disabled for compensation purposes by the North Carolina Industrial Commission.

...

(6) Survivor. – Any person whose parent, legal guardian, legal custodian, or spouse: (i) was a law enforcement officer, a correctional officer, a firefighter, a volunteer firefighter, or a rescue squad worker, (ii) was killed while in active service or training for active service or died as a result of a service-connected disability, and (iii) at the time of active service or training was a North Carolina resident. The term does not include the widow or widower of a law enforcement officer, correctional officer, firefighter, volunteer firefighter, or a rescue squad worker if the widow or widower has remarried.

...."

SECTION 3.5.(b) G.S. 115B-2(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) The constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina and the community colleges as defined in G.S. 115D-2(2) shall permit the following persons to attend classes for credit or noncredit purposes without the required payment of tuition:

...

(2) Any person who is the survivor of a law enforcement officer, correctional officer, firefighter, volunteer firefighter, or rescue squad worker killed as a direct result of a traumatic injury sustained in the line of duty.

(3) The spouse of a law enforcement officer, correctional officer, firefighter, volunteer firefighter, or rescue squad worker who is permanently and totally disabled as a direct result of a traumatic injury sustained in the line of duty.

(4) Any child, if the child is at least 17 years old but not yet 24 years old, whose parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian is a law enforcement officer, correctional officer, firefighter, volunteer firefighter, or rescue squad worker who is permanently and totally disabled as a direct result of a traumatic injury sustained in the line of duty. However, a child's eligibility for a waiver of tuition under this Chapter shall not exceed: (i) 54 months, if the child is seeking a baccalaureate degree, or (ii) if the child is not seeking a baccalaureate degree, the number of months required to complete the educational program to which the child is applying.

...."

SECTION 3.5.(c) G.S. 115B-5(b)(3) reads as rewritten:

"(3) The cause of death of the law enforcement officer, correctional officer, firefighter, volunteer firefighter, or rescue squad worker shall be verified by certification from the records of the Department of State Treasurer, the appropriate city or county law enforcement agency that employed the deceased, the administrative agency for the fire department or fire protection district recognized for funding under the Department of State Auditor, or the administrative agency having jurisdiction over any paid firefighters of all counties and cities."

SECTION 3.5.(d) This section applies beginning with the 2019-2020 academic year.

PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT/MATCHING FUNDS

SECTION 3.6. The funds appropriated to the Community Colleges System Office by this act for the 2019-2020 fiscal year for the Center for Educational and Agricultural Development at Piedmont Community College shall be matched by the Board of Trustees of Piedmont Community College on the basis of two dollars (\$2.00) in allocated State funds for every one dollar (\$1.00) in non-State funds. The Community Colleges System Office shall only allocate the funds upon the Board of Trustees providing the required match of non-State funds for the total amount of State funds. These matching funds shall not revert at the end of each fiscal year to the General Fund, but shall remain available until June 30, 2023. If the Community Colleges System Office has not allocated these funds to Piedmont Community College by the end of the 2022-2023 fiscal year, the funds shall then revert to the General Fund.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE ENROLLMENT GROWTH/PAMLICO CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION

SECTION 3.7. When calculating the enrollment growth budget request for the 2020-2021 fiscal year, the Community Colleges System Office shall adjust the full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment to reflect the FTE lost due to the fire at Pamlico Correctional Institution.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM TRANSITION

SECTION 3.8.(a) G.S. 143B-1325(d) reads as rewritten:

"(d) Report on Transition Planning. – ~~The Community College System Office, the Department of Public Instruction, Instruction and the Bipartisan State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement shall work with the State CIO to plan their transition to the Department. The information technology transfer and consolidation from the Department of Revenue to the Department shall not take place until the Secretary of the Department of Revenue determines that the system and data security of the Department meets the heightened security standards required by the federal government for purposes of sharing taxpayer information. By October 1, 2018, the Department of Public Instruction and the Bipartisan State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement, in conjunction with the State CIO, shall report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Information Technology and the Fiscal Research Division on their respective transition plans. By October 1, 2019, the Community College System Office, in conjunction with the State CIO, shall report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Information Technology and the Fiscal Research Division on its transition plan.~~"

SECTION 3.8.(b) The Community Colleges System Office shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Department of Information Technology with respect to coordinating information technology systems and policies. By February 1, 2020, the Community Colleges System Office, in conjunction with the State CIO, shall report to the Joint Legislative

Oversight Committee on Information Technology and the Fiscal Research Division on the memorandum of understanding.

PART IV. MODIFICATIONS FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

EDUCATION LOTTERY SCHOLARSHIP MODIFICATIONS

SECTION 4.1.(a) G.S. 115C-499.2 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115C-499.2. Eligibility requirements for a scholarship.

In order to be eligible to receive a scholarship under this Article, a student seeking a degree, diploma, or certificate at an eligible postsecondary institution must meet all of the following requirements:

- (1) Only needy North Carolina students are eligible to receive scholarships. For purposes of this subsection, "needy North Carolina students" are those eligible students whose expected family contribution under the federal methodology does not exceed five-six thousand dollars ~~(\$5,000)-(\$6,000)~~.

...."

SECTION 4.1.(b) G.S. 115C-499.3(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) Subject to the amount of net income available under G.S. 18C-164(b)(2), a scholarship awarded under this Article to a student at an eligible postsecondary institution shall be based upon the enrollment status and expected family contribution of the student and shall not exceed four-five thousand one hundred dollars ~~(\$4,000)-(\$5,100)~~ per academic year, including any federal Pell Grant, to be used for the costs of attendance as defined for federal Title IV programs."

SECTION 4.1.(c) This section applies beginning with the award of scholarships for the 2020-2021 academic year.

PART V. MISCELLANEOUS

STATE BUDGET ACT APPLIES

SECTION 5.1.(a) The provisions of the State Budget Act, Chapter 143C of the General Statutes, are reenacted and shall remain in full force and effect and are incorporated in this act by reference.

SECTION 5.1.(b) The budget enacted by the General Assembly is for the maintenance of the Community College System for the 2019-2021 biennial budget as provided in G.S. 143C-3-5. This budget includes the appropriations of State funds as defined in G.S. 143C-1-1(d)(25).

The Director of the Budget submitted a recommended budget to the General Assembly in the Governor's Recommended Budget and in the Budget Support Document for the Community College System for the 2019-2021 fiscal biennium, dated March 2019. The adjustments to the recommended budget for the Community College System made by the General Assembly are set out in this act.

SECTION 5.1.(c) The budget enacted by the General Assembly for the Community College System shall also be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of this act and other appropriate legislation. In the event that there is a conflict between the line-item budget certified by the Director of the Budget for the Community College System and the budget enacted by the General Assembly for the Community College System, the budget enacted by the General Assembly for the Community College System shall prevail.

APPROPRIATIONS LIMITATIONS AND DIRECTIONS APPLY

SECTION 5.2.(a) If House Bill 966, 2019 Regular Session, becomes law, then Sections 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 6.9, 8A.5, 18.17C, and 37.3 of that act are repealed.

SECTION 5.2.(b) Except where expressly repealed or amended, S.L. 2019-209, S.L. 2019-224, and any other enactments affecting the State budget during the 2019 Regular Session of the General Assembly shall remain in effect.

MOST TEXT APPLIES ONLY TO THE 2019-2021 FISCAL BIENNIUM

SECTION 5.3. Except for statutory changes or other provisions that clearly indicate an intention to have effects beyond the 2019-2021 fiscal biennium, the textual provisions of this act apply only to funds appropriated for, and activities occurring during, the 2019-2021 fiscal biennium.

EFFECT OF HEADINGS

SECTION 5.4. The headings to the Parts, subparts, and sections of this act are a convenience to the reader and are for reference only. The headings do not expand, limit, or define the text of this act, except for effective dates referring to a Part or subpart.

SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

SECTION 5.5. If any section or provision of this act is declared unconstitutional or invalid by the courts, it does not affect the validity of this act as a whole or any part other than the part so declared to be unconstitutional or invalid.

PART VI. EFFECTIVE DATE

SECTION 6.1. Except as otherwise provided, this act becomes effective July 1, 2019.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 23rd day of October, 2019.

s/ Philip E. Berger
President Pro Tempore of the Senate

s/ Tim Moore
Speaker of the House of Representatives

s/ Roy Cooper
Governor

Approved 10:43 a.m. this 1st day of November, 2019