

1 **SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND AMENDMENTS**

2 **SECTION #.(a)** G.S. 115C-150.11(c), as enacted by Section 3J.1(a) of S.L. 2024-57,
3 reads as rewritten:

4 "(c) Administrative Support. – The Department of Administration shall provide support
5 to each school in matters related to finance, human resources, and procurement, ~~including~~
6 excluding support for information technology. Each school shall enter into a memorandum of
7 understanding with the Department of Administration with regard to this support. No civil
8 liability shall attach to the Department of Administration, or to any of its employees, individually
9 or collectively, for any acts or omissions of a school."

10 **SECTION #.(b)** G.S. 115C-150.11 reads as rewritten:
11 **"§ 115C-150.11. Establishment of the schools for the deaf and blind.**

12 (a) Establishment. – The following are created as separate State agencies governed
13 respectively by boards of trustees:

14 (1) The Governor Morehead School for the Blind of the Department of Public
15 Instruction for the function, purpose, and duty of serving students who are
16 blind or visually impaired from birth to age 22. The Governor Morehead
17 School for the Blind shall include the Governor Morehead
18 Preschool.Preschool and the Early Learning Sensory Support Program for
19 Vision.

20 (2) The Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf of the Department of Public
21 Instruction for the function, purpose, and duty of serving students who are
22 deaf or hard of ~~hearing.hearing~~ from birth to age 22. The Eastern North
23 Carolina School for the Deaf shall include the Early Learning Sensory Support
24 Program for Hearing.

25 (3) The North Carolina School for the Deaf of the Department of Public
26 Instruction for the function, purpose, and duty of serving students who are
27 deaf or hard of ~~hearing.hearing~~ from birth to age 22. The North Carolina
28 School for the Deaf shall include the Early Learning Sensory Support Program
29 for Hearing.

30"

31 **SECTION #.(c)** Effective December 1, 2025, the Governor Morehead Preschool and
32 the Early Learning Sensory Program for Vision is transferred from the Department of Instruction
33 to the Governor Morehead School for the Blind.

34 **SECTION #.(d)** Effective December 1, 2025, the Early Learning Sensory Support
35 Program for Hearing is transferred from the Department of Public Instruction to the North
36 Carolina School for the Deaf and the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf. Upon transfer,
37 the North Carolina School of the Deaf and the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf shall
38 agree on a geographical boundary to divide the administrative responsibility for the Early
39 Learning Sensory Support Program for Hearing between the two schools.

**N.C. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
ON
EDUCATION

PROPOSED SPECIAL PROVISIONS**

Senate Bill 257

May 15, 2025

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA



SPECIAL PROVISIONS
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MAY 15, 2025

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-NCCCS-H4(S6.2)i

North Carolina Community College System
House Appropriations, Education

1 ***REPEAL MINORITY MALE SUCCESS INITIATIVE REPORT***

2 **SECTION 6.2.** G.S. 115D-58.17(a) reads as rewritten:

3 "(a) No later than February 15, 2024, and annually thereafter, the State Board of
4 Community Colleges shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on
5 outcomes related to ~~the following recurring programs:~~

6 (1) ~~Minority male mentoring programs, including the Minority Male Success~~
7 ~~Initiative.~~

8 (2) ~~The~~ the Rowan-Cabarrus Community College Biotechnology Training Center
9 and Greenhouse at the North Carolina Research Campus in Kannapolis."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-NCCCS-H12(S6.3)-P

North Carolina Community College System
House Appropriations, Education

1 **PROPEL NC**

2 **SECTION 6.3.(a)** Section 8.3(b) of S.L. 2011-145 and Section 10.4(a) of S.L.
3 2013-360 are repealed.

4 **SECTION 6.3.(b)** The State Board of Community Colleges may revise its funding
5 formula for community colleges and allocate funds under that revised formula, beginning with
6 the 2025-2026 fiscal year. Revisions made pursuant to this section are subject to the following
7 minimum criteria:

- 8 (1) Each community college shall continue to receive a base allocation of funds.
9 (2) In addition to the base allocation of funds, funds shall be provided to
10 community colleges based on the number of full-time equivalent (FTE)
11 students enrolled in the following:
12 a. Curriculum, workforce continuing education, and Basic Skills courses.
13 b. Courses and programming conducted under the Customized Training
14 Program and the Small Business Center Network.
15 (3) Funds allocated pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be
16 weighted based on the workforce sector of each course, as determined by the
17 State Board. In making its determinations, the State Board shall consider
18 salary data and labor market demand for the applicable workforce sector.

19 **SECTION 6.3.(c)** Part 3 of Article 1 of Chapter 115D of the General Statutes, as
20 enacted by this act, is further amended by adding a new section to read:

21 **"§ 115D-10.55. Course review.**

22 The State Board of Community Colleges shall review and revise, as necessary, its workforce
23 sector designations for curriculum, workforce continuing education, and Basic Skills courses at
24 community colleges by July 15, 2028, and every three years thereafter."

25 **SECTION 6.3.(d)** The State Board of Community Colleges may increase tuition
26 rates to accommodate any revisions made to the funding formula pursuant to subsection (b) of
27 this section.

28 **SECTION 6.3.(e)** G.S. 115D-31(e) reads as rewritten:

29 "(e) If receipts for community college tuition and fees exceed the amount certified in
30 General Fund Codes at the end of a fiscal year, the State Board of Community Colleges shall
31 ~~transfer the amount of receipts and fees above those budgeted to the Enrollment Growth Reserve.~~
32 may allocate those receipts to the community colleges for operating costs according to a formula
33 adopted by the State Board. Funds in the Enrollment Growth Reserve allocated pursuant to this
34 subsection shall not revert to the General Fund and shall remain available to the State Board until
35 expended. The State Board may allocate funds in this reserve to colleges experiencing an
36 enrollment increase greater than five percent (5%) of budgeted enrollment levels."

37 **SECTION 6.3.(f)** G.S. 115D-31 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

38 "(e1) The State Board shall administer the Enrollment Increase Reserve as provided in
39 G.S. 115D-31.4."

40 **SECTION 6.3.(g)** Article 3 of Chapter 115D of the General Statutes is amended by
41 adding a new section to read:

1 **"§ 115D-31.4. Enrollment Increase Reserve.**

2 (a) There is established the Enrollment Increase Reserve (Reserve) to be administered by
3 the State Board of Community Colleges. The purpose of the Reserve is to allow the State Board
4 to provide funds to community colleges to account for enrollment increases beyond budgeted
5 enrollment levels.

6 (b) Monies in the Reserve shall consist of funds appropriated by the General Assembly
7 in the Current Operations Appropriations Act for a fiscal year. The State Board shall include in
8 its annual enrollment request the appropriation to the Reserve that is needed to fund enrollment
9 increases in the next fiscal year.

10 (c) The State Board may allocate monies from the Reserve to a community college with
11 an eligible increase in full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment according to a formula adopted by
12 the State Board. An eligible increase in FTE enrollment is either of the following:

13 (1) An increase in FTE enrollment of more than five percent (5%) of the budgeted
14 enrollment level in any of the following course categories:

15 a. Curriculum.

16 b. Workforce continuing education.

17 c. Basic Skills.

18 (2) An increase in total FTE enrollment of more than 325 students.

19 (d) Monies in the Reserve shall not revert at the end of each fiscal year but shall remain
20 available until expended for the purposes of this section."

21 **SECTION 6.3.(h)** No later than April 1, 2027, the Community Colleges System
22 Office shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on any revisions to
23 its funding formula for community colleges pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, including
24 the structure of the revised formula, the process for implementing the revised formula, and any
25 recommended changes to the revised formula.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-NCCCS-H14(S6.4)i

North Carolina Community College System
House Appropriations, Education

1 ***NCCCS IDD WORKFORCE TRAINING EXPANSION***

2 **SECTION 6.4.(a)** G.S. 115D-10.21(a), as enacted by this act, reads as rewritten:

3 "(a) The State Board of Community Colleges shall establish a community college training
4 program for up to ~~15~~25 community colleges. The program shall provide opportunities for
5 micro-credentials or other credentials that lead to increased employment outcomes for
6 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). To the extent funds are
7 appropriated for this purpose, the program shall improve the ability of participating community
8 colleges to offer training and educational components that include improving employability skills
9 and providing on-the-job training and apprenticeships with business and industry for individuals
10 with IDD. The goal of the program shall be to inform community colleges and address
11 cross-departmental supports within the individual community colleges on programs for
12 individuals with IDD related to at least the following:

- 13 (1) Establishing best practices for providing vocational training for individuals
14 with IDD.
- 15 (2) Providing financial and benefits counseling.
- 16 (3) Developing strategies on integrating assistive technology.
- 17 (4) Maximizing access, with supports, to credential and degree programs,
18 including micro-credentials that are established by the State Board.
- 19 (5) Identifying methods to increase orientation and integration of individuals with
20 IDD into the college community to the greatest extent possible.
- 21 (6) Determining a needs assessment, marketing, and evaluation to serve a broad
22 array of individuals with developmental and other similar disabilities or
23 learning challenges to assure adequate demand for new or existing programs."

24 **SECTION 6.4.(b)** Of the funds appropriated for North Carolina Community
25 Colleges System IDD Workforce Training Expansion in this act, the Community Colleges
26 System Office shall use the funds as follows:

- 27 (1) The sum of six hundred forty thousand dollars (\$640,000) in recurring funds
28 shall be used to create two positions to facilitate the creation of work-based
29 learning opportunities and be dedicated to engagement with business and
30 industry partners statewide. These funds shall also be used for the expansion
31 of Career and College Promise high school pathways and pre-apprenticeships
32 and work-based learning for individuals with intellectual and developmental
33 disabilities.
- 34 (2) The sum of eight hundred ten thousand dollars (\$810,000) may be used for
35 marketing evaluation, online resources, professional development, and
36 infrastructure support.
- 37 (3) The remaining funds shall be used to expand the program developed pursuant
38 to G.S. 115D-10.21, as amended by this section.

39 **SECTION 6.4.(c)** The Community Colleges System Office shall continue to provide
40 funds to community colleges participating in the program developed pursuant to

1 G.S. 115D-10.21, as amended by this section, at the rate of one hundred ninety-four thousand
2 dollars (\$194,000) per participating community college.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-NCCCS-H1(S6.5)i

North Carolina Community College System
House Appropriations, Education

1 **CHAPTER 115D REORGANIZATION**

2 **SECTION 6.5.(a)** Article 1 of Chapter 115D of the General Statutes reads as
3 rewritten:

4 "Article 1.

5 "General Provisions for State Administration.

6 "Part 1. Establishment and Administration of the North Carolina Community Colleges System.

7 "**§ 115D-1. Statement of purpose.**

8 The purposes of this Chapter are to provide for the establishment, organization, and
9 administration of a system of educational institutions throughout the State offering courses of
10 instruction in one or more of the general areas of two-year college parallel, technical, vocational,
11 and adult education programs, to serve as a legislative charter for such institutions, and to
12 authorize the levying of local taxes and the issuing of local bonds for the support thereof. The
13 major purpose of each and every institution operating under the provisions of this Chapter shall
14 be and shall continue to be the offering of vocational and technical education and training, and
15 of basic, high school level, academic education needed in order to profit from vocational and
16 technical education, for students who are high school graduates or who are beyond the
17 compulsory age limit of the public school system and who have left the public schools, provided,
18 juveniles of any age committed to the Division of Juvenile Justice of the Department of Public
19 Safety by a court of competent jurisdiction may, if approved by the director of the youth
20 development center to which they are assigned, take courses offered by institutions of the system
21 if they are otherwise qualified for admission.

22 The Community Colleges System Office is designated as the primary lead agency for
23 delivering workforce development training, adult literacy training, and adult education programs
24 in the State.

25 ...

26 ~~"§ 115D-1.3. Accreditation of secondary school located in North Carolina shall not be a~~
27 ~~factor in admissions, loans, scholarships, or other educational policies.~~

28 (a) For purposes of this section, the term "accreditation" shall include certification or any
29 other similar approval process.

30 (b) ~~The State Board of Community Colleges shall adopt a policy that prohibits any~~
31 ~~community college from soliciting or using information regarding the accreditation of a~~
32 ~~secondary school located in North Carolina that a person attended as a factor affecting~~
33 ~~admissions, loans, scholarships, or other educational activity at the community college, unless~~
34 ~~the accreditation was conducted by a State agency.~~

35 ...

36 ~~"§ 115D-4.1. College transfer program approval; standards for programs; annual~~
37 ~~reporting requirements.~~

38 (a) Repealed by Session Laws 1995, c. 288, s. 1, effective September 1, 1995.

39 (b) ~~The State Board of Community Colleges may approve the addition of the college~~
40 ~~transfer program to a community college. If addition of the college transfer program to an~~

1 institution would require a substantial increase in funds, State Board approval shall be subject to
2 appropriation of funds by the General Assembly for this purpose.

3 (e) ~~Addition of the college transfer program shall not decrease an institution's ability to~~
4 ~~provide programs within its basic mission of vocational and technical training and basic academic~~
5 ~~education.~~

6 (d) ~~The State Board of Community Colleges shall develop appropriate criteria and~~
7 ~~standards to regulate the addition of the college transfer program to institutions.~~

8 (e) ~~The State Board of Community Colleges shall develop appropriate criteria and~~
9 ~~standards to regulate the operation of college transfer programs.~~

10 (f) ~~The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina shall report to each~~
11 ~~community college and to the State Board of Community Colleges in accordance with~~
12 ~~G.S. 116-11(10b) on the academic performance of that community college's transfer students. If~~
13 ~~the State Board of Community Colleges finds that college transfer students from a community~~
14 ~~college are not consistently performing adequately at a four year college, the Board shall review~~
15 ~~the community college's program and determine what steps are necessary to remedy the problem.~~
16 ~~The Board shall report annually to the General Assembly on the reports it receives and on what~~
17 ~~steps it is taking to remedy problems that it finds.~~

18 (g) ~~The Community Colleges System Office shall report by April 15, 2011, and annually~~
19 ~~thereafter, to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, the State Board of Education,~~
20 ~~the Office of State Budget and Management, and the Fiscal Research Division of the General~~
21 ~~Assembly on the implementation of the UNC NCCCS 2+2 E Learning Initiative. This report~~
22 ~~shall include:~~

- 23 (1) ~~The courses and programs within the 2+2 E Learning Initiative;~~
- 24 (2) ~~The total number of prospective teachers that have taken or are taking part in~~
25 ~~this initiative to date broken down by the current academic period and each of~~
26 ~~the previous academic periods since the program's inception;~~
- 27 (3) ~~The total number of teachers currently in the State's classrooms, by local~~
28 ~~school administrative unit, who have taken part in this initiative;~~
- 29 (4) ~~The change in the number of teachers available to schools since the program's~~
30 ~~inception;~~
- 31 (5) ~~The qualitative data from students, teachers, local school administrative unit~~
32 ~~personnel, university personnel, and community college personnel as to the~~
33 ~~impact of this initiative on our State's teaching pool; and~~
- 34 (6) ~~An explanation of the expenditures and collaborative programs between the~~
35 ~~North Carolina Community College System and The University of North~~
36 ~~Carolina, including recommendations for improvement.~~

37 ~~§ 115D-5. Administration of institutions by State Board of Community Colleges;~~
38 ~~personnel exempt from North Carolina Human Resources Act; extension~~
39 ~~courses; tuition waiver; in-plant training; contracting, etc., for establishment~~
40 ~~and operation of extension units of the community college system; use of existing~~
41 ~~public school facilities.~~

42 (a) ~~The State Board of Community Colleges may adopt and execute such policies,~~
43 ~~regulations and standards concerning the establishment, administration, and operation of~~
44 ~~institutions as the State Board may deem necessary to insure the quality of educational programs,~~
45 ~~to promote the systematic meeting of educational needs of the State, and to provide for the~~
46 ~~equitable distribution of State and federal funds to the several institutions.~~

47 ~~The State Board of Community Colleges shall establish standards and scales for salaries and~~
48 ~~allotments paid from funds administered by the State Board, and all employees of the institutions~~
49 ~~shall be exempt from the provisions of the North Carolina Human Resources Act. Any and all~~
50 ~~salary caps set by the State Board for community college presidents shall apply only to the~~
51 ~~State paid portion of the salary. Except as otherwise provided by law, the employer contribution~~

1 rate on the local paid portion of the salary, to be paid from local funds, shall be set by the State
2 Treasurer based on actuarial recommendations. The State Board shall have authority with respect
3 to individual institutions: to approve sites, capital improvement projects, budgets; to approve the
4 selection of the chief administrative officer; to establish and administer standards for professional
5 personnel, curricula, admissions, and graduation; to regulate the awarding of degrees, diplomas,
6 and certificates; to establish and regulate student tuition and fees within policies for tuition and
7 fees established by the General Assembly; and to establish and regulate financial accounting
8 procedures.

9 The State Board of Community Colleges shall require each community college to meet the
10 faculty credential requirements of its accrediting agency for all community college programs.

11 (a1) Notwithstanding G.S. 66-58(c)(3) or any other provisions of law, the State Board of
12 Community Colleges may adopt rules governing the expenditure of funds derived from bookstore
13 sales by community colleges. These expenditures shall be consistent with the mission and
14 purpose of the Community College System. Profits may be used in the support and enhancement
15 of the bookstores, for student aid or scholarships, for expenditures of direct benefit to students,
16 and for other similar expenditures authorized by the board of trustees, subject to rules adopted
17 by the State Board. These funds shall not be used to supplement salaries of any personnel.

18 (a2) The State Board of Community Colleges shall comply with the provisions of
19 G.S. 116-11(10a) to plan and implement an exchange of information between the public schools
20 and the institutions of higher education in the State.

21 (a3) The State Board of Community Colleges shall adopt the following rules to assist
22 community colleges in their administration of procedures necessary to implement G.S. 20-11 and
23 G.S. 20-13.2:

- 24 (1) To establish the procedures a person who is or was enrolled in a community
25 college must follow and the requirements that person must meet to obtain a
26 driving eligibility certificate.
- 27 (2) To require the person who is required under G.S. 20-11(n) to sign the driving
28 eligibility certificate to provide the certificate if he or she determines that one
29 of the following requirements is met:
 - 30 a. The person seeking the certificate is eligible for the certificate under
31 G.S. 20-11(n)(1) and is not subject to G.S. 20-11(n1).
 - 32 b. The person seeking the certificate is eligible for the certificate under
33 G.S. 20-11(n)(1) and G.S. 20-11(n1).
- 34 (3) To provide for an appeal through the grievance procedures established by the
35 board of trustees of each community college by a person who is denied a
36 driving eligibility certificate.
- 37 (4) To define exemplary student behavior and to define what constitutes the
38 successful completion of a drug or alcohol treatment counseling program.

39 The State Board also shall develop policies as to when it is appropriate to
40 notify the Division of Motor Vehicles that a person who is or was enrolled in
41 a community college no longer meets the requirements for a driving eligibility
42 certificate. The State Board also shall adopt guidelines to assist the presidents
43 of community colleges in their designation of representatives to sign driving
44 eligibility certificates.

45 The State Board shall develop a form for the appropriate individuals to
46 provide their written, irrevocable consent for a community college to disclose
47 to the Division of Motor Vehicles that the student no longer meets the
48 conditions for a driving eligibility certificate under G.S. 20-11(n)(1) or
49 G.S. 20-11(n1), if applicable, in the event that this disclosure is necessary to
50 comply with G.S. 20-11 or G.S. 20-13.2. Other than identifying under which
51 statutory subsection the student is no longer eligible, no other details or

1 information concerning the student's school record shall be released pursuant
2 to this consent.

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

12 (1) ~~Persons not enrolled in elementary or secondary schools taking courses~~
13 ~~leading to a high school diploma or equivalent certificate.~~

14 (2) ~~Courses requested by the following entities that support the organizations'~~
15 ~~training needs and are on a specialized course list approved by the State Board~~
16 ~~of Community Colleges:~~

17 a. ~~Volunteer fire departments.~~

18 b. ~~Municipal, county, or State fire departments.~~

19 e. ~~Volunteer EMS or rescue and lifesaving departments.~~

20 d. ~~Municipal, county, or State EMS or rescue and lifesaving departments.~~

21 d1. ~~Law enforcement, fire, EMS or rescue and lifesaving entities serving~~
22 ~~a lake authority that was created by a county board of commissioners~~
23 ~~prior to July 1, 2012.~~

24 e. ~~Radio Emergency Associated Communications Teams (REACT)~~
25 ~~under contract to a county as an emergency response agency.~~

26 f. ~~Municipal, county, or State law enforcement agencies.~~

27 f1. ~~Campus police agencies of private institutions of higher education~~
28 ~~certified by the Attorney General pursuant to Chapter 74G of the~~
29 ~~General Statutes.~~

30 g. ~~The Division of Prisons of the Department of Adult Correction and the~~
31 ~~Division of Juvenile Justice of the Department of Public Safety for the~~
32 ~~training of full-time custodial employees and employees of the~~
33 ~~Divisions required to be certified under Article 1 of Chapter 17C of~~
34 ~~the General Statutes and the rules of the Criminal Justice and Training~~
35 ~~Standards Commission.~~

36 h. ~~Repealed by Session Laws 2017-186, s. 2(hhhhh), effective December~~
37 ~~1, 2017.~~

38 i. ~~The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians law enforcement, fire, EMS or~~
39 ~~rescue and lifesaving tribal government departments or programs.~~

40 j. ~~The Criminal Justice Standards Division of the Department of Justice~~
41 ~~for the training of criminal justice professionals, as defined in~~
42 ~~G.S. 17C-20(6), who are required to be certified under (i) Article 1 of~~
43 ~~Chapter 17C of the General Statutes and the rules of the North~~
44 ~~Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards~~
45 ~~Commission or (ii) Chapter 17E of the General Statutes and the rules~~
46 ~~of the North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards~~
47 ~~Commission. The waivers provided for in this sub-subdivision apply~~
48 ~~to participants and recent graduates of the North Carolina Criminal~~
49 ~~Justice Fellows Program to obtain certifications for eligible criminal~~
50 ~~justice professions as defined in G.S. 17C-20(6).~~

- 1 (2a) ~~Firefighters, EMS personnel, and rescue and lifesaving personnel whose duty~~
2 ~~station is located on a military installation within North Carolina for courses~~
3 ~~that support their organizations' training needs and are approved for this~~
4 ~~purpose by the State Board of Community Colleges.~~
5 (3) ~~Repealed by Session Laws 2011-145, s. 8.12(a), effective July 1, 2011.~~
6 (4) ~~Trainees enrolled in courses conducted under the Customized Training~~
7 ~~Program.~~
8 (5) ~~through (9) Repealed by Session Laws 2011-145, s. 8.12(a), effective July 1,~~
9 ~~2011.~~
10 (10) ~~Elementary and secondary school employees enrolled in courses in first aid or~~
11 ~~cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).~~
12 (11) ~~Repealed by Session Laws 2013-360, s. 10.6, effective July 1, 2013.~~
13 (12) ~~All courses taken by high school students at community colleges, in~~
14 ~~accordance with G.S. 115D-20(4) and this section.~~
15 (13) ~~Human resources development courses for any individual who (i) is~~
16 ~~unemployed; (ii) has received notification of a pending layoff; (iii) is working~~
17 ~~and is eligible for the Federal Earned Income Tax Credit (FEITC); or (iv) is~~
18 ~~working and earning wages at or below two hundred percent (200%) of the~~
19 ~~federal poverty guidelines.~~
20 (14) ~~Repealed by Session Laws 2011-145, s. 8.12(a), effective July 1, 2011.~~
21 (15) ~~Courses providing employability skills, job-specific occupational or technical~~
22 ~~skills, or developmental education instruction to certain students who are~~
23 ~~concurrently enrolled in an eligible community college literacy course, in~~
24 ~~accordance with rules adopted by the State Board of Community Colleges.~~
25 (16) ~~Courses provided to students who are participating in a pre-apprenticeship or~~
26 ~~apprenticeship program that meets all of the following criteria:~~
27 a. ~~Meets one of the following:~~
28 1. ~~Is a registered apprenticeship program recognized by the~~
29 ~~United States Department of Labor.~~
30 2. ~~Is a pre-apprenticeship program recognized and approved by~~
31 ~~the State agency administering the statewide apprenticeship~~
32 ~~program.~~
33 b. ~~Has a documented plan of study with courses relating to a job-specific~~
34 ~~occupational or technical skill.~~
35 c. ~~Requires the participants in the program to be North Carolina high~~
36 ~~school students when entering the program.~~

37 ~~The State Board of Community Colleges shall not waive tuition and registration fees for other~~
38 ~~individuals.~~

39 ~~(b1) The State Board of Community Colleges shall not waive tuition and registration fees~~
40 ~~for community college faculty or staff members. Community colleges may, however, use State~~
41 ~~or local funds to pay tuition and registration fees for one course per semester for full time~~
42 ~~community college faculty or staff members employed for a nine-, ten-, eleven-, or twelve-month~~
43 ~~term. Community colleges may also use State and local funds to pay tuition and registration fees~~
44 ~~for professional development courses and for other courses consistent with the academic~~
45 ~~assistance program authorized by the State Human Resources Commission.~~

46 ~~(b2) Beginning February 1, 2018, and annually thereafter, the Community Colleges~~
47 ~~System Office shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the number~~
48 ~~and type of waivers granted pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.~~

49 ~~(c) No course of instruction shall be offered by any community college at State expense~~
50 ~~or partial State expense to any captive or co-opted group of students, as defined by the State~~
51 ~~Board of Community Colleges, without prior approval of the State Board of Community~~

1 Colleges. All course offerings approved for State prison inmates or prisoners in local jails must
2 be tied to clearly identified job skills, transition needs, or both. Approval by the State Board of
3 Community Colleges shall be presumed to constitute approval of both the course and the group
4 served by that institution. The State Board of Community Colleges may delegate to the President
5 the power to make an initial approval, with final approval to be made by the State Board of
6 Community Colleges. A course taught without such approval will not yield any full-time
7 equivalent students, as defined by the State Board of Community Colleges.

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

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

15 (c2) Courses in federal prisons shall not earn regular budget full-time equivalents, but may
16 be offered on a self-supporting basis.

17 (c3) Funds appropriated for community college courses for prison inmates shall be used
18 only for inmates in State prisons. The first priority for the use of these funds shall be to restore
19 the FTE for basic skills courses to the FY 2008-2009 level. Funds not needed for this purpose
20 may be used for continuing education and curriculum courses related to job skills training.

21 (d) Recodified as G.S. 115D-5.1(a) by Session Laws 2005-276, s. 8.4(a), effective July
22 1, 2005.

23 (e) Repealed by Session Laws 1999-84, s. 3, effective May 21, 1999.

24 (f) A community college may not offer a new program without the approval of the State
25 Board of Community Colleges except that approval shall not be required if the tuition for the
26 program will fully cover the cost of the program. If at any time tuition fails to fully cover the cost
27 of a program that falls under the exception, the program shall be discontinued unless approved
28 by the State Board of Community Colleges. If a proposed new program would serve more than
29 one community college, the State Board of Community Colleges shall perform a feasibility study
30 prior to acting on the proposal. The State Board of Community Colleges shall consider whether
31 a regional approach can be used when developing new programs and, to the extent possible, shall
32 initiate new programs on a regional basis.

33 The State Board of Community Colleges shall collect data on an annual basis on all new
34 programs and program terminations it approved and any regionalization of programs during the
35 year, including the specific reasons for which each program was terminated or approved.

36 (f1) The State Board shall adopt a policy requiring community colleges to be accredited
37 in accordance with G.S. 115D-6.2.

38 (g) Funds appropriated to the Community Colleges System Office as operating expenses
39 for allocation to the institutions comprising the North Carolina Community College System shall
40 not be used to support recreation extension courses. The financing of these courses by any
41 institution shall be on a self-supporting basis, and membership hours produced from these
42 activities shall not be counted when computing full-time equivalent students (FTE) for use in
43 budget funding formulas at the State level.

44 (h) Whenever a community college offers real estate continuing education courses
45 pursuant to G.S. 93A-4.1, the courses shall be offered on a self-supporting basis.

46 (i) Recodified as G.S. 115D-5.1(c) by Session Laws 2005-276, s. 8.4(a), effective July
47 1, 2005.

48 (j) The State Board of Community Colleges shall use its Board Reserve Fund for
49 feasibility studies, pilot projects, start-up of new programs, and innovative ideas.

50 (k) Recodified as G.S. 115D-5.1(b) by Session Laws 2005-276, s. 8.4(a), effective July
51 1, 2005.

1 ~~(l) The State Board shall review and approve lease purchase and installment purchase~~
2 ~~contracts as provided under G.S. 115D-58.15(b). The State Board shall adopt policies and~~
3 ~~procedures governing the review and approval process.~~

4 ~~(m) The State Board of Community Colleges shall maintain an accountability function~~
5 ~~that conducts periodic reviews of each community college operating under the provisions of this~~
6 ~~Chapter. The purpose of the compliance review shall be to ensure that (i) data used to allocate~~
7 ~~State funds among community colleges is reported accurately to the System Office and (ii)~~
8 ~~community colleges are charging and waiving tuition and registration fees consistent with law.~~
9 ~~The State Board of Community Colleges shall require the use of a statistically valid sample size~~
10 ~~in performing compliance reviews of community colleges. All compliance review findings that~~
11 ~~are determined to be material shall be forwarded to the college president, local college board of~~
12 ~~trustees, the State Board of Community Colleges, and the State Auditor. The State Board of~~
13 ~~Community Colleges shall adopt rules governing the frequency, scope, and standard of~~
14 ~~materiality for compliance reviews.~~

15 ~~(n) The North Carolina Community Colleges System Office shall provide the Department~~
16 ~~of Revenue with a list of all community colleges, including name, address, and other identifying~~
17 ~~information requested by the Department of Revenue. The North Carolina Community Colleges~~
18 ~~System Office shall update this list whenever there is a change.~~

19 ~~(o) All multicampus centers approved by the State Board of Community Colleges shall~~
20 ~~receive funding under the same formula. The State Board of Community Colleges shall not~~
21 ~~approve any additional multicampus centers without identified recurring sources of funding. A~~
22 ~~community college facility shall be considered a multicampus center if it meets all of the~~
23 ~~following criteria:~~

24 ~~(1) Is at least 4 miles away from the main campus of the community college and~~
25 ~~other multicampus center locations.~~

26 ~~(2) Any other criteria established by the State Board.~~

27 ~~(p) The North Carolina Community College System may offer courses, in accordance~~
28 ~~with Article 17D of Subchapter V of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes, to individuals who~~
29 ~~choose to enter the teaching profession through residency licensure.~~

30 ~~(q) Repealed by Session Laws 2009-451, s. 8.9, effective July 1, 2009.~~

31 ~~(r) The State Board of Community Colleges shall develop curriculum and continuing~~
32 ~~education standards for courses of instruction in American Sign Language and shall encourage~~
33 ~~community colleges to offer courses in American Sign Language as a modern foreign language.~~

34 ~~(s) The State Board of Community Colleges may establish, retain and budget fees~~
35 ~~charged to students taking an adult high school equivalency diploma test, including fees for~~
36 ~~retesting. Fees collected for this purpose shall be used only to (i) offset the costs of the test,~~
37 ~~including the cost of scoring the test, (ii) offset the costs of printing adult high school equivalency~~
38 ~~diplomas, and (iii) meet federal and State reporting requirements related to the test.~~

39 ~~(t) The purpose of the first semester of the Gateway to College Program is to address~~
40 ~~additional support to successfully complete the program. Students may need to take~~
41 ~~developmental courses necessary for the transition to more challenging courses; therefore, the~~
42 ~~State Board of Community Colleges shall (i) permit high school students who are enrolled in~~
43 ~~Gateway to College Programs to enroll in developmental courses based on an assessment of their~~
44 ~~individual student needs by a high school and community college staff team and (ii) include this~~
45 ~~coursework in computing the budget FTE for the colleges.~~

46 ~~(u) The State Board of Community Colleges shall direct each community college to adopt~~
47 ~~a policy that authorizes a minimum of two excused absences each academic year for religious~~
48 ~~observances required by the faith of a student. The policy may require that the student provide~~
49 ~~written notice of the request for an excused absence a reasonable time prior to the religious~~
50 ~~observance. The policy shall also provide that the student shall be given the opportunity to make~~
51 ~~up any tests or other work missed due to an excused absence for a religious observance.~~

1 (v) Community colleges may teach curriculum courses at any time during the year,
2 including the summer term. Student membership hours from these courses shall be counted when
3 computing full-time equivalent students (FTE) for use in budget funding formulas at the State
4 level.

5 (w) The State Board of Community Colleges shall review, at least every five years,
6 service areas that include counties assigned to more than one community college to determine
7 the feasibility of continuing to assign those counties to more than one community college. The
8 State Board shall revise service areas as needed to ensure that counties are served effectively.
9 The first review and any revisions shall be completed no later than March 1, 2016, and the State
10 Board shall report its findings and any revisions to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight
11 Committee no later than March 1, 2016. All subsequent reviews and revisions shall also be
12 submitted to the Committee.

13 (x) In addition to the evaluation of cooperative innovative high schools by the State Board
14 of Education pursuant to G.S. 115C 238.55, the State Board of Community Colleges, in
15 conjunction with the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors of The University of
16 North Carolina, shall evaluate the success of students participating in the Career and College
17 Promise Program, including the College Transfer pathway and the Career and Technical
18 Education pathway. Success shall be measured by high school retention rates, high school
19 completion rates, high school dropout rates, certification and associate degree completion,
20 admission to four-year institutions, postgraduation employment in career or study-related fields,
21 and employer satisfaction of employees who participated in the programs. The evaluation shall
22 also include an analysis of the cost of students participating in each of the programs within the
23 Career and College Promise Program, including at least the following:

- 24 (1) Total enrollment funding, the number of budgeted full-time equivalent
25 students, and the number of students enrolled in courses through cooperative
26 innovative high schools, the College Transfer pathway, and the Career and
27 Technical Education pathway.
- 28 (2) The cost and number of waivers of tuition and registration fees provided for
29 students enrolled in courses through cooperative innovative high schools, the
30 College Transfer pathway, and the Career and Technical Education pathway.
- 31 (3) Any additional costs of a student attending courses on campus if a student is
32 not attending public school in a local school administrative unit for the
33 majority of the student's instructional time.

34 The Boards shall jointly report by March 15 of each year to the Joint Legislative Education
35 Oversight Committee, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Education/Higher Education, the
36 House Appropriations Committee on Education, and the Fiscal Research Division of the General
37 Assembly. The report shall be combined with the evaluation of cooperative innovative high
38 schools required by G.S. 115C 238.55, and the Community Colleges System Office shall be
39 responsible for submitting the combined report.

40 (y) The State Board of Community Colleges shall adopt a policy to be applied uniformly
41 throughout the Community College System to provide that any student enrolled in a community
42 college who is a National Guard service member placed onto State active duty status during an
43 academic term shall be given an excused absence for the period of time the student is on active
44 duty. The policy shall further provide all of the following:

- 45 (1) The student shall be given the opportunity to make up any test or other work
46 missed during the excused absence.
- 47 (2) The student shall be given the option, when feasible, to continue classes and
48 coursework during the academic term through online participation for the
49 period of time the student is placed on active duty.
- 50 (3) The student shall be given the option of receiving a temporary grade of
51 "incomplete (IN)" or "absent from the final exam (AB)" for any course that

1 the student was unable to complete as a result of being placed on State active
2 duty status; however, the student must complete the course requirements
3 within the period of time specified by the community college to avoid
4 receiving a failing grade for the course.

5 (4) The student shall be permitted to drop, with no penalty, any course that the
6 student was unable to complete as a result of being placed on State active-duty
7 status.

8 (z) The State Board of Community Colleges shall monitor community colleges for
9 compliance with Article 38 of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes. If the State Board determines
10 that a community college is in violation of Article 38, it shall report the identity of the community
11 college to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee.

12 **~~§ 115D-5.1. Workforce Development Programs.~~**

13 (a) Community colleges shall assist in the preemployment and in-service training of
14 employees in industry, business, agriculture, health occupation and governmental agencies. Such
15 training shall include instruction on worker safety and health standards and practices applicable
16 to the field of employment. The State Board of Community Colleges shall make appropriate
17 regulations including the establishment of maximum hours of instruction which may be offered
18 at State expense in each in-plant training program. No instructor or other employee of a
19 community college shall engage in the normal management, supervisory and operational
20 functions of the establishment in which the instruction is offered during the hours in which the
21 instructor or other employee is employed for instructional or educational purposes.

22 (b) through (d) Repealed by Session Laws 2008-107, s. 8.7(a), effective July 1, 2008.

23 (e) There is created within the North Carolina Community College System the
24 Customized Training Program. The Customized Training Program shall offer programs and
25 training services to assist new and existing business and industry to remain productive, profitable,
26 and within the State. Before a business or industry qualifies to receive assistance under the
27 Customized Training Program, the President of the North Carolina Community College System
28 shall determine that:

29 (1) The business is making an appreciable capital investment;

30 (2) The business is deploying new technology;

31 (2a) The business or individual is creating jobs, expanding an existing workforce,
32 or enhancing the productivity and profitability of the operations within the
33 State; and

34 (3) The skills of the workers will be enhanced by the assistance.

35 (f) The Community Colleges System Office shall report no later than September 1 of
36 each year to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on:

37 (1) The total amount of funds received by a company under the Customized
38 Training Program.

39 (1a) The types of services sought by the company, whether for new, expanding, or
40 existing industry.

41 (2) The amount of funds per trainee received by that company.

42 (3) The amount of funds received per trainee by the community college delivering
43 the training.

44 (4) The number of trainees trained by the company and community college.

45 (5) The number of years that company has been funded.

46 (f1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the State Board of Community Colleges
47 may adopt guidelines that allow the Customized Training Program to use funds appropriated for
48 that program to support training projects for the various branches of the Armed Forces of the
49 United States.

50 (f2) Funds available to the Customized Training Program shall not revert at the end of a
51 fiscal year but shall remain available until expended. Up to ten percent (10%) of the

1 college-delivered training expenditures and up to five percent (5%) of the contractor-delivered
2 training expenditures for the prior fiscal year for Customized Training may be allotted to each
3 college for capacity building at that college.

4 (f3) Of the funds appropriated in a fiscal year for the Customized Training Programs, the
5 State Board of Community Colleges may approve the use of up to eight percent (8%) for the
6 training and support of regional community college personnel to deliver Customized Training
7 Program services to business and industry.

8 (g) The State Board shall adopt guidelines to implement this section. At least 20 days
9 before the effective date of any criteria or nontechnical amendments to guidelines, the State
10 Board must publish the proposed guidelines on the Community Colleges System Office's web
11 site and provide notice to persons who have requested notice of proposed guidelines. In addition,
12 the State Board must accept oral and written comments on the proposed guidelines during the 15
13 business days beginning on the first day that the State Board has completed these notifications.
14 For the purpose of this subsection, a technical amendment is either of the following:

15 (1) An amendment that corrects a spelling or grammatical error.

16 (2) An amendment that makes a clarification based on public comment and could
17 have been anticipated by the public notice that immediately preceded the
18 public comment.

19 **~~"§ 115D-5.1A. Short-Term Workforce Development Grant Program.~~**

20 (a) Program Established.— There is established the North Carolina Community College
21 Short-Term Workforce Development Grant Program (Program) to be administered by the State
22 Board of Community Colleges. The State Board shall adopt rules for the disbursement of the
23 grants pursuant to this section.

24 (b) Programs of Study.— The State Board of Community Colleges, in collaboration with
25 the Department of Commerce, shall determine the eligible programs of study for the Program,
26 according to the occupations that are in the highest demand in the State. The eligible programs
27 of study shall include programs such as architecture and construction, health sciences,
28 information technology, electrical line worker, and manufacturing programs and may include
29 other programs to meet local workforce needs.

30 (c) Award Amounts.— To the extent funds are made available for the Program, the State
31 Board of Community Colleges shall award grants in an amount of up to seven hundred fifty
32 dollars (\$750.00) to students pursuing short-term, noncredit State and industry workforce
33 credentials. The State Board of Community Colleges shall establish criteria for initial and
34 continuing eligibility for students. At a minimum, students shall be required to qualify as a
35 resident for tuition purposes under the criteria set forth in G.S. 116-143.1 and in accordance with
36 the coordinated and centralized residency determination process administered by the State
37 Education Assistance Authority.

38 (d) Report.— The State Board shall submit a report by April 1, 2024, and annually
39 thereafter, on the Program to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and the Fiscal
40 Research Division. The report shall contain, for each academic year and by programs of study,
41 the amount of grant funds disbursed and the number of eligible students receiving funds.

42 **~~"§ 115D-5.2. Commercial fishing and aquaculture classes.~~**

43 (a) The General Assembly urges all community colleges serving the coastal area of the
44 State to offer classes on commercial fishing and aquaculture.

45 (b) The North Carolina Community Colleges System Office shall provide technical
46 assistance to these colleges on offering such classes.

47 (c) The North Carolina Community Colleges System Office shall report to the Joint
48 Legislative Education Oversight Committee on any fiscal and administrative issues it identifies
49 that limit colleges' ability to offer such courses.

50 **"§ 115D-5.5. Board Reserve Fund.**

1 The State Board of Community Colleges shall use its Board Reserve Fund for feasibility
2 studies, pilot projects, start-up of new programs, and innovative ideas.

3 "Part 2. Administration of Local Community Colleges by State Board of Community Colleges.

4 **"§ 115D-6. Withdrawal of State support.**

5 The State Board of Community Colleges may withdraw or withhold State financial and
6 administrative support of any institutions subject to the provisions of this Chapter in the event
7 ~~that~~of any of the following:

8 (1) The required local financial support of an institution is not ~~provided~~;provided.

9 (2) Sufficient State funds are not ~~available~~;available.

10 (3) The officials of an institution refuse or are unable to maintain prescribed
11 standards of administration or ~~instruction~~;or ~~instruction~~.

12 (4) Local educational needs for such an institution cease to exist.

13 **"§ 115D-6.1. Administration of institutions.**

14 (a) Policies. – The State Board of Community Colleges may adopt and execute such
15 policies, regulations, and standards concerning the establishment, administration, and operation
16 of institutions as the State Board may deem necessary to ensure the quality of educational
17 programs, to promote the systematic meeting of educational needs of the State, and to provide
18 for the equitable distribution of State and federal funds to the several institutions.

19 (b) Authority. – The State Board shall have the following authority with respect to
20 individual institutions:

21 (1) To approve sites, capital improvement projects, and budgets.

22 (2) To approve the selection of the chief administrative officer.

23 (3) To establish and administer standards for professional personnel, curricula,
24 admissions, and graduation.

25 (4) To regulate the awarding of degrees, diplomas, and certificates.

26 (5) To establish and regulate student tuition and fees within policies for tuition
27 and fees established by the General Assembly.

28 (6) To establish and regulate financial accounting procedures.

29 (c) Salaries. – The State Board shall establish standards and scales for salaries and
30 allotments paid from funds administered by the State Board, and all employees of the institutions
31 shall be exempt from the provisions of the North Carolina Human Resources Act. Any and all
32 salary caps set by the State Board for community college presidents shall apply only to the
33 State-paid portion of the salary. Except as otherwise provided by law, the employer contribution
34 rate on the local-paid portion of the salary, to be paid from local funds, shall be set by the State
35 Treasurer based on actuarial recommendations.

36 (d) Faculty Credentials. – The State Board of Community Colleges shall require each
37 community college to meet the faculty credential requirements of its accrediting agency for all
38 community college programs.

39 **"§ 115D-6.2. Accreditation. Accreditation policy.**

40 The State Board of Community Colleges shall adopt a policy requiring community colleges
41 to be accredited in accordance with G.S. 115D-21.2.

42 (a) Definitions. – The following definitions apply in this section:

43 (1) Accreditation cycle. – The period of time during which a community college
44 is accredited.

45 (2) Accrediting agency. – An agency or association that accredits institutions of
46 higher education.

47 (3) Regional accrediting agency. – One of the following accrediting agencies:

48 a. Higher Learning Commission.

49 b. Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

50 c. New England Commission on Higher Education.

51 d. Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.

- e. ~~Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.~~
- f. ~~Western Association of Schools and Colleges Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges.~~

(b) ~~Prohibit Consecutive Accreditation by an Accrediting Agency.~~—A community college shall not receive accreditation by an accrediting agency for consecutive accreditation cycles except as provided in subsection (c) of this section.

(c) ~~Accreditation Transfer Procedure.~~—A community college that pursues accreditation with a different accrediting agency in accordance with this section shall pursue accreditation with a regional accrediting agency. If the community college is not granted candidacy status by any regional accrediting agency that is different from its current accrediting agency at least three years prior to the expiration of its current accreditation, the community college may remain with its current accrediting agency for an additional accreditation cycle.

(d) ~~Certain Programs Exempt.~~—The requirements of this section do not apply to professional, departmental, or certificate programs at community colleges that have specific accreditation requirements or best practices, as identified by the State Board of Community Colleges.

(e) ~~Cause of Action.~~—A community college may bring a civil action, as follows:

(1) ~~Against any person who makes a false statement to the accrediting agency of the community college, if all of the following criteria are met:~~

- a. ~~The statement, if true, would mean the community college is out of compliance with its accreditation standards.~~
- b. ~~The person made the statement with knowledge that the statement was false or with reckless disregard as to whether it was false.~~
- c. ~~The accrediting agency conducted a review of the community college as a proximate result of the statement.~~
- d. ~~The review caused the community college to incur costs.~~

(2) ~~A community college that prevails on a cause of action initiated pursuant to this subsection shall be entitled to the following:~~

- a. ~~Costs related to the review conducted by the accrediting agency, including for the following:~~
 - 1. ~~Additional hours worked by community college personnel.~~
 - 2. ~~Contracted services, including outside legal counsel.~~
 - 3. ~~Travel, lodging, and food expenses.~~
 - 4. ~~Fees required by the agency.~~
- b. ~~Reasonable attorney fees.~~
- c. ~~Court costs.~~

"§ 115D-6.5. Notice of noncompliance; appointment of an interim board of trustees.

...

(c) ~~Interim Board Assumption of Powers and Duties.~~ – The adoption of the resolution to remove the full board under this section shall have the effect of vacating the terms of all of the members serving on the board of trustees. Notwithstanding G.S. 115D-12, the State Board of Community Colleges shall appoint an interim five-member board of trustees for a period not to exceed 12 months with input from the advisory committee listed in subsection (a) of this section. To preserve local autonomy, the appointing authorities of the local administrative area of the community college under G.S. 115D-12 shall make recommendations to the State Board on the appointment of the members to the interim board of trustees. All appointees to the interim board of trustees shall be residents of the administrative area of the institution for which they are selected or of counties contiguous thereto with the exception of members provided for in ~~subsection (a) of G.S. 115D-12, Group Four.~~ G.S. 115D-12(a)(3). At the end of the period of service of the interim board of trustees, a board of trustees for the community college shall be

1 appointed in accordance with G.S. 115D-12. Initial terms of members of the new board of
2 trustees shall be staggered to align with the remainder of the vacated terms of the members of the
3 board of trustees.

4 ...

5 **"§ 115D-9.5. Bookstore sales.**

6 Notwithstanding G.S. 66-58(c)(3) or any other provisions of law, the State Board of
7 Community Colleges may adopt rules governing the expenditure of funds derived from bookstore
8 sales by community colleges. These expenditures shall be consistent with the mission and
9 purpose of the Community College System. Profits may be used in the support and enhancement
10 of the bookstores, for student aid or scholarships, for expenditures of direct benefit to students,
11 and for other similar expenditures authorized by the board of trustees, subject to rules adopted
12 by the State Board. These funds shall not be used to supplement salaries of any personnel.

13 **"§ 115D-9.10. Exchange of information with The University of North Carolina and North**
14 **Carolina public schools.**

15 The State Board of Community Colleges shall comply with the provisions of
16 G.S. 116-11(10a) to plan and implement an exchange of information between the public schools
17 and the institutions of higher education in the State.

18 **"§ 115D-9.15. Lease purchase and installment purchase contracts.**

19 The State Board of Community Colleges shall review and approve lease purchase and
20 installment purchase contracts as provided under G.S. 115D-58.15(b). The State Board shall
21 adopt policies and procedures governing the review and approval process.

22 **"§ 115D-9.20. Compliance review and requested information.**

23 (a) Compliance Review. – The State Board of Community Colleges shall maintain an
24 accountability function that conducts periodic reviews of each community college operating
25 under the provisions of this Chapter. The purpose of the compliance review shall be to ensure
26 that (i) data used to allocate State funds among community colleges is reported accurately to the
27 System Office and (ii) community colleges are charging and waiving tuition and registration fees
28 consistent with law. The State Board of Community Colleges shall require the use of a
29 statistically valid sample size in performing compliance reviews of community colleges. All
30 compliance review findings that are determined to be material shall be forwarded to the college
31 president, local college board of trustees, the State Board of Community Colleges, and the State
32 Auditor. The State Board of Community Colleges shall adopt rules governing the frequency,
33 scope, and standard of materiality for compliance reviews.

34 (b) Information to Department of Revenue. – The North Carolina Community Colleges
35 System Office shall provide the Department of Revenue with a list of all community colleges,
36 including name, address, and other identifying information requested by the Department of
37 Revenue. The North Carolina Community Colleges System Office shall update this list whenever
38 there is a change.

39 **"§ 115D-9.25. Multicampus centers.**

40 All multicampus centers approved by the State Board of Community Colleges shall receive
41 funding under the same formula. The State Board of Community Colleges shall not approve any
42 additional multicampus centers without identified recurring sources of funding. A community
43 college facility shall be considered a multicampus center if it meets the criteria established by the
44 State Board and is at least 4 miles away from the main campus of the community college and
45 other multicampus center locations.

46 **"§ 115D-9.30. Service areas.**

47 The State Board of Community Colleges shall review, at least every five years, service areas
48 that include counties assigned to more than one community college to determine the feasibility
49 of continuing to assign those counties to more than one community college. The State Board
50 shall revise service areas as needed to ensure that counties are served effectively. The State Board

1 shall report its findings and any revisions to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee
2 within 60 days of revisions being made.

3 **"§ 115D-9.35. Athletic teams.**

4 The State Board of Community Colleges shall monitor community colleges for compliance
5 with Article 38 of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes. If the State Board determines that a
6 community college is in violation of Article 38 of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes, it shall
7 report the identity of the community college to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight
8 Committee.

9 ...

10 "Part 3. Community College Programs.

11 **"§ 115D-10.5. Program funding.**

12 (a) New Programs and Terminations of Programs. – A community college may not offer
13 a new program without the approval of the State Board of Community Colleges except that
14 approval shall not be required if the tuition for the program will fully cover the cost of the
15 program. If at any time tuition fails to fully cover the cost of a program that falls under the
16 exception, the program shall be discontinued unless approved by the State Board. If a proposed
17 new program would serve more than one community college, the State Board shall perform a
18 feasibility study prior to acting on the proposal. The State Board shall consider whether a regional
19 approach can be used when developing new programs and, to the extent possible, shall initiate
20 new programs on a regional basis. The State Board shall collect data on an annual basis on all
21 new programs and program terminations it approved and any regionalization of programs during
22 the year, including the specific reasons for which each program was terminated or approved.

23 (b) Recreation Extension Courses. – Funds appropriated to the Community Colleges
24 System Office as operating expenses for allocation to the institutions comprising the North
25 Carolina Community College System shall not be used to support recreation extension courses.
26 The financing of these courses by any institution shall be on a self-supporting basis, and
27 membership hours produced from these activities shall not be counted when computing full-time
28 equivalent students (FTE) for use in budget-funding formulas at the State level.

29 (c) Real Estate Continuing Education Courses. – Whenever a community college offers
30 real estate continuing education courses, the courses shall be offered on a self-supporting basis.

31 **"§ 115D-10.10. College transfer program approval; standards for programs; annual**
32 **reporting requirements.**

33 (a) The State Board of Community Colleges may approve the addition of the college
34 transfer program to a community college. If addition of the college transfer program to an
35 institution would require a substantial increase in funds, State Board approval shall be subject to
36 appropriation of funds by the General Assembly for this purpose.

37 (b) Addition of the college transfer program shall not decrease an institution's ability to
38 provide programs within its basic mission of vocational and technical training and basic academic
39 education.

40 (c) The State Board of Community Colleges shall develop appropriate criteria and
41 standards to regulate the addition of the college transfer program to institutions.

42 (d) The State Board of Community Colleges shall develop appropriate criteria and
43 standards to regulate the operation of college transfer programs.

44 (e) The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina shall report to each
45 community college and to the State Board of Community Colleges in accordance with
46 G.S. 116-11(10b) on the academic performance of that community college's transfer students. If
47 the State Board of Community Colleges finds that college transfer students from a community
48 college are not consistently performing adequately at a four-year college, the Board shall review
49 the community college's program and determine what steps are necessary to remedy the problem.
50 The Board shall report annually to the General Assembly on the reports it receives and on what
51 steps it is taking to remedy problems that it finds.

1 (f) The Community Colleges System Office shall report annually by April 15 to the Joint
2 Legislative Education Oversight Committee, the State Board of Education, the Office of State
3 Budget and Management, and the Fiscal Research Division of the General Assembly on the
4 implementation of the UNC-NCCCS 2+2 E-Learning Initiative. This report shall include the
5 following:

- 6 (1) The courses and programs within the 2+2 E-Learning Initiative.
- 7 (2) The total number of prospective teachers that have taken or are taking part in
8 this initiative to date broken down by the current academic period and each of
9 the previous academic periods since the program's inception.
- 10 (3) The total number of teachers currently in the State's classrooms, by local
11 school administrative unit, who have taken part in this initiative.
- 12 (4) The change in the number of teachers available to schools since the program's
13 inception.
- 14 (5) The qualitative data from students, teachers, local school administrative unit
15 personnel, university personnel, and community college personnel as to the
16 impact of this initiative on our State's teaching pool.
- 17 (6) An explanation of the expenditures and collaborative programs between the
18 North Carolina Community College System and The University of North
19 Carolina, including recommendations for improvement.

20 **"§ 115D-10.15. Workforce development programs.**

21 Community colleges shall assist in the preemployment and in-service training of employees
22 in industry, business, agriculture, health occupation, and governmental agencies. Such training
23 shall include instruction on worker safety and health standards and practices applicable to the
24 field of employment. The State Board of Community Colleges shall make appropriate
25 regulations, including the establishment of maximum hours of instruction which may be offered
26 at State expense in each in-plant training program. No instructor or other employee of a
27 community college shall engage in the normal management, supervisory, and operational
28 functions of the establishment in which the instruction is offered during the hours in which the
29 instructor or other employee is employed for instructional or educational purposes.

30 **"§ 115D-10.17. Customized Training Program.**

31 (a) There is created within the North Carolina Community College System the
32 Customized Training Program. The Customized Training Program shall offer programs and
33 training services to assist new and existing business and industry to remain productive, profitable,
34 and within the State. Before a business or industry qualifies to receive assistance under the
35 Customized Training Program, the President of the North Carolina Community College System
36 shall determine the following:

- 37 (1) The business is making an appreciable capital investment.
- 38 (2) The business is deploying new technology.
- 39 (3) The business or individual is creating jobs, expanding an existing workforce,
40 or enhancing the productivity and profitability of the operations within the
41 State.
- 42 (4) The skills of the workers will be enhanced by the assistance.

43 (b) The Community Colleges System Office shall report no later than September 1 of
44 each year to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the following:

- 45 (1) The total amount of funds received by a company under the Customized
46 Training Program.
- 47 (2) The types of services sought by the company, whether for new, expanding, or
48 existing industry.
- 49 (3) The amount of funds per trainee received by that company.
- 50 (4) The amount of funds received per trainee by the community college delivering
51 the training.

1 (5) The number of trainees trained by the company and community college.

2 (6) The number of years that company has been funded.

3 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the State Board of Community Colleges
4 may adopt guidelines that allow the Customized Training Program to use funds appropriated for
5 that program to support training projects for the various branches of the Armed Forces of the
6 United States.

7 (d) Funds available to the Customized Training Program shall not revert at the end of a
8 fiscal year but shall remain available until expended. Up to ten percent (10%) of the
9 college-delivered training expenditures and up to five percent (5%) of the contractor-delivered
10 training expenditures for the prior fiscal year for Customized Training may be allotted to each
11 college for capacity building at that college.

12 (e) Of the funds appropriated in a fiscal year for the Customized Training Program, the
13 State Board of Community Colleges may approve the use of up to eight percent (8%) for the
14 training and support of regional community college personnel to deliver Customized Training
15 Program services to business and industry.

16 (f) The State Board shall adopt guidelines to implement this section. At least 20 days
17 before the effective date of any criteria or nontechnical amendments to guidelines, the State
18 Board must publish the proposed guidelines on the Community Colleges System Office's website
19 and provide notice to persons who have requested notice of proposed guidelines. In addition, the
20 State Board must accept oral and written comments on the proposed guidelines during the 15
21 business days beginning on the first day that the State Board has completed these notifications.
22 For the purpose of this subsection, a technical amendment is either of the following:

23 (1) An amendment that corrects a spelling or grammatical error.

24 (2) An amendment that makes a clarification based on public comment and could
25 have been anticipated by the public notice that immediately preceded the
26 public comment.

27 **"§ 115D-10.19. Short-Term Workforce Development Grant Program.**

28 (a) Program Established. – There is established the North Carolina Community College
29 Short-Term Workforce Development Grant Program (Program) to be administered by the State
30 Board of Community Colleges. The State Board shall adopt rules for the disbursement of the
31 grants pursuant to this section.

32 (b) Programs of Study. – The State Board of Community Colleges, in collaboration with
33 the Department of Commerce, shall determine the eligible programs of study for the Program,
34 according to the occupations that are in the highest demand in the State. The eligible programs
35 of study shall include programs such as architecture and construction, health sciences,
36 information technology, electrical line worker, and manufacturing programs and may include
37 other programs to meet local workforce needs.

38 (c) Award Amounts. – To the extent funds are made available for the Program, the State
39 Board of Community Colleges shall award grants in an amount of up to seven hundred fifty
40 dollars (\$750.00) to students pursuing short-term, noncredit State and industry workforce
41 credentials. The State Board of Community Colleges shall establish criteria for initial and
42 continuing eligibility for students. At a minimum, students shall be required to qualify as a
43 resident for tuition purposes under the criteria set forth in G.S. 116-143.1 and in accordance with
44 the coordinated and centralized residency determination process administered by the State
45 Education Assistance Authority.

46 (d) Report. – The State Board shall submit a report by April 1 annually on the Program
47 to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and the Fiscal Research Division. The
48 report shall contain, for each academic year and by programs of study, the amount of grant funds
49 disbursed and the number of eligible students receiving funds.

50 **"§ 115D-10.21. Training programs for students with intellectual and developmental**
51 **disabilities.**

1 (a) The State Board of Community Colleges shall establish a community college training
2 program for up to 15 community colleges. The program shall provide opportunities for
3 micro-credentials or other credentials that lead to increased employment outcomes for
4 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). To the extent funds are
5 appropriated for this purpose, the program shall improve the ability of participating community
6 colleges to offer training and educational components that include improving employability skills
7 and providing on-the-job training and apprenticeships with business and industry for individuals
8 with IDD. The goal of the program shall be to inform community colleges and address
9 cross-departmental supports within the individual community colleges on programs for
10 individuals with IDD related to at least the following:

- 11 (1) Establishing best practices for providing vocational training for individuals
12 with IDD.
- 13 (2) Providing financial and benefits counseling.
- 14 (3) Developing strategies on integrating assistive technology.
- 15 (4) Maximizing access, with supports, to credential and degree programs,
16 including micro-credentials that are established by the State Board.
- 17 (5) Identifying methods to increase orientation and integration of individuals with
18 IDD into the college community to the greatest extent possible.
- 19 (6) Determining a needs assessment, marketing, and evaluation to serve a broad
20 array of individuals with developmental and other similar disabilities or
21 learning challenges to assure adequate demand for new or existing programs.

22 (b) No later than May 1 of each year, the Community Colleges System Office shall report
23 on the funds appropriated to the System Office for the purposes of this section to the Joint
24 Legislative Education Oversight Committee and the Fiscal Research Division. At a minimum,
25 the report shall address the impact of the program, the use of any additional positions created at
26 community colleges, professional development training for staff, and funding sources identified
27 for individuals with IDD to build programs at community colleges that support postsecondary
28 trainings and certifications that enable individuals with IDD to engage in competitive, sustainable
29 employment.

30 **"§ 115D-10.25. Commercial fishing and aquaculture classes.**

31 (a) The General Assembly urges all community colleges serving the coastal area of the
32 State to offer classes on commercial fishing and aquaculture.

33 (b) The North Carolina Community Colleges System Office shall provide technical
34 assistance to these colleges on offering such classes.

35 (c) The North Carolina Community Colleges System Office shall report to the Joint
36 Legislative Education Oversight Committee on any fiscal and administrative issues it identifies
37 that limit colleges' ability to offer such courses.

38 **"§ 115D-10.30. Correction education programs.**

39 (a) Approval. – No course of instruction shall be offered by any community college at
40 State expense or partial State expense to any captive or co-opted group of students, as defined by
41 the State Board of Community Colleges, without prior approval of the State Board. All course
42 offerings approved for State prison inmates or prisoners in local jails must be tied to clearly
43 identified job skills, transition needs, or both. Approval by the State Board shall be presumed to
44 constitute approval of both the course and the group served by that institution. The State Board
45 may delegate to the President the power to make an initial approval, with final approval to be
46 made by the State Board. A course taught without such approval will not yield any full-time
47 equivalent students, as defined by the State Board. Community colleges shall report full-time
48 equivalent (FTE) student hours for correction education programs on the basis of student
49 membership hours. Funds appropriated for community college courses for prison inmates shall
50 be used only for inmates in State prisons. The first priority for the use of these funds shall be to
51 restore the FTE for basic skills courses to the FY 2008-2009 level. Funds not needed for this

1 purpose may be used for continuing education and curriculum courses related to job skills
2 training. No community college shall operate a multi-entry/multi-exit class or program in a prison
3 facility, except for a literacy class or program. The State Board shall work with the Division of
4 Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice of the Department of Public Safety on offering classes and
5 programs that match the average length of stay of an inmate in a prison facility.

6 (b) Courses in Federal Prisons. – Courses in federal prisons shall not earn regular budget
7 full-time equivalents but may be offered on a self-supporting basis.

8 **"§ 115D-10.35. Teacher residency licensure courses.**

9 The North Carolina Community College System may offer courses, in accordance with
10 Article 17D of Subchapter V of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes, to individuals who choose
11 to enter the teaching profession through residency licensure.

12 **"§ 115D-10.40. American Sign Language courses.**

13 The State Board of Community Colleges shall develop curriculum and continuing education
14 standards for courses of instruction in American Sign Language and shall encourage community
15 colleges to offer courses in American Sign Language as a modern foreign language.

16 **"§ 115D-10.45. Adult high school equivalency diploma test.**

17 The State Board of Community Colleges may establish, retain, and budget fees charged to
18 students taking an adult high school equivalency diploma test, including fees for retesting. Fees
19 collected for this purpose shall be used only to (i) offset the costs of the test, including the cost
20 of scoring the test, (ii) offset the costs of printing adult high school equivalency diplomas, and
21 (iii) meet federal and State reporting requirements related to the test.

22 **"§ 115D-10.50. Motorcycle Safety Instruction Program.**

23 (a) There is created a Motorcycle Safety Instruction Program for the purpose of
24 establishing statewide motorcycle safety instruction to be delivered through the Community
25 Colleges System Office. The Program may be administered by a motorcycle safety coordinator
26 who shall be responsible for the planning, curriculum, and completion requirements of the
27 Program. The State Board of Community Colleges may elect a motorcycle safety coordinator
28 upon nomination of the President of the Community College System, and the compensation of
29 the motorcycle safety coordinator shall be fixed by the State Board upon recommendation of the
30 President of the Community College System pursuant to G.S. 115D-3. The State Board of
31 Community Colleges may contract with an appropriate public or private agency or person to
32 carry out the duties of the motorcycle safety coordinator.

33 (b) The Motorcycle Safety Instruction Program shall be implemented through the
34 Community Colleges System Office at institutions which choose to provide the Program. The
35 motorcycle safety coordinator shall select and facilitate the training and certification of
36 instructors who will implement the Program.

37 "Part 4. Students.

38 **"§ 115D-10.65. Accreditation of secondary school located in North Carolina shall not be a**
39 **factor in admissions, loans, scholarships, or other educational policies.**

40 (a) For purposes of this section, the term "accreditation" shall include certification or any
41 other similar approval process.

42 (b) The State Board of Community Colleges shall adopt a policy that prohibits any
43 community college from soliciting or using information regarding the accreditation of a
44 secondary school located in North Carolina that a person attended as a factor affecting
45 admissions, loans, scholarships, or other educational activity at the community college, unless
46 the accreditation was conducted by a State agency.

47 **"§ 115D-10.70. Driving eligibility certificates.**

48 (a) The State Board of Community Colleges shall adopt the following rules to assist
49 community colleges in their administration of procedures necessary to implement G.S. 20-11 and
50 G.S. 20-13.2:

- 1 (1) To establish the procedures a person who is or was enrolled in a community
2 college must follow and the requirements that person must meet to obtain a
3 driving eligibility certificate.
- 4 (2) To require the person who is required under G.S. 20-11(n) to sign the driving
5 eligibility certificate to provide the certificate if he or she determines that one
6 of the following requirements is met:
 - 7 a. The person seeking the certificate is eligible for the certificate under
8 G.S. 20-11(n)(1) and is not subject to G.S. 20-11(n1).
 - 9 b. The person seeking the certificate is eligible for the certificate under
10 G.S. 20-11(n)(1) and G.S. 20-11(n1).
- 11 (3) To provide for an appeal through the grievance procedures established by the
12 board of trustees of each community college by a person who is denied a
13 driving eligibility certificate.
- 14 (4) To define exemplary student behavior and to define what constitutes the
15 successful completion of a drug or alcohol treatment counseling program.

16 (b) The State Board shall develop policies as to when it is appropriate to notify the
17 Division of Motor Vehicles that a person who is or was enrolled in a community college no
18 longer meets the requirements for a driving eligibility certificate. The State Board also shall adopt
19 guidelines to assist the presidents of community colleges in their designation of representatives
20 to sign driving eligibility certificates.

21 (c) The State Board shall develop a form for the appropriate individuals to provide their
22 written, irrevocable consent for a community college to disclose to the Division of Motor
23 Vehicles that the student no longer meets the conditions for a driving eligibility certificate under
24 G.S. 20-11(n)(1) or G.S. 20-11(n1), if applicable, in the event that this disclosure is necessary to
25 comply with G.S. 20-11 or G.S. 20-13.2. Other than identifying under which statutory subsection
26 the student is no longer eligible, no other details or information concerning the student's school
27 record shall be released pursuant to this consent.

28 **"§ 115D-10.75. Excused absences for religious observances.**

29 The State Board of Community Colleges shall direct each community college to adopt a
30 policy that authorizes a minimum of two excused absences each academic year for religious
31 observances required by the faith of a student. The policy may require that the student provide
32 written notice of the request for an excused absence a reasonable time prior to the religious
33 observance. The policy shall also provide that the student shall be given the opportunity to make
34 up any tests or other work missed due to an excused absence for a religious observance.

35 **"§ 115D-10.76. Excused absences for National Guard service members.**

36 The State Board of Community Colleges shall adopt a policy to be applied uniformly
37 throughout the Community College System to provide that any student enrolled in a community
38 college who is a National Guard service member placed onto State active duty status during an
39 academic term shall be given an excused absence for the period of time the student is on active
40 duty. The policy shall further provide all of the following:

- 41 (1) The student shall be given the opportunity to make up any test or other work
42 missed during the excused absence.
- 43 (2) The student shall be given the option, when feasible, to continue classes and
44 coursework during the academic term through online participation for the
45 period of time the student is placed on active duty.
- 46 (3) The student shall be given the option of receiving a temporary grade of
47 "incomplete (IN)" or "absent from the final exam (AB)" for any course that
48 the student was unable to complete as a result of being placed on State active
49 duty status; however, the student must complete the course requirements
50 within the period of time specified by the community college to avoid
51 receiving a failing grade for the course.

1 (4) The student shall be permitted to drop, with no penalty, any course that the
2 student was unable to complete as a result of being placed on State active duty
3 status."

4 **SECTION 6.5.(b)** G.S. 115D-20(4) reads as rewritten:

5 "(4) To apply the standards and requirements for admission and graduation of
6 students and other standards established by the State Board of Community
7 Colleges. ~~Notwithstanding any law or administrative rule to the contrary, local~~
8 ~~community colleges are permitted to offer the following programs:~~

9 a. ~~Subject to the approval of the State Board of Community Colleges,~~
10 ~~local community colleges may collaborate with public school units~~
11 ~~and nonpublic schools to offer courses through the following~~
12 ~~programs:~~

13 1. ~~Repealed by Session Laws 2022-71, s. 3.2, effective July 8,~~
14 ~~2022.~~

15 2. ~~Academic transition pathways for qualified junior and senior~~
16 ~~high school students that lead to a career technical education~~
17 ~~certificate, diploma, or State or industry recognized credential~~
18 ~~and academic transition pathways for qualified freshmen and~~
19 ~~sophomore high school students that lead to a career technical~~
20 ~~education certificate or diploma in (i) industrial and~~
21 ~~engineering technologies, (ii) agriculture and natural~~
22 ~~resources, (iii) transportation technology, (iv) construction, or~~
23 ~~(v) business technologies.~~

24 3. ~~College transfer pathways requiring the successful completion~~
25 ~~of 30 semester credit hours of transfer courses, including~~
26 ~~English and mathematics, for the following students:~~

27 I. ~~Qualified junior and senior high school students.~~

28 II. ~~Qualified freshman and sophomore high school~~
29 ~~students, if all of the following requirements are met:~~

30 A. ~~The student is determined to be academically~~
31 ~~gifted, have a demonstrated readiness for the~~
32 ~~course material, and have the maturity to justify~~
33 ~~admission to the community college by (i) the~~
34 ~~community college president, (ii) the student's~~
35 ~~high school principal or equivalent~~
36 ~~administrator, and (iii) the academically gifted~~
37 ~~coordinator, if one is employed by the high~~
38 ~~school or local school administrative unit.~~

39 B. ~~The student participates in academic advising~~
40 ~~focused on the implications of being admitted~~
41 ~~to college early with representatives from the~~
42 ~~high school and the community college.~~

43 C. ~~The student's parent or guardian has given~~
44 ~~consent for the student to participate.~~

45 a1. ~~Subject to the approval of the State Board of Community Colleges,~~
46 ~~local community colleges may collaborate with local school~~
47 ~~administrative units to offer cooperative innovative high school~~
48 ~~programs, as provided by Part 9 of Article 16 of Chapter 115C of the~~
49 ~~General Statutes.~~

- 1 b. ~~During the summer quarter, persons less than 16 years old may be~~
2 ~~permitted to take noncredit courses on a self-supporting basis, subject~~
3 ~~to rules of the State Board of Community Colleges.~~
4 e. ~~High school students may be permitted to take noncredit courses in~~
5 ~~safe driving on a self-supporting basis during the academic year or the~~
6 ~~summer.~~
7 d. ~~High school students 16 years and older may be permitted to take~~
8 ~~noncredit courses, except adult basic skills, subject to rules~~
9 ~~promulgated by the State Board of Community Colleges.~~
10 e. ~~Notwithstanding any other provision of this subdivision, qualified~~
11 ~~youth 15 years and older may be permitted to enroll in courses,~~
12 ~~including certification-eligible courses, in fire training pursuant to~~
13 ~~G.S. 95-25.5(n) and on a specialized course list approved by the State~~
14 ~~Board of Community Colleges in accordance with~~
15 ~~G.S. 115D-5(b)(2)."~~

16 **SECTION 6.5.(c)** Article 2 of Chapter 115D of the General Statutes is amended by
17 adding a new section to read:

18 **"§ 115D-21.2. Accreditation.**

19 (a) Definitions. – The following definitions apply in this section:

- 20 (1) Accreditation cycle. – The period of time during which a community college
21 is accredited.
22 (2) Accrediting agency. – An agency or association that accredits institutions of
23 higher education.
24 (3) Regional accrediting agency. – One of the following accrediting agencies:
25 a. Higher Learning Commission.
26 b. Middle States Commission on Higher Education.
27 c. New England Commission on Higher Education.
28 d. Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.
29 e. Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on
30 Colleges.
31 f. Western Association of Schools and Colleges Accrediting
32 Commission for Community and Junior Colleges.

33 (b) Prohibit Consecutive Accreditation by an Accrediting Agency. – A community
34 college shall not receive accreditation by an accrediting agency for consecutive accreditation
35 cycles except as provided in subsection (c) of this section.

36 (c) Accreditation Transfer Procedure. – A community college that pursues accreditation
37 with a different accrediting agency in accordance with this section shall pursue accreditation with
38 a regional accrediting agency. If the community college is not granted candidacy status by any
39 regional accrediting agency that is different from its current accrediting agency at least three
40 years prior to the expiration of its current accreditation, the community college may remain with
41 its current accrediting agency for an additional accreditation cycle.

42 (d) Certain Programs Exempt. – The requirements of this section do not apply to
43 professional, departmental, or certificate programs at community colleges that have specific
44 accreditation requirements or best practices, as identified by the State Board of Community
45 Colleges.

46 (e) Cause of Action. – A community college may bring a civil action, as follows:

- 47 (1) Against any person who makes a false statement to the accrediting agency of
48 the community college, if all of the following criteria are met:
49 a. The statement, if true, would mean the community college is out of
50 compliance with its accreditation standards.

- b. The person made the statement with knowledge that the statement was false or with reckless disregard as to whether it was false.
- c. The accrediting agency conducted a review of the community college as a proximate result of the statement.
- d. The review caused the community college to incur costs.

(2) A community college that prevails on a cause of action initiated pursuant to this subsection shall be entitled to the following:

- a. Costs related to the review conducted by the accrediting agency, including for the following:
 - 1. Additional hours worked by community college personnel.
 - 2. Contracted services, including outside legal counsel.
 - 3. Travel, lodging, and food expenses.
 - 4. Fees required by the agency.
- b. Reasonable attorneys' fees.
- c. Court costs."

SECTION 6.5.(d) G.S. 115D-21.5 is repealed.

SECTION 6.5.(e) Article 2 of Chapter 115D of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 115D-21.10. Curriculum courses taught throughout year.

Community colleges may teach curriculum courses at any time during the year, including the summer term. Student membership hours from these courses shall be counted when computing full-time equivalent students (FTE) for use in budget funding formulas at the State level."

SECTION 6.5.(f) Chapter 115D of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new Article to read:

"Article 2B.

"High School Programs.

"§ 115D-30.1. Career and College Promise Program.

(a) There is established the Career and College Promise Program to allow pathways for qualified high school students to take community college courses without the payment of tuition.

(b) Subject to the approval of the State Board of Community Colleges, local community colleges may collaborate with public school units and nonpublic schools to offer courses through the following programs:

- (1) Academic transition pathways for qualified junior and senior high school students that lead to a career technical education certificate, diploma, or State or industry-recognized credential and academic transition pathways for qualified freshmen and sophomore high school students that lead to a career technical education certificate or diploma in one of the following:
 - a. Industrial and engineering technologies.
 - b. Agriculture and natural resources.
 - c. Transportation technology.
 - d. Construction.
 - e. Business technologies.

(2) College transfer pathways requiring the successful completion of 30 semester credit hours of transfer courses, including English and mathematics, for the following students:

- a. Qualified junior and senior high school students.
- b. Qualified freshmen and sophomore high school students, if all of the following requirements are met:
 - 1. The student is determined to be academically gifted, have a demonstrated readiness for the course material, and have the maturity to justify admission to the community college by (i)

1 the community college president, (ii) the student's high school
2 principal or equivalent administrator, and (iii) the academically
3 gifted coordinator, if one is employed by the high school or
4 local school administrative unit.

5 2. The student participates in academic advising focused on the
6 implications of being admitted to college early with
7 representatives from the high school and the community
8 college.

9 3. The student's parent or guardian has given consent for the
10 student to participate.

11 **"§ 115D-30.5. Evaluation of Career and College Promise Program.**

12 (a) Evaluation. – In addition to the evaluation of cooperative innovative high schools by
13 the State Board of Education pursuant to G.S. 115C-238.55, the State Board of Community
14 Colleges, in conjunction with the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors of The
15 University of North Carolina, shall evaluate the success of students participating in the Career
16 and College Promise Program, including the College Transfer pathway and the Career and
17 Technical Education pathway.

18 (b) Metrics. – Success shall be measured by high school retention rates, high school
19 completion rates, high school dropout rates, certification and associate degree completion,
20 admission to four-year institutions, postgraduation employment in career or study-related fields,
21 and employer satisfaction of employees who participated in the programs. The evaluation shall
22 also include an analysis of the cost of students participating in each of the programs within the
23 Career and College Promise Program, including at least the following:

24 (1) Total enrollment funding, the number of budgeted full-time equivalent
25 students, and the number of students enrolled in courses through cooperative
26 innovative high schools, the College Transfer pathway, and the Career and
27 Technical Education pathway.

28 (2) The cost and number of waivers of tuition and registration fees provided for
29 students enrolled in courses through cooperative innovative high schools, the
30 College Transfer pathway, and the Career and Technical Education pathway.

31 (3) Any additional costs of a student attending courses on campus if a student is
32 not attending public school in a local school administrative unit for the
33 majority of the student's instructional time.

34 (c) Report. – The Boards shall jointly report by March 15 of each year to the Joint
35 Legislative Education Oversight Committee, the Senate Appropriations Committee on
36 Education/Higher Education, the House Appropriations Committee on Education, and the Fiscal
37 Research Division of the General Assembly. The report shall be combined with the evaluation
38 of cooperative innovative high schools required by G.S. 115C-238.55, and the Community
39 Colleges System Office shall be responsible for submitting the combined report.

40 **"§ 115D-30.10. Cooperative innovative high schools.**

41 Subject to the approval of the State Board of Community Colleges, local community colleges
42 may collaborate with local school administrative units to offer cooperative innovative high
43 school programs, as provided by Part 9 of Article 16 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes.

44 **"§ 115D-30.15. Noncredit courses.**

45 Subject to rules adopted by the State Board of Community Colleges, local community
46 colleges may provide for the following:

47 (1) During the summer quarter, persons less than 16 years old may be permitted
48 to take noncredit courses on a self-supporting basis.

49 (2) High school students may be permitted to take noncredit courses in safe
50 driving on a self-supporting basis during the academic year or the summer.

- 1 (3) High school students 16 years and older may be permitted to take noncredit
2 courses, except adult basic skills.
3 (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Article, qualified youth 15 years
4 and older may be permitted to enroll in courses, including
5 certification-eligible courses, in fire training pursuant to G.S. 95-25.5(n) and
6 on a specialized course list approved by the State Board of Community
7 Colleges in accordance with G.S. 115D-30.1.

8 **"§ 115D-30.20. Gateway to College Program.**

9 The purpose of the first semester of the Gateway to College Program is to address additional
10 support to successfully complete the Program. Students may need to take developmental courses
11 necessary for the transition to more challenging courses; therefore, the State Board of Community
12 Colleges shall (i) permit high school students who are enrolled in Gateway to College Programs
13 to enroll in developmental courses based on an assessment of their individual student needs by a
14 high school and community college staff team and (ii) include this coursework in computing the
15 budget FTE for the colleges.

16 **"§ 115D-30.25. NC Career Coach Program.**

17 (a) Purpose. – There is established the NC Career Coach Program to place community
18 college career coaches in high schools to assist students with determining career goals and
19 identifying community college programs that would enable students to achieve these goals.

20 (b) Memorandum of Understanding. – The board of trustees of a community college and
21 a local board of education of a local school administrative unit within the service area of the
22 community college shall enter into a memorandum of understanding for the placement of career
23 coaches employed by the board of trustees of the community college in schools within the local
24 school administrative unit. At a minimum, the memorandum of understanding shall include the
25 following:

- 26 (1) Requirement that the community college provides the following:
27 a. Hiring, training, and supervision of career coaches. The board of
28 trustees may include a local board of education liaison on the hiring
29 committee to participate in the decision making regarding hiring for
30 the coach positions.
31 b. Salary, benefits, and all other expenses related to the employment of
32 the career coach. The coach will be an employee of the board of
33 trustees and will not be an agent or employee of the local board of
34 education.
35 c. Development of pedagogical materials and technologies needed to
36 enhance the advising process.
37 d. Criminal background checks required by the local school
38 administrative unit for employees working directly with students.
39 e. Agreement that, while on any school campus, the career coach will
40 obey all local board of education rules and will be subject to the
41 authority of the school building administration.
42 (2) Requirement that the local school administrative unit provides the following
43 to career coaches:
44 a. Access to student records, as needed to carry out the coach's job
45 responsibilities.
46 b. Office space on site appropriate for student advising.
47 c. Information technology resources, including, but not limited to,
48 internet access, telephone, and copying.
49 d. Initial school orientation and ongoing integration into the faculty and
50 staff community.
51 e. Promotion of school-wide awareness of coach duties.

- 1 f. Facilitation of the coach's access to individual classes and larger
2 assemblies for the purposes of awareness building.
- 3 (c) Application for NC Career Coach Program Funding. – The board of trustees of a
4 community college and a local board of education of a local school administrative unit within the
5 service area of the community college jointly may apply for available funds for NC Career Coach
6 Program funding from the State Board of Community Colleges. The State Board of Community
7 Colleges shall establish a process for award of funds as follows:
- 8 (1) Advisory committee. – Establishment of an advisory committee, which shall
9 include representatives from the NC Community College System, the
10 Department of Public Instruction, the Department of Commerce, and at least
11 three representatives of the business community, to review applications and
12 make recommendations for funding awards to the State Board.
- 13 (2) Application submission requirements. – The State Board of Community
14 Colleges shall require at least the following:
- 15 a. Evidence of a signed memorandum of understanding that meets, at a
16 minimum, the requirements of this section.
- 17 b. Evidence that the funding request will be matched with local funds in
18 accordance with the following:
- 19 1. Matching funds may come from public or private sources.
20 2. The match amount shall be determined based on the
21 development tier designation of the county in which the local
22 school administrative unit is located where the career coach is
23 assigned on the date of the award of funds by the State Board
24 of Community Colleges according to the following:
- 25 I. If located in a tier one county as defined in
26 G.S. 143B-437.08, no local match shall be required.
- 27 II. If located in a tier two county as defined in
28 G.S. 143B-437.08, one dollar (\$1.00) of local funds for
29 every two dollars (\$2.00) in State funds shall be
30 required.
- 31 III. If located in a tier three county as defined in
32 G.S. 143B-437.08, one dollar (\$1.00) of local funds for
33 every one dollar (\$1.00) in State funds shall be
34 required.
- 35 (3) Awards criteria. – The State Board of Community Colleges shall develop
36 criteria for consideration in determining the award of funds that shall include
37 the following:
- 38 a. Consideration of the workforce needs of business and industry in the
39 region.
- 40 b. Targeting of resources to enhance ongoing economic activity within
41 the community college service area and surrounding counties.
- 42 c. Geographic diversity of awards.
- 43 (d) Annual Report. –
- 44 (1) The board of trustees of a community college that employs one or more career
45 coaches shall report annually to the State Board of Community Colleges on
46 implementation and outcomes of the Program, including the following
47 information:
- 48 a. Number of career coaches employed.
49 b. Number of local school administrative units served and names of
50 schools in which career coaches are placed.
51 c. Number of students annually counseled by career coaches.

1 d. Impact of career coaches on student choices, as determined by a valid
2 measure selected by the State Board of Community Colleges.

3 (2) The State Board of Community Colleges shall report annually no later than
4 October 1 to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the
5 following:

6 a. A compilation of the information reported by the board of trustees of
7 community colleges, as provided in subdivision (1) of this subsection.

8 b. Number and names of partnership applicants for NC Career Coach
9 Program funding.

10 c. Number, names, and amounts of those awarded NC Career Coach
11 Program funding."

12 **SECTION 6.5.(g)** G.S. 115D-39, 115D-39.1, 115D-40.1, and 115D-40.5 are
13 codified into Part 2 of Article 3 of Chapter 115D of the General Statutes, which shall be entitled
14 "Tuition and Fees." The remaining sections of Article 3 of Chapter 115D of the General Statutes
15 are codified into Part 1 of Article 3 of Chapter 115D of the General Statutes, which shall be
16 entitled "Funding of Community Colleges."

17 **SECTION 6.5.(h)** Part 2 of Article 3 of Chapter 115D of the General Statutes is
18 amended by adding new sections to read:

19 "**§ 115D-39.2. Pro rata tuition and uniform registration fees.**

20 In order to make instruction as accessible as possible to all citizens, the teaching of curricular
21 courses and of noncurricular extension courses at convenient locations away from institution
22 campuses as well as on campuses is authorized and shall be encouraged. A pro rata portion of
23 the established regular tuition rate charged a full-time student shall be charged a part-time student
24 taking any curriculum course. In lieu of any tuition charge, the State Board of Community
25 Colleges shall establish a uniform registration fee, or a schedule of uniform registration fees, to
26 be charged students enrolling in extension courses for which instruction is financed primarily
27 from State funds.

28 "**§ 115D-39.5. Tuition waivers.**

29 (a) Allowed Tuition Waivers. – The State Board of Community Colleges shall not waive
30 tuition and registration fees for any individuals, except the State Board may, as provided by
31 general and uniform regulations, waive tuition and registration fees for the following:

32 (1) Persons not enrolled in elementary or secondary schools taking courses
33 leading to a high school diploma or equivalent certificate.

34 (2) Courses requested by the following entities that support the organizations'
35 training needs and are on a specialized course list approved by the State Board:

36 a. Volunteer fire departments.

37 b. Municipal, county, or State fire departments.

38 c. Volunteer EMS or rescue and lifesaving departments.

39 d. Municipal, county, or State EMS or rescue and lifesaving departments.

40 e. Law enforcement, fire, or EMS or rescue and lifesaving entities
41 serving a lake authority that was created by a county board of
42 commissioners prior to July 1, 2012.

43 f. Radio Emergency Associated Communications Teams (REACT)
44 under contract to a county as an emergency response agency.

45 g. Municipal, county, or State law enforcement agencies.

46 h. Campus police agencies of private institutions of higher education
47 certified by the Attorney General pursuant to Chapter 74G of the
48 General Statutes.

49 i. The Division of Prisons of the Department of Adult Correction and the
50 Division of Juvenile Justice of the Department of Public Safety for the
51 training of full-time custodial employees and employees of the

1 Divisions required to be certified under Article 1 of Chapter 17C of
2 the General Statutes and the rules of the Criminal Justice and Training
3 Standards Commission.

4 j. The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians law enforcement, fire, or EMS
5 or rescue and lifesaving tribal government departments or programs.

6 k. The Criminal Justice Standards Division of the Department of Justice
7 for the training of criminal justice professionals, as defined in
8 G.S. 17C-20(6), who are required to be certified under (i) Article 1 of
9 Chapter 17C of the General Statutes and the rules of the North
10 Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards
11 Commission or (ii) Chapter 17E of the General Statutes and the rules
12 of the North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards
13 Commission. The waivers provided for in this sub-subdivision apply
14 to participants and recent graduates of the North Carolina Criminal
15 Justice Fellows Program to obtain certifications for eligible criminal
16 justice professions, as defined in G.S. 17C-20(6).

17 (3) Firefighters, EMS personnel, and rescue and lifesaving personnel whose duty
18 station is located on a military installation within North Carolina for courses
19 that support their organizations' training needs and are approved for this
20 purpose by the State Board.

21 (4) Trainees enrolled in courses conducted under the Customized Training
22 Program.

23 (5) Elementary and secondary school employees enrolled in courses in first aid or
24 cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

25 (6) All courses taken by high school students at community colleges, in
26 accordance with this section and Article 2B of this Chapter.

27 (7) Human resources development courses for any individual who (i) is
28 unemployed, (ii) has received notification of a pending layoff, (iii) is working
29 and is eligible for the Federal Earned Income Tax Credit (FEITC), or (iv) is
30 working and earning wages at or below two hundred percent (200%) of the
31 federal poverty guidelines.

32 (8) Courses providing employability skills, job-specific occupational or technical
33 skills, or developmental education instruction to certain students who are
34 concurrently enrolled in an eligible community college literacy course, in
35 accordance with rules adopted by the State Board.

36 (9) Courses provided to students who are participating in a pre-apprenticeship or
37 apprenticeship program that meets all of the following criteria:

38 a. Meets one of the following:

39 1. Is a registered apprenticeship program recognized by the
40 United States Department of Labor.

41 2. Is a pre-apprenticeship program recognized and approved by
42 the State agency administering the statewide apprenticeship
43 program.

44 b. Has a documented plan of study with courses relating to a job-specific
45 occupational or technical skill.

46 c. Requires the participants in the program to be North Carolina high
47 school students when entering the program.

48 (b) Faculty and Staff. – The State Board shall not waive tuition and registration fees for
49 community college faculty or staff members. Community colleges may, however, use State or
50 local funds to pay tuition and registration fees for one course per semester for full-time
51 community college faculty or staff members employed for a nine-, 10-, 11-, or 12-month term.

1 Community colleges may also use State and local funds to pay tuition and registration fees for
2 professional development courses and for other courses consistent with the academic assistance
3 program authorized by the State Human Resources Commission.

4 (c) Annual Report. – Annually by February 1, the Community Colleges System Office
5 shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the number and type of
6 waivers granted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section."

7 **SECTION 6.5.(i)** G.S. 115D-41 is recodified as G.S. 115D-38.5.

8 **SECTION 6.5.(j)** G.S. 115D-43 is recodified as G.S. 115D-38.10.

9 **SECTION 6.5.(k)** G.S. 115D-44 is repealed.

10 **SECTION 6.5.(l)** G.S. 20-11(n) reads as rewritten:

11 "(n) Driving Eligibility Certificate. – A person who desires to obtain a permit or license
12 issued under this section must have a high school diploma or its equivalent or must have a driving
13 eligibility certificate. A driving eligibility certificate must meet the following conditions:

14 (1) The person who is required to sign the certificate under subdivision (4) of this
15 subsection must show that he or she has determined that one of the following
16 requirements is met:

- 17 a. The person is currently enrolled in school and is making progress
18 toward obtaining a high school diploma or its equivalent.
19 b. A substantial hardship would be placed on the person or the person's
20 family if the person does not receive a certificate.
21 c. The person cannot make progress toward obtaining a high school
22 diploma or its equivalent.

23 (1a) The person who is required to sign the certificate under subdivision (4) of this
24 subsection also must show that one of the following requirements is met:

- 25 a. The person who seeks a permit or license issued under this section is
26 not subject to subsection (n1) of this section.
27 b. The person who seeks a permit or license issued under this section is
28 subject to subsection (n1) of this section and is eligible for the
29 certificate under that subsection.

30 (2) It must be on a form approved by the Division.

31 (3) It must be dated within 30 days of the date the person applies for a permit or
32 license issuable under this section.

33 (4) It must be signed by the applicable person named below:

- 34 a. The principal, or the principal's designee, of the public school in which
35 the person is enrolled.
36 b. The administrator, or the administrator's designee, of the nonpublic
37 school in which the person is enrolled.
38 c. The person who provides the academic instruction in the home school
39 in which the person is enrolled.
40 c1. The person who provides the academic instruction in the home in
41 accordance with an educational program found by a court, prior to July
42 1, 1998, to comply with the compulsory attendance law.
43 d. The designee of the board of directors of the charter school in which
44 the person is enrolled.
45 e. The president, or the president's designee, of the community college
46 in which the person is enrolled.

47 Notwithstanding any other law, the decision concerning whether a driving eligibility
48 certificate was properly issued or improperly denied shall be appealed only as provided under
49 the rules adopted in accordance with G.S. 115C-12(28), ~~115D-5(a3)~~, 115D-10.70, or 115C-566,
50 whichever is applicable, and may not be appealed under this Chapter."

51 **SECTION 6.5.(m)** G.S. 20-13.2(c1) reads as rewritten:

1 "(c1) Upon receipt of notification from the proper school authority that a person no longer
2 meets the requirements for a driving eligibility certificate under G.S. 20-11(n), the Division must
3 expeditiously notify the person that his or her permit or license is revoked effective on the
4 thirtieth calendar day after the mailing of the revocation notice. The Division must revoke the
5 permit or license of that person on the thirtieth calendar day after the mailing of the revocation
6 notice. Notwithstanding subsection (d) of this section, the length of revocation must last for the
7 following periods:

- 8 (1) If the revocation is because of ineligibility for a driving eligibility certificate
9 under G.S. 20-11(n)(1), then the revocation shall last until the person's
10 eighteenth birthday.
- 11 (2) If the revocation is because of ineligibility for a driving eligibility certificate
12 under G.S. 20-11(n1), then the revocation shall be for a period of one year.

13 For a person whose permit or license was revoked due to ineligibility for a driving eligibility
14 certificate under G.S. 20-11(n)(1), the Division must restore a person's permit or license before
15 the person's eighteenth birthday, if the person submits to the Division one of the following:

- 16 (1) A high school diploma or its equivalent.
- 17 (2) A driving eligibility certificate as required under G.S. 20-11(n).

18 If the Division restores a permit or license that was revoked due to ineligibility for a driving
19 eligibility certificate under G.S. 20-11(n)(1), any record of revocation or suspension shall be
20 expunged by the Division from the person's driving record. The Division shall not expunge a
21 suspension or revocation record if a person has had a prior expunction from the person's driving
22 record for any reason.

23 For a person whose permit or license was revoked due to ineligibility for a driving eligibility
24 certificate under G.S. 20-11(n1), the Division shall restore a person's permit or license before the
25 end of the revocation period, if the person submits to the Division a driving eligibility certificate
26 as required under G.S. 20-11(n).

27 Notwithstanding any other law, the decision concerning whether a driving eligibility
28 certificate was properly issued or improperly denied shall be appealed only as provided under
29 the rules adopted in accordance with G.S. 115C-12(28), ~~115D-5(a3)~~, 115D-10.70, or 115C-566,
30 whichever is applicable, and may not be appealed under this Chapter."

31 **SECTION 6.5.(n)** G.S. 90-631(b) reads as rewritten:

32 "(b) A massage and bodywork therapy program operated by a North Carolina community
33 college that is accredited by a regional accrediting agency, as defined in ~~G.S. 115D-6.2~~,
34 G.S. 115D-21.2, is exempt from the approval process, licensure process, or both, established by
35 the Board. The college shall certify annually to the Board that the program meets or exceeds the
36 minimum standards for curriculum, faculty, and learning resources established by the Board.
37 Students who complete the program shall qualify for licenses from the Board as if the program
38 were approved, licensed, or both, by the Board."

39 **SECTION 6.5.(o)** G.S. 93A-4(a2) reads as rewritten:

40 "(a2) A certified real estate education provider shall pay a fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) per
41 licensee to the Commission for each licensee completing a postlicensing education course
42 conducted by the school, provided that these fees shall not be charged to a community college,
43 junior college, college, or university located in this State and accredited by a regional accrediting
44 agency, as defined in ~~G.S. 115D-6.2~~ G.S. 115D-21.2 and G.S. 116-11.4, respectively."

45 **SECTION 6.5.(p)** G.S. 93A-38.5(e) reads as rewritten:

46 "(e) The Commission may establish a nonrefundable course application fee to be charged
47 to private real estate education providers for the review and approval of a proposed continuing
48 education course. The fee shall not exceed one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125.00) per course.
49 The Commission may charge the private real estate education providers of an approved course a
50 nonrefundable fee not to exceed seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) for the annual renewal of course
51 approval.

1 A private real estate education provider shall pay a fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) per licensee to
2 the Commission for each licensee completing an approved continuing education course
3 conducted by the sponsor.

4 The Commission shall not charge a course application fee, a course renewal fee, or any other
5 fee for a continuing education course sponsored by a community college, junior college, college,
6 or university located in this State and accredited by a regional accrediting agency, as defined in
7 ~~G.S. 115D-6.2~~ G.S. 115D-21.2 and G.S. 116-11.4, respectively."

8 **SECTION 6.5.(q)** G.S. 93E-1-7(b2) reads as rewritten:

9 "(b2) The Board shall not charge a course application fee, a course renewal fee, or any other
10 fee for a continuing education course offered by a North Carolina college, university, junior
11 college, or community or technical college accredited by a regional accrediting agency, as
12 defined in ~~G.S. 115D-6.2~~ G.S. 115D-21.2 and G.S. 116-11.4, respectively, or an agency of the
13 federal, State, or local government."

14 **SECTION 6.5.(r)** G.S. 93E-1-8 reads as rewritten:

15 "**§ 93E-1-8. Education program approval and fees.**

16 ...

17 (b) The Board may by rule set nonrefundable fees chargeable to private real estate
18 appraisal schools or course sponsors, including appraisal trade organizations, for the approval
19 and annual renewal of approval of their qualifying courses required by G.S. 93E-1-6(a), or
20 equivalent courses. The fees shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per course for approval and
21 fifty dollars (\$50.00) per course for renewal of approval. No fees shall be charged for the approval
22 or renewal of approval to conduct appraiser qualifying courses where such courses are offered
23 by a North Carolina college, university, junior college, or community or technical college
24 accredited by a regional accrediting agency, as defined in ~~G.S. 115D-6.2~~ G.S. 115D-21.2 and
25 G.S. 116-11.4, respectively, or an agency of the federal, State, or local government.

26 ...

27 (d) Nonrefundable fees of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per course may be charged to
28 schools and course sponsors for the approval to conduct appraiser continuing education courses
29 and fifty dollars (\$50.00) per course for renewal of approval. However, no fees shall be charged
30 for the approval or renewal of approval to conduct appraiser continuing education courses where
31 such courses are offered by a North Carolina college, university, junior college, or community
32 or technical college accredited by a regional accrediting agency, as defined in ~~G.S. 115D-6.2~~
33 G.S. 115D-21.2 and G.S. 116-11.4, respectively, or by an agency of the federal, State, or local
34 government. A nonrefundable fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) per course may be charged to current
35 or former licensees or certificate holders requesting approval by the Board of a course for
36 continuing education credit when approval of such course has not been previously obtained by
37 the offering school or course sponsor."

38 **SECTION 6.5.(s)** G.S. 95-25.5(n) reads as rewritten:

39 "(n) Nothing in this section prohibits qualified youths under 18 years of age from
40 participating in training through their fire department, the Office of State Fire Marshal, or the
41 North Carolina Community College System. As used in this subsection, the term "qualified youth
42 under 18 years of age" means an uncompensated fire department or rescue squad member who
43 is at least the age of 15 and under the age of 18 and who is a member of a bona fide fire
44 department, as that term is defined in G.S. 58-86-2(4), or of a rescue squad described in
45 G.S. 58-86-2(6). A qualified youth under 18 years of age under this subsection may be permitted
46 to enroll in courses, including certification-eligible courses, in fire training at a community
47 college on a specialized course list approved by the State Board of Community Colleges pursuant
48 to ~~G.S. 115D-20(4)~~ G.S. 115D-30.15(4)."

49 **SECTION 6.5.(t)** G.S. 115C-84.3(a)(3) reads as rewritten:

1 "(3) Institution of higher education courses, as provided in Article 16 of this
2 Chapter or ~~G.S. 115D-20(4)~~Article 2B of Chapter 115D of the General
3 Statutes."

4 **SECTION 6.5.(u)** G.S. 115C-238.55 reads as rewritten:

5 "**§ 115C-238.55. Evaluation of cooperative innovative high schools.**

6 The State Board of Education and the governing Boards shall evaluate the success of students
7 in cooperative innovative high schools approved under this Part. Success shall be measured by
8 high school retention rates, high school completion rates, high school dropout rates, certification
9 and associate degree completion, admission to four-year institutions, postgraduation employment
10 in career or study-related fields, and employer satisfaction of employees who participated in and
11 graduated from the schools. The Boards shall jointly report by March 15 of each year to the Joint
12 Legislative Education Oversight Committee, the Senate Appropriations Committee on
13 Education/Higher Education, the House Appropriations Committee on Education, and the Fiscal
14 Research Division of the General Assembly on the evaluation of these schools. The report shall
15 be combined with the evaluation of and analysis of cost of students participating in the Career
16 and College Promise Program required by ~~G.S. 115D-5(x)~~, G.S. 115D-30.5, and the Community
17 Colleges System Office shall be responsible for submitting the combined report."

18 **SECTION 6.5.(v)** G.S. 115D-2(2) reads as rewritten:

19 "(2) The term "community college" is defined as an educational institution
20 operating under the provisions of this Chapter and dedicated primarily to the
21 educational needs of the service area which it serves, and may offer any of the
22 following:

- 23 a. The freshmen and sophomore courses of a college of arts and sciences,
24 authorized by ~~G.S. 115D-4.1~~; G.S. 115D-10.10.
- 25 b. Organized credit curricula for the training of technicians; curricular
26 courses may carry transfer credit to a senior college or university
27 where the course is comparable in content and quality and is
28 appropriate to a chosen course of ~~study~~; study.
- 29 c. Vocational, trade, and technical specialty courses and ~~programs~~;
30 and programs.
- 31 d. Courses in general adult education."

32 **SECTION 6.5.(w)** G.S. 115D-39(a1) reads as rewritten:

33 "(a1) In addition, federal law enforcement officers, firefighters, EMS personnel, and rescue
34 and lifesaving personnel whose permanent duty station is within North Carolina and who do not
35 otherwise qualify for tuition waivers under ~~G.S. 115D-5(b)(2a)~~ G.S. 115D-39.5(a)(3) shall also
36 be eligible for the State resident community college tuition rate for courses that support their
37 organizations' training needs and are approved for this purpose by the State Board of Community
38 Colleges."

39 **SECTION 6.5.(x)** G.S. 115D-41(a) reads as rewritten:

40 "(a) Community college contracts with local school administrative units shall not be used
41 by these agencies to supplant funding for a public school high school teacher providing courses
42 offered pursuant to ~~G.S. 115D-20(4)~~ Article 2B of this Chapter who is already employed by the
43 local school administrative unit. In no event shall a community college contract with a local
44 school administrative unit to provide high school level courses."

45 **SECTION 6.5.(y)** Article 6A of Chapter 115D of the General Statutes is repealed.

46 **SECTION 6.5.(z)** G.S. 116-201(b)(8) reads as rewritten:

47 "(8) "Private institution" means an institution other than a seminary, Bible school,
48 Bible college or similar religious institution in this State that is not owned or
49 operated by the State or any agency or political subdivision thereof, or by any
50 combination thereof, that offers post-high school education and is accredited
51 by a regional accrediting agency, as defined in ~~G.S. 115D-6.2~~ G.S. 115D-21.2

1 and G.S. 116-11.4, or the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and
2 Schools, or, in the case of institutions that are not eligible to be considered for
3 accreditation, accredited in those categories and by those nationally
4 recognized accrediting agencies that the Authority may designate;"

5 **SECTION 6.5.(aa)** G.S. 116-280(3) reads as rewritten:

6 "(3) Eligible private postsecondary institution. – A school that is any of the
7 following:

8 a. A nonprofit postsecondary educational institution with a main
9 permanent campus located in this State that is not owned or operated
10 by the State of North Carolina or by an agency or political subdivision
11 of the State or by any combination thereof that satisfies all of the
12 following:

13 1. Is either (i) accredited by a regional accrediting agency, as
14 defined in ~~G.S. 115D-6.2~~ G.S. 115D-21.2 and G.S. 116-11.4,
15 or the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and
16 Schools or (ii) was accredited by ~~SACSCOC~~ the Southern
17 Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges
18 on January 1, 2021, and, beginning January 1, 2021, was a
19 member of the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges
20 and Schools.

21 2. Awards a postsecondary degree as defined in G.S. 116-15.

22 b. A postsecondary institution owned or operated by a hospital authority
23 as defined in G.S. 131E-16(14) or school of nursing affiliated with a
24 nonprofit postsecondary educational institution as defined in
25 sub-subdivision a. of this subsection."

26 **SECTION 6.5.(bb)** G.S. 126-5(c2)(3) reads as rewritten:

27 "(3) Employees of community colleges whose salaries are fixed in accordance with
28 ~~G.S. 115D-5~~ G.S. 115D-6.1 and G.S. 115D-20 and employees of the
29 Community Colleges System Office whose salaries are fixed by the State
30 Board of Community Colleges in accordance with G.S. 115D-3."

31 **SECTION 6.5.(cc)** Section 6.9(b) of S.L. 2023-134 reads as rewritten:

32 **"SECTION 6.9.(b)** Of the recurring funds appropriated in this act to the Community
33 Colleges System Office for the 2023-2025 fiscal biennium to support increasing program
34 offerings for individuals with IDD pursuant to ~~G.S. 115D-44~~, ~~as enacted by this section,~~
35 G.S. 115D-10.21, the System Office shall establish at least two statewide positions for program
36 support, provide professional development training for college advising staff to assist students
37 with IDD for career pathway exploration and the identification of credentials leading to
38 competitive employment, and explore funding sources to sustain programs for students with
39 IDD."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-NCCCS-H9(S6.6)-P

North Carolina Community College System
House Appropriations, Education

1 **NCCCS LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

2 **SECTION 6.6.(a)** The State Board of Community Colleges shall conduct a
3 competitive solicitation, including a request for information or a request for proposals, to provide
4 a learning management system to all community colleges. The competitive solicitation shall be
5 completed by December 31, 2025, and the transition to the new learning management system
6 shall be completed by December 31, 2027. Answers to the competitive solicitation shall include
7 information on how the learning management system would align with the learning management
8 systems (i) offered by the Department of Public Instruction to local school administrative units
9 and (ii) used by the constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina.

10 **SECTION 6.6.(b)** By December 31, 2025, the State Board shall report to the Senate
11 Appropriations Committee on Education/Higher Education, the House Appropriations
12 Committee on Education, and the Fiscal Research Division on the information received.

13 **SECTION 6.6.(c)** G.S. 143B-1320 reads as rewritten:

14 **"§ 143B-1320. Definitions; scope; exemptions.**

15 (a) Definitions. – The following definitions apply in this Article:

16 (1) CGIA. – Center for Geographic Information and Analysis.

17 ...

18 (17) State agency or agency. – Any agency, department, institution, commission,
19 committee, board, division, bureau, office, unit, officer, or official of the State.
20 The term does not include the legislative or judicial branches of ~~government~~
21 government, the Community Colleges System Office, or The University of
22 North Carolina.

23 ...

24 (b) Exemptions. – Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, the provisions of
25 this Chapter do not apply to the following entities: the General Assembly, the Judicial
26 Department, the Community Colleges System Office, and The University of North Carolina and
27 its constituent institutions. These entities may elect to participate in the information technology
28 programs, services, or contracts offered by the Department, including information technology
29 procurement, in accordance with the statutes, policies, and rules of the Department. The election
30 must be made in writing, as follows:

31 (1) For the General Assembly, by the Legislative Services Commission.

32 (2) For the Judicial Department, by the Chief Justice.

33 (2a) For the Community Colleges System Office, by the State Board of
34 Community Colleges.

35 (3) For The University of North Carolina, by the Board of Governors.

36 (4) For the constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina, by the
37 respective boards of trustees.

38"

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-NCCCS-H11(S6.7)i

North Carolina Community College System
House Appropriations, Education

1 *FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE TECH PLANNING*

2 SECTION 6.7. Chapter 115D of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new
3 section to read:

4 "§ 115D-9.40. Evaluation of technology costs.

5 The State Board of Community Colleges shall adopt a policy that requires all community
6 colleges to evaluate the following when acquiring technology, computer hardware, and software:

- 7 (1) The long-term cost of ownership, including costs of repairing the technology,
8 computer hardware, or software.
9 (2) Any flexibility for innovation during the life of the technology, computer
10 hardware, or software.
11 (3) Any anticipated resale or salvage value at the end of the target life cycle for
12 the technology, computer hardware, or software based on the average resale
13 or salvage value of similar technology, computer hardware, or software as a
14 percentage of the initial cost of purchase."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-NCCCS-H13(S8.21)-P

North Carolina Community College System
House Appropriations, Education

1 ***EXPEDITED TEACHER PIPELINE PATHWAY STUDY***

2 **SECTION #.** No later than March 15, 2026, ApprenticeshipNC shall report to the
3 Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on a plan to facilitate one or more expedited
4 pathways for apprenticeship candidates to enter the teaching profession. ApprenticeshipNC shall
5 develop the plan in collaboration with the Board of Governors of The University of North
6 Carolina, the State Board of Community Colleges, the Department of Public Instruction, and
7 Teach NC. In addition, ApprenticeshipNC may, in its discretion, collaborate with representatives
8 of approved educator preparation programs, local school administrative units, and existing
9 apprenticeship programs. The plan shall include at least the following components:

- 10 (1) Options for an accelerated transition pathway that allows high school students
11 to earn college credits leading to a teaching license while participating in
12 structured, paid, or other experiential learning in the classroom, including
13 applicable program design and sequencing components needed to achieve that
14 goal.
- 15 (2) Maximize usage and transferability of at least the following coursework
16 completion opportunities:
- 17 a. College transfer pathways provided through the Career and College
18 Promise Program that support entry into a recognized educator
19 preparation program.
 - 20 b. Community college coursework leading to completion of an associate
21 degree related to teacher preparation.
 - 22 c. Online or asynchronous coursework provided at a constituent
23 institution of The University of North Carolina leading to a bachelor's
24 degree.
 - 25 d. Enrollment in an associate degree program or a bachelor's degree
26 program while serving (i) as a full-time employee in a public school
27 unit and (ii) as a teacher assistant or apprentice in a registered
28 apprenticeship program pursuant to G.S. 115C-269.33, as enacted by
29 Section 7.37 of this act.
- 30 (3) Any legislative changes or appropriations needed to implement the plan.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

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SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-NCCCS-H2-P

North Carolina Community College System
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 **VARIOUS NCCCS STATUTORY CHANGES**

2 **SECTION #.(a)** G.S. 115D-10.17(e), as enacted by this act, reads as rewritten:

3 "(e) Of the funds appropriated in a fiscal year for the Customized Training Program, the
4 State Board of Community Colleges may approve the use of up to ~~eight percent (8%)~~ fifteen
5 percent (15%) for the training and support of regional community college personnel to deliver
6 Customized Training Program services to business and industry."

7 **SECTION #.(b)** G.S. 115D-31.3(e) reads as rewritten:

8 "(e) Mandatory Performance Measures. – The State Board of Community Colleges shall
9 evaluate each college on the following performance measures:

- 10 (1) Progress of basic skills students.
- 11 (2) Repealed by Session Laws 2016-94, s. 10.1, effective July 1, 2016.
- 12 (3) Performance of students who transfer to a four-year institution.
- 13 (3a) Success rate of students in credit-bearing English courses.
- 14 (3b) Success rate of students in credit-bearing Math or Science courses.
- 15 (4), (5) Repealed by Session Laws 2016-94, s. 10.1, effective July 1, 2016.
- 16 (5a) Progress of first-year curriculum students.
- 17 (6) Repealed by Session Laws 2012-142, s. 8.5, effective July 1, 2012.
- 18 (7) Curriculum student retention and graduation.
- 19 (8) Repealed by Session Laws 2012-142, s. 8.5, effective July 1, 2012.
- 20 (9) Attainment of licensure and certifications by students.

21 The State Board may also evaluate each college on additional performance measures."

22 **SECTION #.(c)** G.S. 115D-30.25, as enacted by this act, is amended by adding a
23 new subsection to read:

24 "(e) Administrative Costs. – The North Carolina Community Colleges System Office may
25 use up to four percent (4%) of the funds appropriated for the NC Career Coach Program for
26 administrative costs, including system office staffing, professional development, and program
27 management and evaluation. These funds shall be utilized to enhance the effectiveness and
28 sustainability of the program, ensuring its continued support for students within the community
29 college system. The North Carolina Community Colleges System Office shall have the authority
30 to allocate and oversee the utilization of these administrative funds in alignment with the
31 Program's goals and requirements."

32 **SECTION #.(d)** G.S. 115D-30.1(b), as enacted by this act, is amended by adding a
33 new subdivision to read:

34 "(3) Career and College Ready Graduate pathways introducing college
35 developmental mathematics and developmental English and reading curricula
36 in the senior year of high school, including the immediately preceding
37 summer, and providing opportunities for college remediation for students
38 prior to high school graduation, ensuring students are prepared for college and
39 career success as they transition from high school to higher education."

40 **SECTION #.(e)** The following provisions are repealed:

- 1 (1) Section 10.13 of S.L. 2015-241.
- 2 (2) Section 10.5 of S.L. 2016-94.
- 3 (3) Section 9.4 of S.L. 2018-5.
- 4 (4) Section 3J.19 of S.L. 2024-57.
- 5 **SECTION #.(f)** This section applies beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

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SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-NCCCS-H5-P

North Carolina Community College System
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

WORKFORCE DIPLOMA PROGRAM

SECTION #.(a) Program; Purpose. – The Community Colleges System Office shall establish the Workforce Diploma Program (Program) for the 2025-2026 and the 2026-2027 fiscal years. The purpose of the Program is to assist eligible students to obtain a high school diploma and develop employability and career and technical skills. The System Office shall contract with each qualifying third-party entity to separately administer a statewide version of the Program.

SECTION #.(b) Definitions. – For purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:

- (1) Eligible student. – Any adult who meets the following criteria:
 - a. Is 21 years of age or older.
 - b. Is a resident of North Carolina.
 - c. Has not earned a high school diploma or its equivalent.
- (2) Employability skills certification. – A certificate earned by demonstrating professional nontechnical skills through assessment and must include the program standards of the United States Department of Labor's "Skills to Pay the Bills: Mastering Soft Skills for Workplace Success."
- (3) Half credit. – Equivalent to one course or a semester of study.
- (4) Participant. – An eligible student who is participating in the Program.
- (5) Qualifying third-party entity. – An entity that meets all of the following requirements:
 - a. Did the following in the past five years:
 1. Administered at least three statewide adult high school diploma programs outside of the State.
 2. For any program described in sub-sub-subdivision 1. of this sub-subdivision, maintained a graduation rate of at least fifty percent (50%) based on a two-year cohort beginning with the second cohort of the program.
 - b. Is accredited by an external, regional accrediting agency.
 - c. Offers a course catalog that aligns with curriculum requirements for a high school diploma in the State.

SECTION #.(c) Program Requirements. – The Program shall do at least the following:

- (1) Provide one or more courses that help participants obtain a high school diploma and enter or advance within a specific occupation or occupational cluster. Course completion shall be competency-based.
- (2) Assist participants in obtaining employment, including resume development and mock interviews.
- (3) Include at least the following:
 - a. Proactive communication with participants regarding their pace and progress through learning plans.

- b. A plan for courses and credits needed for each participant that integrates graduation requirements and career goals.
- c. Mentoring services.
- d. Milestone tracking.
- e. Academic skill intake assessments and transcript evaluations.
- f. A catalog of courses necessary to meet graduation requirements.
- g. Remediation opportunities in literacy and numeracy.
- h. Employability skills certifications.
- i. Preparation for workforce credentials.
- j. Career advising services.
- k. Access to online tutoring services at any time.

SECTION #.(d) Allocation of Funds. – Funds shall be provided to each qualifying third-party entity on a per participant basis, up to seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500) per participant, based on the completion of milestones, as follows:

- (1) Two hundred seventy-five dollars (\$275.00) for the completion of each half credit.
- (2) Two hundred seventy-five dollars (\$275.00) for the completion of an employability skills certification program equivalent to one credit.
- (3) Two hundred seventy-five dollars (\$275.00) for the attainment of an industry-recognized credential requiring up to 50 hours of training.
- (4) Five hundred fifty dollars (\$550.00) for the attainment of an industry-recognized credential requiring between 51 and 100 hours of training.
- (5) Eight hundred twenty-five dollars (\$825.00) for the attainment of an industry-recognized credential requiring more than 100 hours of training.
- (6) One thousand one hundred dollars (\$1,100) for the attainment of a high school diploma.

SECTION #.(e) Report. – The State Board of Community Colleges, in consultation with each qualifying third-party entity, shall submit an interim report by August 15, 2026, and a final report by August 15, 2027, to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and the Fiscal Research Division on the impact of the Program, including at least the following information:

- (1) The number of participants.
- (2) The number of credits earned by participants.
- (3) The number of employability skills certifications issued to participants.
- (4) The number and type of workforce credentials earned by participants.
- (5) The number of participants who received a high school diploma.
- (6) The average funding provided per participant who received a high school diploma.
- (7) The percentage of participants who received a high school diploma.

SECTION #.(f) Follow-Up. – To the extent possible, the North Carolina Community Colleges System Office shall attempt to collect data on employment outcomes for students who participated in the Program pursuant to this section. Any data collected shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by July 15 of the year in which the data was collected.

SECTION #.(g) Nonreversion. – The nonrecurring funds appropriated in this act for the 2025-2026 fiscal year to the North Carolina Community Colleges System Office to establish the Program pursuant to this section shall not revert at the end of the 2025-2026 fiscal year but shall remain available until the end of the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

SECTION #.(h) Administration. – Of the nonrecurring funds appropriated in this act for the 2025-2026 fiscal year to the North Carolina Community Colleges System Office for the

- 1 Program, the System Office shall use up to one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to hire one
- 2 full-time equivalent position to administer the Program.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-NCCCS-H6-P

North Carolina Community College System
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 **DIGITAL CREDENTIAL PILOT PROGRAM**

2 **SECTION #.(a)** There is established the Digital Credential Pilot Program (Program)
3 for the 2025-2027 fiscal biennium. The purpose of the Program is to evaluate the effectiveness
4 of digital credential vaults for use by community college students. The North Carolina
5 Community Colleges System Office shall contract with a third-party entity to create a secure,
6 interoperable digital vault platform capable of issuing, storing, verifying, and sharing learner
7 credentials, including microcredentials, certifications, transcripts, and verified skill records and
8 credentials. The platform shall provide equitable cross-device access for learners and allow for
9 credential portability across educational institutions and employers, support open standards for
10 interoperability, offer real-time verification, and ensure privacy and security in compliance with
11 applicable laws. The system shall enable learners to manage a comprehensive, lifelong record of
12 achievement that is accessible, verifiable, and shareable with third parties through digital means.
13 Vault data must be user-encrypted to prevent unauthorized access or sale, and all credential and
14 learner data shall be owned and controlled by the student.

15 **SECTION #.(b)** The System Office shall select six community colleges to
16 participate in the Program. The System Office shall make an application available to all
17 community colleges for participation in the Program no later than 30 days after this section
18 becomes law. Community colleges may submit applications up to 30 days after the application
19 is made available. The System Office shall select community colleges to participate in the
20 Program no later than 30 days after the close of the application window.

21 **SECTION #.(c)** The System Office shall conduct a study on the efficacy of raising
22 student fees to continue the Program beyond the 2025-2027 fiscal biennium. The System Office
23 shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the results of the study
24 by January 15, 2027.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H21(S7.2)-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 **CLARIFY LEARNING.COM FUNDING**

2 **SECTION 7.2.(a)** Subsection (b) of Section 7.23K of S.L. 2017-57 reads as
3 rewritten:

4 "**SECTION 7.23K.(b)** The State Board of Education, the Department of Public Instruction,
5 the Friday Institute, and UNC educator preparation programs, and local boards of education of
6 local school administrative units located within counties determined to be the most economically
7 distressed by the Department of Commerce programs shall collaborate to assess current efforts
8 to provide student digital literacy instruction in kindergarten through eighth grade in ~~those~~ local
9 school administrative units and to develop a plan to strengthen such efforts. Specifications for
10 any products and services that are required to implement digital literacy instruction, including
11 selection of a digital literacy curriculum provider, if necessary, shall be procured through a
12 competitive process. The assessment and plan shall address at least the following:

- 13 (1) Provide opportunity for students to learn essential digital literacy skills,
14 including computer fundamentals, computational thinking, keyboarding,
15 digital citizenship and online safety, Web browsing, e-mail and online
16 communication, visual mapping, word processing, spreadsheets, databases,
17 and presentations.
- 18 (2) Provide teachers with the ability to assess student digital literacy growth.
- 19 (3) Facilitate Project-Based Learning (PBL) and other research-based
20 instructional frameworks to enable educators to integrate instruction on digital
21 literacy into core and supplemental subjects, such as mathematics, English
22 language arts, science, social studies, music, and art.
- 23 (4) Resources that provide teachers with instructional support and supplemental
24 and extension options to address all students, including students with special
25 needs and students who are English language learners.
- 26 (5) Accommodate English language learners with Spanish language instruction."

27 **SECTION 7.2.(b)** Subsection (c) of Section 7.23K of S.L. 2017-57, as amended by
28 Section 7.7 of S.L. 2018-5 and Section 7.17 of S.L. 2023-134, reads as rewritten:

29 "**SECTION 7.23K.(c)** Of the funds appropriated to the Department of Public Instruction to
30 accelerate implementation of the State's Digital Learning Plan, as set out in S.L. 2016-94,
31 beginning with the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the Department shall use up to four million dollars
32 (\$4,000,000) to continue to contract with Learning.com to implement the requirements of this
33 section. The Department shall take no action to impede public school units from accessing
34 Learning.com."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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2025-DPI-H6(S7.3)i

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

- 1 ***REPEAL PLASMA GAMES PROGRAM***
- 2 **SECTION 7.3.** Section 7.69 of S.L. 2023-134, as amended by Section 2.8F of S.L.
- 3 2024-1, is repealed.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H35(S7.5)-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 **BEGINNINGS FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WHO ARE DEAF OR HARD OF**
2 **HEARING**

3 **SECTION 7.5.(a)** Beginnings for Parents of Children Who are Deaf or Hard of
4 Hearing, Inc., (Beginnings) shall submit reports to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight
5 Committee and the Department of Public Instruction by December 31, 2025, and June 30, 2026,
6 including at least the following information from the prior fiscal year:

- 7 (1) A detailed accounting of how State funds were spent by the program.
- 8 (2) An accounting of any other funding received from other sources.
- 9 (3) Any planned expenditures or future uses of received funds not reflected in the
10 accounting required by subdivision (1) of this subsection.
- 11 (4) The number of students served by the program, including generalized data on
12 the age, grade level, and location of students served.
- 13 (5) A description of how the program evaluates the effectiveness of the program
14 or student success.
- 15 (6) Outcomes achieved by the program.
- 16 (7) Any other information the program deems relevant for the Committee to
17 know.

18 **SECTION 7.5.(b)** The Department of Public Instruction shall not release funds to
19 Beginnings unless Beginnings provides to the Department the report that was required to be
20 submitted to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee pursuant to Section 7.28(b) of
21 S.L. 2023-134. Upon receipt of the report from Beginnings, the Department shall forward the
22 report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H8(S7.6)i

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

- 1 ***REPEAL SCHOOLS THAT LEAD PROGRAM***
- 2 **SECTION 7.6.** Section 7.11 of S.L. 2021-180 is repealed.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H37(S7.8)i

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 ***STREAMLINE LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENT ALLOTMENT***

2 **SECTION 7.8.(a)** The title of Article 32F of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes
3 reads as rewritten:

4 "Supplemental School Funding-Funding and Other Allotments."

5 **SECTION 7.8.(b)** Article 32F of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended
6 by adding a new section to read:

7 "**§ 115C-472.30. Limited English proficient allotment.**

8 To the extent funds are made available for this purpose, the State Board of Education shall
9 allocate funds to local school administrative units, charter schools, regional schools, and
10 laboratory schools operated under Article 29A of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes to provide
11 services to students with limited English proficiency. The State Board shall allocate these funds
12 under a formula that takes into account the average number of students in the units, charters,
13 regional schools, or laboratory schools over the past three years who have limited English
14 proficiency. Local school administrative units shall use funds allocated to them to pay for
15 classroom teachers, teacher assistants, tutors, textbooks, classroom materials/instructional
16 supplies/equipment, transportation costs, and professional development of teachers for students
17 with limited English proficiency. A county in which a local school administrative unit receives
18 funds under this section shall use the funds to supplement local current expense funds and shall
19 not supplant local current expense funds."

20 **SECTION 7.8.(c)** When making adjustments to allocations to local school
21 administrative units from the limited English proficient allotment for the 2025-2026 fiscal year,
22 no local school administrative unit with an average daily membership of 20,000 or fewer students
23 for the 2025-2026 school year shall receive a negative adjustment in excess of fifty thousand
24 dollars (\$50,000) when compared to the allocation received during the 2024-2025 fiscal year
25 from that allotment.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H29(S7.9)-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 **REPEAL TEXTBOOK COMMISSION**

2 **SECTION 7.9.(a)** G.S. 115C-86 through G.S. 115C-95 and G.S. 115C-97 are
3 repealed.

4 **SECTION 7.9.(b)** Part 3 of Article 8 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes reads
5 as rewritten:

6 "Part 3. ~~Textbooks.~~Instructional Materials.

7 "**§ 115C-85. ~~Textbook~~Instructional material needs are determined by course of study.**

8 ~~When the State Board of Education has adopted, upon the recommendation of the~~
9 ~~Superintendent of Public Instruction, a standard course of study at each instructional level in the~~
10 ~~elementary school and the secondary school, setting forth what subjects shall be taught at each~~
11 ~~level, it shall proceed to select and adopt textbooks.~~

12 As used in this part, "~~textbook~~" "instructional materials" means systematically organized
13 material comprehensive enough to cover the primary objectives outlined in the standard course
14 of study for a grade or course. Formats for ~~textbooks~~ instructional materials may be print or
15 nonprint, including hardbound books, softbound books, activity-oriented programs, classroom
16 kits, and ~~technology-based programs~~ digital resources that require the use of electronic
17 equipment in order to be used in the learning process.

18 ~~Textbooks adopted in accordance with the provisions of this Part shall be used by the public~~
19 ~~schools of the State except as provided in G.S. 115C-98(b1).~~

20 ...

21 "**§ 115C-96. Powers and duties of the State Board of Education in regard to**
22 **~~textbooks.~~instructional materials.**

23 (a) The children of the public elementary and secondary schools of the State shall be
24 provided with free basic ~~textbooks~~ instructional materials within the appropriation of the General
25 Assembly for that purpose. To implement this directive, the State Board of Education shall
26 evaluate annually the amount of money necessary to provide ~~textbooks~~ instructional materials
27 based on the actual cost and availability of ~~textbooks~~ the instructional materials and shall request
28 sufficient appropriations from the General Assembly.

29 (b) The State Board of Education shall administer a fund and ~~establish~~ adopt rules and
30 ~~regulations necessary to:~~

- 31 (1) ~~Acquire by contract such basic textbooks as are or may be on the adopted list~~
32 ~~of the State of North Carolina which the Board finds necessary to meet the~~
33 ~~needs of the State public school system and to carry out the provisions of this~~
34 ~~Part.~~
- 35 (2) ~~Provide a system of distribution of these textbooks and distribute the books~~
36 ~~that are provided without using any depository or warehouse facilities other~~
37 ~~than those operated by the State Board of Education.~~
- 38 (3) ~~Provide for the free use, with proper care and return, of elementary and~~
39 ~~secondary basic textbooks.~~ instructional materials. The title of said books ~~the~~
40 instructional materials shall be vested in the State.

41 ...

1 **"§ 115C-98. Local boards of education to provide for local operation of the textbook**
2 **program, the selection and procurement of other instructional materials, and the**
3 **use of nonadopted textbooks.** selection of supplementary and instructional
4 **materials.**

5 (a) Local boards of education shall adopt ~~rules~~ policies not inconsistent with the ~~policies~~
6 rules of the State Board of Education concerning the local ~~operation of the textbook~~
7 program. selection and procurement of instructional materials.

8 (b) Local boards of education shall adopt written policies concerning the procedures to
9 be followed in their local school administrative units for the selection and procurement of
10 ~~supplementary textbooks, library books, periodicals, audiovisual materials, and other~~
11 supplementary and instructional materials needed for instructional purposes in the public schools
12 of their units.

13 Local boards of education shall have sole authority to select and procure supplementary and
14 instructional materials, whether or not the materials contain commercial advertising, to determine
15 if the materials are related to and within the limits of the prescribed curriculum, and to determine
16 when the materials may be presented to students during the school day. ~~Supplementary materials~~
17 ~~and contracts for supplementary materials are not subject to approval by the State Board of~~
18 ~~Education.~~

19 ~~Supplementary books and other instructional materials shall neither displace nor be used to~~
20 ~~the exclusion of basic~~ textbooks. instructional materials.

21 (b1) A local board of education may establish a community media advisory committee to
22 investigate and evaluate challenges from parents, teachers, and members of the public to
23 ~~textbooks and supplementary~~ and instructional materials on the grounds that they are
24 educationally unsuitable, pervasively vulgar, or inappropriate to the age, maturity, or grade level
25 of the students. The State Board of Education shall review its rules and policies concerning these
26 challenges and shall establish guidelines to be followed by community media advisory
27 committees.

28 The local board, at all times, has sole authority and discretion to determine whether a
29 challenge has merit and whether challenged material should be retained or removed.

30 (b2) Local boards of education may:

- 31 (1) Select, procure, and use ~~textbooks~~ instructional materials that have not been
32 adopted by the State Board of Education for use throughout the local school
33 administrative unit for selected grade levels and courses; and
34 (2) Approve school improvement plans developed under G.S. 115C-105.27 that
35 include provisions for using ~~textbooks~~ instructional materials that have not
36 been adopted by the State Board of Education for selected grade levels and
37 courses.

38 All ~~textbook~~ instructional material contracts made under this subsection shall include a clause
39 granting to the local board of education the license to produce braille, large print, ~~and~~
40 ~~audiocassette tape~~ tape, and other accessible copies of ~~the textbooks~~ instructional materials for
41 use in the local school administrative unit.

42 ...

43 **"§ 115C-99. Legal custodians of ~~textbooks~~ instructional materials furnished by State.**

44 Local boards of education are the custodians of all ~~textbooks~~ instructional materials
45 purchased by the local boards with State funds. They shall provide adequate and safe storage
46 facilities for the proper care of ~~these textbooks~~ the instructional materials and emphasize to all
47 students the necessity for proper care of ~~textbooks~~ instructional materials.

48 **"§ 115C-100. Rental fees for ~~textbooks~~ instructional materials prohibited; damage fees**
49 **authorized.**

50 No local board of education may charge any pupil a rental fee for the use of ~~textbooks~~.
51 instructional materials. A pupil's parents or legal guardians may be charged damage fees for

1 abuse or loss of ~~textbooks~~ instructional materials under rules adopted by the State Board of
2 Education. All money collected from the sale of ~~textbooks~~ instructional materials purchased with
3 State funds under the provisions of this Part shall be paid annually as collected to the State Board
4 of Education.

5 **"§ 115C-101. Duties and authority of superintendents of local school administrative units.**

6 The superintendent of each local school administrative unit, as an official agent of the State
7 Board of Education, shall administer the provisions of this Part and the rules and regulations of
8 the Board insofar as they apply to ~~his~~ the local school administrative unit. The superintendent of
9 each local school administrative unit shall have authority to require the cooperation of principals
10 and teachers so that the children may receive the best possible service, and so that all the ~~books~~
11 instructional materials and moneys may be accounted for properly. If any principal or teacher
12 fails to comply with the provisions of this section, ~~his~~ the superintendent shall withhold ~~his~~ the
13 salary ~~vouchers of the principal~~ until the duties imposed by this section have been performed.

14 If any superintendent fails to comply with the provisions of this section, the State
15 Superintendent, as secretary to the State Board of Education, shall notify the State Board of
16 Education and the State Treasurer. The State Board and the State Superintendent shall withhold
17 the superintendent's ~~salary vouchers, salary,~~ and the State Treasurer shall make no payment until
18 the State Superintendent ~~notifies him~~ confirms that the provisions of this section have been
19 complied with.

20 **"§ 115C-102. Right to purchase; disposal of ~~textbooks~~ and instructional materials.**

21 (a) Any parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis may purchase any instructional
22 material needed for any child in the public schools of the State from the board of education of
23 the local school administrative unit in which the child is ~~enrolled or, in the case of basic~~
24 ~~textbooks, from the State Board of Education~~ enrolled.

25 (b) Notwithstanding Article 3A of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes, G.S. 143-49(4),
26 or any other provision of law, the State Board of Education may adopt rules authorizing local
27 boards of education to dispose of discontinued instructional ~~material, including State-adopted~~
28 ~~textbooks~~ material."

29 **SECTION 7.9.(c)** G.S. 115C-11(d) reads as rewritten:

30 "(d) Voting. – No voting by proxy shall be permitted. ~~Except in voting on textbook~~
31 ~~adoptions, a~~ A majority of those present and voting shall be necessary to carry a motion and a
32 roll call vote shall be had on each motion. A record of all such votes shall be kept in the minute
33 book."

34 **SECTION 7.9.(d)** G.S. 115C-11(e) is repealed.

35 **SECTION 7.9.(e)** G.S. 115C-12(9)b. is repealed.

36 **SECTION 7.9.(f)** G.S. 115C-12(18)d. reads as rewritten:

37 "d. The State Board of Education shall modify the Uniform Education
38 Reporting System to provide clear, accurate, and standard information
39 on the use of funds at the unit and school level. The plan shall provide
40 information that will enable the General Assembly to determine State,
41 local, and federal expenditures for personnel at the unit and school
42 level. The plan also shall allow the tracking of expenditures for
43 ~~textbooks,~~ instructional materials, educational supplies and
44 equipment, capital outlay, at-risk students, and other purposes."

45 **SECTION 7.9.(g)** G.S. 115C-47 reads as rewritten:

46 **"§ 115C-47. Powers and duties generally.**

47 In addition to the powers and duties designated in G.S. 115C-36, local boards of education
48 shall have the power or duty:

49 ...

50 (6) To Regulate Fees, Charges and Solicitations. – Local boards of education shall
51 adopt rules and regulations governing solicitations of, sales to, and

1 fund-raising activities conducted by, the students and faculty members in
2 schools under their jurisdiction, and no fees, charges, or costs shall be
3 collected from students and school personnel without approval of the board of
4 education as recorded in the minutes of ~~said~~ the board; provided, this
5 subdivision shall not apply to such ~~textbooks~~ instructional material fees as are
6 determined and established by the State Board of Education. The local board
7 of education shall publish a schedule of fees, charges, and solicitations
8 approved by the local board on the local school administrative unit's Web site
9 by October 15 of each school year and, if the schedule is subsequently revised,
10 within 30 days following the revision.

11 ...

12 (33) To Approve and Use Supplemental Materials. – Local boards of education
13 shall have sole authority to select and procure supplementary instructional
14 materials, whether or not the materials contain commercial advertising,
15 pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 115C-98(b).

16 (33a) ~~To Approve and Use Textbooks Not Adopted by State Board of Education.~~
17 Instructional Materials. – Local boards of education shall have the authority
18 to select, procure, and use ~~textbooks not adopted by the State Board of~~
19 ~~Education~~ instructional materials as provided in
20 ~~G.S. 115C-98(b1).~~ G.S. 115C-98.

21"

22 **SECTION 7.9.(h)** G.S. 115C-76.55 reads as rewritten:

23 **"§ 115C-76.55. Age-appropriate instruction for grades kindergarten through fourth grade.**

24 Instruction on gender identity, sexual activity, or sexuality shall not be included in the
25 curriculum provided in grades kindergarten through fourth grade, regardless of whether the
26 information is provided by school personnel or third parties. For the purposes of this section,
27 curriculum includes the standard course of study and support materials, locally developed
28 curriculum, supplemental instruction, and ~~textbooks and~~ other supplementary materials, but does
29 not include responses to student-initiated questions."

30 **SECTION 7.9.(i)** G.S. 115C-81.5(b)(3) is repealed.

31 **SECTION 7.9.(j)** G.S. 115C-81.25(b)(3) is repealed.

32 **SECTION 7.9.(k)** G.S. 115C-81.25(d) reads as rewritten:

33 "(d) Parental Review. – The State Board of Education shall make available to all local
34 school administrative units for review by the parents and legal guardians of students enrolled at
35 those units any State-developed objectives for instruction, ~~any approved textbooks,~~ the list of
36 reviewed materials, and any other State-developed or approved materials that pertain to or are
37 intended to impart information or promote discussion or understanding in regard to the
38 prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, to the avoidance of
39 out-of-wedlock pregnancy, or to the reproductive health and safety education curriculum. The
40 review period shall extend for at least 60 days before use."

41 **SECTION 7.9.(l)** G.S. 115C-105.25(b)(12) reads as rewritten:

42 "(12) Funds allotted for ~~textbooks and digital resources~~ instructional materials may
43 only be used ~~for the purchase of textbooks and digital resources.~~ to acquire
44 instructional and supplemental materials as identified in Part 3 of Article 8 of
45 this Chapter and to acquire software necessary for the use of the instructional
46 or supplemental materials. These funds shall not be transferred out of the
47 allotment for any other purpose."

48 **SECTION 7.9.(m)** G.S. 115C-242(3) reads as rewritten:

49 "(3) The board of education of any local school administrative unit may operate
50 the school buses of such unit one day prior to the opening of the regular school
51 term for the transportation of pupils and employees to and from the school to

1 which such pupils are assigned or in which they are enrolled and such
2 employees are employed, for the purposes of the registration of students, the
3 organization of classes, the distribution of ~~textbooks,~~instructional materials,
4 and such other purposes as will, in the opinion of the superintendent of the
5 schools of such unit, promote the efficient organization and operation of such
6 public schools."

7 **SECTION 7.9.(n)** G.S. 115C-271(d)(2) reads as rewritten:

8 "(2) Local funds appropriated for teachers, ~~textbooks,~~instructional materials, or
9 classroom materials, supplies, and equipment are not transferred or used for
10 this purpose."

11 **SECTION 7.9.(o)** G.S. 115C-384(c) reads as rewritten:

12 "(c) Rental Fees for ~~Textbooks—~~Instructional Materials Prohibited; Damage Fees
13 Authorized. – No rental fees are permitted for the use of textbooks, but damage fees may be
14 collected pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 115C-100."

15 **SECTION 7.9.(p)** G.S. 115C-390.2(l)(1) reads as rewritten:

16 "(1) The opportunity to take ~~textbooks~~instructional materials and school-furnished
17 digital devices home for the duration of the absence."

18 **SECTION 7.9.(q)** G.S. 115C-390.5(c)(1) reads as rewritten:

19 "(1) The opportunity to take ~~textbooks~~instructional materials home for the
20 duration of the suspension."

21 **SECTION 7.9.(r)** G.S. 115C-398 reads as rewritten:

22 "**§ 115C-398. Damage to school buildings, furnishings, ~~textbooks,~~instructional materials.**

23 Students and their parents or legal guardians may be liable for damage to school buildings,
24 furnishings and ~~textbooks~~instructional materials pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 115C-523,
25 115C-100 and 14-132."

26 **SECTION 7.9.(s)** G.S. 143A-48 is repealed.

27 **SECTION 7.9.(t)** No further funds shall be allocated into the State Textbook fund.

28 The Department of Public Instruction, in coordination with the Office of State Budget and
29 Management, shall ensure that the fund is dissolved once all funds are expended.

30 **SECTION 7.9.(u)** Effective July 1, 2025, there is established the Instructional
31 Materials funding allotment within the State Public School Fund. The State Board of Education
32 shall establish the purposes for which the funds within the Instructional Materials funding
33 allotment may be used for the purchase and maintenance of instructional and supplemental
34 materials as identified in Part 3 of Article 8 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes.

35 **SECTION 7.9.(v)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2025, and applies
36 beginning with the 2025-2026 school year.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H38(S7.10)-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 ***STABILIZATION OF LOW-WEALTH ALLOTMENT***

2 **SECTION 7.10.** Notwithstanding G.S. 115C-472.22, for each year of the 2025-2027
3 fiscal biennium, the Department of Public Instruction shall distribute supplemental funds for
4 low-wealth counties in the same amount to each county as was distributed for the 2024-2025
5 fiscal year.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H36(S7.11)i

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 ***TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENT TO ADMINISTRATIVE LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS***

2 **SECTION 7.11.(a)** G.S. 115C-270.20(b) reads as rewritten:

3 "(b) Administrator Licenses. – The State Board shall establish rules for the issuance of the
4 following classes of administrator licenses, including required levels of preparation for each
5 classification:

6 (1) Administrator license. – A five-year renewable license issued to an individual
7 who meets all of the following requirements:

8 a. Holds a bachelor's degree.

9 b. Has successfully completed an approved administrator preparation
10 program.

11 c. Has at least four years of experience as a licensed professional
12 educator.

13 d. ~~Has~~ For individuals seeking a principal license, has submitted a
14 portfolio to the State Board for approval that meets criteria adopted by
15 the State Board.

16"

17 **SECTION 7.11.(b)** This section is effective when it becomes law and applies to
18 applicants for licensure on or after that date.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H39(S7.12)i

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 **VARIOUS EDUCATION REPORT CHANGES**

2 **SECTION 7.12.(a)** G.S. 115C-12(25) is recodified as G.S. 115C-21(a)(10) and
3 reads as rewritten:

4 "(10) Duty to Report to Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee. – Upon
5 the request of the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, the ~~State~~
6 ~~Board-Superintendent of Public Instruction~~ shall examine and evaluate issues,
7 programs, policies, and fiscal information, and shall make reports to that
8 Committee. Furthermore, by ~~November 15~~ March 15 of each year, the ~~State~~
9 ~~Board-Superintendent of Public Instruction~~ shall submit reports to that
10 Committee regarding schools identified as low-performing, school
11 improvement plans found to significantly improve student performance,
12 personnel actions taken in low-performing schools, and recommendations for
13 additional legislation to improve student performance and increase local
14 flexibility."

15 **SECTION 7.12.(b)** Subdivision (4) of subsection (d) of G.S. 115C-81.45 is repealed.

16 **SECTION 7.12.(c)** Subsection (b) of Section 7.17 of S.L. 2018-5 is repealed.

17 **SECTION 7.12.(d)** Subsection (d) of Section 7.32 of S.L. 2017-57 is repealed.

18 **SECTION 7.12.(e)** G.S. 115C-12(48) reads as rewritten:

19 "(48) Computer Science Reporting. – The State Board of Education shall report
20 annually by ~~November 15~~ March 15 to the Joint Legislative Education
21 Oversight Committee, the Senate Appropriations Committee on
22 Education/Higher Education, and the House Appropriations Committee on
23 Education on the following data related to computer science participation. For
24 each item, the report shall include (i) statewide data for the current school
25 year, and the four years prior when data is available, to establish trends in
26 computer science instruction and (ii) data for the current school year for each
27 public school unit, disaggregated by school within that unit:
28"

29 **SECTION 7.12.(f)** G.S. 115C-316.2 is repealed.

30 **SECTION 7.12.(g)** G.S. 115C-316.5(a) reads as rewritten:

31 "(a) For the purposes of this section, the term "school health personnel" refers to ~~the same~~
32 ~~positions listed in G.S. 115C-316.2(a):~~ school psychologists, school counselors, school nurses,
33 and school social workers."

34 **SECTION 7.12.(h)** G.S. 115C-299.5 reads as rewritten:

35 "**§ 115C-299.5. Duty to monitor ~~the state of the teaching profession,~~ teacher attrition and**
36 **mobility.**

37 ...

38 (b) ~~State of the Teaching Profession~~ Teacher Attrition and Mobility Report. – The State
39 Board of Education shall monitor and compile an annual report to be submitted by the
40 Department of Public Instruction by ~~December 15~~ February 15 annually on the ~~state of the~~
41 attrition and mobility of teachers in the teaching profession in North Carolina that includes data

1 on the decisions of teachers to leave the teaching profession and vacancies in teaching positions
2 as provided in subsections (c) and (e) of this section. The State Board shall adopt standard
3 procedures for each local board of education to use in requesting information required by this
4 report and shall require each local board of education to report the information to the State Board
5 in a standard format adopted by the State Board."

6 **SECTION 7.12.(i)** G.S. 115C-12(22), as amended by S.L. 2023-134, reads as
7 rewritten:

8 "(22) Duty to Monitor the ~~State of the Teaching Attrition and Mobility of Teachers~~
9 and ~~the State of the School Administration Professions Profession~~ in North
10 Carolina. – The State Board of Education shall monitor and compile an annual
11 report on the ~~state of the teaching attrition and mobility of teachers and the~~
12 ~~state of the school administration professions profession~~ in North Carolina, as
13 provided in G.S. 115C-289.2 and G.S. 115C-299.5."

14 **SECTION 7.12.(j)** G.S. 115C-289.2(d) reads as rewritten:

15 "(d) Report Consolidation. – The report required by this section shall be consolidated with
16 ~~the report on the State of the Teaching Profession~~ Teacher Attrition and Mobility Report required
17 by G.S. 115C-299.5."

18 **SECTION 7.12.(k)** G.S. 115C-269.50 reads as rewritten:

19 **"§ 115C-269.50. EPP report cards.**

20 The State Board shall create an annual report card for each EPP that, at a minimum,
21 summarizes the information collected in the annual performance reports, as set forth in
22 G.S. 115C-269.35(b). The report cards shall provide user-friendly access to the public, and shall
23 provide the ability to easily compare annual report card information between EPPs, including
24 performance and other data reported by each EPP, as provided in G.S. 115C-269.35(b). The State
25 Board shall make the report cards available to the public through the State Board's Internet ~~Web~~
26 ~~site website~~ on an annual basis beginning ~~December 15, 2019, February 15, 2026,~~ and the
27 Department of Public Instruction shall submit the report to the Joint Legislative Education
28 Oversight Committee annually by that date."

29 **SECTION 7.12.(l)** Subsection (b) of Section 8.30 of S.L. 2015-241, as amended by
30 Section 3.1(b) of S.L. 2019-165, is repealed.

31 **SECTION 7.12.(m)** G.S. 115C-450(d) reads as rewritten:

32 "(d) No later than ~~May 15, 2022, and every six months thereafter,~~ February 15 of each
33 year, the Department of Public Instruction shall report all the following information to the Joint
34 Legislative Education Oversight Committee, the Senate Appropriations Committee on
35 Education/Higher Education, the House Appropriations Committee on Education, and the Fiscal
36 Research Division:

37 "...."

38 **SECTION 7.12.(n)** G.S. 115C-218.42(e) reads as rewritten:

39 "(e) Reporting. – No later than ~~March-August~~ 15 of each year in which funds are awarded
40 under the Program, the Department shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight
41 Committee, the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee, the Senate
42 Appropriations/Base Budget Committee, the House Committee on Appropriations, and the Fiscal
43 Research Division on the administration of the Program, including at least the following
44 information:

45 "...."

46 **SECTION 7.12.(o)** G.S. 115C-218.110(b) reads as rewritten:

47 "(b) The State Board of Education shall review and evaluate the educational effectiveness
48 of the charter schools authorized under this Article and the effect of charter schools on the public
49 schools in the local school administrative unit in which the charter schools are located. The Board
50 shall report annually no later than ~~June-August~~ 15 to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight
51 Committee on the following:

1 "

2 **SECTION 7.12.(p)** G.S. 115C-107.5 reads as rewritten:

3 "**§ 115C-107.5. Annual reports.**

4 The State Board shall ~~report~~ send a copy of the annual report submitted as part of the State
5 Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report that is submitted to the United States
6 Department of Education and United States Office of Special Education Programs no later than
7 October 15 of each year to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the
8 implementation of this Article and the educational performance of children with disabilities. The
9 report may be filed electronically. ~~Each annual report shall include the following information:~~

- 10 (1) ~~A copy of the following documents that were submitted, received, or made~~
11 ~~public during the year:~~
- 12 a. ~~The most recent State performance plan and any amendments to that~~
13 ~~plan submitted to the Secretary of Education.~~
 - 14 b. ~~Compliance and monitoring reports submitted to the Secretary of~~
15 ~~Education.~~
 - 16 c. ~~The annual report submitted to the Secretary of Education on the~~
17 ~~performance of the State under its performance plan.~~
 - 18 d. ~~Any other information required under IDEA to be made available to~~
19 ~~the public.~~
- 20 (2) ~~An analysis of the educational performance of children with disabilities in the~~
21 ~~State and a summary of disputes under Part 1D of this Chapter.~~
- 22 (3) ~~Development and implementation of any policies related to improving~~
23 ~~outcomes for elementary and secondary school students with disabilities,~~
24 ~~including any changes related to the directives set forth in Section 8.30 of S.L.~~
25 ~~2015-241 as follows:~~
- 26 a. ~~Reforms related to IEP requirements.~~
 - 27 b. ~~Transition services for students with disabilities from elementary to~~
28 ~~middle school, middle to high school, and high school to~~
29 ~~postsecondary education, and for employment opportunities and adult~~
30 ~~living options.~~
 - 31 c. ~~Increased access to Future Ready Core Course of Study for students~~
32 ~~with disabilities.~~
 - 33 d. ~~Model programs for use by local school administrative units to~~
34 ~~improve graduation rates and school performance of students with~~
35 ~~disabilities."~~

36 **SECTION 7.12.(q)** G.S. 115C-107.3 reads as rewritten:

37 "**§ 115C-107.3. Child find.**

38 (a) The Board shall require an annual census of all children with disabilities residing in
39 the State, subdivided for "identified" and "suspected" children with disabilities, to be taken in
40 each school year. Suspected children are those in the formal process of being evaluated or
41 identified as children with disabilities. The census shall be conducted annually and shall be
42 completed by October 15, submitted to the Governor and General Assembly and made available
43 to the public by January 15 annually. The census submitted to the General Assembly may be a
44 copy of any information or any report submitted to the federal government as part of compliance
45 with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act pursuant to 20 U.S.C. § 1418.

46 (b) In taking the census, the Board requires the cooperation, participation, and assistance
47 of all local educational agencies. Therefore, each local educational agency shall cooperate and
48 participate with and assist the Board in conducting the census.

49 (c) The census shall include the number of children identified and suspected with
50 disabilities, their age, the nature of their disability, their county or city of residence, their local
51 school administrative unit residence, whether they are being provided special educational or

1 related services and if so by what local educational agency, the identity of each local educational
2 agency having children with disabilities in its care, custody, management, jurisdiction, control,
3 or programs, the number of children with disabilities being served by each local educational
4 agency, and any other information or data that the Board requires. The census shall be of children
5 with disabilities between the ages three through 21 but is not required to include children with
6 disabilities that have graduated from high school."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H40(S7.13)-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 **ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL LITERACY IMPROVEMENT**

2 **SECTION 7.13.(a)** G.S. 115C-83.6 reads as rewritten:

3 **"§ 115C-83.6. Facilitating early grade reading proficiency.**

4 (a) ~~Kindergarten, first, second, and third~~ Kindergarten through fifth grade students shall
5 be assessed with valid, reliable, formative, and diagnostic reading assessments made available to
6 local school administrative units by the State Board of Education pursuant to
7 G.S. 115C-174.11(a). Difficulty with reading development identified through administration of
8 formative and diagnostic assessments shall be addressed with literacy interventions outlined in
9 the student's Individual Reading Plan. Parents or guardians of first and second grade students
10 offered a reading camp as a literacy intervention shall be encouraged to enroll their student in the
11 reading camp provided by the local school administrative unit. Parents or guardians of a student
12 identified as demonstrating reading comprehension below grade level shall make the final
13 decision regarding a student's reading camp attendance.

14 (a1) Kindergarten through ~~third-fifth~~ grade reading assessments shall yield data that can
15 be used with the Education Value-Added Assessment System (EVAAS) to analyze student data
16 to identify root causes for difficulty with reading development and to determine actions to address
17 them.

18 (a2) The Department of Public Instruction shall provide for EVAAS analysis all formative
19 and diagnostic assessment data collected pursuant to this section for kindergarten through ~~third~~
20 fifth grade. The Department shall use a uniform template for all data collected, and the template
21 shall be used each time data is provided. The template shall include clear designations for each
22 data component reported.

23 (b) Formative and diagnostic assessments and resultant literacy interventions shall
24 address oral language, phonological and phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and
25 comprehension using developmentally appropriate practices. These assessments may be
26 administered by computer or other electronic device.

27 (c) Local school administrative units are encouraged to partner with community
28 organizations, businesses, and other groups to provide volunteers, mentors, or tutors to assist
29 with the provision of literacy interventions that enhance reading development and proficiency."

30 **SECTION 7.13.(b)** G.S. 115C-83.6B(a) reads as rewritten:

31 "(a) An Individual Reading Plan (IRP) shall be developed for any student in kindergarten
32 through ~~third-fifth~~ grade demonstrating difficulty with reading development based on the results
33 of either (i) the first diagnostic or formative assessment of the school year or (ii) the first
34 diagnostic or formative assessment of the second semester of the school year. The IRP shall be
35 continually adjusted based on multiple data sources as prescribed by the Department of Public
36 Instruction, indicating that the student is not progressing toward grade-level standards in one or
37 more major reading areas. Based on the most recently collected data, the IRP shall include the
38 following information, specific to the identified student:

39 (1) The specific reading skill deficiencies identified by assessment data.

40 (2) Goals and benchmarks for growth.

41 (3) The means by which progress will be monitored and evaluated.

- 1 (4) The specific additional literacy interventions the student will receive.
2 (5) The Science of Reading-based instructional programming the teacher will
3 implement.
4 (6) Any additional services the teacher deems appropriate to accelerate the
5 student's reading skill and development."

6 **SECTION 7.13.(c)** G.S. 115C-83.9(a) reads as rewritten:

7 "(a) Parents or guardians shall be notified in writing, and in a timely manner, that the
8 student shall be retained, unless he or she is exempt from mandatory retention for good cause, if
9 the student is not demonstrating reading proficiency by the end of third grade. Parents or
10 guardians shall receive this notice when a kindergarten, first, second, or third grade student (i) is
11 demonstrating difficulty with reading development; or (ii) is not reading at grade level.
12 Additionally, parents or guardians shall receive notice when a fourth or fifth grade student is
13 demonstrating difficulty with reading development or is not reading on grade level as determined
14 by assessments given pursuant to G.S. 115C-83.6."

15 **SECTION 7.13.(d)** G.S. 115C-83.10(b) reads as rewritten:

16 "(b) Each local board of education shall report annually in writing to the State Board of
17 Education by September 1 of each year the following information on the prior school year:

- 18 (1) A description of all literacy interventions provided to students who have been
19 retained under G.S. 115C-83.7(a).
20 (2) The number of first and second grade students attending a reading camp
21 offered by the local board.
22 (3) The license area or areas, years of licensed teaching experience, grade level
23 assignment, and any other specific subject-area assignments of each teacher
24 providing instruction at a reading camp.
25 (4) The number and percentage of teachers providing instruction at a reading
26 camp who were paid a reading performance bonus during the school year
27 immediately preceding the reading camp and the grade level on which the
28 bonus was based.
29 (5) The number of kindergarten through ~~third~~-fifth grade students with an
30 Individual Reading Plan."

31 **SECTION 7.13.(e)** G.S. 115C-174.11(a) reads as rewritten:

32 "(a) Assessment Instruments for ~~Kindergarten, First, Second, and Third Grades.~~
33 Kindergarten Through Fifth Grade. – The State Board of Education shall develop, adopt, and
34 provide to the local school administrative units developmentally appropriate individualized
35 assessment instruments aligned with the standard course of study and Part 1A of Article 8 of this
36 Chapter for ~~the kindergarten, first, second, and third grades.~~ kindergarten through fifth grade.
37 Local school administrative units shall use these assessment instruments provided to them by the
38 State Board for ~~kindergarten, first, second, and third~~ kindergarten through fifth grade students to
39 assess progress, diagnose difficulties, and inform instruction and remediation needs. Local school
40 administrative units shall not use standardized tests for summative assessment of kindergarten,
41 first, and second grade students except as required as a condition of receiving federal grants."

42 **SECTION 7.13.(f)** The Department of Public Instruction shall use funds
43 appropriated for this purpose in this act to contract with Lexia Learning Systems, LLC, to provide
44 Lexia Aspire Professional Learning to all English Language Arts, math, science, social studies,
45 teachers of students who are English language learners, and Exceptional Children teachers who
46 teach students in grades six through eight and principals of schools who enroll students in grades
47 six through eight. The Department shall develop a procedure for providing training to half of the
48 teachers referenced in this subsection and all principals referenced in this subsection during the
49 2025-2026 school year with the remaining teachers and all new teachers teaching the subjects
50 referenced in this subsection receiving training during the 2026-2027 school year. The
51 Department shall develop a procedure for prioritizing participation by teachers whose students

1 would receive the most benefit from the training, such as English Language Arts and Exceptional
2 Children teachers. Teachers that complete training pursuant to this subsection shall receive
3 stipends for the school year in which they complete the training. Any remaining funds
4 appropriated for purposes of this section may be used to provide additional Lexia Aspire
5 Professional Learning to teachers or other educational personnel at the State or local level.

6 **SECTION 7.13.(g)** The State Board of Education shall develop literacy standards
7 for grades six through eight to align with the professional learning provided pursuant to
8 subsection (f) of this section.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H41(S7.14)i

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 **FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND K-12 TECH PLANNING**

2 **SECTION 7.14.(a)** Part 3A of Article 8 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is
3 amended by adding new sections to read:

4 **"§ 115C-102.10. Technology costs considerations.**

5 The State Board of Education shall adopt rules requiring all public school units to evaluate
6 the following when acquiring technology, computer hardware, and software:

- 7 (1) The long-term cost of ownership, including costs of repairing the technology,
8 computer hardware, or software.
9 (2) Any flexibility for innovation during the life of the technology, computer
10 hardware, or software.
11 (3) Any anticipated resale or salvage value at the end of the target life cycle for
12 the technology, computer hardware, or software based on the average resale
13 or salvage value of similar technology, computer hardware, or software as a
14 percentage of the initial cost of purchase.

15 **"§ 115C-102.11 Break/fix rate reporting requirement.**

16 (a) Definitions. – The following definitions apply in this section:

- 17 (1) Break/fix rate. – The percentage obtained by dividing the number of school
18 technology devices reported as malfunctioning or needing repair due to
19 physical damage, hardware failure, or other breakage incidents prior to the
20 stated life cycle period, not covered by insurance or a policy plan period, by
21 the total number of school technology devices in operation during that period.
22 (2) School technology device. – Any electronic or computerized equipment
23 provided for educational purposes in a public school unit, including
24 computers, tablets, interactive whiteboards, and similar devices or anything
25 considered a digital device for purposes of the digital learning dashboard
26 pursuant to G.S. 115C-102.9.

27 (b) Each governing body of a public school unit shall submit a report on the following
28 information to the State Board of Education by August 15 annually:

- 29 (1) The break/fix rate of the school technology devices in the public school unit
30 for the previous school year.
31 (2) The total number of school technology devices currently in operation in the
32 public school unit.
33 (3) The total number of school technology devices in the public school unit
34 requiring repair that (i) underwent repair or (ii) were no longer in service
35 during the previous school year.
36 (4) The total amount of funds spent to repair or replace school technology devices
37 during the previous school year.

38 (c) The State Board of Education shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight
39 Committee by November 15 annually on the break/fix rate of school technology devices across
40 all public school units based on the reports submitted by the governing bodies in accordance with

1 subsection (b) of this section. This report shall include a summary of the data reported by each
2 governing body and recommendations to reduce break/fix rates in the future."

3 **SECTION 7.14.(b)** The first reports from governing bodies of public school units
4 required by G.S. 115C-102.11(b), as enacted by this section, shall be submitted no later than
5 August 15, 2026, based on data collected during the 2025-2026 school year. The first report from
6 the State Board of Education required by G.S. 115C-102.11(c), as enacted by this section, shall
7 be submitted no later than November 15, 2026.

8 **SECTION 7.14.(c)** G.S. 115C-12 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

9 "(50) To Require Evaluation of Technology Costs. – The State Board shall adopt
10 rules governing public school units evaluating technology costs in accordance
11 with G.S. 115C-102.10."

12 **SECTION 7.14.(d)** G.S. 115C-47 is amended by adding new subdivisions to read:

13 "(70) To Evaluate Technology Costs. – A local board of education shall adopt a
14 policy requiring the evaluation of technology costs considerations adopted by
15 the State Board of Education pursuant to G.S. 115C-102.10.

16 (71) To Report on Break/Fix Rate. – A local board of education shall report
17 annually to the State Board of Education on the break/fix rate of school
18 technology devices in accordance with G.S. 115C-102.11."

19 **SECTION 7.14.(e)** G.S. 115C-150.12C is amended by adding new subdivisions to
20 read:

21 "(37) Evaluate technology costs. – The board of trustees shall adopt a policy
22 requiring the evaluation of technology costs considerations adopted by the
23 State Board of Education pursuant to G.S. 115C-102.10.

24 (38) Report on break/fix rate. – The board of trustees shall report annually to the
25 State Board of Education on the break/fix rate of school technology devices
26 used in the school in accordance with G.S. 115C-102.11."

27 **SECTION 7.14.(f)** Part 2 of Article 14A of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is
28 amended by adding a new section to read:

29 **§ 115C-218.33. School technology.**

30 (a) A charter school shall adopt a policy requiring the evaluation of technology costs
31 considerations adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to G.S. 115C-102.10.

32 (b) A charter school shall report annually to the State Board of Education on the break/fix
33 rate of school technology devices used in the school in accordance with G.S. 115C-102.11."

34 **SECTION 7.14.(g)** G.S. 115C-238.66 is amended by adding new subdivisions to
35 read:

36 "(18a) The board of directors shall adopt a policy requiring the evaluation of
37 technology costs considerations adopted by the State Board of Education
38 pursuant to G.S. 115C-102.10.

39 (18b) The board of directors shall report annually to the State Board of Education
40 on the break/fix rate of technology used in the school in accordance with
41 G.S. 115C-102.11."

42 **SECTION 7.14.(h)** G.S. 116-239.8(b) is amended by adding new subdivisions to
43 read:

44 "(21a) Evaluate technology costs. – The chancellor shall adopt a policy requiring the
45 evaluation of technology costs considerations adopted by the State Board of
46 Education pursuant to G.S. 115C-102.10.

47 (21b) Report on break/fix rate. – The chancellor shall report annually to the State
48 Board of Education on the break/fix rate of technology used in the school in
49 accordance with G.S. 115C-120.11."

50 **SECTION 7.14.(i)** This section is effective when it becomes law and applies
51 beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H3(S7.23)i

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

- 1 ***REPEAL CODING AND MOBILE APP DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM***
- 2 **SECTION 7.23.** Section 7.23 of S.L. 2017-57 is repealed.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H2(S7.24)i

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 ***MAINTAIN COVERAGE OF COPAYS FOR REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL MEALS***

2 **SECTION 7.24.(a)** G.S. 115C-264 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

3 "(a1) A local board of education that is operating a school nutrition program shall provide
4 school lunches, and if provided, breakfasts, to students at no cost to the student for students in all
5 grade levels that qualify for reduced-price meals under the federal National School Lunch
6 Program or School Breakfast Program. If funds from alternate sources are insufficient to provide
7 school meals at no costs to students for students that qualify for reduced-price meals, the
8 Department of Public Instruction may use funds appropriated to the State Aid for Public Schools
9 Fund for this purpose."

10 **SECTION 7.24.(b)** Section 7.58 of S.L. 2023-134 is repealed.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H32(S7.25)i

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 **CHARTER SCHOOLS REVIEW BOARD AMENDMENTS**

2 SECTION 7.25.(a) G.S. 115C-218 reads as rewritten:

3 **"§ 115C-218. Purpose of charter schools; role of State Board of Education; establishment**
4 **of North Carolina Charter Schools Review Board and North Carolina Office of**
5 **Charter Schools.**

6 ...

7 (a1) State Board of Education. – The State Board of Education shall have the following
8 duties regarding charter schools:

- 9 (1) Rulemaking. – To ~~establish~~adopt all rules for the operation and approval of
10 charter schools. Any rule or policy adopted by the State Board regarding
11 charter schools shall first be ~~recommended~~approved by the Charter Schools
12 Review Board.
- 13 (2) Funding. – To allocate funds to charter schools.
- 14 (3) Appeals. – To hear appeals from decisions of the Charter Schools Review
15 Board under G.S. 115C-218.9.
- 16 (4) Accountability. – To ensure accountability from charter schools for school
17 finances and student performance.
- 18 (5) Review of financial assistance. – The State Board shall assign the Review
19 Board to conduct any hearings pursuant to 20 U.S.C. § 1231b-2, including
20 making findings and recommendations regarding those hearings.

21 (b) North Carolina Charter Schools Review Board. –

22 ...

- 23 (10) Powers and duties. – The Review Board shall have the following duties:
- 24 a. To ~~make recommendations to the State Board of Education on the~~
25 ~~adoption of~~propose, recommend, and approve rules and policies
26 regarding all aspects of charter school operation, including time lines,
27 processes, standards, and criteria for acceptance and approval of
28 applications, monitoring of charter schools, and grounds for
29 revocation of charters.
- 30 ...
- 31 e. To conduct hearings and make findings and recommendations
32 pursuant to subdivision (a1)(5) of this section.
- 33 f. To contract for and employ legal counsel, including private counsel,
34 to advise, represent, and provide litigation services to the Review
35 Board, without need to obtain permission or approval pursuant to
36 G.S. 114-2.3 or G.S. 147-17.

37 ...

38 (c) North Carolina Office of Charter Schools. –

39 ...

- 40 (2) Executive Director. – The Executive Director shall report to and serve at the
41 pleasure of the ~~Superintendent of Public Instruction~~Review Board at a salary

1 established by the ~~Superintendent~~ Review Board within the funds
2 appropriated for this purpose. The duties of the Executive Director shall
3 include presenting the recommendations and decisions of the Review Board
4 at meetings of the State Board.

5"

6 **SECTION 7.25.(b)** G.S. 115C-218.15(c) reads as rewritten:

7 "(c) A charter school shall operate under the written charter signed by the State
8 Superintendent and the applicant. The terms of the written charter shall be approved by the
9 Review Board. A charter school is not required to enter into any other contract. The charter shall
10 incorporate the information provided in the application, as modified during the charter approval
11 process, and any terms and conditions imposed on the charter school by the Review Board, or if
12 the approval is granted through an appeal pursuant to G.S. 115C-218.9, any conditions imposed
13 by the State Board of Education. No other terms may be imposed on the charter school as a
14 condition for receipt of local funds."

15 **SECTION 7.25.(c)** G.S. 115C-218.85 is amended by adding a new subsection to
16 read:

17 "(d) Notwithstanding G.S. 116-11(10a) or any other provision of law to the contrary, a
18 charter school shall not be required to list class rank on a student's official transcript or record."

19 **SECTION 7.25.(d)** G.S. 115C-218.90(a) is amended by adding a new subdivision
20 to read:

21 "(7) A charter school may develop and use any evaluation for conducting
22 evaluation of teachers provided that it includes standards and criteria similar
23 to those used in the North Carolina Professional Teaching Standards and
24 North Carolina Teacher Evaluation Process, or such other evaluation standard
25 and process required to be used by local school administrative units."

26 **SECTION 7.25.(e)** G.S. 115C-218.94 is amended by adding a new subsection to
27 read:

28 "(c) The Review Board shall require charter schools that are identified as low-performing
29 or continually low-performing to prepare and report on plans to improve the performance of the
30 school. The requirements of G.S. 115C-105.27 shall not apply to charter schools."

31 **SECTION 7.25.(f)** G.S. 115C-218.105 reads as rewritten:

32 "**§ 115C-218.105. State and local funds for a charter school.**

33 ...

34 (a2) The State Board shall withhold or reduce distribution of funds to a charter school if
35 any of the following applies:

- 36 (1) The change in funding is due to an annual adjustment based on enrollment or
37 is a general adjustment to allocations that is not specific to the charter or
38 actions of that charter school.
- 39 (2) The Review Board notifies the State Board that the charter school has
40 materially violated a term of its charter, has violated a State statute or federal
41 law, or has had its charter terminated or nonrenewed.
- 42 (3) The ~~Superintendent of Public Instruction~~ Review Board notifies the State
43 Board that the charter school has failed to meet generally accepted standards
44 of fiscal management or has violated a State or federal requirement for receipt
45 of funds.

46 ...

47 (c2) The ~~Superintendent of Public Instruction~~ Review Board shall, in consultation with
48 charter schools and local school administrative units, create a standardized enrollment
49 verification and transfer request document that each charter school shall use to request the per
50 pupil share of the local current expense fund from the local school administrative units. Charter
51 schools shall only be required to list the name, age, grade, address, date of charter enrollment,

1 date of charter withdrawal, district of residence, and student identification number of each student
2 as provided to the charter school by the student's parent or guardian in the enrollment verification
3 and transfer request document that the charter school submits to the local school administrative
4 units. A charter school, in its discretion, may take further steps to confirm the student's residence
5 in a particular local school administrative unit.

6 (c3) ~~The Superintendent of Public Instruction-Review Board~~ shall, in consultation with
7 charter schools and local school administrative units, create a standardized procedure that local
8 school administrative units shall use when transferring the per pupil share of the local current
9 expense fund to charter schools. The standardized procedure for transfer of the per pupil share of
10 the local current expense fund shall require, to the extent practicable, that the local school
11 administrative units make the transfers by electronic transfer.

12"

13 **SECTION 7.25.(g)** G.S. 115C-218.123 is amended by adding a new subsection to
14 read:

15 "(c) If a school is operating under a charter that allows for a remote academy as part of the
16 charter, and the school enrolls or intends to enroll 250 or more students in the remote academy,
17 the school may request that the Review Board grant the remote academy portion of the school a
18 separate charter by submitting the information listed under subsection (a) of this section with the
19 request. Requests submitted pursuant to this section shall be reviewed through an expedited
20 process to be established by the Review Board. The Review Board shall not require a planning
21 year for remote academies granted a charter pursuant to this subsection."

22 **SECTION 7.25.(h)** G.S. 115C-218.125 reads as rewritten:

23 "**§ 115C-218.125. Evaluation.**

24 (a) The State Board of Education shall evaluate the success of remote charter academies
25 approved under this Part. Success shall be measured by school performance scores and grades,
26 retention rates, attendance rates, and, for grades nine through 12, high school completion and
27 dropout rates. The Board shall report by November 15 of each year to the Joint Legislative
28 Education Oversight Committee on the evaluation of these academies and on any recommended
29 statutory changes.

30 (b) If a school is operating under a charter that includes in-person instruction and a remote
31 charter academy, the remote charter academy shall receive a separate school performance grade
32 and be treated as a separate school for the purposes of assessing the performance of the remote
33 charter academy pursuant to G.S. 115C-12(9)c1., 115C-83.15, 115C-218.94, and 115C-218.95."

34 **SECTION 7.25.(i)** This section is effective when it becomes law and applies
35 beginning with the 2025-2026 school year.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H42(S7.28)i

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 **FORMALIZE THE DIAPER BANK OF NORTH CAROLINA'S ROLE AS PROVIDER OF**
2 **FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

3 **SECTION 7.28.** G.S. 115C-377 reads as rewritten:

4 **"§ 115C-377. Feminine Hygiene Products Grant Program.**

5 (a) Program; Purpose. – The Department of Public Instruction shall establish the
6 Feminine Hygiene Products Grant Program (Program) to assist public school units participating
7 in the Program in providing provide students with feminine hygiene products at no charge to the
8 student. The Department shall run the Program in accordance with this section in each year in
9 which funds are made available for the purpose.

10 (b) Grants. – ~~To the extent funds are made available for the Program, the Department of~~
11 ~~Public Instruction shall award public school units grants of up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000)~~
12 ~~on a first come, first served basis, and the Department shall prioritize awarding grants to public~~
13 ~~school units that did not receive an award pursuant to the Program in the previous fiscal year. No~~
14 ~~public school unit shall receive more than one grant per fiscal year.~~

15 (b1) Participation. – The Department of Public Instruction shall develop a process through
16 which public school units can elect to participate in the Program for each school year.

17 (b2) Contract for Products. – The Department of Public Instruction shall contract with the
18 Diaper Bank of North Carolina to provide feminine hygiene products to all public school units
19 that elect to participate in the Program on a pro rata basis based on the number of female students
20 in grades six through 12 in the participating public school unit.

21 (c) Reporting. – ~~No later than March 15, 2023, and every year thereafter that funds are~~
22 ~~made available for 15 of each year of the Program, the Department shall report to the Joint~~
23 ~~Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the public school units receiving grants products~~
24 ~~under the Program, the specific number of feminine hygiene products purchased with the grant~~
25 ~~funds, provided through the Program, the number of students served by the Program, and the~~
26 ~~impact of the Program on student health and well-being."~~

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H63(S7.30)-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 ***ALLOW CHARTER SCHOOL SATELLITES AND RELOCATION***

2 SECTION #. G.S. 115C-218.8 reads as rewritten:

3 "**§ 115C-218.8. Nonmaterial revisions of charters.**

4 It shall not be considered a material revision of a charter and shall not require prior approval
5 of the Review Board for a charter school to do any of the following:

6 ...

7 (4) Relocate a charter school, expand the campus of a charter school beyond the
8 school's main location and facilities, or establish a satellite extension of a
9 charter school, so long as the relocation, expansion, or satellite is within a
10 10-mile radius of the school's main location. The relocation, expansion, or
11 satellite need not be located within the same local school administrative unit
12 as the main location of the charter school."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H43(S7.31)i

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 ***NO ALTERNATE SCHOOL MEALS BASED ON STUDENT PAY STATUS***

2 **SECTION 7.31.(a)** G.S. 115C-264 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

3 "(e) Governing bodies of public school units shall offer the same meal selections to all
4 students regardless of student pay status for the nutrition program. For purposes of this section,
5 pay status includes students receiving free or reduced-price lunch or students that have unpaid
6 meal debt. This policy does not require a governing body to provide a student any optional meal
7 items that result in additional charges to the student."

8 **SECTION 7.31.(b)** G.S. 115C-218.75(n) reads as rewritten:

9 "(n) Unpaid Meal Debt. School Nutrition Program. – If a charter school participates in the
10 offers a school nutrition program, the charter school shall comply with the following in offering
11 the program:

12 (1) A charter school may not impose administrative penalties on a student for
13 unpaid school meal debt in accordance with G.S. 115C-264(d).

14 (2) A charter school shall not provide alternate meals based on student pay status
15 in accordance with G.S. 115C-264(e)."

16 **SECTION 7.31.(c)** G.S. 115C-218.75(l) is recodified as subdivision (3) of
17 G.S. 115C-218.75(n), as amended by subsection (b) of this section.

18 **SECTION 7.31.(d)** G.S. 115C-238.66(22) reads as rewritten:

19 "(22) Unpaid meal debt. School nutrition program. – If a regional school participates
20 in the offers a school nutrition program, the regional school shall comply with
21 the following in offering the program:

22 a. A regional school may not impose administrative penalties on a
23 student for unpaid school meal debt in accordance with
24 G.S. 115C-264(d).

25 b. A regional school shall not provide alternate meals based on student
26 pay status in accordance with G.S. 115C-264(e)."

27 **SECTION 7.31.(e)** G.S. 115C-238.66(20) is recodified as sub-subdivision c. of
28 G.S. 115C-238.66(22), as amended by subsection (d) of this section.

29 **SECTION 7.31.(f)** This section applies beginning with the 2025-2026 school year.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H44(S7.32)i

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 **CEP TIME LINE SHIFT AND CLARIFY BREAKFAST LOCATION**

2 **SECTION 7.32.** Section 7.59 of S.L. 2023-134 reads as rewritten:

3 "SECTION 7.59.(a) Program; Purpose. – The Department of Public Instruction shall
4 establish the CEP Meal Program Incentive ~~for the 2023–2025 fiscal biennium~~ to expand public
5 school participation in the federal Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) program to increase
6 the number of students with access to healthy, cost-free school breakfast and lunch. The incentive
7 program shall be available to public school units for the 2024–2025 fiscal year. In each year
8 where funds are made available for the purpose, the CEP program shall be run subject to the
9 provisions of this section.

10 ...

11 "SECTION 7.59.(c) Application. – By ~~January 15, 2024,~~ April 15 of each year of the
12 program, the Department shall develop the application for the incentive program and make it
13 available to public school units. Public school units or individual schools shall submit their
14 applications by ~~March 1, 2024.~~ June 1 of each year of the program. At a minimum, the application
15 shall include the following information:

- 16 (1) The school or schools that will participate in the CEP program.
- 17 (2) The Identified Student Percentage (ISP) for the school or schools for the ~~2024–~~
18 ~~2025 current~~ school year.
- 19 (3) The number of students enrolled in the school or schools for the ~~2024–2025~~
20 ~~current~~ school year.
- 21 (4) Participation rates in the National School Breakfast and Lunch programs for
22 the 2023–2024 school year for the schools requesting to receive the incentive.

23 "SECTION 7.59.(d) Selection. – By ~~April 30, 2024,~~ July 15 of each year of the program,
24 the Department shall determine whether each applicant is eligible to participate in the incentive
25 program. The Department shall then award grants to all eligible public school units and schools.
26 If there are insufficient funds to award grants to all eligible public school units or schools, the
27 Department shall first prioritize awarding grants to public school units and schools with an
28 Identified Student Percentage (ISP) of greater than or equal to fifty-five percent (55%) and then
29 prioritize awarding grants to those schools that will draw the greatest federal match.

30 "SECTION 7.59.(e) Grants. – The Department shall issue State reimbursements to
31 participating public school units and schools to supplement federal reimbursements of school
32 meals. State reimbursement shall equal the difference between the federal free rate and the federal
33 paid rate for the number of meals served at the participating schools equal to a 0.2 multiplier of
34 the ISP for the participating schools. State and federal reimbursements shall not exceed one
35 hundred percent (100%) of the federal free rate of meals served. Schools utilizing the incentive
36 shall ~~offer breakfast after the bell and in the classroom.~~ have an innovative breakfast option
37 available where students have access to breakfast and are allowed to consume breakfast in the
38 classroom.

39 ...

1 "**SECTION 7.59.(g)** Report. – No later than January ~~4, 2025,~~1 of each year of the program,
2 the Department shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and the
3 Fiscal Research Division at least the following information:
4 "

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H31(S7.34)-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 ***STUDENT USE OF WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES***

2 **SECTION #.(a)** Article 7B of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by
3 adding a new Part to read:

4 "Part 7. Classroom Policies.

5 **"§ 115C-77.1. Cell phone-free education policy.**

6 (a) Governing bodies of public school units shall adopt a cell phone-free education policy
7 to eliminate or severely restrict student access to cell phones during instructional time.

8 (b) The cell phone-free education policy shall allow student use of cell phones during
9 instructional time as follows:

10 (1) If authorized by a teacher for educational purposes. The governing body may
11 establish parameters to be followed by a teacher in granting authorizations.

12 (2) As required by the student's individualized education program or section 504
13 (29 U.S.C. § 794) plan.

14 (3) As required to manage a student's health care, in accordance with a
15 documented medical condition.

16 (c) At the beginning of each school year, governing bodies of public school units shall
17 notify parents of all students enrolled in the public school unit of the Cell Phone-Free Education
18 Policy adopted under subsection (a) of this section.

19 (d) The requirements of this section shall not apply to the following:

20 (1) Remote charter academies as defined in G.S. 115C-218.120.

21 (2) Remote academies as defined in G.S. 115C-234."

22 **SECTION #.(b)** G.S. 115C-77.1, as enacted by this section, shall not apply to virtual
23 charter schools participating in the pilot program as authorized by Section 8.35 of S.L. 2014-100,
24 as amended by Section 8.13 of S.L. 2016-94, Section 7.13 of S.L. 2018-5, Section 7.13 of S.L.
25 2022-74, and Section 7.26 of S.L. 2023-134.

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SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H45(S7.35)-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 ***PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT STABILITY FOR MILITARY STUDENTS***

2 **SECTION 7.35.** G.S. 115C-366(a9) reads as rewritten:

3 "(a9) A student who is not a domiciliary of a local school administrative unit shall be
4 permitted to register to enroll in the public schools of that unit by remote means, including
5 electronic means, prior to commencement of the student's residency in the local school
6 administrative unit if all of the following apply:

7 (1) A parent or legal guardian is (i) on active military duty and is transferred or
8 pending transfer pursuant to an official military order to a military installation
9 or reservation in the State-State or (ii) will be separating from active military
10 duty within a 12-month period.

11 (2) Upon request by the local school administrative unit where the student seeks
12 to register to enroll, a parent or legal guardian provides a copy of (i) the official
13 military order transferring to a military installation or reservation located in
14 the State-State, (ii) the official separation orders, or (iii) an official military
15 document showing the anticipated date of separation or date of projected
16 Permanent Change of Station to the State.

17 (3) A parent or legal guardian completes and submits the local school
18 administrative unit's required enrollment forms and documentation, ~~except~~
19 ~~that other than~~ proof of residency and documentation related to disciplinary
20 actions pursuant to ~~G.S. 115C-366(a4) shall not be required until the student~~
21 ~~transfers into the local school administrative unit, at which time they shall be~~
22 ~~required prior to commencing attendance.~~G.S. 115C-366(a4).

23 (4) A parent or legal guardian shall submit proof of residency and documentation
24 related to the disciplinary actions pursuant to G.S. 115C-366(a4) upon the
25 child commencing attendance. If the proof of residency has not yet become
26 available because the parent or legal guardian and child are residing in
27 temporary housing, the local school administrative unit shall do the following:

28 a. Allow the child to enroll and begin attending school in that unit of
29 anticipated domicile for a period of up to one year (i) from the parent
30 or legal guardian's reporting-for-duty date, separation date from active
31 military duty, or anticipated separation date from active military duty
32 or (ii) through the end of the school year before being considered a
33 resident of another local school administrative unit.

34 b. Allow a child who is a high school junior or senior to enroll and begin
35 attending school in that unit of anticipated domicile through high
36 school graduation.

37 A local school administrative unit shall make available to a student who registers to enroll
38 pursuant to this subsection the same opportunities available to a student enrolled
39 contemporaneously with domicilia, such as requesting or applying for school assignment,
40 registering for courses, and applying for any other programs that require additional request or
41 application. ~~A student enrolled pursuant to this subsection may not attend school in the local~~

1 ~~school administrative unit until proof of residency is provided in accordance with the~~
2 ~~requirements of the local school administrative unit.~~ Nothing in this subsection shall be construed
3 to curtail a local school administrative unit's authority pursuant to G.S. 115C-366(a5)."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H46(S7.36)i

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 **EXTENDED LEARNING AND INTEGRATED STUDENT SUPPORTS COMPETITIVE**
2 **GRANT PROGRAM**

3 **SECTION 7.36.** Article 16 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by
4 adding a new Part to read:

5 "Part 7A. Extended Learning and Integrated Student Supports Grant Program.

6 **"§ 115C-238.35. Program; purpose.**

7 (a) Program; Purpose. – There is established the Extended Learning and Integrated
8 Student Supports Grant Program (Program). Nonprofit corporations and nonprofit corporations
9 working in collaboration with local school administrative units operating relevant programs may
10 apply for the Program. The purpose of the Program is to fund high-quality, independently
11 validated extended learning and integrated student support service programs for at-risk students
12 that raise standards for student academic outcomes by focusing on the following:

- 13 (1) Use of an evidence-based model with a proven track record of success.
- 14 (2) Inclusion of rigorous, quantitative performance measures to confirm
15 effectiveness of the program.
- 16 (3) Deployment of multiple tiered supports in schools to address student barriers
17 to achievement, such as strategies to improve chronic absenteeism, antisocial
18 behaviors, academic growth, and enhancement of parent and family
19 engagement.
- 20 (4) Alignment with State performance measures, student academic goals, and the
21 North Carolina Standard Course of Study.
- 22 (5) Prioritization in programs to integrate clear academic content, in particular,
23 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) learning
24 opportunities or reading development and proficiency instruction.
- 25 (6) Minimization of student class size when providing instruction or instructional
26 supports and interventions.
- 27 (7) Expansion of student access to high-quality learning activities and academic
28 support that strengthen student engagement and leverage community-based
29 resources, which may include organizations that provide mentoring services
30 and private-sector employer involvement.
- 31 (8) Utilization of digital content to expand learning time, when appropriate.

32 (b) Program Requirements. – In each year in which sufficient funds are available, the
33 Department of Public Instruction shall administer the Program in accordance with this Part.

34 (c) Program Funding. – The Department shall use up to seven million dollars
35 (\$7,000,000) from the At-Risk Student Services Alternative School Allotment each fiscal year
36 to fund the Program. Of the funds used to fund the Program, the Department may use up to two
37 hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) for each fiscal year for expenses of administering the
38 Program.

39 **"§ 115C-238.36. Awards; eligible uses.**

40 (a) Eligible Uses. – Grants shall be used to award funds for new or existing eligible
41 programs for at-risk students operated by nonprofit corporations and nonprofit corporations

1 working in collaboration with local school administrative units. Programs should focus on
2 servicing (i) at-risk students not performing at grade level as demonstrated by statewide
3 assessments, (ii) students at risk of dropout, and (iii) students at risk of school displacement due
4 to suspension or expulsion as a result of antisocial behaviors. Priority consideration shall be given
5 to applications demonstrating models that focus services and programs in schools that are
6 identified as low-performing pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.37.

7 (b) Awards; Required Match. – Grant participants are eligible to receive grants for up to
8 two years in an amount of up to five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) each year. A grant
9 participant shall provide certification to the Department of Public Instruction that the grants
10 received under the Program shall be matched on the basis of three dollars (\$3.00) in grant funds
11 for every one dollar (\$1.00) in nongrant funds. Matching funds shall not include other State funds.
12 The Department shall also give priority consideration to an applicant that is a nonprofit
13 corporation working in partnership with a local school administrative unit resulting in a match
14 utilizing federal funds under Part A of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
15 1965, as amended, or Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, and other federal
16 or local funds. Matching funds may include in-kind contributions for up to fifty percent (50%)
17 of the required match.

18 (c) A nonprofit corporation may act as its own fiscal agent for the purposes of this
19 Program.

20 **"§ 115C-238.37. Reporting requirements.**

21 (a) Recipient Reporting. – No later than July 15 of each year in which a grant recipient
22 is participating in the Program, the recipient shall report to the Department of Public Instruction
23 on the expenditure of grant funds and the progress of the Program, including alignment with State
24 academic standards, data collection for reporting student progress, the source and amount of
25 matching funds, and other measures, before receiving funding for the next fiscal year. Grant
26 recipients shall also submit a final report on key performance data, including statewide test
27 results, attendance rates, graduation rates, and promotion rates, and financial sustainability of the
28 Program.

29 (b) Department Reporting. – No later than September 15 of each year of the Program, the
30 Department of Public Instruction shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight
31 Committee on the Program, including recommendations regarding effective program models,
32 standards, and performance measures based on student performance, leveraging of
33 community-based resources to expand student access to learning activities, academic and
34 behavioral support services, and potential opportunities for the State to invest in proven models
35 for future grant programs."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H27(S7.37)i

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 **TEACHER APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM**

2 **SECTION 7.37.(a)** Article 17D of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended
3 by adding a new section to read:

4 **"§ 115C-269.33. Teacher Apprenticeship Program.**

5 (a) Definitions. – The following definitions shall apply in this section:

6 (1) Advanced Teaching Roles unit. – As defined in G.S. 115C-310.3(6).

7 (2) Apprentice. – A person who is employed as an apprentice by an apprenticeship
8 employer and meets all of the following criteria:

9 a. Holds a bachelor's degree.

10 b. Is eligible to hold or holds one of the following:

11 1. An emergency license.

12 2. A residency license.

13 3. A permit to teach issued by the Department in accordance with
14 rules adopted by the State Board of Education.

15 c. Submitted a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

16 (3) Apprenticeship employer. – An Advanced Teaching Roles unit that meets all
17 of the following criteria:

18 a. Has a registered apprenticeship program under requirements
19 established by the United States Department of Labor.

20 b. Employs apprentices under the Program.

21 (4) Department. – The Department of Public Instruction.

22 (5) Program. – The Teacher Apprenticeship Program.

23 (6) RFP. – Request for proposals.

24 (b) Program Established; Purpose. – There is established the Teacher Apprenticeship
25 Program as a competitive grant program for the purpose of increasing the number of
26 professionally licensed teachers in the State and improving teacher competency, student
27 outcomes, and teacher retention in the State. The Department of Public Instruction shall
28 administer the Program in collaboration with ApprenticeshipNC as set forth in this section.

29 (c) Request for Proposals. – No later than November 1 of each year, ApprenticeshipNC
30 shall issue an RFP for the Program. Advanced Teaching Roles units may submit proposals by
31 January 1 of the following calendar year. Proposals shall include at least the following
32 information:

33 (1) A plan to establish a registered teacher apprenticeship program in
34 collaboration with ApprenticeshipNC, including at least the following
35 information:

36 a. The number of apprentices the unit intends to employ using grant
37 funds for State-funded salary supplements, State-funded enrollment
38 expenses, or both.

39 b. Specific subject areas and grade levels in the local school
40 administrative unit with teacher shortages.

- 1 (2) A system of supports that would be provided for apprentices, including
2 qualifications of mentor teachers and a schedule of supervision.
- 3 (3) Alternative sources of funding to support apprenticeships that could be paired
4 with State funds received under the Program, including federal workforce
5 development funds.
- 6 (4) An explanation of how the unit would incorporate its registered teacher
7 apprenticeship program with its advanced teaching roles program to enhance
8 the learning environment for apprentices.
- 9 (5) Strategies to encourage candidates to accept an apprenticeship instead of
10 directly entering the teacher profession on a Residency License, Emergency
11 License, or permit to teach.

12 (d) Selection of Recipients. – By March 15 of each school year in which proposals are
13 submitted, ApprenticeshipNC shall review the proposals and select local school administrative
14 units to participate in the Program, beginning in the subsequent school year. ApprenticeshipNC
15 shall notify the Department of its selections, and the Department shall allocate funds to the
16 selected Advanced Teaching Roles units in accordance with subsection (e) of this section.

17 (e) Allocation of State Grant Funds. – To the extent funds are appropriated by the General
18 Assembly for this purpose, the Department shall allocate the funds for grants to apprenticeship
19 employers based on the number of apprentices the unit intends to employ receiving grant funds
20 for State-funded salary supplements, State-funded enrollment expenses, or both, up to a
21 maximum of 10 total apprentices per unit, as follows:

- 22 (1) Up to seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500) per apprentice per year,
23 plus any additional funds necessary for benefits, to provide salary supplements
24 for apprentices in accordance subdivision (3) of subsection (f) of this section.
- 25 (2) Up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per apprentice per year for the costs of
26 enrollment of an apprentice in an institution of higher education in accordance
27 with subdivision (5) of subsection (f) of this section.

28 (f) Program Requirements. – The following minimum requirements shall apply to
29 apprentices and apprenticeship employers under the Program:

- 30 (1) Number of apprentices. – An apprenticeship employer shall employ no more
31 than a maximum of 10 total apprentices who receive grant funds for
32 State-funded salary supplements, State-funded enrollment expenses, or both.
33 An apprenticeship employer may employ additional apprentices receiving
34 funds for salary supplements or education expenses from other sources.
- 35 (2) Funds for positions. – An apprenticeship employer may employ apprentices
36 using State funds allotted for teacher assistant positions, with roles and
37 responsibilities modified to meet the requirements of the Program, or other
38 available funds.
- 39 (3) Salary supplements. – As follows:
 - 40 a. An apprenticeship employer shall provide the following salary
41 supplements:
 - 42 1. For each apprentice, up to a maximum of seven thousand five
43 hundred dollars (\$7,500) per apprentice.
 - 44 2. For each mentor teacher, up to a maximum of five thousand
45 dollars (\$5,000) per mentor teacher.
 - 46 b. An apprenticeship employer may provide a salary supplement for any
47 other teacher employed by the local school administrative unit who
48 agrees to become the teacher of record for additional students to
49 facilitate the operation of the registered apprenticeship program in that
50 unit, up to a maximum of three thousand dollars (\$3,000).

1 (4) Mentors. – Each apprentice shall work full time in a classroom with a mentor
2 teacher who is a member of a team of teachers that is led by a teacher with an
3 advanced teaching role. For purposes of this subdivision, a mentor teacher
4 may include a classroom excellence teacher as defined in G.S. 115C-310.3(7).

5 (5) Enrollment costs. – An apprentice shall enroll in or remain enrolled in a
6 recognized educator preparation program. An apprenticeship employer may
7 provide up to a maximum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per apprentice per
8 year for the costs of enrollment in an institution of higher education. These
9 funds shall only be used after the apprentice has exhausted all other
10 scholarships or grants covering the cost of attendance at an institution of
11 higher education, including federal Pell grants.

12 (6) Limitations. – An apprentice shall not do any of the following:

13 a. Serve as the teacher of record for any students.

14 b. Engage in substitute teaching for more than eight hours per week.

15 c. Work as an apprentice for more than three years.

16 (g) Term. – The Department shall award grant funds to selected Advanced Teaching
17 Roles units to serve as apprenticeship employers for one or more terms of three years. Prior to
18 the conclusion of a term, ApprenticeshipNC shall evaluate the success of the Program at the unit
19 and the compliance of the unit with the requirements of this section. At the conclusion of the
20 evaluation, ApprenticeshipNC may, in its discretion, renew the apprenticeship employer for an
21 additional term. Throughout the Program, an apprenticeship employer shall provide any
22 information or access requested by ApprenticeshipNC to evaluate the registered apprenticeship
23 program pursuant to this section.

24 (h) Emergency Position Conversion. – Notwithstanding G.S. 115C-105.25(b), an
25 apprenticeship employer may convert one position allocated to the unit for classroom teachers to
26 its dollar equivalent at the salary on the first step of the "A" Teachers Salary Schedule for every
27 one apprentice employed by the unit who is receiving State grant funds if all of the following are
28 met:

29 (1) The apprentice receiving State grant funds would have been eligible to fill the
30 vacant position using a residency license, emergency license, or permit to
31 teach but was instead hired into the apprentice position.

32 (2) The funds are only used for one or more of the following purposes in
33 accordance with the requirements of the Program:

34 a. Salary supplements for apprentices.

35 b. Salary supplements for mentor teachers.

36 c. Costs of enrollment in an institution of higher education.

37 d. Salary supplements for teachers identified in sub-subdivision b. of
38 subdivision (3) of subsection (f) of this section.

39 (i) Administration. – Of the funds appropriated to the Department of Public Instruction
40 for the Program for each fiscal year, the Department shall allocate the greater of fifteen percent
41 (15%) or three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) to ApprenticeshipNC to do all of the
42 following in consultation with the Department:

43 (1) Outline the duties and responsibilities of apprentices, including on-the-job
44 training requirements.

45 (2) Collaborate with recognized educator preparation programs to establish
46 education requirements for apprentices and revise curriculum requirements
47 for student teaching to include apprenticeships under the Program.

48 (3) Create minimum competencies for apprentices that reflect the progressive
49 acquisition of ability.

- 1 (4) Create resources that can be used by apprenticeship employers to select and
2 train mentor teachers, including the responsibilities of a mentor teacher and
3 background information on teacher apprenticeship programs.
- 4 (5) Develop a process to monitor apprentices in their first years of teaching after
5 successful completion of the Program to evaluate the qualities of teacher
6 candidates that correlate to successful outcomes and lower teacher turnover
7 rates.
- 8 (6) Assist apprenticeship employers with the following:
 - 9 a. Combining State and federal funds to maximize the number of
10 apprentices in the Program.
 - 11 b. Complying with applicable State and federal law.
- 12 (7) Develop a training module for mentor teachers that establishes standards for
13 mentor teachers under the Program and incorporates, where applicable, any
14 preexisting standards for mentor teachers.

15 (j) Report. – No later than March 15 of each year, ApprenticeshipNC shall report to the
16 Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the Program, including at least the
17 following information:

- 18 (1) The impact of the Program for each apprenticeship employer on the following:
 - 19 a. The number of teachers, disaggregated by licensure type.
 - 20 b. Student outcomes.
 - 21 c. Teacher retention.
- 22 (2) Successful strategies and best practices used by apprenticeship employers.
- 23 (3) Any barriers to expanding the Program."

24 **SECTION 7.37.(b)** G.S. 115C-269.32 is repealed.

25 **SECTION 7.37.(c)** Notwithstanding any other provision of law or a provision of the
26 Committee Report described in Section 43.2 of S.L. 2023-134 to the contrary, of the one million
27 dollars (\$1,000,000) in recurring funds allocated for the Teacher Apprentice Grant Program
28 pursuant to G.S. 115C-269.32, beginning in the 2025-2026 fiscal year, these funds shall instead
29 be used for the Teacher Apprenticeship Program established pursuant to subsection (a) of this
30 section.

31 **SECTION 7.37.(d)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2025. ApprenticeshipNC
32 shall issue the initial request for proposals pursuant to G.S. 115C-269.33, as enacted by
33 subsection (a) of this section, by November 1, 2025, for applications from local school
34 administrative units to establish registered teacher apprenticeship programs beginning in the
35 2026-2027 school year. Notwithstanding G.S. 115C-269.33(j), as enacted by subsection (a) of
36 this section, ApprenticeshipNC shall provide its initial report on the impact of the Teacher
37 Apprenticeship Program by March 15, 2027.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H9-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 **CTE MODERNIZATION**

2 **SECTION #.** Of the funds appropriated to the Department of Public Instruction in
3 this act, up to two million dollars (\$2,000,000) in nonrecurring funds for each year of the
4 2025-2027 fiscal biennium shall be used to create a grant program for modernization of Career
5 and Technical Education (CTE) programming, materials, training, and professional development
6 for courses conducted in grades six through 12. The Department shall establish a grant program
7 for each school year of the 2025-2027 fiscal biennium to which a public school unit or regional
8 partnership of more than one public school unit may apply to receive funds if a school within the
9 unit or partnership has an existing CTE program. Grant recipients shall use the funds distributed
10 to them under this section to procure and implement an online digital CTE learning platform
11 containing comprehensive courses with lesson plans, media-rich content and activities, and
12 interactive assessments that align with the North Carolina Career and Technical Education
13 Standards. The platform shall have modules that assist teachers in preparing students for
14 high-wage, high-growth career areas. By October 1, 2025, the Department shall select approved
15 providers to guarantee consistency throughout the State. Any selected digital CTE learning
16 platform shall include at least all of the following components:

- 17 (1) Instructional strategies and guided lesson plans to assist teachers with
18 classroom implementation and instructional differentiation.
- 19 (2) Media-based instructional content for providing demonstrations and
20 instruction on skills required for applicable career areas.
- 21 (3) Multiple methods of delivery of instruction, including at least face-to-face,
22 self-paced, and distance or hybrid learning.
- 23 (4) Guided projects and activities to incorporate hands-on application of skills.
- 24 (5) A focus on mastery-based learning.
- 25 (6) Reporting features to provide data on student progress.
- 26 (7) Guidance for students to obtain industry-recognized certifications.
- 27 (8) Career connections to provide examples of career opportunities following
28 graduation from high school.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H13-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

K-5 PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS REQUIREMENT

SECTION #.(a) Part 1 of Article 8 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by adding the following new sections to read:

"§ 115C-81.95. Elementary performing arts education.

Each local school administrative unit shall provide all students in kindergarten through grade five instruction in music, dance, or theatre arts that aligns with the Standard Course of Study. The instruction shall meet at least the following criteria:

- (1) Occur during at least one instructional day out of every five instructional days.
- (2) Be taught by at least one licensed music, dance, or theatre arts education instructor.
- (3) Instructional sessions shall last at least 30 consecutive minutes.
- (4) Instructional sessions shall be given to classes no larger than the maximum classroom size per instructional session for each grade, as provided in G.S. 115C-301.

"§ 115C-81.96. Elementary visual arts education.

Each local school administrative unit shall provide all students in kindergarten through grade five instruction in the visual arts that aligns with the Standard Course of Study. The instruction shall meet at least the following criteria:

- (1) Occur during at least one instructional day out of every five instructional days.
- (2) Be taught by at least one licensed visual arts education instructor.
- (3) Instructional sessions shall last at least 30 consecutive minutes.
- (4) Instructional sessions shall be given to classes no larger than the maximum classroom size per instructional session for each grade, as provided in G.S. 115C-301."

SECTION #.(b) This section is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with the 2026-2027 school year.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

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SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H47-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 **EARLY LITERACY PROGRAM/DYSLEXIA**

2 **SECTION #.(a)** G.S. 115C-83.4B(b) reads as rewritten:

3 "(b) As part of the Early Literacy Program, the Department of Public Instruction shall
4 focus on at least the following components:

5 (1) Provide a training program to educators and administrators working with
6 children in the NC Pre-K program to ensure developmentally appropriate
7 instruction grounded in the Science of Reading and outcomes promoting
8 reading achievement in students. The Department of Public Instruction shall
9 utilize a third-party independent teacher training program to deliver
10 professional development that demonstrates evidence-based success with
11 educators and administrators in establishing deep knowledge of literacy
12 instruction.

13 (2) Provide integration of age-appropriate resources, including digital and
14 technological resources, in the NC Pre-K program for children to meet reading
15 achievement goals.

16 (3) Ensure administration of a formative assessment to children at the conclusion
17 of their participation in the NC Pre-K program to determine their kindergarten
18 readiness and the alignment of their literacy instruction with the Science of
19 Reading. The Department shall also ensure that the results of each child's
20 formative assessment are shared with the child's kindergarten teacher at the
21 beginning of the next school year.

22 (4) Ensure administration of a dyslexia screening instrument to every student
23 participating in the NC Pre-K program. The Department shall ensure that the
24 results of each child's screening are shared with the child's kindergarten
25 teacher at the beginning of the next school year.

26 (5) Provide training to educators and administrators working with children in the
27 NC Pre-K program to ensure appropriate instruction and intervention
28 strategies are used with students who exhibit potential indicators of dyslexia."

29 **SECTION #.(b)** This section applies beginning with the 2025-2026 school year.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H49-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 **MODIFY CTE GRANTS FOR HOMEBUILDING PROGRAMS**

2 **SECTION #.(a)** Article 10 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by
3 adding a new Part to read:

4 "Part 6. Grants for CTE Homebuilding Programs.

5 "**§ 115C-173.20. Grant program established; purpose; use of funds.**

6 There is established the CTE Homebuilding Grant Program to provide grants to assist public
7 school units with curriculum costs associated with CTE programs related to the U.S. Department
8 of Labor approved Pre-Apprenticeship Certificate Training (PACT) program developed by the
9 Home Builders Institute. The Department of Public Instruction shall permit high schools within
10 public school units to use the PACT program as an approved curriculum for CTE programs. A
11 public school unit or a regional partnership of more than one public school unit may apply to
12 receive funds. When awarding grants under this Part, the Department shall prioritize public
13 school units (i) located, in whole or in part, in a county with at least one local school
14 administrative unit that received low-wealth supplemental funding in the previous fiscal year and
15 (ii) that have a high population of at-risk students or students with disabilities.

16 "**§ 115C-173.21. Application.**

17 The Department shall create and make available to all public school units an application for
18 grants under this Part no later than July 15 of each year that funds are made available for this
19 purpose. Applicants shall submit their application to receive grant funds to the Department no
20 later than 60 days after the application is made available. The Department shall approve or deny
21 each application within 30 days of receipt by the Department.

22 "**§ 115C-173.24. Reporting.**

23 All recipients of grants under this Part shall submit a report to the Department on the
24 outcomes of any programs funded by grants received pursuant to this Part no later than October
25 15 of each year that funds are received, including data collection methods for reporting on student
26 outcomes, impacts of the program, and use of State funds. The Department shall then submit a
27 report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and the Fiscal Research Division
28 on the overall outcomes of the grant programs no later than December 15 of each year that funds
29 are made available for this purpose."

30 **SECTION #.(b)** Section 7.19 of S.L. 2023-134 is repealed.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

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SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H50-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 *USE OF LOCAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT MAINTAINED PROPERTIES FOR*
2 *PUBLIC HEARINGS*

3 **SECTION #.(a)** Article 7 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes is amended by
4 adding a new section to read:

5 "**§ 143B-279.21. Use of schools and other public buildings for public hearings.**

6 (a) The governing authority having control over (i) public buildings or (ii) schools
7 governed by a local board of education which have facilities for group meetings is hereby
8 authorized and directed to permit the use of such buildings without charge, except custodial and
9 utility fees, by the Department for public hearings. Provided, that the use of such buildings or
10 schools by the Department for public hearings shall not be permitted at times during the school
11 day or which would interfere with normal school activities or functions normally carried on in
12 such school buildings, and such use shall be subject to reasonable rules and regulations of the
13 governing body of the public school unit and other governing authorities.

14 (b) The Department of Environmental Quality shall be entitled to use any school
15 governed by a local board of education or other State, county, or municipal building, or a part
16 thereof, or any other building, or a part thereof, which is supported or maintained, in whole or in
17 part, by or through tax revenues; provided, however, that this section shall not be construed to
18 permit the Department to use any tax-exempt church property for such purposes without the
19 express consent of the individual church involved for the purpose of conducting public hearings."

20 **SECTION #.(b)** G.S. 115C-47 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

21 "(70) To Provide Access to School Facilities to the Department of Environmental
22 Quality. – A local board of education shall adopt policies to allow the
23 Department of Environmental Quality to have access to facilities that can
24 facilitate group meetings on school property of a school governed by the local
25 school board pursuant to G.S. 143B-279.21(a)."

26 **SECTION #.(c)** This section is effective July 1, 2025, and applies beginning with
27 the 2025-2026 school year.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H52-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

RESIDENCY LICENSES FOR NONPUBLIC EC TEACHERS

SECTION #.(a) G.S. 115C-270.20(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) Teacher Licenses. – The State Board shall adopt rules for the issuance of the following classes of teacher licenses, including required levels of preparation for each classification:

...

(5) Residency License or RL. – A one-year license, renewable twice, that meets both of the following requirements:

a. ~~Is requested by the governing body of a public school unit and accompanied by a certification of supervision from the recognized educator preparation program in which the individual is enrolled.~~ any of the following entities and is accompanied by a certification of supervision from the recognized educator preparation program in which the individual is enrolled:

1. The governing body of a public school unit.
2. A nonpublic school that meets the requirements of Part 1 or Part 2 of Article 39 of this Chapter.
3. A nonpublic school approved and monitored by the Department of Public Instruction that provides services for students with extraordinary costs. For the purposes of this subsection, extraordinary costs shall include costs directly attributable to providing the special education services on the student's IEP.

b. The individual for whom the license is requested meets all of the following requirements:

1. Holds at least one of the following:
 - I. A bachelor's degree.
 - II. An advanced degree.
2. Has either completed coursework relevant to the requested licensure area or passed the content area examination relevant to the requested licensure area that has been approved by the State Board.
3. Is enrolled in a recognized educator preparation program.
4. Meets all other requirements established by the State Board, including completing preservice requirements prior to teaching.

...."

SECTION #.(b) This section is effective when it becomes law and applies to applications for residency licenses occurring on or after that date.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H53-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 **SOCIAL MEDIA LITERACY IN SCHOOLS**

2 **SECTION #.(a)** G.S. 115C-47 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

3 "(70) To Adopt an Internet Safety Policy. – Local boards of education shall adopt
4 policies for student access to the internet provided by the local school
5 administrative unit. The policies shall do at least the following:

- 6 a. Limit access by students to only age-appropriate subject matter and
7 materials.
- 8 b. Protect the safety and security of students when accessing email, chat
9 rooms, and other forms of electronic communication.
- 10 c. Prohibit access by students to data or information maintained by the
11 local school administrative unit, including by "hacking" and other
12 unlawful online activities.
- 13 d. Prevent access to websites, web applications, or software that does not
14 protect against the disclosure, use, or dissemination of a student's
15 personal information.
- 16 e. Prohibit and prevent students from accessing social media platforms
17 through the use of internet access provided by the local school
18 administrative unit, except when expressly directed by a teacher solely
19 for educational purposes."

20 **SECTION #.(b)** Part 1 of Article 8 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is
21 amended by adding a new section to read:

22 **"§ 115C-81.26. Social media and mental health.**

23 Each local board of education shall provide instruction on social media and its effects on
24 health, including social, emotional, and physical effects. Instruction shall be provided once
25 during elementary school, once during middle school, and twice during high school. Instruction
26 may be included as part of the mental and emotional health instruction provided pursuant to
27 G.S. 115C-81.25. Instruction on this topic shall include at least the following:

- 28 (1) Negative effects of social media on mental health, including addiction.
- 29 (2) The distribution of misinformation on social media.
- 30 (3) Methods of manipulating behavior using social media.
- 31 (4) The permanency of information shared online.
- 32 (5) How to maintain personal security.
- 33 (6) How to identify cyberbullying, predatory behavior, and human trafficking on
34 the internet.
- 35 (7) How to report suspicious behavior encountered on the internet.
- 36 (8) Personal and interpersonal skills or character education that enhances
37 individual level protective factors and mitigates or reduces risk-taking or
38 harmful behavior."

39 **SECTION #.(c)** This section is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning
40 with the 2025-2026 school year.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H55-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 **CAREER DEVELOPMENT ADJUSTMENT**

2 **SECTION #.(a)** Pilot Program Established; Purpose. – The Superintendent of Public
3 Instruction shall create an Annual Career Development Plan Pilot Program (Program) for
4 students entering the seventh grade at select schools during the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school
5 years and continuing through the students' graduation from high school. The purpose of the
6 Program shall be to evaluate the efficacy of reviewing Career Development Plans (Plans)
7 annually to better align students for on-time graduation and achievement of college and career
8 goals and to ensure that all students graduate from high school college or career ready.

9 **SECTION #.(b)** Definitions. – The following definitions apply to this section:

- 10 (1) Career Development Plan. – An individual plan created by each student that
11 establishes the student's plan throughout middle and high school for
12 graduation and career development pursuant to G.S. 115C-158.10.
13 (2) Local board of education. – A local board of education governing a partnered
14 school.
15 (3) Parent. – Defined in G.S. 115C-76.1.
16 (4) Partnered school. – A middle school and high school governed by a local
17 board of education where at least half of the student population of the middle
18 school is assigned to attend the associated high school.

19 **SECTION #.(c)** Partnered Schools. – The Superintendent shall select 12 partnered
20 schools that are proportionally representative of the population size and geographic distribution
21 of public high schools in the State. The Superintendent shall provide a process for schools to
22 apply to participate in the Program as partnered schools. The Superintendent shall be responsible
23 for the final selection of partnered schools. In the event that there are fewer than 12 applicants,
24 the Superintendent shall collaborate with local superintendents to select schools to be partnered
25 schools. Partnered schools shall have each student entering the seventh grade during the
26 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years complete an annual review of Plans.

27 **SECTION #.(d)** Local Board of Education and IEP Support. – The local board of
28 education shall ensure that students in partnered schools are provided assistance by a school
29 counselor and planning time during the instructional day each school year to update their Plans.
30 For students with disabilities, the student's IEP team, if applicable, may assist the student in
31 completing and updating the Plan. Updates to Plans shall be made prior to student scheduling of
32 courses for the next school year.

33 **SECTION #.(e)** Parental Involvement. – Partnered schools shall encourage parents
34 to participate in development of Plans with their students and to sign a form provided by the
35 school acknowledging the annual revisions of the Plans. Local boards of education shall ensure
36 that Plans are easily accessible to students and parents and shall provide parents annual written
37 notice of the creation or revision of a Plan, information on how to access the Plan, a listing of
38 course offerings for the next school year with a description of the content of each course, and
39 high school graduation requirements where appropriate. Prior to creating or updating a student's
40 Plan, a school counselor shall attempt to meet with the student's parent, either in person or

1 virtually, to explain the possible effects that the Plan might have on the student's graduation
2 requirements and career development planning. Beginning in the tenth grade and continuing
3 throughout the student's high school enrollment, a school counselor shall provide each student
4 and parent information regarding State and federal need-based and merit-based financial aid
5 programs to support postsecondary education and training using information provided by the
6 State Education Assistance Authority and College Foundation of North Carolina. The school
7 counselor shall also provide information on the free application for federal student aid (FAFSA),
8 its use, and notify the parent that information included in the FAFSA is confidential and not
9 accessible by the school.

10 **SECTION #.(f)** Initial Career Development Plans. – Students in seventh grade in
11 partnered schools shall develop an initial career development plan which will provide guidance
12 as students develop Plans.

13 **SECTION #.(g)** Annual Career Development Plan Updates. – In partnered schools,
14 Plans shall be updated annually in addition to the following information being provided to
15 students:

- 16 (1) For eighth grade students, by the end of the school year, a list of the required
17 core courses to be taken in ninth and tenth grades.
- 18 (2) For tenth grade students, an identification of the graduation requirements
19 relevant to the student's chosen postsecondary goals based on the student's
20 career development planning.
- 21 (3) For eleventh grade students not meeting the career and college readiness
22 standards established by the State Board of Community Colleges, a plan for
23 enrolling in remedial coursework for his or her senior year.
- 24 (4) Any other minimum requirements established by the Superintendent.

25 **SECTION #.(h)** Reporting Requirement. – The Superintendent or a local board of
26 education shall develop reporting requirements for partnered schools participating in the Program
27 to provide information on the effectiveness of the annual review of the Plans. The Superintendent
28 shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by August 15, 2026, and
29 each year thereafter on the progress of the Program, including any logistical issues that have
30 arisen with the Program.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H61-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 ***FAILURE FREE READING***

2 **SECTION #.** Notwithstanding G.S. 115C-83.12, 115C-150.12C(3a),
3 115C-218.85(5), 115C-269.20(a)(2), or 116-239.8, of the funds appropriated to the Department
4 of Public Instruction, one million two hundred thousand dollars (\$1,200,000) in nonrecurring
5 funds for the 2025-2026 fiscal year shall be used to contract with JFL Enterprises, Inc., for a
6 Failure Free Reading Program (Program) to improve middle school literacy. The Department
7 shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by September 15, 2026, on
8 the number of public school units that participated in the Program and comparing outcomes of
9 students in public school units that participated in the Program against those public school units
10 that did not. The report shall include any recommendations by the Department on changes to the
11 Program.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H62-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 *STUDY HVAC SOLUTIONS FOR WAKE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM*
2 *PROPERTY*

3 **SECTION #.** Of the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Public
4 Instruction, the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) in nonrecurring funds for the
5 2026-2027 fiscal year shall be used to conduct a study to identify high-efficiency, next generation
6 heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems (HVAC) and chiller solutions for property
7 owned by the Wake County Public School System. The Department shall consult with the Wake
8 County Board of Education and may consult with other boards of education in the State in
9 conducting the study. Not later than February 15, 2027, the Department shall report the findings
10 of the study, including any recommendations for legislation, to the Joint Legislative Education
11 Oversight Committee and the Wake County Board of Education and shall post the findings and
12 recommendations on its website so that they may be accessed by all local boards of education in
13 the State and other interested stakeholders.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H64-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 ***INTERSTATE COMPACT FOR SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS***

2 **SECTION #.(a)** Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new
3 Article to read:

4 "Article 17F.

5 "School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact.

6 **"§ 115C-270.40. Purpose.**

7 The purpose of this Compact is to facilitate the interstate practice of School Psychology in
8 educational or school settings, and in so doing to improve the availability of School
9 Psychological Services to the public. This Compact is intended to establish a pathway to allow
10 School Psychologists to obtain equivalent licenses to provide School Psychological Services in
11 any Member State. In this way, this Compact shall enable the Member States to ensure that safe
12 and effective School Psychological Services are available and delivered by appropriately
13 qualified professionals in their educational settings. To facilitate the objectives described above,
14 this Compact does the following:

- 15 (1) Enables School Psychologists who qualify for receipt of an Equivalent
16 License to practice in other Member States without first satisfying
17 burdensome and duplicative requirements.
18 (2) Promotes the mobility of School Psychologists between and among the
19 Member States in order to address workforce shortages and to ensure that safe
20 and reliable School Psychological Services are available in each Member
21 State.
22 (3) Enhances the public accessibility of School Psychological Services by
23 increasing the availability of qualified, licensed School Psychologists through
24 the establishment of an efficient and streamlined pathway for Licensees to
25 practice in other Member States.
26 (4) Preserves and respects the authority of each Member State to protect the health
27 and safety of its residents by ensuring that only qualified, licensed
28 professionals are authorized to provide School Psychological Services within
29 that state.
30 (5) Requires School Psychologists practicing within a Member State to comply
31 with the Scope of Practice laws present in the state where the School
32 Psychological Services are being provided.
33 (6) Promotes cooperation between the Member States in regulating the practice
34 of School Psychology within those states.
35 (7) Facilitates the relocation of military members and their spouses who are
36 licensed to provide School Psychological Services.

37 **"§ 115C-270.41. Definitions.**

38 The following definitions shall apply in this Article:

- 1 (1) Active Military Member. – Any person with full-time duty status in the Armed
2 Forces of the United States, including members of the National Guard and
3 Reserve.
- 4 (2) Adverse Action. – Disciplinary action or encumbrance imposed on a License
5 by a State Licensing Authority.
- 6 (3) Alternative Program. – A nondisciplinary, prosecutorial diversion,
7 monitoring, or practice remediation process entered into in lieu of an Adverse
8 Action which is applicable to a School Psychologist and approved by the State
9 Licensing Authority of a Member State in which the participating School
10 Psychologist is licensed. This includes, but is not limited to, programs to
11 which Licensees with substance abuse or addiction issues may be referred in
12 lieu of an Adverse Action.
- 13 (4) Commissioner. – The individual appointed by a Member State to serve as the
14 representative to the Commission for that Member State.
- 15 (5) Compact. – This School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact.
- 16 (6) Continuing Professional Education. – A requirement, imposed by a Member
17 State as a condition of License renewal to provide evidence of successful
18 participation in professional educational activities relevant to the provision of
19 School Psychological Services.
- 20 (7) Criminal Background Check. – The submission of fingerprints or other
21 biometric information for a License applicant for the purpose of obtaining that
22 applicant's criminal history record information, as defined in 28 C.F.R. §
23 20.3(d), and the state's criminal history record repository, as defined in 28
24 C.F.R. § 20.3(f).
- 25 (8) Doctoral Level Degree. – A graduate degree program that consists of at least
26 90 graduate semester hours in the field of School Psychology, including a
27 supervised internship.
- 28 (9) Encumbered License. – A License that a State Licensing Authority has limited
29 in any way other than through an Alternative Program, including temporary
30 or provisional licenses.
- 31 (10) Executive Committee. – The Commission's Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and
32 Treasurer and any other Commissioners as may be determined by
33 Commission Rule or bylaw.
- 34 (11) Equivalent License. – A License to practice School Psychology which a
35 Member State has identified as a License which may be provided to School
36 Psychologists from other Member States pursuant to this Compact.
- 37 (12) Home State. – The Member State that issued the Home State License to the
38 Licensee and is the Licensee's primary state of practice.
- 39 (13) Home State License. – The License that is not an Encumbered License issued
40 by the Home State to provide School Psychological Services.
- 41 (14) License. – A current license, certification, or other authorization granted by a
42 Member State's Licensing Authority that permits an individual to provide
43 School Psychological Services.
- 44 (15) Licensee. – An individual who holds a License from a Member State to
45 provide School Psychological Services.
- 46 (16) Member State. – A state that has enacted the Compact and been admitted to
47 the Commission in accordance with the provisions herein and Commission
48 Rules.
- 49 (17) Model Compact. – The model language for the School Psychologist Interstate
50 Licensure Compact on file with the Council of State Governments or other
51 entity as designated by the Commission.

- 1 (18) Practice of School Psychology. – The delivery of School Psychological
2 Services.
- 3 (19) Qualifying National Exam. – A national licensing examination endorsed by
4 the National Association of School Psychologists and any other exam as
5 approved by the Rules of the Commission.
- 6 (20) Qualifying School Psychologist Education Program. – An education program
7 which awards a Specialist-Level or Doctoral-Level degree or equivalent upon
8 completion and is approved by the Rules of the Commission as meeting the
9 necessary minimum educational standards to ensure that its graduates are
10 ready, qualified, and able to engage in the Practice of School Psychology.
- 11 (21) Remote State. – A Member State other than the Home State where a Licensee
12 holds a License through the Compact.
- 13 (22) Rule. – A regulation promulgated by an entity, including, but not limited to,
14 the Commission and the State Licensing Authority of each Member State, that
15 has the force of law.
- 16 (23) School Psychological Services. – Academic, mental, and behavioral health
17 services, including assessment, prevention, consultation and collaboration,
18 intervention, and evaluation provided by a School Psychologist in a school, as
19 outlined in applicable professional standards as determined by Commission
20 Rule.
- 21 (24) School Psychologist. – An individual who has met the requirements to obtain
22 a Home State License that legally conveys the professional title of School
23 Psychologist, or its equivalent, as determined by the Rules of the Commission.
- 24 (25) School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact Commission
25 (Commission). – The joint government agency established by this Compact
26 whose membership consists of representatives from each Member State that
27 has enacted the Compact, and as further described in G.S. 115C-270.46.
- 28 (26) Scope of Practice. – The procedures, actions, and processes a School
29 Psychologist licensed in a state is permitted to undertake in that state and the
30 circumstances under which that Licensee is permitted to undertake those
31 procedures, actions, and processes. Such procedures, actions, and processes,
32 and the circumstances under which they may be undertaken, may be
33 established through means, including, but not limited to, statute, regulations,
34 case law, and other processes available to the State Licensing Authority or
35 other government agency.
- 36 (27) Specialist-Level Degree. – A degree program that requires at least 60 graduate
37 semester hours or equivalent in the field of School Psychology, including a
38 supervised internship.
- 39 (28) State. – Any state, commonwealth, district, or territory of the United States of
40 America.
- 41 (29) State Licensing Authority. – A Member State's regulatory body responsible
42 for issuing Licenses or otherwise overseeing the Practice of School
43 Psychology.
- 44 (30) State Specific Requirement. – A requirement for licensure covered in
45 coursework or examination that includes content of unique interest to the state.
- 46 (31) Unencumbered License. – A License that authorizes a Licensee to engage in
47 the full and unrestricted Practice of School Psychology.

48 **"§ 115C-270.42. State participation in the Compact.**

49 (a) To be eligible to join this Compact, and to maintain eligibility as a Member State, a
50 state must do the following:

- 1 (1) Enact a Compact statute that is not materially different from the Model
2 Compact as defined in the Commission's Rules.
- 3 (2) Participate in the sharing of information with other Member States as
4 reasonably necessary to accomplish the objectives of this Compact, and as
5 further defined in G.S. 115C-270.47.
- 6 (3) Identify and maintain with the Commission a list of Equivalent Licenses
7 available to Licensees who hold a Home State License under this Compact.
- 8 (4) Have a mechanism in place for receiving and investigating complaints about
9 Licensees.
- 10 (5) Notify the Commission, in compliance with the terms of the Compact and the
11 Commission's Rules, of any Adverse Action taken against a Licensee, or of
12 the availability of investigative information which relates to a Licensee or
13 applicant for licensure.
- 14 (6) Require that applicants for a Home State License have done the following:
 - 15 a. Taken and passed a Qualifying National Exam as defined by the Rules
16 of the Commission.
 - 17 b. Completed a minimum of 1200 hours of supervised internship, of
18 which at least 600 must have been completed in a School, prior to
19 being approved for licensure.
 - 20 c. Graduated from a Qualifying School Psychologist Education Program.
- 21 (7) Comply with the terms of this Compact and the Rules of the Commission.

22 (b) Each Member State shall grant an Equivalent License to practice School Psychology
23 in that state upon application by a Licensee who satisfies the criteria of G.S. 115C-270.43(a).
24 Each Member State shall grant renewal of the Equivalent License to a Licensee who satisfies the
25 criteria of G.S. 115C-270.43(b).

26 (c) Member States may set and collect a fee for granting an Equivalent License.

27 **"§ 115C-270.43. School psychologist participation in the Compact.**

28 (a) To obtain and maintain an Equivalent License from a Remote State under this
29 Compact, a Licensee must satisfy the following:

- 30 (1) Hold and maintain an active Home State License.
- 31 (2) Satisfy any applicable State Specific Requirements established by the
32 Member State after an Equivalent License is granted.
- 33 (3) Complete any administrative or application requirements which the
34 Commission may establish by Rule and pay any associated fees.
- 35 (4) Complete any requirements for renewal in the Home State, including
36 applicable Continuing Professional Education requirements.
- 37 (5) Upon their application to receive a license under this Compact, undergo a
38 criminal background check in the Member State in which the Equivalent
39 License is sought in accordance with the laws and regulations of such Member
40 State.

41 (b) To renew an Equivalent License in a Member State other than the Home State, a
42 Licensee must only apply for renewal, complete a background check, and pay renewal fees as
43 determined by the Licensing Authority.

44 **"§ 115C-270.44. Active Military Members or their spouses.**

45 A Licensee who is an Active Military Member or is the spouse of an Active Military Member
46 shall be deemed to hold a Home State License in any of the following locations:

- 47 (1) The Licensee's permanent residence.
- 48 (2) A Member State that is the Licensee's primary state of practice.
- 49 (3) A Member State where the Licensee has relocated pursuant to a Permanent
50 Change of Station (PCS).

51 **"§ 115C-270.45. Discipline/adverse actions.**

1 (a) Nothing in this Compact shall be deemed or construed to limit the authority of a
2 Member State to investigate or impose disciplinary measures on Licensees according to the State
3 Practice Laws thereof.

4 (b) Member States shall be authorized to receive, and shall provide, files and information
5 regarding the investigation and discipline, if any, of Licensees in other Member States upon
6 request. Any Member State receiving such information or files shall protect and maintain the
7 security and confidentiality thereof, in at least the same manner that it maintains its own
8 investigatory or disciplinary files and information. Prior to disclosing any disciplinary or
9 investigatory information received from another Member State, the disclosing state shall
10 communicate its intention and purpose for such disclosure to the Member State which originally
11 provided that information.

12 **"§ 115C-270.46. Establishment of the School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact**
13 **Commission.**

14 (a) The Member States hereby create and establish a joint government agency whose
15 membership consists of all Member States that have enacted the Compact, and this agency shall
16 be known as the School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact Commission. The
17 Commission is an instrumentality of the Member States acting jointly and not an instrumentality
18 of any one state. The Commission shall come into existence on or after the effective date of the
19 Compact as set forth in G.S. 115C-270.50.

20 (b) Membership, Voting, and Meetings.

21 (1) Each Member State shall have and be limited to one delegate selected by that
22 Member State's State Licensing Authority.

23 (2) The delegate shall be the primary administrative officer of the Member State
24 Licensing Authority or their designee who is an employee of the Member
25 State Licensing Authority.

26 (3) The Commission shall by Rule or bylaw establish a term of office for
27 delegates and may by Rule or bylaw establish term limits.

28 (4) The Commission may recommend removal or suspension of any delegate
29 from office.

30 (5) A Member State's Licensing Authority shall fill any vacancy of its delegate
31 occurring on the Commission within 60 days of the vacancy.

32 (6) Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote on all matters before the
33 Commission requiring a vote by Commission delegates.

34 (7) A delegate shall vote in person or by such other means as provided in the
35 bylaws. The bylaws may provide for delegates to meet by telecommunication,
36 videoconference, or other means of communication.

37 (8) The Commission shall meet at least once during each calendar year.
38 Additional meetings may be held as set forth in the bylaws. The Commission
39 may meet by telecommunication, video conference, or other similar electronic
40 means.

41 (c) The Commission shall have the following powers:

42 (1) Establish the fiscal year of the Commission.

43 (2) Establish code of conduct and conflict of interest policies.

44 (3) Establish and amend Rules and bylaws.

45 (4) Establish the procedure through which a Licensee may change their Home
46 State.

47 (5) Maintain its financial records in accordance with the bylaws.

48 (6) Meet and take such actions as are consistent with the provisions of this
49 Compact, the Commission's Rules, and the bylaws.

- 1 (7) Initiate and conclude legal proceedings or actions in the name of the
2 Commission, provided that the standing of any Member State Licensing
3 Authority to sue or be sued under applicable law shall not be affected.
- 4 (8) Maintain and certify records and information provided to a Member State as
5 the authenticated business records of the Commission and designate an agent
6 to do so on the Commission's behalf.
- 7 (9) Purchase and maintain insurance and bonds.
- 8 (10) Borrow, accept, or contract for services of personnel, including, but not
9 limited to, employees of a Member State.
- 10 (11) Conduct an annual financial review.
- 11 (12) Hire employees, elect or appoint officers, fix compensation, define duties,
12 grant such individuals appropriate authority to carry out the purposes of the
13 Compact, and establish the Commission's personnel policies and programs
14 relating to conflicts of interest, qualifications of personnel, and other related
15 personnel matters.
- 16 (13) Assess and collect fees.
- 17 (14) Accept any and all appropriate gifts, donations, grants of money, other sources
18 of revenue, equipment, supplies, materials, and services and receive, utilize,
19 and dispose of the same; provided that at all times the Commission shall avoid
20 any appearance of impropriety and/or conflict of interest.
- 21 (15) Lease, purchase, retain, own, hold, improve, or use any property, real,
22 personal, or mixed, or any undivided interest therein.
- 23 (16) Sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon, or otherwise
24 dispose of any property real, personal, or mixed.
- 25 (17) Establish a budget and make expenditures.
- 26 (18) Borrow money.
- 27 (19) Appoint committees, including standing committees, composed of members,
28 state regulators, state legislators or their representatives, and consumer
29 representatives, and such other interested persons as may be designated in this
30 Compact and the bylaws.
- 31 (20) Provide and receive information from, and cooperate with, law enforcement
32 agencies.
- 33 (21) Establish and elect an Executive Committee, including a Chair and a
34 Vice-Chair.
- 35 (22) Determine whether a state's adopted language is materially different from the
36 Model Compact language such that the state would not qualify for
37 participation in the Compact.
- 38 (23) Perform such other functions as may be necessary or appropriate to achieve
39 the purposes of this Compact.
- 40 (d) The Executive Committee.
 - 41 (1) The Executive Committee shall have the power to act on behalf of the
42 Commission according to the terms of this Compact. The powers, duties, and
43 responsibilities of the Executive Committee shall include the following:
 - 44 a. Oversee the day-to-day activities of the administration of the Compact,
45 including enforcement and compliance with the provisions of the
46 Compact, its Rules and bylaws, and other such duties as deemed
47 necessary.
 - 48 b. Recommend to the Commission changes to the Rules or bylaws,
49 changes to this Compact legislation, fees charged to Member States,
50 fees charged to Licensees, and other fees.

- 1 c. Ensure Compact administration services are appropriately provided,
2 including by contract.
- 3 d. Prepare and recommend the budget.
- 4 e. Maintain financial records on behalf of the Commission.
- 5 f. Monitor Compact compliance of Member States and provide
6 compliance reports to the Commission.
- 7 g. Establish additional committees as necessary.
- 8 h. Exercise the powers and duties of the Commission during the interim
9 between Commission meetings, except for adopting or amending
10 Rules, adopting or amending bylaws, and exercising any other powers
11 and duties expressly reserved to the Commission by Rule or bylaw.
- 12 i. Other duties as provided in the Rules or bylaws of the Commission.
- 13 (2) The Executive Committee shall be composed of up to seven members as
14 follows:
- 15 a. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Commission shall be voting members
16 of the Executive Committee.
- 17 b. The Commission shall elect five voting members from the current
18 membership of the Commission.
- 19 (3) The Commission may remove any member of the Executive Committee as
20 provided in the Commission's bylaws.
- 21 (4) The Executive Committee shall meet at least annually as follows:
- 22 a. Executive Committee meetings shall be open to the public, except that
23 the Executive Committee may meet in a closed, nonpublic meeting as
24 provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (f) of this section.
- 25 b. The Executive Committee shall give 30 days' notice of its meetings,
26 posted on its website and as determined to provide notice to persons
27 with an interest in the business of the Commission.
- 28 c. The Executive Committee may hold a special meeting in accordance
29 with sub-subdivision b. of subdivision (1) of subsection (f) of this
30 section.
- 31 (e) The Commission shall adopt and provide to the Member States an annual report.
- 32 (f) Meetings of the Commission.
- 33 (1) All meetings shall be open to the public as follows, except that the
34 Commission may meet in a closed, nonpublic meeting as provided in
35 subdivision (2) of this subsection.
- 36 a. Public notice for all meetings of the full Commission shall be given in
37 the same manner as required under the Rulemaking provisions in
38 G.S. 115C-270.48, except that the Commission may hold a special
39 meeting as provided in sub-subdivision b. of this subdivision.
- 40 b. The Commission may hold a special meeting when it must meet to
41 conduct emergency business by giving 48 hours' notice to all
42 commissioners, on the Commission's website, and other means as
43 provided in the Commission's Rules. The Commission's legal counsel
44 shall certify that the Commission's need to meet qualifies as an
45 emergency.
- 46 (2) The Commission or the Executive Committee or other committees of the
47 Commission may convene in a closed, nonpublic meeting for the Commission
48 or Executive Committee or other committees of the Commission to receive
49 legal advice or to discuss the following:
- 50 a. Noncompliance of a Member State with its obligations under the
51 Compact.

- 1 b. The employment, compensation, discipline, or other matters,
2 practices, or procedures related to specific employees.
3 c. Current or threatened discipline of a Licensee by the Commission or
4 by a Member State's Licensing Authority.
5 d. Current, threatened, or reasonably anticipated litigation.
6 e. Negotiation of contracts for the purchase, lease, or sale of goods,
7 services, or real estate.
8 f. Accusing any person of a crime or formally censuring any person.
9 g. Trade secrets or commercial or financial information that is privileged
10 or confidential.
11 h. Information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a
12 clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.
13 i. Investigative records compiled for law enforcement purposes.
14 j. Information related to any investigative reports prepared by or on
15 behalf of or for use of the Commission or other committee charged
16 with responsibility of investigation or determination of compliance
17 issues pursuant to the Compact.
18 k. Matters specifically exempted from disclosure by federal or Member
19 State law.
20 l. Other matters as promulgated by the Commission by Rule.
21 (3) If a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is closed, the presiding officer shall state
22 that the meeting will be closed and reference each relevant exempting
23 provision, and such reference shall be recorded in the minutes.
24 (4) The Commission shall keep minutes that fully and clearly describe all matters
25 discussed in a meeting and shall provide a full and accurate summary of
26 actions taken, and the reasons therefore, including a description of the views
27 expressed. All documents considered in connection with an action shall be
28 identified in such minutes. All minutes and documents of a closed meeting
29 shall remain under seal, subject to release only by a majority vote of the
30 Commission or order of a court of competent jurisdiction.
31 (g) Financing of the Commission.
32 (1) The Commission shall pay, or provide for the payment of, the reasonable
33 expenses of its establishment, organization, and ongoing activities.
34 (2) The Commission may accept any and all appropriate revenue sources as
35 provided in subdivision (13) of subsection (c) of this section.
36 (3) The Commission may levy on and collect an annual assessment from each
37 Member State and impose fees on Licensees practicing in the Member States
38 under an Equivalent License to cover the cost of the operations and activities
39 of the Commission and its staff, which must be in a total amount sufficient to
40 cover its annual budget as approved each year for which revenue is not
41 provided by other sources. The aggregate annual assessment amount for
42 Member States shall be allocated based upon a formula that the Commission
43 shall promulgate by Rule.
44 (4) The Commission shall not incur obligations of any kind prior to securing the
45 funds adequate to meet the same, nor shall the Commission pledge the credit
46 of any of the Member States, except by and with the authority of the Member
47 State.
48 (5) The Commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and
49 disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the Commission shall be
50 subject to the financial review and accounting procedures established under
51 its bylaws. However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the

1 Commission shall be subject to an annual financial review by a certified or
2 licensed public accountant, and the report of the financial review shall be
3 included in and become part of the annual report of the Commission.

4 (h) Qualified Immunity, Defense, and Indemnification.

5 (1) The members, officers, executive director, employees, and representatives of
6 the Commission shall be immune from suit and liability, both personally and
7 in their official capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of property or
8 personal injury or other civil liability caused by or arising out of any actual or
9 alleged act, error, or omission that occurred, or that the person against whom
10 the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the
11 scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities; provided that
12 nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to protect any such person from
13 suit or liability for any damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by the
14 intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person. The procurement
15 of insurance of any type by the Commission shall not in any way compromise
16 or limit the immunity granted hereunder.

17 (2) The Commission shall defend any member, officer, executive director,
18 employee, and representative of the Commission in any civil action seeking
19 to impose liability arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission
20 that occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or
21 responsibilities, or as determined by the Commission that the person against
22 whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within
23 the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities; provided
24 that nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit that person from retaining
25 their own counsel at their own expense; and provided further, that the actual
26 or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from that person's intentional
27 or willful or wanton misconduct.

28 (3) The Commission shall indemnify and hold harmless any member, officer,
29 executive director, employee, and representative of the Commission for the
30 amount of any settlement or judgment obtained against that person arising out
31 of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope
32 of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that such person
33 had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission
34 employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act,
35 error, or omission did not result from the intentional or willful or wanton
36 misconduct of that person.

37 (4) Nothing herein shall be construed as a limitation on the liability of any
38 licensee for professional malpractice or misconduct, which shall be governed
39 solely by any other applicable state laws.

40 (5) Nothing in this Compact shall be interpreted to waive or otherwise abrogate a
41 Member State's state action immunity or state action affirmative defense with
42 respect to antitrust claims under the Sherman Act, Clayton Act, or any other
43 state or federal antitrust or anticompetitive law or regulation.

44 (6) Nothing in this Compact shall be construed to be a waiver of sovereign
45 immunity by the Member States or by the Commission.

46 **"§ 115C-270.47. Facilitating information exchange.**

47 (a) The Commission shall provide for facilitating the exchange of information to
48 administer and implement the provisions of this Compact in accordance with the Rules of the
49 Commission, consistent with generally accepted data protection principles.

1 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of state law to the contrary, a Member State shall
2 agree to provide for the facilitation of the following Licensee information as required by the
3 Rules of the Commission, including:

4 (1) Identifying information.

5 (2) Licensure data.

6 (3) Adverse Actions against a Licensee and information related thereto.

7 (4) Nonconfidential information related to Alternative Program participation, the
8 beginning and ending dates of such participation, and other information
9 related to such participation not made confidential under Member State law.

10 (5) Any denial of application for licensure, and the reason(s) for such denial.

11 (6) The presence of investigative information.

12 (7) Other information that may facilitate the administration of this Compact or the
13 protection of the public, as determined by the Rules of the Commission.

14 (c) Nothing in this Compact shall be deemed or construed to alter, limit, or inhibit the
15 power of a Member State to control and maintain ownership of its Licensee information or alter,
16 limit, or inhibit the laws or regulations governing Licensee information in the Member State.

17 **"§ 115C-270.48. Rulemaking.**

18 (a) The Commission shall exercise its Rulemaking powers pursuant to the criteria set
19 forth in this interstate compact and the Rules adopted thereunder. Rules and amendments shall
20 become binding as of the date specified in each Rule or amendment.

21 (b) The Commission shall promulgate reasonable Rules to achieve the intent and purpose
22 of this interstate compact. In the event the Commission exercises its Rulemaking authority in a
23 manner that is beyond the purpose and intent of this interstate compact, or the powers granted
24 hereunder, then such an action by the Commission shall be invalid and have no force and effect
25 of law in the Member States.

26 (c) If a majority of the legislatures of the Member States reject a Rule, by enactment of a
27 statute or resolution in the same manner used to adopt the Compact within four years of the date
28 of adoption of the Rule, then such Rule shall have no further force and effect in any Member
29 State.

30 (d) Rules or amendments to the Rules shall be adopted or ratified at a regular or special
31 meeting of the Commission in accordance with Commission Rules and bylaws.

32 (e) Prior to promulgation and adoption of a final Rule or Rules by the Commission, and
33 at least 30 days in advance of the meeting at which the Rule will be considered and voted upon,
34 the Commission shall file a notice of proposed Rulemaking:

35 (1) On the website of the Commission or other publicly accessible platform; and

36 (2) On the website of each Member State Licensing Authority or other publicly
37 accessible platform or the publication in which each state would otherwise
38 publish proposed Rules.

39 (f) Upon determination that an emergency exists, the Commission may consider and
40 adopt an emergency Rule with 48 hours' notice, with opportunity to comment, provided that the
41 usual Rulemaking procedures shall be retroactively applied to the Rule as soon as reasonably
42 possible, in no event later than 90 days after the effective date of the Rule. For the purposes of
43 this provision, an emergency Rule is one that must be adopted immediately in order to accomplish
44 the following:

45 (1) Meet an imminent threat to public health, safety, or welfare.

46 (2) Prevent a loss of Commission or Member State funds.

47 (3) Meet a deadline for the promulgation of an administrative Rule that is
48 established by federal law or Rule.

49 (4) Protect public health and safety.

50 **"§ 115C-270.49. Oversight, dispute resolution, and enforcement.**

51 (a) Oversight.

- 1 (1) The executive and judicial branches of the state government in each Member
2 State shall enforce this Compact and take all actions necessary and appropriate
3 to implement the Compact.
- 4 (2) Venue is proper and judicial proceedings by or against the Commission shall
5 be brought solely and exclusively in a court of competent jurisdiction where
6 the principal office of the Commission is located. The Commission may waive
7 venue and jurisdictional defenses to the extent it adopts or consents to
8 participate in alternative dispute resolution proceedings. Nothing herein shall
9 affect or limit the selection or propriety of venue in any action against a
10 Licensee for professional malpractice, misconduct, or any such similar matter.
- 11 (3) The Commission shall be entitled to receive service of process in any
12 proceeding regarding the enforcement or interpretation of the Compact and
13 shall have standing to intervene in such a proceeding for all purposes. Failure
14 to provide the Commission service of process shall render a judgment or order
15 void as to the Commission, this Compact, or promulgated Rules.
- 16 (b) Default, Technical Assistance, and Termination.
- 17 (1) If the Commission determines that a Member State has defaulted in the
18 performance of its obligations or responsibilities under this Compact or the
19 promulgated Rules, the Commission shall provide written notice to the
20 defaulting state. The notice of default shall describe the default, the proposed
21 means of curing the default, and any other action that the Commission may
22 take and shall offer training and specific technical assistance regarding the
23 default.
- 24 (2) The Commission shall provide a copy of the notice of default to the other
25 Member States.
- 26 (c) If a state in default fails to cure the default, the defaulting state may be terminated
27 from the Compact upon an affirmative vote of a supermajority of the delegates of the Member
28 States, and all rights, privileges, and benefits conferred on that state by this Compact may be
29 terminated on the effective date of termination. A cure of the default does not relieve the
30 offending state of obligations or liabilities incurred during the period of default.
- 31 (d) Termination of membership in the Compact shall be imposed only after all other
32 means of securing compliance have been exhausted. Notice of intent to suspend or terminate
33 shall be given by the Commission to the governor, the majority and minority leaders of the
34 defaulting state's legislature, the defaulting State's Licensing Authority, and each of the Member
35 States' Licensing Authorities.
- 36 (e) A state that has been terminated is responsible for all assessments, obligations, and
37 liabilities incurred through the effective date of termination, including obligations that extend
38 beyond the effective date of termination.
- 39 (f) Upon the termination of a state's membership from this Compact, that state shall
40 immediately provide notice to all Licensees within that state of such termination. The terminated
41 state shall continue to recognize all Licenses granted pursuant to this Compact for a minimum of
42 six months after the date of said notice of termination.
- 43 (g) The Commission shall not bear any costs related to a state that is found to be in default
44 or that has been terminated from the Compact, unless agreed upon in writing between the
45 Commission and the defaulting state.
- 46 (h) The defaulting state may appeal the action of the Commission by petitioning the U.S.
47 District Court for the District of Columbia or the federal district where the Commission has its
48 principal offices. The prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including
49 reasonable attorneys' fees.
- 50 (i) Dispute Resolution.

- 1 (1) Upon request by a Member State, the Commission shall attempt to resolve
2 disputes related to the Compact that arise among Member States and between
3 Member and non-Member States.
4 (2) The Commission shall promulgate a Rule providing for both mediation and
5 binding dispute resolution for disputes as appropriate.

6 (j) Enforcement.

- 7 (1) By majority vote as provided by Rule, the Commission may initiate legal
8 action against a Member State in default in the U.S. District Court for the
9 District of Columbia or the federal district where the Commission has its
10 principal offices to enforce compliance with the provisions of the Compact
11 and its promulgated Rules. The relief sought may include both injunctive
12 relief and damages. In the event judicial enforcement is necessary, the
13 prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including
14 reasonable attorneys' fees. The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive
15 remedies of the Commission. The Commission may pursue any other
16 remedies available under federal or the defaulting Member State's law.
17 (2) A Member State may initiate legal action against the Commission in the U.S.
18 District Court for the District of Columbia or the federal district where the
19 Commission has its principal offices to enforce compliance with the
20 provisions of the Compact and its promulgated Rules. The relief sought may
21 include both injunctive relief and damages. In the event judicial enforcement
22 is necessary, the prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation,
23 including reasonable attorneys' fees.
24 (3) No person other than a Member State shall enforce this Compact against the
25 Commission.

26 **"§ 115C-270.50. Effective date, withdrawal, and amendment.**

- 27 (a) The Compact shall come into effect on the date on which the Compact statute is
28 enacted into law in the seventh Member State.
29 (1) On or after the effective date of the Compact indicated above, the Commission
30 shall convene and review the enactment of each of the Charter Member States
31 to determine if the statute enacted by each such Charter Member State is
32 materially different than the model Compact statute.
33 a. A Charter Member State whose enactment is found to be materially
34 different from the model Compact statute shall be entitled to the
35 default process set forth in G.S. 115C-270.49.
36 b. If any Member State is later found to be in default, or is terminated or
37 withdraws from the Compact, the Commission shall remain in
38 existence and the Compact shall remain in effect even if the number
39 of Member States should be less than seven.
40 (2) Member States enacting the Compact subsequent to the Charter Member
41 States shall be subject to the process set forth in subdivision (22) of subsection
42 (c) of G.S. 115C-470.46 to determine if their enactments are materially
43 different from the model Compact statute and whether they qualify for
44 participation in the Compact.
45 (3) All actions taken for the benefit of the Commission or in furtherance of the
46 purposes of the administration of the Compact prior to the effective date of
47 the Compact or the Commission coming into existence shall be considered to
48 be actions of the Commission unless specifically repudiated by the
49 Commission.
50 a. Any state that joins the Compact subsequent to the Commission's
51 initial adoption of the Rules and bylaws shall be subject to the Rules

1 and bylaws as they exist on the date on which the Compact becomes
2 law in that state. Any Rule that has been previously adopted by the
3 Commission shall have the full force and effect of law on the day the
4 Compact becomes law in that state.

5 b. Any Member State may withdraw from this Compact by enacting a
6 statute repealing the same.

7 (b) A Member State's withdrawal shall not take effect until 180 days after enactment of
8 the repealing statute.

9 (c) Withdrawal shall not affect the continuing requirement of the withdrawing State's
10 Licensing Authority to comply with the investigative and Adverse Action reporting requirements
11 of this Compact prior to the effective date of withdrawal.

12 (d) Upon the enactment of a statute withdrawing from this Compact, a state shall
13 immediately provide notice of such withdrawal to all Licensees within that state.
14 Notwithstanding any subsequent statutory enactment to the contrary, such withdrawing state
15 shall continue to recognize all Licenses granted pursuant to this Compact for a minimum of six
16 months after the date of such notice of withdrawal.

17 (1) Nothing contained in this Compact shall be construed to invalidate or prevent
18 any licensure agreement or other cooperative arrangement between a Member
19 State and a non-Member State that does not conflict with the provisions of this
20 Compact.

21 (2) This Compact may be amended by the Member States. No amendment to this
22 Compact shall become effective and binding upon any Member State until it
23 is enacted into the laws of all Member States.

24 **"§ 115C-270.51. Construction and severability.**

25 (a) This Compact and the Commission's Rulemaking authority shall be liberally
26 construed so as to effectuate the purposes and the implementation and administration of the
27 Compact. Provisions of the Compact expressly authorizing or requiring the promulgation of
28 Rules shall not be construed to limit the Commission's Rulemaking authority solely for those
29 purposes.

30 (b) The provisions of this Compact shall be severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence,
31 or provision of this Compact is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be contrary to the
32 constitution of any Member State, a state seeking participation in the Compact, or of the United
33 States, or the applicability thereof to any government, agency, person, or circumstance is held to
34 be unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, the validity of the remainder of this
35 Compact and the applicability thereof to any other government, agency, person, or circumstance
36 shall not be affected thereby.

37 (c) Notwithstanding subsection (b) of this section, the Commission may deny a state's
38 participation in the Compact or, in accordance with the requirements of subsection (b) of
39 G.S. 115C-270.49, terminate a Member State's participation in the Compact, if it determines that
40 a constitutional requirement of a Member State is a material departure from the Compact.
41 Otherwise, if this Compact shall be held to be contrary to the constitution of any Member State,
42 the Compact shall remain in full force and effect as to the remaining Member States and in full
43 force and effect as to the Member State affected as to all severable matters.

44 **"§ 115C-270.52. Consistent effect and conflict with other state laws.**

45 (a) Nothing herein shall prevent or inhibit the enforcement of any other law of a Member
46 State that is not inconsistent with the Compact.

47 (b) Any laws, statutes, regulations, or other legal requirements in a Member State in
48 conflict with the Compact are superseded to the extent of the conflict. All permissible agreements
49 between the Commission and the Member States are binding in accordance with their terms."

50 **SECTION #.(b)** G.S. 115C-12 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

1 "(50) Duty to Fulfill Requirements Related to School Psychologist Interstate
2 Licensure Compact. – The State Board of Education shall be the State
3 Licensing Authority or Licensing Authority for purposes of Article 17F of this
4 Chapter and shall fulfill any requirements, duties, or obligations of the State
5 Licensing Authority or Licensing Authority pursuant to that Article."

6 **SECTION #.(c)** The section is effective when it becomes law.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H65-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 ***INCREASE TO EC FUNDING CAP***

2 **SECTION #.(a)** G.S. 115C-111.05 reads as rewritten:

3 **"§ 115C-111.05. Funding for children with disabilities.**

4 To the extent funds are made available for this purpose, the State Board shall allocate funds
5 for children with disabilities to each local school administrative unit on a per child basis. Each
6 local school administrative unit shall receive funds for the lesser of (i) all children who are
7 identified as children with disabilities or (ii) thirteen and one-quarter percent (13.25%) of
8 its allotted average daily membership in the local school administrative unit for the current school
9 year."

10 **SECTION #.(b)** This section is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning
11 with funding allocated for the 2025-2026 school year.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H1-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 **CLASS SIZE EXEMPTIONS FOR GROWING COUNTIES**

2 **SECTION #.(a)** G.S. 115C-301 reads as rewritten:

3 **"§ 115C-301. Allocation of teachers; class size.**

4 ...

5 (c) Maximum Class Size for Kindergarten Through Third Grade. – The ~~average~~ class size
6 for kindergarten through third grade in a local school administrative unit shall be as follows:

7 (1) Growing local school administrative units. – If a local school administrative
8 unit has an increase in student population of one-half percent (0.5%) of the
9 average daily membership of the local school administrative unit for two
10 consecutive years, then the unit shall be considered a growing local school
11 administrative unit for the two years immediately following the second year
12 of student population increase. Growing local school administrative units may
13 exceed the allotment ratios listed in subdivision (2) of this subsection by up to
14 three students.

15 (2) All other local school administrative units. – For any local school
16 administrative unit not qualifying as growing under subdivision (1) of this
17 subsection, the average class size for kindergarten through third grade in the
18 local school administrative unit shall at no time exceed the funded allotment
19 ratio of teachers to students in kindergarten through third grade. At the end of
20 the second school month and for the remainder of the school year, the size of
21 an individual class in kindergarten through third grade shall not exceed the
22 allotment ratio by more than three students. The funded class size allotment
23 ratio for kindergarten through third grade shall be as follows:

24 ~~(1)~~a. For kindergarten, one teacher per 18 students.

25 ~~(2)~~b. For first grade, one teacher per 16 students.

26 ~~(3)~~c. For second grade, one teacher per 17 students.

27 ~~(4)~~d. For third grade, one teacher per 17 students.

28 In grades four through 12, local school administrative units shall have the maximum
29 flexibility to use allotted teacher positions to maximize student achievement.

30 ...

31 (g) Waivers and Allotment Adjustments. – Local boards of education shall report
32 exceptions to the class size requirements set out for kindergarten through third grade and
33 significant increases in class size at other grade levels to the State Board and shall request
34 allotment adjustments at any grade level, waivers from the requirements for kindergarten through
35 third grade, or both. Within 45 days of receipt of reports, the State Board of Education, within
36 funds available, may allot additional positions at any grade level. The State Board shall not grant
37 waivers for excess class size in kindergarten through third grade, except under the following
38 circumstances:

39 (1) Emergencies or acts of God that impact the availability of classroom space or
40 facilities.

- 1 (2) An unanticipated increase in student population of an individual school in
2 excess of two percent (2%) of the average daily membership of that school.
3 The State Board of Education shall allow waivers in consecutive years for
4 schools located in growing local school administrative units that continue to
5 qualify for a waiver under this subdivision.
6 (3) Organizational problems in geographically isolated local school
7 administrative units in which the average daily membership is less than one
8 and one-half per square mile.
9 (4) Classes organized for a solitary curricular area.
10 (5) A charter school closure.
11 (6) The performance grade of the school under G.S. 115C-12(9)(c1) and
12 G.S. 115C-83.15 is a B or better and the school is located in a growing local
13 school administrative unit. Waivers granted pursuant to this subsection shall
14 be for an additional five students per class.

15 The State Board shall report on all waivers to the Joint Legislative Commission on
16 Governmental Operations within 30 days of the grant of the waiver. The report shall include the
17 local school administrative unit, school, and class or classes for which the waiver was granted,
18 the statutory grounds for the waiver, and the terms of the waiver. A waiver for excess class size
19 in kindergarten through third grade shall not become effective until the State Board submits the
20 report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations.

21 Upon notification from the State Board that the reported exception does not qualify for an
22 allotment adjustment or a waiver, the local board of education shall take action to correct the
23 exception within 30 days. Within 60 days of notification by the State Board, the Superintendent
24 of Public Instruction shall request an updated report from the local board of education on the size
25 of each class in kindergarten through third grade for each school within the local school
26 administrative unit. If the Superintendent of Public Instruction finds that a local board of
27 education is continuing to exceed class size requirements, the State Board may impose the
28 penalty set forth in subsection (j) of this section until such time the schools in the unit meet the
29 class size requirements for kindergarten through third grade.

30"

31 **SECTION #.(b)** G.S. 115C-301.7(a) reads as rewritten:

32 "(a) Class Size Flexibility. – Notwithstanding G.S. 115C-301, with the approval of the
33 State Board of Education, ATR schools may exceed the maximum class size requirements for
34 kindergarten through third grade during any term of up to three years in which State funds are
35 awarded to the ATR unit where the school is located. ~~At the conclusion of the term, any class~~
36 ~~size flexibility approved for an ATR school pursuant to this subsection shall expire.~~ grade."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H14-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 **AFTER SCHOOL ROBOTICS GRANT PROGRAM**

2 **SECTION #.(a)** Program; Purpose. – To the extent funds are made available for the
3 purpose, there is established the Educational and Competitive After-School Robotics Grant
4 Program (Program). The purpose of the Program shall be to (i) promote evidence-based,
5 after-school programs for robotics education and competition and (ii) motivate students to pursue
6 education and career opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics while
7 building critical life and work-related skills.

8 **SECTION #.(b)** Eligibility. – Any public school unit is eligible to apply to the
9 Department of Public Instruction for a grant to develop an educational and competitive
10 after-school robotics program with a robotics partner. As used in this subsection, the term
11 "robotics partner" shall refer to a third-party entity, such as a nonprofit organization or institution
12 of higher education, approved by the Department of Public Instruction that is able to provide
13 adequate support for an after-school robotics program. In order to provide adequate support, a
14 robotics partner must meet at least all of the following criteria:

- 15 (1) Have a national presence in robotics education and competition.
- 16 (2) Provide adequate instruction and programming for students and adult
17 volunteers in (i) robotics education, (ii) project-based learning, and (iii)
18 competitive robotics.
- 19 (3) Promote a safe and equitable social environment.

20 **SECTION #.(c)** Applications; Criteria and Guidelines. – No later than August 1 of
21 each year that funds are made available for the Program, the Department shall develop and
22 publish criteria and guidelines for the application process for the Program in the upcoming school
23 year, including any documentation required to be submitted by the applicants. The Department
24 shall accept applications until September 30 of each school year. Applications shall include, at a
25 minimum, the following information:

- 26 (1) Evidence that the applicant has or will be able to establish a relationship with
27 a robotics partner.
- 28 (2) A proposed budget for the educational and competitive after-school robotics
29 program.

30 **SECTION #.(d)** Award and Use of Funds. – From funds made available for the
31 Program, the Department shall award grants to the selected applicants by October 31. Funds may
32 be used for any of the following purposes:

- 33 (1) Establishing a relationship with a robotics partner.
- 34 (2) Purchasing robotics kits.
- 35 (3) Providing stipends for coaches.
- 36 (4) Making payments associated with participation in a robotics league or robotics
37 competition.
- 38 (5) Paying fees incurred as part of the administration of a robotics team.

39 **SECTION #.(e)** Reporting. – No later than October 15 of each year in which funds
40 are made available for the Program, the Department shall report the following information from

- 1 the prior school year to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and the Fiscal
2 Research Division:
- 3 (1) Number and amounts of grants awarded.
 - 4 (2) Identities of the public school units receiving grants.
 - 5 (3) Identities of public school units that applied for grants but did not receive one.
 - 6 (4) The extent to which students participating in after-school robotics programs
7 funded by the Program experienced measurable improvement in academic
8 performance, if any.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H19-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 ***FUNDS FOR ALL PRO DAD***

2 **SECTION #.** Of the funds appropriated to the Department of Public Instruction in
3 this act, the Department shall allocate the sum of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) in nonrecurring
4 funds for the 2025-2026 fiscal year as a directed grant to Family First, Inc., the nonprofit
5 corporation registered in the state of Florida, to expand its All Pro Dad fatherhood program in
6 this State, provided that (i) the nonprofit registers as an entity with the Secretary of State to
7 conduct business in the State and (ii) the nonprofit allocates the funds appropriated in this act to
8 expand its All Pro Dad program in North Carolina, including increasing All Pro Dad chapters in
9 schools, holding events that encourage father-child engagement and foster improved
10 communication between children and fathers, and distributing resources to help fathers enhance
11 their parenting skills and become more involved in their children's lives.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H20-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 **RESPONSIBLE FATHERHOOD NORTH CAROLINA ACT**

2 **SECTION #.(a)** The General Assembly recognizes that families are stronger when
3 both parents act responsibly in caring for their children. It is the intent of the General Assembly
4 to recognize and support the important and unique role that fathers play in ensuring the physical,
5 emotional, and economic well-being of their children and families.

6 **SECTION #.(b)** The Department shall contract for the development and
7 implementation of the Responsible Fatherhood North Carolina program. The program shall
8 provide an opportunity for every father in the State to be able to obtain information and
9 inspiration that will motivate and enable him to enhance his abilities as a father, recognizing that
10 some fathers have greater challenges than others and would benefit from greater support. The
11 entity the Department contracts with to develop, implement, and manage the program, "Program
12 Manager," shall be a nonprofit organization that satisfies all of the following criteria:

- 13 (1) Has a history of focusing on responsible fatherhood, including providing
14 online resources to fathers, and engaging fathers, father figures, and children
15 through community-based and school-based events to encourage responsible
16 fatherhood.
17 (2) Has the organizational capacity to manage a statewide initiative and
18 successfully carry out the requirements of this section.

19 **SECTION #.(c)** The Program Manager shall be solely responsible for developing,
20 implementing, and managing the program which shall include at least the following:

- 21 (1) A statewide media campaign that increases the awareness and importance of
22 fathers being involved in their children's lives.
23 (2) Resources and information for fathers and father figures to increase
24 engagement and involvement in their children's lives.
25 (3) Promotion of related fatherhood programs that are provided by the
26 Department of Public Instruction, the Community College System, or The
27 University of North Carolina System.

28 **SECTION #.(d)** To most effectively use the funds appropriated to this program, the
29 Program Manager shall identify and use other existing media assets, content, and online resources
30 it deems appropriate, including any existing media assets, content, and online resources it has
31 available, to implement and execute the items required by this section.

32 **SECTION #.(e)** The Program Manager shall administer a grant program to award
33 grants to nonprofit community-based organizations that address the needs of fathers in
34 accordance with the following:

- 35 (1) The Program Manager shall award the following types of grants:
36 a. Grants that comprehensively address the needs of fathers, such as
37 assisting them in finding employment, managing child support
38 obligations, transitioning from a period of incarceration, accessing
39 health care, understanding child development, and enhancing
40 parenting skills. Services provided shall be tailored to the needs of the

1 father being served. Case management services shall be provided to
2 the fathers who are served by the grants under this subdivision.

3 b. Grants that provide evidence-based parenting education specifically
4 for fathers. The grants under this subdivision do not require case
5 management services.

6 (2) The Program Manager shall prioritize awarding grants according to the
7 following:

8 a. Need in a geographic area and the population to be served by the grant
9 as indicated by, at a minimum, all of the following:

- 10 1. Unemployment rates.
- 11 2. Incarceration rates.
- 12 3. Housing instability.
- 13 4. The number of single-parent households.
- 14 5. The number of public benefit recipients.
- 15 6. Graduation rates.
- 16 7. Levels of academic achievement.

17 b. If an applicant has a primary mission of, or a history of a significant
18 focus on and effective work toward, addressing the needs of men in
19 their role as fathers.

20 c. Applicant current and historical involvement in the community being
21 served.

22 d. Applicant commitment and capability to employ competent staff who
23 can effectively engage with the fathers being served, including, at a
24 minimum, those individuals who share a similar background as the
25 fathers being served.

26 e. The number of individuals the applicant plans to serve through the
27 grant and the projected costs for the program.

28 f. Applicant organizational capacity to effectively meet the requirements
29 of the grant and to deliver the programs proposed by the applicant. The
30 Program Manager may offer technical assistance to applicants and
31 grant recipients that have lower organizational capacity as long as such
32 organizations have, or the organization's leadership has, significant
33 experience serving fathers.

34 (3) Grant recipients shall submit reports to the Department in a format and at
35 intervals prescribed by the Department.

36 **SECTION #.(f)** Of the funds appropriated to the Department of Public Instruction
37 in this act for the Responsible Fatherhood North Carolina program, the Department shall use up
38 to two million dollars (\$2,000,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2025-2026 fiscal year to
39 contract for the Program Manager as required in subsection (b) of this section. The remainder of
40 the funds shall be used for the grants authorized in subsection (e) of this section.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H24-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 **COMPETITIVE SPEECH AND DEBATE GRANT PILOT**

2 **SECTION #.(a)** Program; Purpose. – To the extent funds are made available for the
3 purpose, there is established the Competitive Speech and Debate Team Grant Pilot Program
4 (Program). The purpose of the Program is to allow each public school serving students in grades
5 nine through 12 in North Carolina to form a speech and debate team and to allow the team to
6 participate in speech and debate competitions. The Program shall begin in the 2025-2026 school
7 year and conclude at the end of the 2028-2029 school year.

8 **SECTION #.(b)** Eligibility. – Any public school unit that includes a school that
9 serves students in grades nine through 12 is eligible to apply to the Department of Public
10 Instruction for a grant to develop, maintain, or expand an educational and competitive speech
11 and debate team.

12 **SECTION #.(c)** Applications; Criteria and Guidelines. – No later than August 1 of
13 each year that funds are made available for the Program, the Department shall develop and
14 publish criteria and guidelines for the application process for the Program in the upcoming school
15 year. The Department shall accept applications until September 30 of each school year.
16 Applications shall include, at a minimum, a proposed budget for the speech and debate team.

17 **SECTION #.(d)** Award; Use of Funds. – The Department shall award grants to
18 selected applicants by October 31 of each year that funds are made available for the Program.
19 The Department shall determine the amount of each award up to a maximum of ten thousand
20 dollars (\$10,000) per team per school year and may only include two stipends, one lead team
21 coach stipend of up to two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) and one assistant team coach
22 stipend of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500). Funds may be used for any of the
23 following purposes:

- 24 (1) Provide stipends for coaches.
25 (2) Make payments associated with participation in a speech and debate league or
26 competition.
27 (3) Travel to and from speech and debate competitions.

28 **SECTION #.(e)** Speech and debate teams receiving funds through the Program shall
29 participate in the Tarheel Forensic League and the National Speech and Debate Association.

30 **SECTION #.(f)** Student Participation. – If a student is enrolled in a school that does
31 not offer a speech and debate team, the student is eligible to participate on the speech and debate
32 team at the school located geographically closest to where the student resides that does have a
33 team. A student joining a team under the authority of this section shall be responsible for
34 transportation to and from the school where the team meets. Nothing in this section prohibits a
35 school from enforcing guidelines for student participation in extracurricular activities, such as
36 academic performance requirements, nor does it prohibit a speech and debate team from
37 conducting a selection process for the team, so long as the student is able to participate in the
38 selection process as if the student were enrolled in that school.

1 **SECTION #.(g)** Reporting. – No later than February 15 of each school year in which
2 funds are made available for the Program, the Department shall report the following information
3 to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and the Fiscal Research Division:

- 4 (1) The public school units receiving grants and the amount of the grant.
- 5 (2) A description of how the grants were used.
- 6 (3) The public school units that applied for grants but did not receive one.
- 7 (4) The extent to which students participating in speech and debate programs
8 funded by the Program experienced measurable improvement in academic
9 performance.

10 **SECTION #.(h)** Of the funds appropriated to the Department of Public Instruction
11 in this act, the Department shall use the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) in
12 recurring funds for the 2025-2026 fiscal year to establish and administer the Competitive Speech
13 and Debate Team Grant Pilot Program, as established by this section. At the conclusion of the
14 Program, when creating the base budget for the 2029-2031 fiscal biennium, the Director of the
15 Budget shall not include these funds for the 2029-2030 fiscal year.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

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SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H25-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 *NORTHEAST REGIONAL SCHOOL OF BIOTECHNOLOGY AND AGRISCIENCE*

2 SECTION #.(a) Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new
3 Article to read:

4 "Article 15A.

5 "Northeast Regional School of Biotechnology and Agriscience.

6 "**§ 115C-229.5. Purpose.**

7 (a) The purpose of this Article is to establish the Northeast Regional School of
8 Biotechnology and Agriscience as a school of choice that will expand student opportunities for
9 educational success through high quality instructional programming in the northeastern region
10 of the State. The Northeast Regional School of Biotechnology and Agriscience may partner with
11 other education partners, including local boards of education, institutions of higher education, or
12 private businesses or organizations, and shall foster, encourage, and promote the development of
13 knowledge and skills in career clusters of critical importance to the region.

14 (b) The Northeast Regional School of Biotechnology and Agriscience is a political
15 subdivision of the State and shall operate as a public school unit with a board of directors as the
16 governing body.

17 (c) Except as otherwise provided in this Article and Article 7B of this Chapter, the
18 Northeast Regional School of Biotechnology and Agriscience is exempt from statutes and rules
19 applicable to a local board of education or local school administrative unit.

20 "**§ 115C-229.10. Definitions.**

21 The following definitions apply in this Part:

22 (1) Regional school. – The Northeast Regional School of Biotechnology and
23 Agriscience.

24 (2) Regional school board of directors or board of directors. – The governing
25 board of the Northeast Regional School of Biotechnology and Agriscience.

26 (3) Regional school service area. – The counties of Beaufort, Bertie, Camden,
27 Currituck, Dare, Edenton, Edgecombe, Gates, Halifax, Hertford, Hyde,
28 Martin, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Pitt, Tyrrell, and Washington.

29 "**§ 115C-229.15. Board of directors; appointment; terms of office.**

30 (a) The board of directors of the regional school shall consist of the following members:

31 (1) The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall appoint three members who are
32 either a local board of education member or superintendent of a local school
33 administrative unit in a county where at least five percent (5%) of the students
34 enrolled in the regional school reside.

35 (2) The State Board of Education shall appoint five members as representatives
36 of the business community, upon the recommendation of the North Carolina
37 Economic Developers Association, who reside in a county where at least five
38 percent (5%) of the students enrolled in the regional school reside. At least
39 one of the appointees shall be a resident of the county in which the regional
40 school is located.

1 (3) The Parent Advisory Council established by G.S. 115C-229.20 shall appoint
2 one member to the board of directors from among the Council membership.
3 The seat shall be declared vacant if the child of the appointed parent no longer
4 attends the regional school.

5 (4) Any institution of higher education partner may appoint a representative of
6 the institution of higher education to serve as an ex officio member of the
7 board of directors.

8 (b) Members shall serve four-year terms of office. Appointed members of the board of
9 directors shall be selected for their interest in and commitment to the importance of public
10 education to regional economic development and to the purposes of the regional school.

11 (c) Whenever an appointed member of the board of directors ceases to meet the
12 qualifications for appointment or for any reason other than ill health or service in the interest of
13 the State or nation to be present at three successive regular meetings of the board of directors, his
14 or her place as a member of the board of directors shall be deemed vacant. Any member of the
15 board of directors may be removed from office by the appointing authority for misfeasance,
16 malfeasance, or nonfeasance in office. All vacancies shall be filled by the appointing authority
17 for the remainder of the term of office by an individual meeting the qualifications for the vacated
18 seat.

19 **"§ 115C-229.20. Parent Advisory Council; purpose; appointments.**

20 (a) Purpose. – There shall be a Parent Advisory Council to serve as a resource and provide
21 input to the board of directors as to the operation of the regional school. The board of directors
22 shall consult the Parent Advisory Council when considering changes to the regional school's
23 operations that may significantly impact students attending the regional school.

24 (b) Appointment. – The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall appoint one member
25 from each county where at least five percent (5%) of the students enrolled in the regional school
26 reside to the Parent Advisory Council for a term of four years or until the member's child no
27 longer attends the regional school. Appointees shall be parents or guardians of students attending
28 the regional school and shall, to the extent possible, reflect the demographic composition of the
29 regional school.

30 **"§ 115C-229.25. Board of directors; meetings; rules of procedure; officers.**

31 (a) The board of directors shall meet at least four times a year and may hold special
32 meetings at any time at the call of the chair or upon petition addressed to the chair by a majority
33 of the members of the board of directors. All meetings of the board of directors shall be subject
34 to the requirements of Article 33C of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes.

35 (b) The board of directors shall elect a chair and a vice-chair from among its members,
36 who shall serve a two-year term.

37 (c) All members of the board of directors shall be voting members except for the chair,
38 who may vote only on matters to break a tie.

39 (d) The board of directors shall determine its own rules of procedure and may delegate
40 to such committees as it may create such of its powers as it deems appropriate.

41 (e) Members of the board of directors shall receive such per diem compensation and
42 necessary travel and subsistence expenses while engaged in the discharge of their official duties
43 as is provided by law for members of State boards and commissions.

44 **"§ 115C-229.30. Board of directors; corporate powers.**

45 (a) The board of directors of the regional school shall be known and distinguished by the
46 name of "The Northeast Regional School of Biotechnology and Agriscience Board of Directors"
47 and shall continue as a body politic and corporate and by that name shall have perpetual
48 succession and a common seal. It shall be able and capable in law to take, demand, receive, and
49 possess all moneys, goods, and chattels that shall be given for the use of the regional school, and
50 to apply to same according to the will of the donors; and by gift, purchase, or devise to receive,
51 possess, enjoy, and retain forever any and all real and personal estate and funds, of whatsoever

1 kind, nature, or quality the same may be, in special trust and confidence that the same, or the
2 profits thereof, shall be applied to and for the use and purpose of establishing and endowing the
3 regional school, and shall have power to receive donations from any source whatsoever, to be
4 devoted exclusively to the purposes of the maintenance of the regional school, or according to
5 the terms of the donation.

6 (b) The board of directors shall be able and capable in law to bargain, sell, grant, alien,
7 or dispose of and convey and assure to the purchasers any and all such real and personal estate
8 and funds as it may lawfully acquire when the condition of the grant to it or the will of the devisor
9 does not forbid it; and shall be able and capable in law to sue and be sued in all courts whatsoever;
10 and shall have power to open and receive subscriptions; and in general may do all such things as
11 are usually done by bodies corporate and politic, or such as may be necessary for the promotion
12 of learning and virtue.

13 **"§ 115C-229.35. Board of directors; powers and duties.**

14 The board of directors shall have the following powers and duties:

15 (1) The board of directors shall establish the regional school's academic program
16 in accordance with the following:

17 a. The board of directors shall establish the standard course of study for
18 the regional school. This course of study shall set forth the subjects to
19 be taught in each grade and the texts and other educational materials
20 on each subject to be used in each grade. The board of directors shall
21 design its programs to meet at least the student performance standards
22 adopted by the State Board of Education and the student performance
23 standards contained in this Chapter.

24 b. The board of directors shall conduct student assessments required by
25 the State Board of Education.

26 c. The board of directors shall provide the opportunity to earn or obtain
27 credit toward degrees from a community college subject to Chapter
28 115D of the General Statutes or a constituent institution of The
29 University of North Carolina.

30 d. The board of directors shall adopt a school calendar consisting of a
31 minimum of 185 days or 1,025 hours of instruction covering at least
32 nine calendar months.

33 e. The board of directors shall ensure that financial literacy instruction is
34 provided as required by the State Board of Education pursuant to
35 G.S. 115C-81.65, including required professional development for
36 teachers of the EPF course.

37 (2) The board of directors shall establish policies and standards for academic
38 performance, attendance, and conduct for students of the regional school. The
39 policies of the board of directors shall comply with Article 27 of this Chapter.

40 (3) Every parent, guardian, or other person in this State having charge or control
41 of a child who is enrolled in the regional school and who is less than 16 years
42 of age shall cause the child to attend school continuously for a period equal to
43 the time that the regional school shall be in session. No person shall
44 encourage, entice, or counsel any child to be unlawfully absent from the
45 regional school. Any person who aids or abets a student's unlawful absence
46 from the regional school shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a Class 1
47 misdemeanor. The principal shall be responsible for implementing such
48 additional policies concerning compulsory attendance as shall be adopted by
49 the board of directors, including regulations concerning lawful and unlawful
50 absences, permissible excuses for temporary absences, maintenance of
51 attendance records, and attendance counseling.

- 1 (4) The board of directors shall comply with the reporting requirements
2 established by the State Board of Education in the Uniform Education
3 Reporting System.
- 4 (5) The board of directors shall require compliance with laws and policies relating
5 to the education of children with disabilities. The school is subject to and shall
6 comply with Article 9 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes and The
7 Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvements Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1400,
8 et seq., (2004), as amended.
- 9 (6) The board of directors shall require that the regional school meet the same
10 health and safety standards required of a local school administrative unit.
- 11 (7) The board of directors shall require the regional school to comply with
12 G.S. 115C-375.2A and shall provide the school with a supply of emergency
13 epinephrine auto-injectors necessary to carry out the provisions of that section.
- 14 (8) The regional school shall comply with the requirements for public school units
15 in Part 2 of Article 8C of this Chapter.
- 16 (9) The regional school shall implement the rule addressing student awareness of
17 child abuse and neglect, including sexual abuse, adopted by the State Board
18 of Education under G.S. 115C-12(47).
- 19 (10) The board of directors shall apply the rules and policies established by the
20 State Board of Education for issuance of driving eligibility certificates.
- 21 (11) The regional school shall comply with G.S. 115C-407.40 regarding cultural
22 expression at all graduation ceremonies.
- 23 (12) The regional school shall strive to ensure that one hundred percent (100%)
24 muscadine grape juice is made available to students as a part of the school's
25 nutrition program or through the operation of the school's vending facilities.
- 26 (13) If the regional school organizes athletic teams for middle or high school
27 students to participate in interscholastic or intramural athletic activities, those
28 teams shall be organized in accordance with G.S. 115C-12(23).
- 29 (14) The board of directors shall comply with the purchasing and contract statutes
30 and regulations applicable to local school administrative units.
- 31 (15) The board of directors shall be exempt from Chapter 150B of the General
32 Statutes, except final decisions of the board of directors in a contested case
33 shall be subject to judicial review in accordance with Article 4 of Chapter
34 150B of the General Statutes.
- 35 (16) The regional school shall ensure that the report card issued for it by the State
36 Board of Education receives wide distribution to the local press or is otherwise
37 provided to the public. A regional school shall ensure that the overall school
38 performance score and grade earned by the regional school for the current and
39 previous four school years is prominently displayed on the school website. If
40 a regional school earned an overall school performance grade of D or F, the
41 regional school shall provide notice of the grade in writing to the parent or
42 guardian of all students enrolled in that school.
- 43 (17) The board of directors is encouraged to adopt a policy against bullying or
44 harassing behavior, including cyber-bullying, for the regional school that is
45 consistent with the provisions of Article 29C of this Chapter. If the board of
46 directors adopts a policy to prohibit bullying and harassing behavior, the
47 regional school shall, at the beginning of each school year, provide the policy
48 to staff, students, and parents as defined in G.S. 115C-390.1(b)(8).
- 49 (18) The regional school is encouraged to facilitate access for students to
50 participate in activities provided by any youth group listed in Title 36 of the
51 United States Code as a patriotic society, such as the Boy Scouts of America,

1 and its affiliated North Carolina groups and councils, and the Girl Scouts of
2 the United States of America, and its affiliated North Carolina groups and
3 councils. Student participation in any activities offered by these organizations
4 shall not interfere with instructional time during the school day for the
5 purposes of encouraging civic education.

6 (19) The board of directors shall comply with the requirements of G.S. 115C-523.1
7 and G.S. 115C-523.2 for any regional school building owned by the board of
8 directors.

9 (20) The board of directors shall adopt and implement a child sexual abuse and sex
10 trafficking training program in accordance with G.S. 115C-375.20.

11 (21) The regional school shall adopt a school-based mental health plan, including
12 a mental health training program and suicide risk referral protocol, in
13 accordance with G.S. 115C-376.5.

14 (22) The regional school shall annually report the information required by
15 G.S. 115C-12(48) to the State Board of Education, the Senate Appropriations
16 Committee on Education/Higher Education, and the House Appropriations
17 Committee on Education no later than September 15.

18 (23) The regional school shall annually update information to the digital learning
19 dashboard, as required by G.S. 115C-102.9.

20 (24) The board of directors shall develop a plan to provide transportation to the
21 students enrolled in the regional school, which may include entering into
22 interlocal agreements with local school administrative units.

23 (25) The board of directors, to the extent practicable, shall provide school food
24 services to the regional school. School food services may be provided by
25 entering into an interlocal agreement with a local school administrative unit.
26 For purposes of federal funding through the National School Lunch Program
27 or other federally supported food service programs, a local school
28 administrative unit that has entered into an interlocal agreement with the
29 regional school for the purpose of providing school food services shall be
30 permitted to include eligible students enrolled in the regional school.

31 **§ 115C-229.40. Student admissions and assignment.**

32 (a) The regional school may serve grades seven through 12.

33 (b) A student domiciled in a county within the regional school service area is eligible to
34 attend the regional school. A student's eligibility to remain enrolled in the regional school shall
35 terminate at the end of any school year during which a student ceases to satisfy the residency
36 requirements.

37 (c) The board of directors shall establish criteria, standards, and procedures for admission
38 of students. The admission criteria may give priority to students with no parent that has completed
39 a two- or four-year degree and shall include the following:

40 (1) Demonstrated academic achievement.

41 (2) Demonstrated student interest in attendance.

42 (3) Documented parental support for student attendance.

43 (d) If the number of eligible students meeting the board of directors' admission criteria
44 exceeds the seats available, students shall be accepted by lot.

45 **§ 115C-229.45. Employees.**

46 The board of directors shall appoint all certified and noncertified staff.

47 (1) The board of directors shall employ and contract with a principal for a term
48 not to exceed three years. The principal shall meet the requirements for
49 certification set out in G.S. 115C-284, unless waived by the State Board of
50 Education upon submission of a request by the board of directors. The

1 principal shall be responsible for school operations and shall exercise those
2 duties and powers delegated by the board of directors.

3 (2) The board of directors shall employ and contract with necessary teachers to
4 perform the particular service for which they are employed in the school. At
5 least fifty percent (50%) of teachers employed by the board of directors shall
6 hold teacher licensure, unless waived by the State Board of Education upon
7 submission of a request by the board of directors.

8 (3) If a teacher employed by a local school administrative unit makes a written
9 request for a leave of absence to teach at the regional school, the local school
10 administrative unit shall grant the leave for one year. For the initial year of the
11 regional school's operation, the local school administrative unit may require
12 that the request for a leave of absence be made up to 45 days before the teacher
13 would otherwise have to report for duty. After the initial year of the regional
14 school's operation, the local school administrative unit may require that the
15 request for a leave of absence be made up to 90 days before the teacher would
16 otherwise have to report for duty. A local board of education is not required
17 to grant a request for a leave of absence or a request to extend or renew a leave
18 of absence for a teacher who previously has received a leave of absence from
19 that school board under this subdivision. A teacher who has received a leave
20 of absence to teach at a regional school may return to a public school in the
21 local school administrative unit at the end of the leave of absence or upon the
22 end of employment at the regional school if an appropriate position is
23 available. If a teacher has career status under G.S. 115C-325 prior to receiving
24 a leave of absence to teach at the regional school, the teacher may return to a
25 public school in the local school administrative unit with career status at the
26 end of the leave of absence or upon the end of employment at the regional
27 school if an appropriate position is available. If an appropriate position is
28 unavailable, the teacher's name shall be placed on a list of available teachers
29 in accordance with G.S. 115C-325(e)(2).

30 (4) The board of directors also may employ necessary employees who are not
31 required to hold teacher licensure to perform duties other than teaching and
32 may contract for other services.

33 (5) An employee of the board of directors is not an employee of the local school
34 administrative unit in which the regional school is located. The board of
35 directors may discharge certified and noncertified employees according to the
36 terms of the employment contract.

37 (6) Employees of the board of directors shall participate in the Teachers' and State
38 Employees' Retirement System and the State Health Plan on the same terms
39 as employees employed by local boards of education.

40 (7) Employees of the board of directors shall be exempt from Chapter 126 of the
41 General Statutes, except for Articles 6 and 7 and G.S. 126-8.6.

42 (8) Teachers employed by the board of directors shall be eligible for paid parental
43 leave as provided in G.S. 126-8.6. The board of directors shall be eligible to
44 receive funds as provided in G.S. 115C-336.1(b).

45 **"§ 115C-229.50. Criminal history record checks.**

46 (a) As used in this section:

47 (1) "Criminal history" means a county, state, or federal criminal history of
48 conviction of a crime, whether a misdemeanor or a felony, that indicates an
49 individual (i) poses a threat to the physical safety of students or personnel or
50 (ii) has demonstrated that he or she does not have the integrity or honesty to
51 fulfill his or her duties as school personnel. These crimes include the following

1 North Carolina crimes contained in any of the following Articles of Chapter
2 14 of the General Statutes: Article 5A, Endangering Executive and
3 Legislative, and Court Officers; Article 6, Homicide; Article 7B, Rape and
4 Other Sex Offenses; Article 8, Assaults; Article 10, Kidnapping and
5 Abduction; Article 13, Malicious Injury or Damage by Use of Explosive or
6 Incendiary Device or Material; Article 14, Burglary and Other
7 Housebreakings; Article 15, Arson and Other Burnings; Article 16, Larceny;
8 Article 17, Robbery; Article 18, Embezzlement; Article 19, False Pretense and
9 Cheats; Article 19A, Obtaining Property or Services by False or Fraudulent
10 Use of Credit Device or Other Means; Article 20, Frauds; Article 21, Forgery;
11 Article 26, Offenses Against Public Morality and Decency; Article 26A, Adult
12 Establishments; Article 27, Prostitution; Article 28, Perjury; Article 29,
13 Bribery; Article 31, Misconduct in Public Office; Article 35, Offenses Against
14 the Public Peace; Article 36A, Riots and Civil Disorders; Article 39,
15 Protection of Minors; and Article 60, Computer-Related Crime. These crimes
16 also include possession or sale of drugs in violation of the North Carolina
17 Controlled Substances Act, Article 5 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes,
18 and alcohol-related offenses such as sale to underage persons in violation of
19 G.S. 18B-302 or driving while impaired in violation of G.S. 20-138.1 through
20 G.S. 20-138.5. In addition to the North Carolina crimes listed in this
21 subdivision, such crimes also include similar crimes under federal law or
22 under the laws of other states.

23 (2) "School personnel" means any of the following:

- 24 a. Member of the board of directors.
25 b. Employee of the regional school.
26 c. Independent contractor or employee of an independent contractor of
27 the regional school if the independent contractor carries out duties
28 customarily performed by school personnel, whether paid with federal,
29 State, local, or other funds, who has significant access to students or
30 who has responsibility for the fiscal management of the regional
31 school.

32 (b) The board of directors shall adopt a policy on whether and under what circumstances
33 school personnel shall be required to be checked for a criminal history. The board of directors
34 shall apply its policy uniformly in requiring school personnel to be checked for a criminal history.
35 The board of directors may grant conditional approval of an application while the board of
36 directors is checking a person's criminal history and making a decision based on the results of
37 the check. The board of directors shall not require school personnel to pay for the criminal history
38 record check authorized under this section.

39 (c) The board of directors shall require the person to be checked by the Department of
40 Public Safety (i) to be fingerprinted and to provide any additional information required by the
41 Department of Public Safety to a person designated by the board of directors or to the local sheriff
42 or the municipal police, whichever is more convenient for the person, and (ii) to sign a form
43 consenting to the check of the criminal record and to the use of fingerprints and other identifying
44 information required by the repositories. The board of directors shall consider refusal to consent
45 when making employment decisions and decisions with regard to independent contractors. The
46 fingerprints of the individual shall be forwarded to the State Bureau of Investigation for a search
47 of the State criminal history record file, and the State Bureau of Investigation shall forward a set
48 of fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a national criminal history record check.
49 The Department of Public Safety shall provide to the board of directors the criminal history from
50 the State and National Repositories of Criminal Histories of any school personnel for which the

1 board of directors requires a criminal history record check. The board of directors shall not
2 require school personnel to pay for the fingerprints authorized under this section.

3 (d) The board of directors shall review the criminal history it receives on an individual.
4 The board of directors shall determine whether the results of the review indicate that the
5 individual (i) poses a threat to the physical safety of students or personnel or (ii) has demonstrated
6 that he or she does not have the integrity or honesty to fulfill his or her duties as school personnel
7 and shall use the information when making employment decisions and decisions with regard to
8 independent contractors. The board of directors shall make written findings with regard to how
9 it used the information when making employment decisions and decisions with regard to
10 independent contractors. The board of directors may delegate any of the duties in this subsection
11 to the principal.

12 (e) The board of directors, or the principal if designated by the board of directors, shall
13 provide to the State Board of Education the criminal history it receives on a person who is
14 certificated, certified, or licensed by the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education
15 shall review the criminal history and determine whether the person's certificate or license should
16 be revoked in accordance with State laws and rules regarding revocation.

17 (f) All the information received by the board of directors through the checking of the
18 criminal history or by the State Board of Education in accordance with this section is privileged
19 information and is not a public record but is for the exclusive use of the board of directors or the
20 State Board of Education. The board of directors or the State Board of Education may destroy
21 the information after it is used for the purposes authorized by this section after one calendar year.

22 (g) There shall be no liability for negligence on the part of the board of directors, or its
23 employees, or the State Board of Education, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, or any of
24 their members or employees, individually or collectively, arising from any act taken or omission
25 by any of them in carrying out the provisions of this section. The immunity established by this
26 subsection shall not extend to gross negligence, wanton conduct, or intentional wrongdoing that
27 would otherwise be actionable. The immunity established by this subsection shall be deemed to
28 have been waived to the extent of indemnification by insurance, indemnification under Articles
29 31A and 31B of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes, and to the extent sovereign immunity is
30 waived under the Tort Claims Act, as set forth in Article 31 of Chapter 143 of the General
31 Statutes.

32 (h) Any applicant for employment who willfully furnishes, supplies, or otherwise gives
33 false information on an employment application that is the basis for a criminal history record
34 check under this section shall be guilty of a Class A1 misdemeanor.

35 (i) The board of directors may adopt a policy providing for uniform periodic checks of
36 criminal history of employees. Boards of directors shall not require employees to pay for the
37 criminal history check authorized under this subsection. A board of directors shall indicate, upon
38 inquiry by any other local board of education, charter school, or regional school in the State as
39 to the reason for an employee's resignation or dismissal. If a teacher's criminal history is relevant
40 to a teacher's resignation, the board of directors shall report to the State Board of Education the
41 reason for an employee's resignation.

42 **"§ 115C-229.55. Finance and budget.**

43 (a) The board of directors shall have all the rights, duties, and obligations for receipt,
44 accounting, and dispersing of funds for the school, including all the rights, duties, and obligations
45 specified in Article 31 of this Chapter. The board may contract with a local school administrative
46 unit to serve as the finance agent for the board and shall provide reasonable compensation to the
47 local school administrative unit for this service. Upon such agreement, that local school
48 administrative unit shall act as agent for the board in all receipt, accounting, and dispersing
49 functions, but the board shall retain liability for compliance with Article 31 of this Chapter.

50 (b) A regional school may request appropriations directly from a city, as authorized by
51 G.S. 160A-700.

1 (c) With respect to the receipt, deposit, and disbursement of moneys (i) required by law
2 to be deposited with the State Treasurer or (ii) made available for expenditure by warrants drawn
3 on the State Treasurer, regional schools are subject to Article 6A of Chapter 147 of the General
4 Statutes.

5 (d) The State Board of Education shall allocate to the regional school:

- 6 (1) An amount equal to the average per pupil allocation for average daily
7 membership from the local school administrative unit allotments in which the
8 regional school is located for each child attending the regional school except
9 for the allocation for children with disabilities and for the allocation for
10 children with limited English proficiency.
- 11 (2) An additional amount for each child attending the regional school who is a
12 child with disabilities. In the event a child with disabilities leaves the regional
13 school and enrolls in a local school administrative unit during the first 60
14 school days in the school year, the regional school shall return a pro rata
15 amount of funds allocated for that child to the State Board, and the State Board
16 shall reallocate those funds to the local school administrative unit in which the
17 public school is located. In the event a child with disabilities enrolls in a
18 regional school during the first 60 school days in the school year, the State
19 Board shall allocate to the regional school the pro rata amount of additional
20 funds for children with disabilities.
- 21 (3) An additional amount for children with limited English proficiency attending
22 the regional school, based on a formula adopted by the State Board.
- 23 (4) An additional amount equal to the average per pupil share of the local current
24 expense fund of all of the local school administrative units in the regional
25 school service area for the prior fiscal year."

26 **SECTION #.(b)** G.S. 14-458.2(a) reads as rewritten:

27 "(a) The following definitions apply in this section:

- 28 (1) School employee. – The term means any of the following:
- 29 a. An employee of a local board of education, a charter school authorized
30 under G.S. 115C-218.5, ~~a regional school created under~~
31 ~~G.S. 115C-238.62,~~ the regional school established by
32 G.S. 115C-229.5, a laboratory school created under G.S. 116-239.7,
33 or a nonpublic school which has filed intent to operate under Part 1 or
34 Part 2 of Article 39 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes.
- 35 b. An independent contractor or an employee of an independent
36 contractor of a local board of education, a charter school authorized
37 under G.S. 115C-218.5, ~~a regional school created under~~
38 ~~G.S. 115C-238.62,~~ the regional school established by
39 G.S. 115C-229.5, a laboratory school created under G.S. 116-239.7,
40 or a nonpublic school which has filed intent to operate under Part 1 or
41 Part 2 of Article 39 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes, if the
42 independent contractor carries out duties customarily performed by
43 employees of the school.
- 44 (2) Student. – A person who has been assigned to a school by a local board of
45 education as provided in G.S. 115C-366 or has enrolled in a charter school
46 authorized under G.S. 115C-218.5, ~~a regional school created under~~
47 ~~G.S. 115C-238.62,~~ the regional school established by G.S. 115C-229.5, a
48 laboratory school created under G.S. 116-239.7, or a nonpublic school which
49 has filed intent to operate under Part 1 or Part 2 of Article 39 of Chapter 115C
50 of the General Statutes, or a person who has been suspended or expelled from
51 any of those schools within the last year."

1 **SECTION #.(c)** G.S. 58-31A-1(2) reads as rewritten:

2 "(2) Public education board. – A local board of education of a local school
3 administrative unit, as defined in G.S. 115C-5(5), ~~a board of trustees of a~~
4 ~~regional school, as defined in G.S. 115C-238.63,~~ the board of directors of the
5 regional school established by G.S. 115C-229.5, or a board of trustees of a
6 community college, as defined in G.S. 115D-12."

7 **SECTION #.(d)** G.S. 115B-2(a)(6) reads as rewritten:

8 "(6) Any child enrolled in a regional school established pursuant to ~~Part 10 of~~
9 ~~Article 16~~ Article 15A of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes who enrolls
10 in classes at a constituent institution or community college which has a written
11 agreement with the regional school."

12 **SECTION #.(e)** G.S. 115C-238.50A(1a)c. reads as rewritten:

13 "c. It is located on the campus of the partner institution of higher
14 education, unless the governing Board or the local board of trustees
15 for a private North Carolina college specifically waives the
16 requirement through adoption of a formal resolution. This criterion
17 shall not apply to a regional school established as provided in ~~Part 10~~
18 ~~of this Article.~~ Article 15A of this Chapter."

19 **SECTION #.(f)** Part 10 of Article 16 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is
20 repealed.

21 **SECTION #.(g)** G.S. 126-5(c1)(8a) reads as rewritten:

22 "(8a) Employees of a regional school established pursuant to ~~Part 10 of Article 16~~
23 Article 15A of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes."

24 **SECTION #.(h)** G.S. 143B-931(b) reads as rewritten:

25 "(b) The Department of Public Safety may provide a criminal history record check to the
26 board of directors of a regional school of a person who is employed at ~~a~~ the regional school or of
27 a person who has applied for employment at ~~a~~ the regional school if the employee or applicant
28 consents to the record check. ~~The~~ In accordance with G.S. 115C-229.50, the Department may
29 also provide a criminal history record check of school personnel ~~as defined in G.S. 115C-238.73~~
30 by fingerprint card to the board of directors of the regional school from the National Repositories
31 of Criminal Histories, ~~in accordance with G.S. 115C-238.73.~~ ~~The~~ and the information shall be
32 kept confidential by the board of directors of the regional school ~~as provided in~~
33 ~~G.S. 115C-238.73.~~ school."

34 **SECTION #.(i)** G.S. 160A-700(d)(5) reads as rewritten:

35 "(5) A regional school ~~created under Part 10 of Article 16~~ established by Article
36 15A of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes."

37 **SECTION #.(j)** Notwithstanding G.S. 115C-229.15, as enacted by this section, the
38 terms of members serving on the board of directors as of the date this act becomes law shall
39 terminate on June 30, 2026. Initial appointments to the board of directors in accordance with
40 G.S. 115C-229.15 shall be made for terms beginning July 1, 2026. The Superintendent of Public
41 Instruction shall appoint two members to two-year terms and one member to a four-year term
42 beginning July 1, 2026. The State Board of Education shall appoint two members to two-year
43 terms and three members to four-year terms beginning July 1, 2026. Thereafter, all appointees
44 shall serve four-year terms.

45 **SECTION #.(k)** The title to and ownership of all property of the Northeast Regional
46 School of Biotechnology and Agriscience, established as provided in Part 10 of Article 16 of
47 Chapter 115C of the General Statutes, both real and personal of every kind and description, shall
48 be vested in the Northeast Regional School of Biotechnology and Agriscience as established by
49 Article 15A of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes, as enacted by this act, by July 1, 2025. All
50 claims and demands of every kind related to the Northeast Regional School of Biotechnology
51 and Agriscience, established as provided in Part 10 of Article 16 of Chapter 115C of the General

1 Statutes, shall pass and be transferred to the Northeast Regional School of Biotechnology and
2 Agriscience as established by Article 15A of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes, as enacted
3 by this act by July 1, 2025, and the board of directors of the Northeast Regional School of
4 Biotechnology and Agriscience shall have the same powers and authority to enforce said claims
5 and demands. Any obligations and liabilities related to the Northeast Regional School of
6 Biotechnology and Agriscience, established as provided in Part 10 of Article 16 of Chapter 115C
7 of the General Statutes, shall become the obligations of the Northeast Regional School of
8 Biotechnology and Agriscience as established by Article 15A of Chapter 115C of the General
9 Statutes, as enacted by this act by July 1, 2025, and such obligations and liabilities may be
10 enforced against the board of directors of the Northeast Regional School of Biotechnology and
11 Agriscience thereafter to the same extent that they might have otherwise been enforced.

12 **SECTION #.(l)** Subsections (a) through (i) of this section are effective July 1, 2025.
13 The remainder of this section is effective when it becomes law.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H26-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 ***HIGH-INTENSITY TUTORING PROGRAM***

2 **SECTION #.** No later than April 1, 2026, Union County Public Schools, with
3 assistance from the Department of Public Instruction, shall report to the Joint Legislative
4 Education Oversight Committee on Union County Public Schools' high-intensity tutoring
5 program. At a minimum, the report shall include the following:

- 6 (1) A detailed description of the tutoring plan, including the number of students
7 that participate in each tutoring session and the frequency of tutoring sessions.
8 (2) An overview of the cost of the high-intensity tutoring program, including
9 identifying all funding sources.
10 (3) A detailed description on the impacts of the high-intensity tutoring program
11 on student performance.
12 (4) Lessons Union County Public Schools has learned or challenges overcome in
13 developing the high-intensity tutoring program.
14 (5) Recommendations on how the high-intensity tutoring program could be
15 replicated in other districts.
16 (6) Any other information Union County Public Schools or the Department deems
17 relevant related to high-intensity tutoring programs.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H48-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 **DIABETES EDUCATION FOR PARENTS**

2 **SECTION #.** G.S. 115C-375.3 reads as rewritten:

3 **"§ 115C-375.3. Guidelines to support and assist students with diabetes.**

4 (a) Local boards of education and boards of directors of charter schools Governing bodies
5 of public school units shall ensure that the guidelines adopted by the State Board of Education
6 under G.S. 115C-12(31) are implemented in schools in which students with diabetes are enrolled.
7 In particular, the boards shall require the implementation of the procedures set forth in those
8 guidelines for the development and implementation of individual diabetes care plans. The boards
9 also shall make available necessary information and staff development to teachers and school
10 personnel in order to appropriately support and assist students with diabetes in accordance with
11 their individual diabetes care plans.

12 (b) Governing bodies of public school units shall ensure that each school provides parents
13 and legal guardians with information about type 1 and type 2 diabetes at the beginning of every
14 school year. This information shall include all of the following:

15 (1) A description of type 1 and type 2 diabetes.

16 (2) A description of the risk factors and warning signs associated with type 1 and
17 type 2 diabetes.

18 (3) A recommendation that if a student is displaying warning signs associated
19 with diabetes, the parent or guardian of the student consult with the primary
20 care provider of the student to determine if immediate screening for diabetes
21 is appropriate.

22 (4) A description of the screening process for and stages of diabetes.

23 (5) A recommendation that if a student receives a diabetes diagnosis, the parent
24 or guardian of the student consult with the primary care provider of the student
25 to develop an appropriate treatment plan.

26 (6) Notification that the school is required to assist students with diabetes in
27 accordance with the rules adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant
28 to G.S. 115C-12(31)."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H56-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 **MEDICAL CONDITION ACTION PLANS**

2 **SECTION #.(a)** G.S. 115C-12 is amended by adding the following new subdivisions
3 to read:

4 "(50) Medical Condition Action Plan. – The State Board of Education shall adopt a
5 rule establishing a medical condition action plan as provided in
6 G.S. 115C-375.1 to be implemented by each public school unit for each
7 student at risk for a medical emergency as diagnosed by a doctor.

8 (51) Medical Emergency Plan. – The State Board of Education, in consultation
9 with the Department of Public Instruction and the Department of Health and
10 Human Services, shall adopt a rule establishing the required response of
11 public school unit employees when a student has a medical emergency not
12 otherwise covered by a medical condition action plan implemented in
13 accordance with G.S. 115C-375.1. The Department of Public Instruction shall
14 provide each public school unit with a copy of the rule, and each public school
15 unit shall implement the rule."

16 **SECTION #.(b)** G.S. 115C-375.1 reads as rewritten:

17 **"§ 115C-375.1. To provide some medical care to ~~students.~~ students and implement medical**
18 **condition action plans.**

19 (a) Notwithstanding G.S. 90-21.10B, it is within the scope of duty of teachers, including
20 substitute teachers, teacher assistants, student teachers, or any other public school employee
21 when authorized by the ~~board of education~~ governing body of a public school unit or its designee,
22 (i) to administer any drugs or medication prescribed by a doctor upon written request of the
23 parents, or as described in the medical condition action plan required by subsection (b) of this
24 section, (ii) to give emergency health care when reasonably apparent circumstances indicate that
25 any delay would seriously worsen the physical condition or endanger the life of the ~~pupil,~~ student,
26 and (iii) to perform any other first aid or lifesaving techniques in which the employee has been
27 trained in a program approved by the State Board of Education. At least one public school unit
28 employee per school shall be trained in first aid and lifesaving techniques, including seizure
29 recognition. No public school unit employee, however, other than a school administrator, shall
30 be required to administer drugs or medication or attend lifesaving techniques programs.

31 (b) Each governing body of a public school unit shall implement the medical condition
32 action plan adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to G.S. 115C-12(50) for each
33 student at risk of a medical emergency as diagnosed by a doctor. The medical condition action
34 plan adopted by the State Board of Education shall include all of the following:

- 35 (1) A standard medical condition action plan form.
- 36 (2) Detailed instructions in the medical condition action plan form to ensure that
37 all individuals designated by the principal, or, if there is no principal, the staff
38 member with the highest decision-making authority, to provide medical care
39 for a student at risk for a medical emergency as diagnosed by a doctor, know
40 how to address the medical emergency.

1 (3) Information detailing the method by which and by whom any medical
2 emergency will be handled when the student is at a school-sponsored activity
3 that is not on the campus of the public school unit, including field trips and
4 interscholastic athletic activities.

5 (c) Any public school unit employee, authorized by the ~~board of education governing~~
6 body of a public school unit or its designee to act under ~~(i), (ii), or (iii) above, subsections (a)~~
7 and (b) of this section, shall not be liable in civil damages for any authorized act or for any
8 omission relating to that act unless the act or omission amounts to gross negligence, wanton
9 conduct, or intentional wrongdoing. Any person, serving in a voluntary position at the request of
10 or with the permission or consent of the ~~board of education governing~~ body of a public school
11 unit or its designee, who has been given the authority by the ~~board of education governing~~ body
12 of a public school unit or its designee to ~~act under (ii) above~~ give emergency health care when
13 reasonably apparent circumstances indicate that any delay would seriously worsen the physical
14 condition or endanger the life of the student shall not be liable in civil damages for any authorized
15 act or for any omission relating to the act unless the act amounts to gross negligence, wanton
16 conduct, or intentional wrongdoing.

17 (d) At the commencement of each school year, but before the beginning of classes, and
18 thereafter as circumstances require, the principal of each ~~school~~ school, or, if there is no principal,
19 the staff member with the highest decision-making authority, shall determine which persons will
20 participate in the medical care program."

21 **SECTION #.(c)** The State Board of Education may adopt temporary rules to
22 implement this section.

23 **SECTION #.(d)** G.S. 115C-47 is amended by adding the following new subdivisions
24 to read:

25 "(70) To Implement a Medical Condition Action Plan. – Local boards of education
26 shall implement the medical condition action plan adopted by the State Board
27 of Education under G.S. 115C-12(50) and as provided in G.S. 115C-375.1.

28 "(71) To Implement a Medical Emergency Plan. – Local boards of education shall
29 implement the medical emergency plan adopted by the State Board of
30 Education under G.S. 115C-12(51)."

31 **SECTION #.(e)** G.S. 115C-218.75 is amended by adding the following new
32 subsections to read:

33 "(e3) Medical Condition Action Plan. – A charter school shall implement the medical
34 condition action plan adopted by the State Board of Education under G.S. 115C-12(50) and as
35 provided in G.S. 115C-375.1.

36 "(e4) Medical Emergency Plan. – A charter school shall implement the medical emergency
37 plan adopted by the State Board of Education under G.S. 115C-12(51)."

38 **SECTION #.(f)** G.S. 115C-238.66 is amended by adding the following new
39 subdivisions to read:

40 "(7h) Medical condition action plan. – A regional school shall implement the
41 medical condition action plan adopted by the State Board of Education under
42 G.S. 115C-12(50) and as provided in G.S. 115C-375.1.

43 "(7i) Medical emergency plan. – A regional school shall implement the medical
44 emergency plan adopted by the State Board of Education under
45 G.S. 115C-12(51)."

46 **SECTION #.(g)** G.S. 116-239.8(b) is amended by adding the following new
47 subdivisions to read:

48 "(26) Medical condition action plan. – A laboratory school shall implement the
49 medical condition action plan adopted by the State Board of Education under
50 G.S. 115C-12(50) and as provided in G.S. 115C-375.1.

1 (27) Medical emergency plan. – A laboratory school shall implement the medical
2 emergency plan adopted by the State Board of Education under
3 G.S. 115C-12(51)."

4 **SECTION #.(h)** Subdivision (2) of Section 6(d) of S.L. 2018-32 is amended by
5 adding the following new sub-subdivisions to read:

6 "p. (70) [To Implement a Medical Condition Action Plan].

7 q. (71) [To Implement a Medical Emergency Plan]."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H57-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 ***NORTH CAROLINA STUDENT LIFELINE INFORMATION***

2 **SECTION #.(a)** G.S. 115C-47 is amended by adding the following new subdivision
3 to read:

4 "(70) To Provide Students the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Phone Number and the
5 NC Peer Warmline Phone Number. – A local board of education shall adopt
6 a policy to ensure all schools in the local school administrative unit provide
7 students the phone numbers for the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline and the NC
8 Peer Warmline. The board shall verify that the phone numbers for the Lifeline
9 and the Warmline are current and accurate annually. If either phone number
10 has changed, schools shall use the updated phone number. Unless an updated
11 phone number exists, the schools shall have the phrases "To reach the Suicide
12 and Crisis Lifeline, call 988 or text HOME to 741741" and "To reach the NC
13 Peer Warmline, call 855-733-7762" in the following places:

- 14 a. On any new student identification (student ID) issued to a student in
15 grades six through 12. The text shall be in a conspicuous location on
16 the student ID. The text may be printed on the ID or affixed by sticker.
17 Nothing in this subdivision requires a school to issue a student ID.
18 b. On the school website.
19 c. On the home screen of any electronic device issued to students.
20 d. On any school agenda or calendar, whether digital or printed.
21 e. On a document during any suicide awareness activity.
22 f. On a document when the student registers to attend the school."

23 **SECTION #.(b)** G.S. 115C-150.12C is amended by adding a new subdivision to
24 read:

25 "(37) To provide students the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline phone number and the NC
26 Peer Warmline phone number. – The board of trustees shall provide students
27 the phone numbers for the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline and the NC Peer
28 Warmline. The board shall verify that the phone numbers for the Lifeline and
29 the Warmline are current and accurate annually. If either phone number has
30 changed, the board shall use the updated phone number. Unless an updated
31 phone number exists, the board shall have the phrases "To reach the Suicide
32 and Crisis Lifeline, call 988 or text HOME to 741741" and "To reach the NC
33 Peer Warmline, call 855-733-7762" in the following places:

- 34 a. On any new student identification (student ID) issued to a student in
35 grades six through 12. The text shall be in a conspicuous location on
36 the student ID. The text may be printed on the ID or affixed by sticker.
37 Nothing in this subdivision requires a school to issue a student ID.
38 b. On the school website.
39 c. On the home screen of any electronic device issued to students.
40 d. On any school agenda or calendar, whether digital or printed.

- e. On a document during any suicide awareness activity.
- f. On a document when the student registers to attend the school."

SECTION #.(c) G.S. 115C-218.75 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

"(p) To Provide Students the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Phone Number and the NC Peer Warmline Phone Number. – A charter school shall provide students the phone numbers for the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline and the NC Peer Warmline. The school shall verify that the phone numbers for the Lifeline and the Warmline are current and accurate annually. If either phone number has changed, the school shall use the updated phone number. Unless an updated phone number exists, the school shall have the phrases "To reach the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, call 988 or text HOME to 741741" and "To reach the NC Peer Warmline, call 855-733-7762" in the following places:

- (1) On any new student identification (student ID) issued to a student in grades six through 12. The text shall be in a conspicuous location on the student ID. The text may be printed on the ID or affixed by sticker. Nothing in this subsection requires a school to issue a student ID.
- (2) On the school website.
- (3) On the home screen of any electronic device issued to students.
- (4) On any school agenda or calendar, whether digital or printed.
- (5) On a document during any suicide awareness activity.
- (6) On a document when the student registers to attend the school."

SECTION #.(d) G.S. 115C-238.66 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

"(23) To provide students the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline phone number and the NC Peer Warmline phone number. – A regional school shall provide students the phone numbers for the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline and the NC Peer Warmline. The school shall verify that the phone numbers for the Lifeline and the Warmline are current and accurate annually. If either phone number has changed, the school shall use the updated phone number. Unless an updated phone number exists, the school shall have the phrases "To reach the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, call 988 or text HOME to 741741" and "To reach the NC Peer Warmline, call 855-733-7762" in the following places:

- a. On any new student identification (student ID) issued to a student in grades six through 12. The text shall be in a conspicuous location on the student ID. The text may be printed on the ID or affixed by sticker. Nothing in this subdivision requires a school to issue a student ID.
- b. On the school website.
- c. On the home screen of any electronic device issued to students.
- d. On any school agenda or calendar, whether digital or printed.
- e. On a document during any suicide awareness activity.
- f. On a document when the student registers to attend the school."

SECTION #.(e) G.S. 116-239.8(b) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

"(26) To provide students the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline phone number and the NC Peer Warmline phone number. – A laboratory school shall provide students the phone numbers for the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline and the NC Peer Warmline. The school shall verify that the phone numbers for the Lifeline and the Warmline are current and accurate annually. If either phone number has changed, the school shall use the updated phone number. Unless an updated phone number exists, the school shall have the phrases "To reach the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, call 988 or text HOME to 741741" and "To reach the NC Peer Warmline, call 855-733-7762" in the following places:

- a. On any new student identification (student ID) issued to a student in grades six through 12. The text shall be in a conspicuous location on

1 the student ID. The text may be printed on the ID or affixed by sticker.

2 Nothing in this subdivision requires a school to issue a student ID.

3 b. On the school website.

4 c. On the home screen of any electronic device issued to students.

5 d. On any school agenda or calendar, whether digital or printed.

6 e. On a document during any suicide awareness activity.

7 f. On a document when the student registers to attend the school."

8 **SECTION #.(f)** Part 1 of Article 39 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is
9 amended by adding a new section to read:

10 **"§ 115C-550.2. Provide students the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline phone number and the NC**
11 **Peer Warmline phone number.**

12 Each private church school or school of religious charter shall provide students the phone
13 numbers for the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline and the NC Peer Warmline. The school shall verify
14 that the phone numbers for the Lifeline and the Warmline are current and accurate annually. If
15 either phone number has changed, the school shall use the updated phone number. Unless an
16 updated phone number exists, the school shall have the phrases "To reach the Suicide and Crisis
17 Lifeline, call 988 or text HOME to 741741" and "To reach the NC Peer Warmline, call
18 855-733-7762" in the following places:

19 (1) On any new student identification (student ID) issued to a student in grades
20 six through 12. The text shall be in a conspicuous location on the student ID.
21 The text may be printed on the ID or affixed by sticker. Nothing in this section
22 requires a school to issue a student ID.

23 (2) On the school website.

24 (3) On the home screen of any electronic device issued to students.

25 (4) On any school agenda or calendar, whether digital or printed.

26 (5) On a document during any suicide awareness activity.

27 (6) On a document when the student registers to attend the school."

28 **SECTION #.(g)** Part 2 of Article 39 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is
29 amended by adding a new section to read:

30 **"§ 115C-558.2. Provide students the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline phone number and the NC**
31 **Peer Warmline phone number.**

32 Each qualified nonpublic school shall provide students the phone numbers for the Suicide
33 and Crisis Lifeline and the NC Peer Warmline. The school shall verify that the phone numbers
34 for the Lifeline and the Warmline are current and accurate annually. If either phone number has
35 changed, the school shall use the updated phone number. Unless an updated phone number exists,
36 the school shall have the phrases "To reach the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, call 988 or text HOME
37 to 741741" and "To reach the NC Peer Warmline, call 855-733-7762" in the following places:

38 (1) On any new student identification (student ID) issued to a student in grades
39 six through 12. The text shall be in a conspicuous location on the student ID.
40 The text may be printed on the ID or affixed by sticker. Nothing in this section
41 requires a school to issue a student ID.

42 (2) On the school website.

43 (3) On the home screen of any electronic device issued to students.

44 (4) On any school agenda or calendar, whether digital or printed.

45 (5) On a document during any suicide awareness activity.

46 (6) On a document when the student registers to attend the school."

47 **SECTION #.(h)** G.S. 115D-5 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

48 "(aa) The State Board of Community Colleges shall adopt a policy requiring all community
49 colleges to provide students the phone numbers for the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline and the NC
50 Peer Warmline. The State Board shall verify that the phone numbers for the Lifeline and the
51 Warmline are current and accurate annually. If either phone number has changed, the community

1 colleges shall use the updated phone number. Unless an updated phone number exists, the
2 community colleges shall have the phrases "To reach the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, call 988 or
3 text HOME to 741741" and "To reach the NC Peer Warmline, call 855-733-7762" in the
4 following places:

- 5 (1) On any new student identification (student ID) issued. The text shall be in a
6 conspicuous location on the student ID. The text may be printed on the ID or
7 affixed by sticker. Nothing in this subsection requires a school to issue a
8 student ID.
- 9 (2) On the school website.
- 10 (3) On the home screen of any electronic device issued to students.
- 11 (4) On any school agenda or calendar, whether digital or printed.
- 12 (5) On a document during any suicide awareness activity.
- 13 (6) On a document when the student registers to attend the school."

14 **SECTION #.(i)** G.S. 116-11 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

15 "(3d) The Board of Governors shall adopt a policy requiring all constituent
16 institutions to provide students the phone numbers for the Suicide and Crisis
17 Lifeline and the NC Peer Warmline. The Board of Governors shall verify that
18 the phone numbers for the Lifeline and the Warmline are current and accurate
19 annually. If either phone number has changed, the constituent institutions shall
20 use the updated phone number. Unless an updated phone number exists, the
21 constituent institutions shall have the phrases "To reach the Suicide and Crisis
22 Lifeline, call 988 or text HOME to 741741" and "To reach the NC Peer
23 Warmline, call 855-733-7762" in the following places:

- 24 a. On any new student identification (student ID) issued. The text shall
25 be in a conspicuous location on the student ID. The text may be printed
26 on the ID or affixed by sticker. Nothing in this subdivision requires a
27 school to issue a student ID.
- 28 b. On the school website.
- 29 c. On the home screen of any electronic device issued to students.
- 30 d. On any school agenda or calendar, whether digital or printed.
- 31 e. On a document during any suicide awareness activity.
- 32 f. On a document when the student registers to attend the school."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H58-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 *DPI TO CONTINUE PROVIDING FINANCIAL DATA REPORTING PLATFORM TO*
2 *CHARTERS FOR INITIAL YEAR OF OPERATION*

3 SECTION #. Part 4 of Article 14A of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is
4 amended by adding a new section to read:

5 "§ 115C-218.106. Initial financial data reporting expenses.

6 The Department of Public Instruction shall provide a charter school access to any required
7 financial data reporting platforms during the charter school's first year of operation at no cost to
8 the charter school."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H60-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND AMENDMENTS

SECTION #.(a) G.S. 115C-150.11(c), as enacted by Section 3J.1(a) of S.L. 2024-57, reads as rewritten:

"(c) Administrative Support. – The Department of Administration shall provide support to each school in matters related to finance, human resources, and procurement, ~~including~~ excluding support for information technology. Each school shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Department of Administration with regard to this support. No civil liability shall attach to the Department of Administration, or to any of its employees, individually or collectively, for any acts or omissions of a school."

SECTION #.(b) G.S. 115C-150.11 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115C-150.11. Establishment of the schools for the deaf and blind.

(a) Establishment. – The following are created as separate State agencies governed respectively by boards of trustees:

- (1) The Governor Morehead School for the Blind of the Department of Public Instruction for the function, purpose, and duty of serving students who are blind or visually impaired from birth to age 22. The Governor Morehead School for the Blind shall include the Governor Morehead ~~Preschool~~Preschool and the Early Learning Sensory Support Program for Vision.
- (2) The Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf of the Department of Public Instruction for the function, purpose, and duty of serving students who are deaf or hard of ~~hearing~~hearing from birth to age 22. The Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf shall include the Early Learning Sensory Support Program for Hearing.
- (3) The North Carolina School for the Deaf of the Department of Public Instruction for the function, purpose, and duty of serving students who are deaf or hard of ~~hearing~~hearing from birth to age 22. The North Carolina School for the Deaf shall include the Early Learning Sensory Support Program for Hearing.

...."

SECTION #.(c) Effective December 1, 2025, the Governor Morehead Preschool and the Early Learning Sensory Program for Vision is transferred from the Department of Instruction to the Governor Morehead School for the Blind.

SECTION #.(d) Effective December 1, 2025, the Early Learning Sensory Support Program for Hearing is transferred from the Department of Public Instruction to the North Carolina School for the Deaf and the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf. Upon transfer, the North Carolina School of the Deaf and the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf shall agree on a geographical boundary to divide the administrative responsibility for the Early Learning Sensory Support Program for Hearing between the two schools.

1 **SECTION #.(e)** The transfers made in this section shall have all of the elements of
2 a Type I transfer, as defined in G.S. 143A-6. Upon transfer, teachers and instructional support
3 personnel in the Preschool and the Early Learning Sensory Program for Vision and the Early
4 Learning Sensory Support Program for Hearing shall receive a salary, including any supplement,
5 equivalent to those teachers and instructional support personnel that work on the campus of their
6 respective residential schools. Nothing in this section shall be construed to result in the loss of
7 salary by any employee in the Preschool or Early Learning Sensory Support Programs.

8 **SECTION #.(f)** G.S. 115C-150.12A(f) reads as rewritten:

9 "(f) Meetings. – A board of trustees shall meet at least four times a year and also at such
10 other times as it may deem necessary. A majority of the voting members of the board shall
11 constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. All meetings shall be subject to Article 33C
12 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes. A board of trustees may conduct remote meetings in
13 accordance with Article 33C of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes, so long as the board of
14 trustees complies with the provisions of G.S. 166A-19.24, except that a declaration of emergency
15 is not needed. The members shall receive per diem compensation and necessary travel and
16 subsistence expenses while engaged in the discharge of their official duties, in accordance with
17 the provisions of G.S. 138-5."

18 **SECTION #.(g)** G.S. 115C-150.12B(a) reads as rewritten:

19 "(a) Superintendent. – Each board of trustees of a school shall appoint a superintendent
20 for that school who meets the requirements of G.S. 115C-271 for employment. The
21 superintendent shall act as secretary to the board of trustees in accordance with
22 G.S. 115C-150.12A. All acts of the boards of trustees, not in conflict with State law, shall be
23 binding on the superintendent, and the superintendent shall carry out all rules and regulations of
24 the board and other duties as prescribed by the board of trustees. For purposes of application to
25 other statutes in this Chapter, the superintendent shall be the equivalent of a superintendent of a
26 local school administrative unit and shall fulfill the duties of a superintendent as provided in
27 Article 18 of this Chapter. Unless otherwise required by the board of trustees, the superintendent
28 shall not be required to reside in the county in which the residential school is located."

29 **SECTION #.(h)** Subsections (b) and (c) of Section 8 of S.L. 2023-10 read as
30 rewritten:

31 "**SECTION 8.(b)** Notwithstanding current employment classifications of administrators for
32 the schools for the deaf and blind and G.S. 115C-150.12B, as enacted by this act, those employed
33 as administrators of each school for the deaf and blind shall remain in employment, subject to
34 dismissal for cause as provided in Article 8 of Chapter 126 of the General Statutes, until June 30,
35 2025.—2025, at which point the administrator's employment shall terminate unless the
36 administrator has already been separated from employment prior to that date or is appointed
37 superintendent or employed in some other capacity by the respective board of trustees pursuant
38 to G.S. 115C-150.12B. Notwithstanding Article 18 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes, the
39 State Board of Education shall waive superintendent licensure requirements for those employed
40 as administrators of each school for the deaf and blind until June 30, 2025.

41 "**SECTION 8.(c)** Notwithstanding G.S. 115C-150.12B, as enacted by this act, Chapter 126
42 of the General Statutes shall apply to any employee of the schools for the deaf and blind employed
43 on June 30, 2024, for as long as that employee remains employed at that ~~school~~school, except
44 those employed on that date as an administrator of the school."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H5-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 **REPEAL ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED PUBLIC SCHOOLS SUPPORT**
2 **PROGRAM AND ESTABLISH ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED CHARTER**
3 **SCHOOLS SUPPORT PROGRAM**

4 SECTION #.(a) G.S. 115C-105.34 is repealed.

5 SECTION #.(b) Article 14A of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by
6 adding a new section to read:

7 "**§ 115C-218.108. Economically disadvantaged charter school support funds.**

8 (a) For purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:

9 (1) Curriculum. – Materials or programs related to courses offered by an
10 economically disadvantaged charter school.

11 (2) Economically disadvantaged charter school. – A charter school with a student
12 population that is composed of at least eighty percent (80%) of students
13 identified by the Department of Public Instruction as economically
14 disadvantaged students.

15 (3) Eligible employee. – Any full-time or part-time employee of a qualifying
16 economically disadvantaged charter school.

17 (4) Qualifying economically disadvantaged charter school. – An economically
18 disadvantaged charter school that met or exceeded expected growth in the
19 prior school year, as determined by the State Board of Education pursuant to
20 Part 1B of Article 8 of this Chapter.

21 (b) The Department of Public Instruction shall establish the Economically Disadvantaged
22 Charter Schools Support Program (Program) to provide funds to support the efforts of qualifying
23 economically disadvantaged charter schools to continue to meet or exceed growth in subsequent
24 school years. To the extent funds are provided to the Department for this purpose, the Department
25 shall allocate these funds annually to each governing body of an economically disadvantaged
26 charter school based on the relative proportion of students in each qualifying economically
27 disadvantaged charter school governed by that body. The governing body shall allocate those
28 funds to each qualifying economically disadvantaged charter school based on the relative
29 proportion of students in each school. The funds shall be used for curriculum, activities necessary
30 to support students and instructional support personnel, and bonuses and retention programs for
31 eligible employees in the discretion of the governing body of the charter school, as appropriate.

32 (c) It is the intent of the General Assembly that funds provided pursuant to this section
33 will supplement and not supplant local funds."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-DPI-H54-P

Department of Public Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 **REQUIRE LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION TO PUBLISH TOTAL COMPENSATION**
2 **AND POSITION INFORMATION FOR CENTRAL OFFICE EMPLOYEES**

3 SECTION #.(a) G.S. 115C-320 reads as rewritten:

4 "**§ 115C-320. ~~Certain records open to inspection.~~ Publication and inspection of certain**
5 **records.**

6 (a) Each local board of education shall maintain a record of each of its employees,
7 showing the following information with respect to each employee:

- 8 (1) Name.
- 9 (2) Age.
- 10 (3) Date of original employment or appointment.
- 11 (4) The terms of any contract by which the employee is employed whether written
12 or oral, past and current, to the extent that the board has the written contract
13 or a record of the oral contract in its possession.
- 14 (5) Current position.
- 15 (6) Title.
- 16 (7) Current salary-total compensation, as defined in sub-subdivision a. of
17 subdivision (1) of subsection (b1) of this section.
- 18 (8) Date and amount of each increase or decrease in salary-total compensation, as
19 defined in sub-subdivision a. of subdivision (1) of subsection (b1) of this
20 section, with that local board of education.
- 21 (9) Date and type of each promotion, demotion, transfer, suspension, separation,
22 or other change in position classification with that local board of education.
- 23 (10) Date and general description of the reasons for each promotion with that local
24 board of education.
- 25 (11) Date and type of each dismissal, suspension, or demotion for disciplinary
26 reasons taken by the local board of education. If the disciplinary action was a
27 dismissal, a copy of the written notice of the final decision of the local board
28 education setting forth the specific acts or omissions that are the basis of the
29 dismissal.
- 30 (12) The office or station to which the employee is currently assigned.

31 (b) For the purposes of this section, the term "central office employees" refers to
32 superintendents, assistant superintendents, associate superintendents, directors/coordinators,
33 supervisors, finance officers, all personnel categorized as central office employees by the
34 Department of Public Instruction or the local school administrative unit, and any permanent
35 employee of the local school administrative unit or employee of a third-party contractor with the
36 local school administrative unit that is not assigned to a school campus. The term "salary"
37 includes pay, benefits, incentives, supplements, bonuses, and deferred and all other forms of
38 compensation paid by the employing entity.

39 (b1) No later than August 15, 2025, and annually thereafter, each local board of education
40 shall publish and maintain on its website all of the following information:

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H10(S8.1)-P

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 ***UNC/ESCHEAT FUND FOR STUDENT FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS***

2 **SECTION 8.1.(a)** The funds appropriated by this act from the Escheat Fund for the
3 2025-2027 fiscal biennium for student financial aid shall be allocated in accordance with
4 G.S. 116B-7. Notwithstanding any other provision of Chapter 116B of the General Statutes, if
5 the interest income generated from the Escheat Fund is less than the amounts referenced in this
6 act, the difference may be taken from the Escheat Fund principal to reach the appropriations
7 referenced in this act; however, under no circumstances shall the Escheat Fund principal be
8 reduced below the sum required in G.S. 116B-6(f). If any funds appropriated from the Escheat
9 Fund by this act for student financial aid remain uncommitted as of the end of a fiscal year, the
10 funds shall be returned to the Escheat Fund, but only to the extent the funds exceed the amount
11 of the Escheat Fund income for that fiscal year.

12 **SECTION 8.1.(b)** The State Education Assistance Authority (Authority) shall
13 conduct periodic evaluations of expenditures of the student financial aid programs administered
14 by the Authority to determine if allocations are utilized to ensure access to institutions of higher
15 education and to meet the goals of the respective programs. The Authority may make
16 recommendations for redistribution of funds to the President of The University of North Carolina
17 and the President of the Community College System regarding their respective student financial
18 aid programs, who then may authorize redistribution of unutilized funds for a particular fiscal
19 year.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H34(S8.2)i

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 **ESTABLISH SCHOOL OF CIVIC LIFE AND LEADERSHIP**

2 **SECTION 8.2.(a)** Chapter 116 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new
3 Article to read:

4 "Article 31B.

5 "The School of Civic Life and Leadership.

6 **"§ 116-258.1. The School of Civic Life and Leadership established.**

7 (a) For purposes of this Article, the term "the School" refers to the School of Civic Life
8 and Leadership established pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

9 (b) The Board of Trustees of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, in
10 consultation with the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina, the Provost of
11 the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and faculty and administration officials at the
12 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, shall establish the School of Civic Life and
13 Leadership as a separate reporting unit of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

14 **"§ 116-258.2. Scope.**

15 The School shall do at least the following:

16 (1) Provide course opportunities for students. Courses may focus on the
17 development of democratic competencies informed by American history, the
18 American political tradition, and the study of the great texts and traditions of
19 Western civilization that form the foundation of the American republic. The
20 purpose of these courses is to foster public discourse and civil engagement
21 necessary to promote democracy and benefit society.

22 (2) Develop programming to address the topics identified in subdivision (1) of
23 this section and provide resources to students, faculty, and the general public,
24 as needed.

25 **"§ 116-258.3. Faculty.**

26 (a) The Dean of the School shall be appointed by the Chancellor of the University of
27 North Carolina at Chapel Hill, with the consent of the Board of Trustees of the University of
28 North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Neither the Chancellor nor the Board of Trustees shall delegate
29 this responsibility to another party.

30 (b) All faculty hired by or appointed to the School shall be subject to the approval of the
31 Dean of the School.

32 (c) Faculty members may hold joint or courtesy appointments with other reporting units
33 of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. All joint and courtesy appointments shall be
34 made at the discretion of the Dean of the School."

35 **SECTION 8.2.(b)** For the 2025-2026 academic year, the following shall occur:

36 (1) The School of Civic Life and Leadership (the School) shall employ at least 20
37 faculty members hired from outside the University of North Carolina at
38 Chapel Hill. These faculty members shall be hired with permanent tenure or
39 be eligible to receive permanent tenure in accordance with policies adopted
40 by The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina and the
41 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

- 1 (2) The School shall not employ any additional faculty by joint or courtesy
2 appointment with other reporting units of the University of North Carolina at
3 Chapel Hill unless the school has employed at least 20 faculty members hired
4 from outside the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in accordance
5 with this subsection.

6 **SECTION 8.2.(c)** Notwithstanding G.S. 116-30.2, the recurring funds allocated to
7 the School of Civic Life and Leadership (the School) by this section beginning in the 2025-2026
8 fiscal year shall be used only to support the School and shall not be redirected for any other
9 purpose. In addition, these funds shall be used to supplement and not supplant any funds the
10 School would otherwise receive, including funds received by the School based on enrollment.

11 **SECTION 8.2.(d)** No later than November 15, 2026, the Board of Trustees of the
12 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill shall report to the Joint Legislative Education
13 Oversight Committee and the Fiscal Research Division on the progress made toward establishing
14 the School of Civic Life and Leadership (the School), including at least the following
15 information:

- 16 (1) Courses and other programming provided by the School.
17 (2) Faculty hired by the School, including the number of faculty members hired
18 from outside the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
19 (3) Uses of funds appropriated to the School pursuant to this section.
20 (4) Any other matter the Board deems relevant to the progress of establishing the
21 School.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H4(S8.4)i

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

- 1 ***REPEAL FUTURE TEACHERS OF NORTH CAROLINA PROGRAM***
- 2 **SECTION 8.4.** Part 4B of Article 1 of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes is
- 3 repealed.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H12(S8.6)i

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

ESTABLISH STANDARDS FOR AGREEMENTS BETWEEN CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AND LOCAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF LABORATORY SCHOOLS

SECTION 8.6. G.S. 116-239.8(b) reads as rewritten:

"(b) The chancellor shall be the administrative head of a laboratory school approved by the Subcommittee and shall provide general direction for the establishment and operation of a laboratory school. The chancellor, with advice and input from the advisory board established in subdivision (1) of this subsection, shall adopt policies, operating procedures, and the courses of study to govern the operation of the laboratory school. The chancellor may designate the duties required by this Article to other personnel as necessary. The chancellor shall also have the following powers and duties:

- ...
- (4) ~~Operation and maintenance of laboratory schools. Cost standards for laboratory schools.~~ – The Board of Governors and the State Board of Education shall jointly determine standards for establishing the costs to local school administrative units for providing the facilities and services identified in ~~this subdivision~~ subdivision (4b) of this subsection for the operation and maintenance of a laboratory school. The standards shall include at least the lease amount by square foot for facility leases, which shall incorporate the cost of the outstanding debt service for the facility.
- (4a) Memorandum of understanding. – The chancellor and the local school administrative unit shall adopt a memorandum of understanding for the operation and maintenance of the laboratory school that includes the facilities and services identified in subdivision (4b) of this subsection. The chancellor and the local school administrative unit shall review and update the memorandum at least every three years and any updated memorandum shall take effect no earlier than the next school year. For any proposal to amend a term of the memorandum regarding facilities, services, or operations of the laboratory school, the proposing party shall provide at least six months' notice, and the amendment shall take effect no earlier than the next school year.
- (4b) Facilities and services. – A local school administrative unit shall provide, at the laboratory school's request, any of the following facilities and services to the laboratory school, ~~but the costs of those facilities and services charged to the laboratory school shall not exceed the established standards for determination of costs. The following shall be determined in a memorandum of understanding between the chancellor and the local school administrative unit for the operation and maintenance of the laboratory school as needed:~~ school:
 - a. Facilities and leases. – Upon request, the local school administrative unit in which the laboratory school is located shall lease adequate

1 facilities to the constituent institution for use as a laboratory school.
2 Unless the laboratory school requests not to include any of the
3 following, the lease shall include use of or access to any existing
4 buildings, parking areas, playgrounds, driveways required for ingress
5 and egress, furniture, classroom space, a cafeteria or multipurpose
6 room, moveable equipment, appliances, playground materials,
7 including a library collection, instructional materials, and classroom
8 and other technology equipment necessary to operate the laboratory
9 school. The lease term shall be terminated if the laboratory school
10 ceases operation. Upon request, the local school administrative unit
11 shall maintain the facilities and premises of the laboratory school and
12 keep them in good repair and tenantable condition by providing all
13 routine custodial services and routine facilities maintenance services,
14 including routine indoor maintenance, routine mowing, trimming, and
15 maintenance of exterior landscaping and snow removal, and timely
16 repair of the facilities and premises. The chancellor is authorized to
17 execute the lease agreement and memoranda of agreement for the
18 operation of a laboratory school.

19 b. Transportation services. – Upon request, the local school
20 administrative unit in which the laboratory school is located shall
21 provide transportation to students who reside in the local school
22 administrative unit and attend the laboratory school, including any
23 students who are homeless and require assistance pursuant to 42
24 U.S.C. § 11301, et seq., the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance
25 Act. The requirement to provide transportation to students residing in
26 the local school administrative unit shall (i) apply regardless of where
27 a laboratory school student resides in the unit or how the unit's
28 transportation policies and practices are applied to other students and
29 (ii) upon request, include providing transportation of students and
30 personnel for laboratory school extracurricular activities and
31 educational trips in the same manner as other schools in the unit for
32 that school year.

33 c. Food services. – ~~The laboratory school shall strive to ensure that one~~
34 ~~hundred percent (100%) muscadine grape juice is made available to~~
35 ~~students as a part of the school's nutrition program or through the~~
36 ~~operation of the school's vending facilities. Upon request, Food~~
37 ~~services shall be provided to students of the laboratory school as~~
38 ~~follows:~~

39 1. Unless the laboratory school agrees in the memorandum of
40 understanding to administer the National School Lunch
41 Program as the school food authority for its own students, the
42 local school administrative unit in which the laboratory school
43 is located shall administer the National School Lunch Program
44 as the school food authority for the laboratory school in
45 accordance with G.S. 115C-264. As part of that process, the
46 local school administrative unit shall do at least the following:

47 I. Purchase, prepare, deliver, and serve food and drink for
48 students in the laboratory school.

49 II. Engage in any contracts or other actions necessary to
50 provide these services, including procuring federal
51 reimbursement funds.

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- 2. The laboratory school shall strive to ensure that one hundred percent (100%) muscadine grape juice is made available to students as part of the school's nutrition program or through the operation of the school's vending facilities.
 - d. Student support services. – Upon request, the local school administrative unit in which the laboratory school is located shall provide any of the following student support services for the operation of the laboratory school, including:
 - 1. Services required by the Department of Public Instruction for children with disabilities.
 - 2. Children and family support services, including social worker and school nurse services.
 - 3. Other health services, including dental screenings, vision screenings, and similar health services that apply to other students enrolled in the local school administrative unit.
 - 4. Parent involvement coordinator services.
 - 5. School counselor services.
 - (4c) Costs of services; reimbursement. – The local school administrative unit may charge the costs of the facilities and services provided pursuant to subdivision (4b) of this subsection to the laboratory school. These charges shall not exceed the standards for determination of costs established pursuant to subdivision (4) of this subsection. If a local school administrative unit fails to provide any of the services listed in subdivision (4b) of this subsection, the laboratory school may provide those services without the support of the local school administrative unit. In the event a laboratory school provides its own services pursuant to this subdivision, the laboratory school may charge the local school administrative unit for the actual costs of those services, even if those services exceed the standards for determination of costs established pursuant to subdivision (4) of this subsection, and the local school administrative unit shall reimburse the laboratory school for those services from non-State funds.
-"

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H5(S8.7)-P

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 **BROADEN TEACHING FELLOWS AWARD PARAMETERS**

2 **SECTION 8.7.(a)** G.S. 116-209.60 reads as rewritten:

3 **"§ 116-209.60. Definitions.**

4 The following definitions apply in this Part:

- 5 (1) Commission. – The North Carolina Teaching Fellows Commission.
6 (2) Director. – The Director of the North Carolina Teaching Fellows Program.
7 (3) Forgivable loan. – A forgivable loan made under the Program.
8 (4) Program. – The North Carolina Teaching Fellows Program.
9 (5) Public school. – An elementary or secondary school located in North Carolina
10 that is governed by a local board of education, charter school board of
11 directors, regional school board of directors, or University of North Carolina
12 laboratory school board of trustees.
13 (5a) Qualifying licensure area. – A teacher licensure area in one of the following
14 subjects:
15 a. Either of the following, as identified pursuant to G.S. 116-209.62(h):
16 1. Special education.
17 2. ~~Stem.~~STEM.
18 3. Career and technical education.
19 b. Elementary education (K-6).
20 c. Middle Grades Language Arts.
21 d. English (9-12).
22 (5b) Qualifying special education teacher. – A qualifying teacher who is licensed
23 in special education and spends at least eighty percent (80%) of his or her
24 work time on activities related to special education.
25 ~~(5b)~~(5c) Qualifying teacher. – A teacher in a North Carolina public school who
26 meets the following criteria:
27 a. Received a forgivable loan under the Program.
28 b. Graduated within 10 years from an educator preparation program
29 leading to teacher licensure, excluding any authorized deferment for
30 extenuating circumstances.
31 c. Serves as a teacher in a qualifying licensure area.
32 (6) STEM. – Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.
33 (7) Trust Fund. – The North Carolina Teaching Fellows Program Trust Fund."

34 **SECTION 8.7.(b)** G.S. 116-209.62 reads as rewritten:

35 **"§ 116-209.62. North Carolina Teaching Fellows Program established; administration.**

- 36 ...
37 (g) Awards of Forgivable Loans. – The Program shall provide forgivable loans to selected
38 students to be used at up to 10 selected institutions for completion of a program leading to initial
39 teacher licensure as follows:

- 1 (1) ~~North Carolina high school seniors. – Forgivable loans of up to five thousand~~
2 ~~dollars (\$5,000) per semester for up to eight semesters.~~ ten thousand dollars
3 (\$10,000) per academic year for up to four academic years.
- 4 (2) Students applying for transfer to a selected educator preparation program at
5 an institution of higher education. – Forgivable loans of up to ~~five thousand~~
6 ~~dollars (\$5,000) per semester for up to six semesters.~~ ten thousand dollars
7 (\$10,000) per academic year for up to four academic years.
- 8 (3) Individuals currently holding a bachelor's degree seeking preparation for
9 teacher licensure. – Forgivable loans of up to ~~five thousand dollars (\$5,000)~~
10 ~~per semester for up to four semesters.~~ ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per
11 academic year for up to two academic years.
- 12 (4) Students matriculating at institutions of higher education who are changing to
13 an approved program of study at a selected educator preparation program. –
14 Forgivable loans of up to ~~five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per semester for up~~
15 ~~to four semesters.~~ ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per academic year for up to
16 four academic years.

17 Forgivable loans may be used for ~~tuition, fees, the cost of books, and expenses related to~~
18 ~~obtaining licensure.~~ all expenses related to enrollment in an approved educator preparation
19 program and obtaining licensure, including tuition, fees, and the cost of books.

20 (h) ~~Identification of STEM and Special Education Certain Qualifying Licensure Areas.~~
21 ~~Areas; Report on Need.~~ – The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall identify and provide to
22 the Commission and the Authority a list of ~~STEM and special education~~ STEM, special
23 education, and career and technical education licensure areas and shall annually provide to the
24 Commission the number of available positions in ~~each qualifying licensure area~~ all qualifying
25 licensure areas relative to the number of current and anticipated teachers in ~~that each area of~~
26 licensure. The Commission shall make the list of ~~STEM and special education~~ STEM, special
27 education, and career and technical education licensure areas readily available to applicants.

28"

29 **SECTION 8.7.(c)** G.S. 116-209.63 reads as rewritten:

30 **"§ 116-209.63. Terms of forgivable loans; receipt and disbursement of funds.**

31 ...

32 (b) ~~Forgiveness.~~ – ~~For~~ The Authority shall forgive the loan amount provided pursuant to
33 this Part as follows:

- 34 (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, for every year a
35 qualifying teacher remains a qualifying teacher, the Authority shall forgive
36 the loan amount received over one year of enrollment in an educator
37 preparation program and any interest accrued on that amount.
- 38 (2) For every six months that a qualifying special education teacher remains a
39 qualifying special education teacher, the Authority shall forgive the loan
40 amount received over one year of enrollment in an educator preparation
41 program and any interest accrued on that amount.
- 42 (3) The Authority shall also forgive the loan if it finds that it is impossible for the
43 recipient to work for up to eight years, within 10 years after completion of the
44 program leading to teacher licensure, at a North Carolina public school
45 because of the death or permanent disability of the recipient. If the recipient
46 repays the forgivable loan by cash payments, all indebtedness shall be repaid
47 within 10 years after completion of the program leading to teacher licensure
48 supported by the forgivable loan. If the recipient completes a program leading
49 to teacher licensure, payment of principal and interest shall begin no later than
50 the first day of September after the completion of the program. Should a

1 recipient present extenuating circumstances, the Authority may extend the
2 period to repay the loan in cash to no more than a total of 12 years."
3 **SECTION 8.7.(d)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2025, and applies
4 beginning in the 2025-2026 academic year.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H13(S8.8)-P

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 ***REQUIRE UNC TO INCORPORATE POSITION INFORMATION INTO BEACON/HR***
2 ***PAYROLL SYSTEM***

3 **SECTION 8.8.** No later than April 15, 2026, the Board of Governors of The
4 University of North Carolina, in collaboration with the Office of State Controller and the State
5 Chief Information Officer, shall incorporate all position and salary information for employees of
6 constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina, The University of North Carolina
7 System Office, the State Education Assistance Authority, and any other entity under the purview
8 of the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina into the Building Enterprise
9 Access for North Carolina's Core Operation Needs (BEACON) human resources payroll system.
10 The Board of Governors shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and
11 the Fiscal Research Division on the results of this process by May 15, 2026.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H14(S8.10)i

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 *PERMIT CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH*
2 *CAROLINA TO PROVIDE DISCOUNTED TUITION TO PERSONS RECEIVING*
3 *MILITARY TUITION ASSISTANCE OR PERSONS ENROLLED IN AN*
4 *EMPLOYER-SPONSORED FINANCIAL SUPPORT PROGRAM*

5 SECTION 8.10.(a) G.S. 116-143 reads as rewritten:

6 "§ 116-143. State-supported institutions of higher education required to charge tuition and
7 fees.

8 ...

9 (c) Inasmuch as the giving of tuition and fee waivers, or especially reduced rates,
10 represent in effect a variety of scholarship awards, the said practice is hereby prohibited except
11 when expressly authorized by statute.

12 ~~(d) Notwithstanding the above provision relating to the abolition of free tuition, the Board~~
13 ~~of Governors of The University of North Carolina may, in its discretion, provide regulations~~
14 ~~under which personnel may during the period of normal employment enroll in The University of~~
15 ~~North Carolina free of charge for tuition and fees, provided such enrollment does not interfere~~
16 ~~with normal employment obligations and further provided that such enrollments are not counted~~
17 ~~for the purpose of receiving General Fund appropriations as follows:~~

18 (1) ~~Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, a full time faculty~~
19 ~~member of the rank of full-time instructor or above and any full-time staff~~
20 ~~member of The University of North Carolina may enroll in not more than three~~
21 ~~courses per year.~~

22 (2) ~~A full-time or part-time campus law enforcement officer may enroll in the~~
23 ~~number of courses per year determined by regulation.~~

24 (d1) Notwithstanding subsection (c) of this section, the Board of Governors of The
25 University of North Carolina may do any of the following:

26 (1) Personnel. – Provide regulations under which personnel may enroll in The
27 University of North Carolina free of charge for tuition and fees during the
28 period of normal employment if the (i) enrollment does not interfere with
29 normal employment obligations and (ii) enrollments are not counted for the
30 purpose of receiving General Fund appropriations. Personnel may enroll free
31 of charge for tuition and fees as follows:

32 a. A full-time faculty member of the rank of full-time instructor or above
33 of The University of North Carolina may enroll in not more than three
34 courses per year.

35 b. A full-time staff member of The University of North Carolina may
36 enroll in more than three courses per year.

37 c. A full-time or part-time campus law enforcement officer may enroll in
38 the number of courses per year determined by regulation.

39 (2) Military students. – Allow constituent institutions, in their discretion, to
40 discount tuition to qualifying military students by an amount of up to the
41 difference in the maximum amount of military tuition assistance funds the

1 student receives and the applicable tuition. For purposes of this subdivision, a
2 qualifying military student is a student who meets the following criteria:

- 3 a. Is a resident for tuition purposes under G.S. 116-143.1.
- 4 b. Receives either (i) federal military tuition assistance funds or (ii)
5 military tuition assistance funds for members of the North Carolina
6 National Guard under Article 15 of Chapter 127A of the General
7 Statutes.

- 8 (3) Employer sponsorships. – Allow constituent institutions, in their discretion,
9 to discount tuition to students who are enrolled in an employer-sponsored
10 financial support program which has been approved by the Board of
11 Governors of The University of North Carolina. The discount may be up to
12 the difference in the maximum amount provided by the employer and the
13 applicable tuition. For purposes of this subdivision, an employer-sponsored
14 financial support program is a program in which the employer of a student has
15 committed to provide financial support to the student to offset the costs of
16 tuition or fees in the student's degree or credential program.

17 (d2) No later than February 15 of each year, the Board of Governors of The University of
18 North Carolina shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and the Fiscal
19 Research Division on the discounted tuition provided in the previous academic year pursuant to
20 subdivisions (2) and (3) of subsection (d1) of this section, including at least the following
21 information:

- 22 (1) The number of students that receive a discount under subdivisions (2) and (3)
23 of subsection (d1) of this section.
- 24 (2) The annual financial impact on each constituent institution resulting from the
25 discounted tuition provided.

26"

27 **SECTION 8.10.(b)** This section is effective when it becomes law and applies
28 beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H16(S8.13)i

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 ***ESTABLISH OFFICE OF LEARNING RESEARCH***

2 **SECTION 8.13.(a)** Article 31A of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes is amended
3 by adding the following new section to read:

4 **"§ 116-257. Office of Learning Research.**

5 (a) Office of Learning Research Established. – There is established the Office of
6 Learning Research (OLR) to identify and evaluate the efficacy and efficiency of programs,
7 activities, initiatives, procedures, and any other factors related to elementary and secondary
8 education in the State. The OLR shall be housed within the Collaboratory.

9 (b) Funding and Duties of the OLR. – Funding allocated to the Collaboratory for the OLR
10 shall be administered by the Collaboratory pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 116-255(c). These
11 funds shall be used to do at least the following:

12 (1) Provide information and support needed by elementary and secondary public
13 schools, university leaders, and elected officials to make evidence-based
14 decisions.

15 (2) Collaborate with constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina
16 and other stakeholders to implement innovative policies and programs to
17 accelerate learning for all students.

18 (3) Work with external research resources and partners to evaluate local, State,
19 and federal programs in order to establish metrics and assess return on
20 investment.

21 (4) Support the operations of the OLR.

22 (c) Access to Information. – All units of State and local government, including the State
23 Board of Education, the Department of Public Instruction, and public school units, shall provide
24 access to the OLR to records, data, processes, personnel, and any other information deemed
25 relevant by the Collaboratory to carry out its duties pursuant to G.S. 116-255(b). The access
26 provided to the Collaboratory pursuant to this subsection shall be in addition to any access
27 provided related to funding received by the Collaboratory under G.S. 116-255(c)."

28 **SECTION 8.13.(b)** Section 2A.8 of S.L. 2024-57 reads as rewritten:

29 ~~"SECTION 2A.8.(a) OLR Established. OLR Funds.~~ – There is appropriated from the
30 General Fund to the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina the sum of one
31 million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000) in recurring funds for the 2024-2025 fiscal
32 year to be allocated to the North Carolina Collaboratory to ~~establish and operate~~ the Office of
33 Learning Research (OLR), beginning in the 2024-2025 fiscal year. ~~The purpose of OLR is to~~
34 ~~identify and evaluate the efficacy and efficiency of programs, activities, initiatives, procedures,~~
35 ~~and any other factors related to elementary and secondary education in the State.~~

36 ~~"SECTION 2A.8.(b) Funding and Duties of OLR.~~ – Funding allocated to the Collaboratory
37 ~~for OLR shall be administered by the Collaboratory pursuant to the provisions of~~
38 ~~G.S. 116-255(c). These funds shall be used to do at least the following:~~

39 (1) ~~Provide information and support needed by elementary and secondary public~~
40 ~~schools, university leaders, and elected officials to make evidence-based~~
41 ~~decisions.~~

- 1 (2) Collaborate with constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina
2 and other stakeholders to implement innovative policies and programs to
3 accelerate learning for all students.
4 (3) Work with external research resources and partners to evaluate local, State,
5 and federal programs in order to establish metrics and assess return on
6 investment.
7 (4) Support the operations of OLR.

8 ~~"SECTION 2A.8.(c) Collaboratory May Relocate OLR. — After the Collaboratory~~
9 ~~establishes OLR, the Collaboratory may, in consultation with The University of North Carolina~~
10 ~~System Office and the Provost at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, relocate OLR~~
11 ~~within the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. If the Collaboratory relocates OLR~~
12 ~~pursuant to this section, the Collaboratory shall do the following:~~

- 13 (1) ~~Continue to administer funds appropriated in this act for OLR for the~~
14 ~~operations of OLR, as described in subsection (b) of this section.~~
15 (2) ~~Continue to determine, fund, manage, and oversee the research portfolio of~~
16 ~~OLR. The entity to which OLR is relocated shall otherwise oversee the~~
17 ~~operations of OLR.~~
18 (3) ~~Within 60 days of the relocation, report to the Joint Legislative Education~~
19 ~~Oversight Committee on where OLR was relocated and any other information~~
20 ~~the Collaboratory deems relevant to the relocation.~~

21 ~~"SECTION 2A.8.(d) Access to Information. — All units of State and local government,~~
22 ~~including the State Board of Education, the Department of Public Instruction, and public school~~
23 ~~units, shall provide reasonable access to records, data, processes, personnel, and any other~~
24 ~~information deemed relevant by the Office or the Collaboratory, to the extent otherwise permitted~~
25 ~~under State and federal law, to carry out the provisions of this section.~~

26 ~~"SECTION 2A.8.(e) Report. — No later than July 1, 2025, the Collaboratory shall report to~~
27 ~~the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the progress made in establishing and~~
28 ~~operating the OLR pursuant to this section. For each fiscal year OLR is in operation, the~~
29 ~~Collaboratory shall include in the annual report required by G.S. 116-256 information on the~~
30 ~~activities of OLR from the prior fiscal year."~~

31 **SECTION 8.13.(c)** This section is effective when it becomes law.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H17(S8.16)i

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 **REVISE DEADLINE FOR UNC REPORT ON STATE BUDGET ALLOCATIONS AND**
2 **POLICIES**

3 **SECTION 8.16.** G.S. 116-11(9b) reads as rewritten:

4 "(9b) The Board of Governors shall report by ~~February 1~~ March 1 of each year to
5 the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, the Senate
6 Appropriations Committee on Education/Higher Education, the House of
7 Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Education, and the Fiscal
8 Research Division on the actions and adjustments necessary to its budgetary
9 policies, regulations, and standards resulting from the Current Operations
10 Appropriations Act for the administration and operation of The University of
11 North Carolina and the distribution of State and federal funds to constituent
12 institutions. The report shall include at least the following information for
13 each constituent institution:

- 14 a. Guidelines related to State salaries of University of North Carolina
15 employees, including range, median, and mean of faculty salaries at
16 the institution.
- 17 b. Budget allocations and reductions, including for operating expenses
18 and specific programs.
- 19 c. Distribution of additional State allocations for enrollment funding.
- 20 d. Use of State funds and budget flexibility.
- 21 e. Availability of federal funds.
- 22 f. Tuition and fees.
- 23 g. Composition of the student population at the institution, including
24 headcount enrollment and full-time student enrollment for both
25 undergraduate and graduate students, and aggregate data on residency
26 status, median household income, gender, race, and ethnicity.
- 27 h. Student retention and graduation rates.
- 28 i. Postsecondary educational attainment rate at the institution, including
29 comparison to statewide data.
- 30 j. A comparison to prior fiscal year expenditures and appropriations.
- 31 k. The total amount of mandatory student fee revenue collected by
32 institution and fee type.
- 33 l. Any source of student auxiliary revenue that represents greater than
34 ten percent (10%) of the overall student auxiliary revenue by
35 institution and revenue type.
- 36 m. Any source of sales revenue that represents greater than ten percent
37 (10%) of the overall sales revenue by institution and sales revenue
38 type."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H19(S8.18)i

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

CARRYFORWARD UNC ENROLLMENT LOSS MITIGATION FUNDS

SECTION 8.18.(a) Section 2A.4 of S.L. 2024-57 reads as rewritten:

~~"SECTION 2A.4. SECTION 2A.4.(a)~~ There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina for the 2024-2025 fiscal year the sum of seven million eight hundred thirty-seven thousand six hundred forty-six dollars (\$7,837,646) in nonrecurring funds to be allocated to offset enrollment-related funding losses experienced by certain constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina, as follows:

Allocation	Constituent Institution
\$1,364,971	East Carolina University
\$1,500,000	University of North Carolina at Asheville
\$19,687	University of North Carolina at Greensboro
\$3,701,653	University of North Carolina at Pembroke
\$1,251,335	Winston-Salem State University

"SECTION 2A.4.(b) These funds shall not revert at the end of the 2024-2025 fiscal year but shall remain available until the end of the 2025-2026 fiscal year."

SECTION 8.18.(b) This section becomes effective June 30, 2025.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H3(S8.19)-P

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 ***INCREASE NC PROMISE TUITION FOR NONRESIDENTS***

2 **SECTION 8.19.(a)** G.S. 116-143.11(a) reads as rewritten:

3 "(a) The NC Promise Tuition Plan shall be established and implemented as provided by
4 this section. Notwithstanding G.S. 116-143 and G.S. 116-11(7), the Board of Governors of The
5 University of North Carolina shall set the rate of undergraduate tuition for Elizabeth City State
6 University, the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, Fayetteville State University, and
7 Western Carolina University as follows: the rate of tuition for students deemed to be North
8 Carolina residents for purposes of tuition shall be five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per academic
9 semester and the rate of tuition for nonresident students shall be ~~two thousand five hundred~~
10 ~~dollars (\$2,500)~~ three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500) per academic semester."

11 **SECTION 8.19.(b)** This section applies beginning in the 2026-2027 academic year
12 to nonresident students matriculating at NC Promise institutions. Any nonresident student
13 enrolled in the 2025-2026 academic year at an NC Promise institution who remains continuously
14 enrolled in that institution shall continue to receive a rate of tuition of two thousand five hundred
15 dollars (\$2,500) per academic semester.

16 **SECTION 8.19.(c)** For purposes of this section, the term "NC Promise institution"
17 refers to Elizabeth City State University, the University of North Carolina at Pembroke,
18 Fayetteville State University, and Western Carolina University.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H6(S8.20)-P

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 *INSTITUTIONAL PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY AND FUNDING*

2 SECTION 8.20. Part 2A of Article 1 of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes is
3 amended by adding the following new section to read:

4 "**§ 116-30.10. Institutional performance accountability.**

5 (a) Implementation of Accountability Measures and Performance Standards. – To the
6 extent funds are available to the Board of Governors pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter
7 or otherwise made available for this purpose, the Board of Governors may adopt and implement
8 a system of accountability measures and performance standards to be used to allocate those funds
9 to constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina.

10 (b) Recognition of Successful Institutional Performance. – The Board may allocate
11 available funds among constituent institutions based on an evaluation of the performance of each
12 institution conducted in accordance with the system of accountability measures and performance
13 standards adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section. The evaluation shall include at least
14 the following components:

15 (1) Performance change, based on the rate of student success at a constituent
16 institution as compared to the baseline or goal rate of student success for that
17 constituent institution.

18 (2) Institutional impact, based on the number of students at a constituent
19 institution who graduate with a degree.

20 (c) Institutional Support. – In addition to any funds allocated pursuant to subsection (b)
21 of this section, the Board of Governors may allocate available funds to specific constituent
22 institutions that require targeted support to increase performance or adapt to significant
23 enrollment changes. Funds allocated to an institution pursuant to this subsection may be used to
24 support strategies at the constituent institution to improve institutional performance."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H20(S8.22)-P

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 ***UNC STUDY INCREASING NCSSM MORGANTON SIZE***

2 **SECTION 8.22.(a)** No later than February 15, 2026, the Board of Governors of The
3 University of North Carolina, in consultation with the Chancellor of the North Carolina School
4 of Science and Mathematics, shall study the feasibility of increasing the size of the Morganton
5 campus of the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics (NCSSM-Morganton),
6 develop a plan to accommodate at least twice as many enrolled students at NCSSM-Morganton,
7 and report the plan to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee. At a minimum, the
8 plan shall include the following information:

- 9 (1) An analysis of the number of students with excellent academic records who
10 apply to the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics but are not
11 accepted because of lack of physical space or other resources.
- 12 (2) Resources needed to accommodate additional students and associated costs,
13 including at least the following:
14 a. Improvements to physical spaces, including residence halls.
15 b. Additional faculty and staff.
16 c. Instructional materials.
17 d. Other costs, as determined by the Board of Governors.
- 18 (3) The extent to which increased enrollment could be accomplished through
19 remote instruction, whether synchronously or asynchronously.

20 **SECTION 8.22.(b)** This section is effective when it becomes law.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H23(S8.24)i

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

1 ***FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND UNIVERSITY TECH PLANNING***

2 **SECTION 8.24.** G.S. 116-11 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

3 "(9c) The Board shall adopt a policy that requires all constituent institutions to
4 evaluate the following when acquiring the technology, computer hardware,
5 and software:

6 a. The long-term cost of ownership, including costs of repairing the
7 technology, computer hardware, or software.

8 b. Any flexibility for innovation during the life of the technology,
9 computer hardware, or software.

10 c. Any anticipated resale or salvage value at the end of the target life
11 cycle for the technology, computer hardware, or software based on the
12 average resale or salvage value of similar technology, computer
13 hardware, or software as a percentage of the initial cost of purchase."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H2-P

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 **COLLABORATORY OLR MATH INITIATIVE**

2 **SECTION #.(a)** The Office of Learning Research (OLR), as established by this act,
3 shall develop a series of pilot initiatives using various mathematics support programs for all grade
4 levels. OLR shall then compare results gathered from the initiatives, including existing
5 high-intensity tutoring programs operating in the State, to evaluate the efficacy of the various
6 initiatives and programs. OLR shall use at least the following programs in the initiatives
7 developed pursuant to this section:

- 8 (1) Zearn Math, by Zearn.
- 9 (2) i-Ready Math, by Curriculum Associates, LLC.

10 **SECTION #.(b)** OLR shall develop guidelines for initiatives developed pursuant to
11 this section. Guidelines shall include at least the following:

- 12 (1) Acceptable uses for any funds provided to public school units from funds
13 appropriated to OLR for the purposes of this section.
- 14 (2) Application and approval processes for public school units interested in
15 participating in an initiative.
- 16 (3) Reporting requirements for public school units participating in each initiative
17 so that OLR will have necessary data to evaluate the efficacy of each initiative.

18 **SECTION #.(c)** OLR may conduct as many different initiatives as OLR deems
19 feasible with funds available for this purpose. OLR shall attempt to control for varying
20 demographics of public school units when evaluating data collected pursuant to this section.

21 **SECTION #.(d)** OLR shall develop procedures for enabling public school units
22 participating in an initiative to have access to the programs referenced in subsection (b) of this
23 section. Procedures may include OLR contracting with an entity for access to a program,
24 providing grant funds to participating public school units, or other methods of procuring the
25 programs.

26 **SECTION #.(e)** OLR shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight
27 Committee on the efficacy of each initiative developed pursuant to this section by October 15,
28 2026, and each year thereafter that funds are received for this purpose. The report shall include
29 evaluations of which programs are most effective at improving mathematics outcomes and
30 recommendations on programs to continue use in the public schools of the State.

31 **SECTION #.(f)** Notwithstanding Article 31A of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes,
32 funds appropriated for the purposes of this section shall only be used to develop and implement
33 the initiatives developed pursuant to this section.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H31-P

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 ***OLR TO STUDY 9-12 LITERACY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT***

2 **SECTION #.** The Office of Learning Research (OLR), as established by this act,
3 shall evaluate providers of literacy professional development for teachers teaching students in
4 grades nine through 12 that are not reading at grade level. OLR shall evaluate various providers
5 of literacy professional development, including those already used by the State for teachers
6 teaching students in kindergarten through grade eight. OLR shall provide recommendations for
7 any professional development providers that align with existing literacy standards of the State to
8 be used for these purposes to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by April 15,
9 2026.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H9-P

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 ***SCHOOL BUSINESS SYSTEMS MODERNIZATION STUDY***

2 **SECTION #.** The North Carolina Collaboratory shall conduct a study to determine
3 the feasibility of having all public school units universally implement one Enterprise Resource
4 Planning (ERP) platform. The ERP platform must interface with the Uniform Education
5 Reporting System and integrate finance, human resources, and payroll functions. No later than
6 November 1, 2026, the Collaboratory shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight
7 Committee and the Fiscal Research Division at least the following information:

- 8 (1) An analysis of the positive and negative impacts of universal implementation.
9 (2) Any ERP platforms feasibly capable of being universally implemented by all
10 public school units.
11 (3) The cost of universal implementation of each identified ERP platform.
12 (4) A time line for universal implementation.
13 (5) Challenges to universal implementation, including recommendations for any
14 legislative changes needed to facilitate implementation.
15 (6) Any other information the Collaboratory deems relevant.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H8-P

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 **UNC FUNDING REDUCTION**

2 **SECTION #.(a)** The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina and
3 the constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina shall allocate the funding
4 reduction provided for in this act in each fiscal year of the 2025-2027 fiscal biennium as follows:

- 5 (1) In a manner that recognizes the importance of the academic missions and
6 differences among the entities of The University of North Carolina and not by
7 using an across-the-board method.
- 8 (2) In making reductions in accordance with this act, the Board of Governors and
9 the constituent institutions shall first prioritize reductions to the following:
- 10 a. Budget Code 16010, UNC System Office.
11 b. Budget Code 16011, UNC BOG – Institutional Programs.
12 c. Project Kitty Hawk.
- 13 (3) The Board of Governors and the constituent institutions shall review the
14 institutional trust funds and the special funds held by or on behalf of The
15 University of North Carolina and its constituent institutions to determine
16 whether there are monies available in those funds that can be used to assist
17 with operating costs.
- 18 (4) The Board of Governors and the constituent institutions shall not take a
19 reduction in State funds allocated in either fiscal year of the 2025-2027 fiscal
20 biennium for any of the following:
- 21 a. Budget Code 16012, UNC BOG Related Ed. Programs.
22 b. Budget Code 16015, UNC BOG Aid to Private Institutions.
23 c. Budget Code 16022, UNC at Chapel Hill – Area Health Ed.
24 d. Agricultural research and extension programs.
25 e. North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics.
26 f. University of North Carolina School of the Arts.
27 g. Any budget expansion item funded by an appropriation to the Board
28 of Governors of The University of North Carolina in this act for the
29 2025-2027 fiscal biennium.

30 **SECTION #.(b)** No later than April 1 of each year of the 2025-2027 fiscal biennium,
31 the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina shall report to the Joint Legislative
32 Education Oversight Committee, the Office of State Budget and Management, and the Fiscal
33 Research Division on the implementation of the funding reduction provided in this act for that
34 fiscal year. The report shall identify at least the following by constituent institution:

- 35 (1) The total number of positions eliminated by type (faculty/nonfaculty).
36 (2) The programs that were eliminated.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H25-P

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 *COLLEGE OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM ONE-TIME*
2 *CARRYFORWARD*

3 **SECTION #.(a)** The recurring funds appropriated to the Board of Governors of The
4 University of North Carolina for the 2024-2025 fiscal year and allocated to North Carolina State
5 University and North Carolina Central University for the College of Educational Opportunities
6 Program at each of those institutions shall not revert at the end of the 2024-2025 fiscal year, but
7 shall remain available until the end of the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

8 **SECTION #.(b)** This section becomes effective June 30, 2025.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H28-P

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 *AUTHORIZE THE NORTH CAROLINA COLLABORATORY TO STUDY THE*
2 *INCLUSION OF THE CLASSIC LEARNING TEST AMONG STANDARDIZED TESTS*
3 *CONSIDERED FOR UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSION AND THE AWARD OF*
4 *SCHOLARSHIPS AT CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF*
5 *NORTH CAROLINA*

6 **SECTION #.(a)** The North Carolina Collaboratory shall study the viability of
7 including Classic Learning Test scores as a part of an application for admission or award of
8 scholarship to a constituent institution of The University of North Carolina. In conducting this
9 study, the Collaboratory shall seek input from The University of North Carolina and the James
10 G. Martin Center for Academic Renewal. As a part of the study, the Collaboratory shall
11 determine:

- 12 (1) Whether an applicant's score on the Classic Learning Test serves the purpose
13 of aiding constituent institutions in determining (i) an applicant's
14 qualifications for undergraduate admission and (ii) an applicant's
15 qualifications for award of scholarships funded in whole or in part with State
16 funds and administered by an entity of The University of North Carolina.
- 17 (2) Whether an applicant's performance on the Classic Learning Test is predictive
18 of college success.
- 19 (3) Whether a score on the Classic Learning Test can be deemed concordant with
20 a score on the SAT or ACT such that The University of North Carolina could
21 use an applicant's score on the Classic Learning Test interchangeably with a
22 score on the SAT or ACT for the purposes of setting minimum requirements
23 for admission and awarding scholarships.
- 24 (4) The financial, operational, and administrative cost to The University of North
25 Carolina and constituent institutions associated with accepting an applicant's
26 score on the Classic Learning Test in addition to accepting an applicant's score
27 on the SAT or ACT.
- 28 (5) The financial, operational, and administrative cost to the State of adding the
29 CLT10 to the list of standardized tests offered one time and at no cost to the
30 student for every student in the eighth through tenth grades who has completed
31 Algebra I or who is in the last month of Algebra I pursuant to
32 G.S. 115C-174.18.

33 **SECTION #.(b)** The Collaboratory shall make a final report on its study to the Joint
34 Legislative Education Oversight Committee no later than December 15, 2025.

35 **SECTION #.(c)** This section is effective when it becomes law.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H29-P

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 **REVISE TUITION GRANTS FOR NCSSM AND UNCSA GRADUATES**

2 **SECTION #.(a)** Part 6 of Article 23 of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes reads as
3 rewritten:

4 "Part 6. Tuition Grant for High School Graduates of the North Carolina School of Science and
5 Mathematics and the University of North Carolina School of the Arts.

6 **"§ 116-209.89. ~~Definitions.~~Definitions; purpose.**

7 (a) Definitions. – The following definitions apply in this Part:

8 (1) Academic term. – Any of the following:

- 9 a. One fall semester.
10 b. One spring semester.
11 c. One summer term.

12 (1a) Eligible graduate. – A graduate of either of the following:

- 13 a. The North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics.
14 b. The University of North Carolina School of the Arts.

15 (1b) Eligible student. – A student who meets the requirements of subsection (a) of
16 G.S. 116-209.90.

17 (1c) Program. – The program established in this Part to provide tuition grants to
18 high school graduates of the North Carolina School of Science and
19 Mathematics and the University of North Carolina School of the Arts.

20 (2) Summer term. – All instruction received in one summer between academic
21 years.

22 (b) Purpose. – The purpose of the Program is to provide financial assistance to eligible
23 students who graduated from the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics and the
24 University of North Carolina School of the Arts to promote the retention of those
25 high-performing students in this State.

26 **"§ 116-209.90. Tuition grants for graduates to attend a constituent institution.**

27 (a) Within the funds available, an eligible graduate in each school year who meets the
28 following conditions shall qualify for a tuition grant awarded under this Part:

29 (1) Is at the time of application for the initial tuition grant a resident for tuition
30 purposes under the criteria set forth in G.S. 116-143.1 and in accordance with
31 the coordinated and centralized residency determination process administered
32 by the Authority.

33 (2) Enrolls as a full-time student in a constituent institution of The University of
34 North Carolina in the next academic year after graduation. The Authority shall
35 have the discretion to postpone this requirement for up to one academic year
36 after graduation if the student is able to demonstrate that any of the following
37 have substantially disrupted or interrupted the student's ability to enroll as a
38 full-time student:

- 39 a. A military service obligation.
40 b. Serious medical debilitation.

1 c. A short-term or long-term disability.

2 d. Other extraordinary hardship.

3 (3) ~~Submits a completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)~~
4 ~~form.~~

5 (b) Students who receive initial tuition grants as a cohort of a high school graduating class
6 of NCSSM or UNCSCA shall also be eligible to apply for tuition grants for subsequent academic
7 terms for up to a total of eight academic terms, provided that tuition grants are only used for
8 undergraduate tuition.

9 (b1) ~~A student~~ An eligible student must be continuously enrolled full time in an
10 undergraduate program at a constituent institution of The University of North Carolina after the
11 award of the initial tuition grant to be eligible for tuition grants in subsequent academic terms.
12 The Authority shall have the discretion to waive this requirement if the student is able to
13 demonstrate that any of the following have substantially disrupted or interrupted the student's
14 pursuit of a degree:

15 (1) A military service obligation.

16 (2) Serious medical debilitation.

17 (3) A short-term or long-term disability.

18 (4) Other extraordinary hardship.

19 (c) The amount of the tuition grant to each graduate shall be determined and distributed
20 as provided in G.S. 116-209.91.

21 **"§ 116-209.91. Administration of tuition grants.**

22 (a) ~~The~~ Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the Authority shall administer
23 the tuition grants provided for in this Part pursuant to guidelines and procedures established by
24 the Authority consistent with its practices for administering State-funded financial aid. The
25 guidelines and procedures shall include an application process and schedule, notification and
26 disbursement procedures, standards for reporting, and standards for return of tuition grants when
27 a student withdraws. The Authority shall also require students to submit (i) a completed Free
28 Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form or (ii) other documentation, as necessary, to
29 administer and award the tuition grant. The Authority shall not approve any grant until it receives
30 proper certification from the appropriate constituent institution that the student applying for the
31 grant is an eligible student. Upon receipt of the certification, the Authority shall remit, at the
32 times it prescribes, the tuition grant to the constituent institution on behalf, and to the credit, of
33 the eligible student. In the event a student on whose behalf a tuition grant has been paid is not
34 enrolled in an undergraduate program and carrying a minimum academic load as of the tenth
35 classroom day following the beginning of the school term for which the tuition grant was paid,
36 the constituent institution shall refund the full amount of the tuition grant to the Authority.

37 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the amount of the grant awarded to ~~a~~ an
38 eligible student under the Program shall cover the tuition cost at the constituent institution in
39 which the eligible student is enrolled. No tuition grant awarded to ~~a~~ an eligible student under this
40 section shall exceed the cost of attendance at a constituent institution for which the eligible
41 student is enrolled.

42 (c) ~~If a student, who is eligible for a tuition grant under this section,~~ an eligible student
43 also receives a scholarship or other grant covering the cost of attendance at the constituent
44 institution for which the tuition grant is awarded, then the amount of the tuition grant shall be
45 reduced by an appropriate amount determined by the Authority so that the total amount of
46 scholarships and grants received by the eligible student does not exceed the cost of attendance
47 for the institution. The cost of attendance shall be determined by the Authority for each
48 constituent institution.

49 (c1) The Authority shall place all funds appropriated to, or otherwise received by, the
50 Authority for the award of tuition grants under this Part into an institutional trust fund established
51 in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 116-36.1. All interest earned on these funds shall also

1 be placed in the institutional trust fund established pursuant to this subsection. The monies in the
2 institutional trust fund may be used only for the purposes set forth in this Part.

3 (d) In the event there are not sufficient funds to provide each eligible student who has
4 applied in accordance with the application process and the schedule established by the Authority
5 with a full tuition grant as provided by this Part, each eligible student shall receive a pro rata
6 share of funds available for the academic term covered by the appropriation in the preceding
7 fiscal year.

8 (e) The Authority may use up to five percent (5%) of the funds appropriated each year
9 for tuition grants under this Part for the administrative costs-costs of the Program."

10 **SECTION #.(b)** This section is effective when this act becomes law. Subsection (a)
11 of this section applies beginning with the award of tuition grants in the 2025-2026 academic year.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H30-P

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 **PRESERVATION OF STUDENT RECORDS HELD BY LICENSED NONPUBLIC**
2 **POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS**

3 SECTION #. G.S. 116-15 reads as rewritten:

4 "§ 116-15. Licensing of certain nonpublic post-secondary educational institutions.

5 ...

6 (f) Standards for Licensure. – To receive a license to conduct post-secondary degree
7 activity in this State, an institution shall satisfy the Board that the institution has met all of the
8 following standards:

- 9 (1) ~~That the~~ The institution is State-chartered. If chartered by a state or
10 sovereignty other than North Carolina, the institution shall also obtain a
11 Certificate of Authority to Transact Business or to Conduct Affairs in North
12 Carolina issued by the Secretary of State of North ~~Carolina;~~ Carolina.
- 13 (2) ~~That the~~ The institution has been conducting post-secondary degree activity
14 in a state or sovereignty other than North Carolina during consecutive,
15 regular-term, academic semesters, exclusive of summer sessions, for at least
16 the two years immediately prior to submitting an application for licensure
17 under this section, or has been conducting with enrolled students, for a like
18 period in this State or some other state or sovereignty, post-secondary
19 educational activity not related to a post-secondary degree; provided, that an
20 institution may be temporarily relieved of this standard under the conditions
21 set forth in ~~subsection (i), below;~~ subsection (i) of this section.
- 22 (3) ~~That the~~ The substance of each course or program of study, equivalent
23 experience, or achievement test is such as may reasonably and adequately
24 achieve the stated objective for which the study, experience, or test is offered
25 or to be certified as successfully ~~completed;~~ completed.
- 26 (4) ~~That the~~ The institution has adequate space, equipment, instructional
27 materials, and personnel available to it to provide education of good
28 ~~quality;~~ quality.
- 29 (5) ~~That the~~ The education, experience, and other qualifications of directors,
30 administrators, supervisors, and instructors are such as may reasonably insure
31 that the students will receive, or will be reliably certified to have received,
32 education consistent with the stated objectives of any course or program of
33 study, equivalent experience, or achievement test offered by the
34 ~~institution;~~ institution.
- 35 (6) ~~That the~~ The institution provides students and other interested persons with a
36 catalog or brochure containing information describing the substance,
37 objectives, and duration of the study, equivalent experience, and achievement
38 testing offered, a schedule of related tuition, fees, and all other necessary
39 charges and expenses, cancellation and refund policies, and such other
40 material facts concerning the institution and the program or course of study,

1 equivalent experience, and achievement testing as are reasonably likely to
2 affect the decision of the student to enroll therein, together with any other
3 disclosures that may be specified by the Board; and that such information is
4 provided to prospective students prior to ~~enrollment~~; enrollment.

5 (7) ~~That upon~~ Upon satisfactory completion of study, equivalent experience, or
6 or achievement test, the student is given appropriate educational credentials by
7 the institution, indicating that the relevant study, equivalent experience, or
8 achievement testing has been satisfactorily completed by the
9 ~~students~~; students.

10 (8) ~~That records~~ Records are maintained by the institution adequate to reflect the
11 application of relevant performance or grading standards to each enrolled
12 ~~student~~; student. If the institution ceases to operate in this State, the owner of
13 the institution shall ensure that these records are transferred to the North
14 Carolina State Archives.

15 (9) ~~That the~~ The institution is maintained and operated in compliance with all
16 pertinent ordinances and laws, including rules and regulations adopted
17 pursuant thereto, relative to the safety and health of all persons upon the
18 premises of the ~~institution~~; institution.

19 (10) ~~That the~~ The institution is financially sound and capable of fulfilling its
20 commitments to students and that the institution has provided a bond as
21 provided in subsection (f1) of this ~~section~~; section.

22 (11) ~~That the~~ The institution, through itself or those with whom it may contract,
23 does not engage in promotion, sales, collection, credit, or other practices of
24 any type which are false, deceptive, misleading, or ~~unfair~~; unfair.

25 (12) ~~That the~~ The chief executive officer, trustees, directors, owners,
26 administrators, supervisors, staff, instructors, and employees of the institution
27 have no record of unprofessional conduct or incompetence that would
28 reasonably call into question the overall quality of the ~~institution~~; institution.

29 (13) ~~That the~~ The student housing owned, maintained, or approved by the
30 institution, if any, is appropriate, safe, and ~~adequate~~; adequate.

31 (14) ~~That the~~ The institution has a fair and equitable cancellation and refund ~~policy~~;
32 and policy.

33 (15) ~~That no~~ No person or agency with whom the institution contracts has a record
34 of unprofessional conduct or incompetence that would reasonably call into
35 question the overall quality of the institution.

36 ...

37 (j) Enforcement Authority in the Attorney General. – The Board shall call to the attention
38 of the Attorney General, for such action as he may deem appropriate, any institution failing to
39 comply with the requirements of this section. In addition, if the Board determines that the student
40 academic records identified in subdivision (8) of subsection (f) of this section are in danger of
41 being made unavailable to the North Carolina State Archives for any reason, including refusal
42 by the institution to transfer those records, the Board shall notify the Attorney General and the
43 Attorney General shall take appropriate action to ensure the records are retrieved and preserved
44 at the North Carolina State Archives.

45"

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H32-P

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 ***ESTABLISH SEPARATE BUDGET CODE FOR NORTH CAROLINA COLLABORATORY***
2 **SECTION #.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, as a part
3 of the certification of the budget of The University of North Carolina for the 2025-2026 fiscal
4 year, the Director of the Budget, in consultation with The University of North Carolina and the
5 North Carolina Collaboratory (Collaboratory), shall establish a separate budget code and make
6 the necessary permanent adjustments to ensure that State appropriations for the Collaboratory
7 are clearly accounted for in the new budget code. The adjustments shall include establishing one
8 or more budget funds to account for each project funded with State appropriations as well as a
9 separate budget fund or funds to account for administration of the Collaboratory.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNC-H33-P

University of North Carolina and Private Instruction
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 *UNC HEALTH SCIENCES PROVIDER EDUCATION TRAINING FUNDS/CAROLINA*
2 *NORTH SITE PLAN*

3 **SECTION #.(a)** No later than March 15, 2026, the Board of Trustees of the
4 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-CH) shall report to the Joint Legislative
5 Education Oversight Committee and the Fiscal Research Division on the specific uses by
6 UNC-CH of the two million dollars (\$2,000,000) in nonrecurring funds appropriated from the
7 ARPA Temporary Savings Fund to the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina
8 for the 2023-2024 fiscal year and allocated to UNC-CH for its Department of Health Sciences at
9 the University of North Carolina School of Medicine to support an expansion of health care
10 provider education and training.

11 **SECTION #.(b)** Notwithstanding any provision of law or the Committee Report
12 described in Section 43.2 of S.L. 2023-134, the unencumbered balance of the two million dollars
13 (\$2,000,000) in nonrecurring funds appropriated from the ARPA Temporary Savings Fund to the
14 Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina for the 2023-2024 fiscal year in S.L.
15 2023-134 and allocated to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-CH) for its
16 Department of Health Sciences at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine to support
17 an expansion of health care provider education and training shall instead be used to develop a
18 conceptual site plan for Carolina North. The site plan shall not consider medical buildings
19 receiving funds through this act.

20 **SECTION #.(c)** This section is effective when it becomes law.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNCSEAA-H4(S8A.2)-P

State Education Assistance Authority
House Appropriations, Education

1 **REVISE CERTAIN OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP DOMICILE VERIFICATION**
2 **REQUIREMENTS**

3 **SECTION 8A.2.(a)** G.S. 115C-562.3 reads as rewritten:

4 "**§ 115C-562.3. Verification of eligibility; information from other State agencies.**

5 (a) To verify that the domicile requirements of G.S. 115C-366 are met for State
6 ~~residency~~, residency for the award of scholarship grants pursuant to this Part, the Authority shall
7 establish a domicile determination system and shall establish rules for determination of domicile
8 within the State in accordance with this subsection. The Division of Motor Vehicles of the
9 Department of Transportation, the Department of Public Instruction, the Department of
10 Commerce, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Revenue, the State
11 Board of Elections, and the State Chief Information Officer each shall expeditiously cooperate
12 with the Authority in verifying electronically, or by other similarly effective and efficient means,
13 evidence submitted to the Authority for the purposes of establishing the domicile required by
14 G.S. 115C-366 for State residency. The Authority shall accept any of the following as evidence
15 of domicile within the State:

16 ...

17 (b) Household members of applicants for scholarship grants shall authorize the Authority
18 to access ~~information~~ certain information, including social security numbers and other unique
19 identifiers, needed for verification efforts conducted under this section that is held by other State
20 agencies, including the Department of Revenue, the Department of Health and Human Services,
21 and the Department of Public Instruction.

22 (b1) The Authority may adopt in its rules a process for contracting with a third-party
23 vendor to facilitate the verification of domicile or other application information in accordance
24 with this section.

25 (c) By December 1 of each year, the Department of Public Instruction shall provide the
26 Authority the average State per pupil allocation for that fiscal year to determine the maximum
27 scholarship amount for eligible students to be awarded in the following fiscal year in accordance
28 with G.S. 115C-562.2(b2)."

29 **SECTION 8A.2.(b)** G.S. 115C-594 reads as rewritten:

30 "**§ 115C-594. Verification of eligibility; information from other State agencies.**

31 (a) Verification of Information. – The Authority may seek verification of information on
32 any application for the award of scholarship funds for a personal education student account. The
33 Authority shall establish rules for the verification process. If a household fails to cooperate with
34 verification efforts, the Authority shall revoke the award of scholarship funds for a PESA for the
35 eligible student.

36 (b) Access to Information. – Applicants for the award of scholarship funds for a PESA
37 shall authorize the Authority to access information needed for verification efforts held by other
38 State agencies, including the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of
39 Public Instruction. The provisions of G.S. 115C-562.3 shall apply to this section."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNCSEAA-H5(S8A.3)i

State Education Assistance Authority
House Appropriations, Education

1 **CLARIFY APPLICATION DATE FOR OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP AND PESA**
2 **PROGRAMS**

3 **SECTION 8A.3.(a)** G.S. 115C-562.2(a) reads as rewritten:

4 "(a) The Authority shall make available no later than ~~February 1~~ annually the first Monday
5 in February of each year applications to eligible students for the award of scholarship grants to
6 attend any nonpublic school on a full- or part-time basis. Information about scholarship grants
7 and the application process shall be made available on the Authority's Web site. Beginning March
8 15, the Authority shall begin awarding scholarship grants to students who have applied by ~~March~~
9 the first Monday in March in the following order:

10"

11 **SECTION 8A.3.(b)** G.S. 115C-592(a) reads as rewritten:

12 "(a) Application Selection. – The Authority shall make available no later than ~~February 1~~
13 the first Monday in February of each year applications to eligible students for the award of
14 scholarship funds for a personal education student account to be used for qualifying education
15 expenses to attend a nonpublic school. Information about scholarship funds and the application
16 process shall be made available on the Authority's website. Applications shall be submitted
17 electronically. The Authority shall award scholarships according to the following criteria for
18 applications received by ~~March 1~~ the first Monday in March of each year:

19"

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNCSEAA-H6(S8A.4)i

State Education Assistance Authority
House Appropriations, Education

1 *PERMIT SEAA TO PROVIDE PAYMENTS FOR TESTS FOR OPPORTUNITY*
2 *SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS USING ALTERNATIVE METHODS*

3 **SECTION 8A.4.** G.S. 115C-562.2(b5) reads as rewritten:

4 "(b5) In addition to the amount of the scholarship grant, for any student receiving a
5 scholarship grant in grades three, eight, or 11, the Authority shall provide to the nonpublic school
6 for the student an amount equal to the cost of the nationally standardized test required to be
7 administered as provided in G.S. 115C-562.5."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNCSEAA-H7(S8A.5)-P

State Education Assistance Authority
House Appropriations, Education

1 **CLARIFY OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS**

2 **SECTION 8A.5.(a)** Part 2A of Article 39 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes
3 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 **"§ 115C-562.2A. Residency required; qualified exemption for military families.**

5 (a) Definitions. – For purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:

6 (1) Documentation of military orders. – A copy of the official military order
7 transferring to a military installation or reservation located in the State.

8 (2) Military-connected student. – An eligible student who is the child of a military
9 family, as defined in G.S. 115C-407.5.

10 (b) Residency Required. – Except as otherwise provided in this section, a student shall
11 be a resident of North Carolina that is eligible to attend a North Carolina public school pursuant
12 to Article 25 of this Chapter in both of the following circumstances:

13 (1) At the time the student applies to receive a scholarship grant under this Part.

14 (2) At the beginning of each school year in which the student is eligible to receive
15 scholarship grant funds.

16 (c) Qualified Residency Exemptions for Military-Connected Students. – A
17 military-connected student who is not a resident solely because of military orders impacting the
18 residency of that student and who provides applicable documentation of military orders shall
19 receive the following qualified exemptions related to the residency requirements in this section:

20 (1) If the military-connected student is not a resident during the application period
21 established by the Authority, the Authority shall nevertheless accept the
22 application and award a scholarship grant in accordance with this Part.

23 (2) If the military-connected student is not a resident upon initial enrollment in a
24 nonpublic school, the military-connected student may nevertheless receive
25 grant funds in the first semester of the school year. Thereafter, the student
26 shall not receive a scholarship award until proof of residency is provided in
27 accordance with the requirements of the Authority.

28 (d) Funds and Reports. – Notwithstanding G.S. 115C-562.8, if the funds required to
29 award scholarship grants for military-connected students pursuant to subdivision (c)(1) of this
30 section exceed the funds available for the distribution of those awards, the Authority may allocate
31 the necessary funds from the unencumbered cash balance in the Opportunity Scholarship Grant
32 Fund Reserve. If the Authority expends funds in excess of those available in the Reserve, the
33 Authority shall submit the report required in G.S. 115C-562.7(d) as it relates to the awards
34 provided under this section."

35 **SECTION 8A.5.(b)** This section is effective when it becomes law and applies
36 beginning with applications for the award of scholarship grants in the 2025-2026 school year.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNCSEAA-H11(S8A.6)-P

State Education Assistance Authority
House Appropriations, Education

1 **REVISE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CHILDREN OF WARTIME VETERANS AND**
2 **TRANSFER ADMINISTRATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND**
3 **VETERANS AFFAIRS TO THE STATE EDUCATION ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY**

4 **SECTION 8A.6.(a)** For purposes of subsection (b) of this section, the following
5 definitions shall apply:

- 6 (1) Authority. – The State Education Assistance Authority.
- 7 (2) Commission. – The Veterans' Affairs Commission of the Department.
- 8 (3) Department. – The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.
- 9 (4) Program. – The program administered by the Department to award scholarship
10 funds that is referred to as Scholarships for Children of Wartime Veterans.
- 11 (5) Scholarship funds. – Scholarship funds awarded to the child of a North
12 Carolina veteran under Part 2 of Article 14 of Chapter 143B of the General
13 Statutes.

14 **SECTION 8A.6.(b)** Notwithstanding Part 2 of Article 14 of Chapter 143B of the
15 General Statutes, for the 2025-2026 academic year, the following shall occur relating to the
16 administration of scholarship funds under the Program:

- 17 (1) After the selection of persons by the Commission to receive scholarship funds,
18 and in no event later than May 15, 2026, the Commission shall notify the
19 Authority of all selections, and the Department shall notify the Authority of
20 any determinations that a student qualifies for a scholarship funded with
21 monies from the Escheat Fund.
- 22 (2) The Authority shall determine whether additional recipients of scholarship
23 funds qualify for scholarships funded with monies from the Escheat Fund
24 based on a determination of need consistent with other financial assistance
25 programs administered by the Authority and the unique needs and challenges
26 of the children of wartime veterans to ensure they have opportunities to reach
27 their higher education attainment goals.
- 28 (3) To the extent funds made available for the award of scholarship funds are
29 insufficient to provide scholarships to all selected persons, the Authority may
30 adjust and standardize award amounts as necessary, including providing pro
31 rata scholarship awards for room and board, to ensure the efficient
32 administration of the scholarship funds.
- 33 (4) The Authority may notify all recipients of their selection to receive
34 scholarship funds in accordance with Part 2 of Article 14 of Chapter 143B of
35 the General Statutes. If the Department notifies any student that the student is
36 eligible to receive scholarship funds, the Department shall inform the student
37 that the award amount is subject to the availability of funds and may be
38 prorated, if necessary.
- 39 (5) The Authority shall disburse scholarship funds in accordance with
40 G.S. 116-204(11a).

- 1 (6) From the total amount of funding appropriated to the Board of Governors of
2 The University of North Carolina and allocated to the Authority in the
3 2025-2026 fiscal year to support the award of scholarship funds under the
4 Program in that fiscal year, the Authority may use up to two and one-half
5 percent (2.5%) for administration costs related to the Program.

6 **SECTION 8A.6.(c)** The following are repealed:

- 7 (1) G.S. 143B-1211(11).
8 (2) G.S. 143B-1220(3).
9 (3) G.S. 143B-1223 through G.S. 143B-1228.

10 **SECTION 8A.6.(d)** Article 23 of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes is amended
11 by adding the following new Part to read:

12 "Part 8. Children of Wartime Veterans Scholarship.

13 **"§ 116-209.110. Purpose.**

14 In appreciation for the service and sacrifices of North Carolina's war veterans and as evidence
15 of this State's concern for their children, there is established the Children of Wartime Veterans
16 Scholarship Program to be administered by the State Education Assistance Authority. The
17 General Assembly finds that the establishment of the Program is necessary to provide financial
18 assistance from the State to address the unique needs and challenges of the children of wartime
19 veterans to ensure they have opportunities to reach their higher education attainment goals.

20 **"§ 116-209.112. Definitions.**

21 The following definitions shall apply in this Part:

- 22 (1) Active federal service. – One of the following:
23 a. Full-time duty in the Armed Forces other than active duty for training.
24 b. Active duty for training, if disability or death occurs (i) as a direct
25 result of armed conflict or (ii) while engaged in extra-hazardous
26 service, including such service under conditions simulating war.
27 (2) Armed Forces. – The United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force,
28 Space Force, and Coast Guard, including their reserve components.
29 (3) Authority. – The State Education Assistance Authority established pursuant
30 to this Article.
31 (4) Disability. – A disability of a veteran that qualifies the veteran to receive
32 compensation under 38 U.S.C. § 101.
33 (5) Eligible child. – A person who meets all of the following criteria:
34 a. Is under 25 years of age at the time of application for a scholarship.
35 b. Qualifies as a resident for tuition purposes under the criteria set forth
36 in G.S. 116-143.1 and in accordance with the coordinated and
37 centralized residency determination process administered by the
38 Authority.
39 c. Holds a high school diploma or its equivalent.
40 d. Is the child of a veteran who meets one of the following criteria:
41 1. Is a resident of North Carolina at the time of completion of the
42 application documentation for the Program.
43 2. Was a resident of North Carolina at the time of entrance into
44 service in the Armed Forces.
45 3. Was permanently stationed in North Carolina at the time of his
46 or her death.
47 4. Is an active duty service member permanently stationed in
48 North Carolina at the time of completion of the application
49 documentation for the Program.
50 e. Submits a completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid
51 (FAFSA) to the Authority.

- 1 (6) Eligible institution. – A State educational institution or a private educational
2 institution.
3 (7) Period of war or wartime. – Any of the periods or circumstances described
4 below:
5 a. Any period of war as defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101.
6 b. Any period of service in the Armed Forces during which the veteran
7 parent of an applicant for a scholarship under this Part suffered death
8 or disability (i) as a direct result of armed conflict or (ii) while engaged
9 in extra-hazardous service, including such service under conditions
10 simulating war.
11 (8) Private educational institution. – An eligible private postsecondary institution
12 as defined in G.S. 116-280(3).
13 (9) Program. – The Children of Wartime Veterans Scholarship Program
14 established by this Part.
15 (10) State educational institution. – Any constituent institution of The University
16 of North Carolina, or any community college operated under the provisions of
17 Chapter 115D of the General Statutes of North Carolina.
18 (11) Veteran. – Either of the following:
19 a. A person who served as a member of the Armed Forces in active
20 federal service during a period of war and who was either separated
21 from the Armed Forces under honorable conditions or who is currently
22 serving in a second or subsequent enlistment.
23 b. A person who was separated from the Armed Forces under honorable
24 conditions and whose death or disability was incurred (i) as a direct
25 result of armed conflict or (ii) while engaged in extra-hazardous
26 service, including such service under conditions simulating war.

27 **"§ 116-209.114. Scholarship.**

28 (a) Scholarship Benefits. – To the extent funds are made available for this purpose,
29 scholarship granted pursuant to this Part shall consist of the following benefits and other
30 requirements and limitations for eligible children enrolled as undergraduate students at eligible
31 institutions:

- 32 (1) Scholarship funds may be used for any of the following purposes:
33 a. The cost of attendance at an eligible institution, including tuition, fees,
34 room, and board.
35 b. The cost of short-term workforce training courses leading to industry
36 credentials.
37 (2) An eligible child may only receive scholarship funds for a total of four
38 academic years. The eligible child is not required to be continuously enrolled
39 to receive subsequent awards in a term, quarter, or semester. However, the
40 eligible child shall not receive an award after the end of a six-year period
41 beginning on the date a scholarship is first awarded. Whenever an eligible
42 child is enrolled in an eligible institution and the period for a scholarship ends
43 while enrolled in a term, quarter, or semester, such period shall be extended
44 to the end of such term, quarter, or semester, but not beyond the eligibility
45 limitation of four academic years.
46 (3) No scholarship awarded to an eligible child pursuant to this Part shall exceed
47 an amount equal to the highest cost of attendance for attendance at a State
48 educational institution for that academic year.
49 (4) As necessary, the Authority shall reduce a scholarship provided pursuant to
50 this Part so that the sum of all grants and scholarship aid covering the cost of
51 attendance received by the student, including the scholarship under this

1 section, shall not exceed the cost of attendance for the eligible institution at
2 which the student is enrolled.

3 (5) A student who has been awarded a scholarship under this section shall
4 maintain satisfactory academic progress according to the standards of the
5 eligible institution throughout the four academic years for which the student
6 is eligible for a scholarship under this section.

7 (b) Selection of Recipients. – The Authority shall select recipients for scholarships and
8 disburse the scholarships in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 116-209.116. The Authority
9 may contract with another State agency or a third-party entity to determine eligibility and select
10 recipients as required by G.S. 116-209.116(a)(1). In the event there are not sufficient funds to
11 provide each eligible child who has properly applied with a full scholarship as provided by this
12 Part, the Authority shall determine the necessary adjustment of awards consistent with the
13 priority requirements set forth in subsection (c) of this section, including establishing a lottery,
14 awarding scholarships on a pro rata share basis, or both, for the academic year.

15 (c) Award of Funds; Priority. – Beginning May 1 of the year in which the recipient enrolls
16 in an eligible institution, the Authority shall award scholarship funds to students who have
17 properly applied and are otherwise eligible under the Program in the following order:

18 (1) Students who received scholarship funds under Part 2 of Article 14 of Chapter
19 143B of the General Statutes in the previous academic year.

20 (2) Students who received scholarship funds under Part 2 of Article 14 of Chapter
21 143B of the General Statutes in any previous academic year.

22 (3) All other students.

23 **"§ 116-209.116. Administration and funding.**

24 (a) Responsibilities of the Authority. – The Authority shall administer the award of
25 scholarships under this Part and have all of the following associated responsibilities:

26 (1) Determining the eligibility of applicants and selecting recipients.

27 (2) Awarding funds to scholarship recipients.

28 (3) Suspending or revoking scholarships if the Authority is notified and finds that
29 a recipient does any of the following:

30 a. Fails to maintain satisfactory academic progress.

31 b. Engages in riots, unlawful demonstrations, the seizure of educational
32 buildings, or otherwise engages in disorderly conduct, breaches of the
33 peace, or unlawful assemblies.

34 (4) Promulgating such rules and regulations not inconsistent with the other
35 provisions of this Part as the Authority deems necessary for the orderly
36 administration of the Program. These rules may require eligible institutions to
37 provide such reports and other information as are necessary to carry out the
38 provisions of this Part, including whether a recipient is failing to maintain
39 satisfactory academic progress or engaging in any of the actions described in
40 sub-subdivision b. of subdivision (3) of this subsection.

41 (b) Funding. – Funds for the support of the Program shall be appropriated to the Board
42 of Governors of The University of North Carolina to be allocated to the Authority as a reserve
43 for payment of approved expenses for the cost of attendance. Funds to support the Program shall
44 be supported by receipts from the Escheat Fund, as provided by G.S. 116B-7, to the extent those
45 funds are used for worthy and needy residents of this State who are enrolled in public institutions
46 of higher education of this State.

47 (c) Withdrawal from Enrollment. – Irrespective of any other provision of this Part, the
48 Authority may prescribe special procedures for adjusting the accounts of scholarship recipients
49 who, for reasons of illness, physical inability to attend class, or for other valid reason satisfactory
50 to the Authority may withdraw from eligible institutions prior to the completion of the term,
51 semester, quarter, or other academic period being attended at the time of withdrawal. Such

1 procedures may include, but shall not be limited to, permitting an eligible institution to pay the
2 recipient the dollar value of his or her unused scholarship for the academic period being attended,
3 with a corresponding deduction of this period from his or her remaining scholarship eligibility
4 time.

5 (d) Administrative Costs. – Of the funds available each fiscal year to support the
6 Program, the following shall occur:

7 (1) The Authority may use up to two and one-half percent (2.5%) of the total
8 funds appropriated for that fiscal year from the allocation of monies from the
9 General Fund for administrative costs related to the Program.

10 (2) Up to five million dollars (\$5,000,000) that are unexpended at the end of each
11 fiscal year shall not revert but shall remain available for future scholarships to
12 be awarded under this Part.

13 **"§ 116-209.118. Report on scholarships.**

14 By January 1 of each year, the Authority shall report the following information related to
15 scholarships awarded under this Part to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and
16 the Fiscal Research Division:

17 (1) The number of scholarships awarded in the prior academic year, disaggregated
18 on the basis of at least the following:

19 a. Number of full-time students receiving scholarships, grouped by State
20 educational institutions and private educational institutions.

21 b. Number of new applicants for scholarships.

22 c. Number of new scholarship awards offered, denied, and accepted.

23 d. Range and average amount of scholarships awarded.

24 e. Actual amount of award provided by eligible institution.

25 f. Total expenditures for scholarship awards classified by source,
26 including State funds and Escheat Fund.

27 g. Total costs of administering the Program.

28 (2) The amount of funds held in reserve by the Authority for the award of
29 scholarships under the Program at the end of the prior fiscal year."

30 **SECTION 8A.6.(e)** G.S. 116-204 reads as rewritten:

31 **"§ 116-204. Powers of Authority.**

32 The Authority is hereby authorized and empowered:

33 ...

34 ~~(11a) To be responsible for the disbursement and accounting of funds for the State's~~
35 ~~Scholarships for Children of Wartime Veterans established by Part 2 of Article~~
36 ~~14 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes administer the Children of~~
37 ~~Wartime Veterans Scholarship established by Part 8 of Article 23 of this~~
38 ~~Chapter.~~

39"

40 **SECTION 8A.6.(f)** G.S. 116-209.23 reads as rewritten:

41 **"§ 116-209.23. Inconsistent laws inapplicable.**

42 Insofar as the provisions of this Article are inconsistent with the provisions of any general or
43 special laws, or parts thereof, the provisions of this Article shall be ~~controlling, except that no~~
44 ~~provision of the 1971 amendments to this Article shall apply to scholarships for children of war~~
45 ~~veterans as set forth in Part 2 of Article 14 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes, as~~
46 ~~amended controlling."~~

47 **SECTION 8A.6.(g)** G.S. 116B-7(b) reads as rewritten:

48 "(b) An amount specified in the Current Operations Appropriations Act shall be
49 transferred annually from the Escheat Fund to the Board of Governors of The University of North
50 Carolina to be allocated to the State Education Assistance Authority to partially fund the ~~program~~
51 ~~of Scholarships for Children of War Veterans established by Part 2 of Article 14 of Chapter 143B~~

1 ~~of the General Statutes. Children of Wartime Veterans Scholarship established by Part 8 of~~
2 ~~Article 23 of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes. Those funds may be used only for residents of~~
3 ~~this State who (i) are worthy and needy as determined by the Department of Military and Veterans~~
4 ~~Affairs Authority and (ii) are enrolled in public institutions of higher education of this State."~~

5 **SECTION 8A.6.(h)** G.S. 116-209.124(4)c.5.I., as enacted by Section 8A.9 of this
6 act, reads as rewritten:

7 "I. ~~Is a private educational institution, as defined in~~
8 ~~G.S. 143B-1224, an eligible private postsecondary~~
9 ~~institution as defined in G.S. 116-280(3)."~~

10 **SECTION 8A.6.(i)** Notwithstanding Part 8 of Article 23 of Chapter 116 of the
11 General Statutes, as enacted by this section, the following shall apply for any student who
12 received an award of scholarship funds under Part 2 of Article 14 of Chapter 143B of the General
13 Statutes in a previous academic year who would be eligible to receive funds under Part 2 of
14 Article 14 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes, as that Part existed immediately prior to its
15 repeal, beginning in the 2026-2027 academic year:

- 16 (1) The student shall be considered an "eligible child" under G.S. 116-209.112(4).
17 (2) To the extent funds are made available for this purpose, the student shall
18 receive up to the amount of scholarship funds the student received under Part
19 2 of Article 14 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes for up to four academic
20 years occurring within the eight-year period after the date the student's first
21 scholarship was awarded. In the event there are not sufficient funds to provide
22 each eligible child who has properly applied with a full scholarship in a fiscal
23 year, the Authority may adjust awards as necessary under
24 G.S. 116-209.114(b).

25 **SECTION 8A.6.(j)** The nonrecurring funds appropriated in this act to the Board of
26 Governors of The University of North Carolina for the 2025-2026 fiscal year and allocated to the
27 State Education Assistance Authority for the award of scholarships for the children of wartime
28 veterans pursuant this section shall not revert at the end of the 2025-2026 fiscal year, but shall
29 remain available until the end of the 2027-2028 fiscal year.

30 **SECTION 8A.6.(k)** Subsections (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), and (i) of this section
31 become effective July 1, 2026, and apply beginning with the award of scholarship funds in the
32 2026-2027 academic year. Except as otherwise provided, this section becomes effective July 1,
33 2025.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Drafting
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNCSEAA-H9(S8A.7)i

State Education Assistance Authority
House Appropriations, Education

1 ***SEAA MAY REALLOCATE UNENCUMBERED FUNDS FROM PRIVATE NEED-BASED***
2 ***SCHOLARSHIPS TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR SPRING 2025 AWARDS FOR***
3 ***CHILDREN OF WARTIME VETERANS SCHOLARSHIPS***

4 **SECTION 8A.7.** Notwithstanding G.S. 116-283(c), of the funds appropriated to the
5 Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina and allocated to the State Education
6 Assistance Authority for need-based scholarships for students attending private institutions of
7 higher education in accordance with Article 34 of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes that are
8 unexpended at the end of the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the Authority may reallocate up to two
9 million one hundred thousand dollars (\$2,100,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2025-2026
10 fiscal year to instead support scholarships for children of wartime veterans that were awarded in
11 the spring 2025 academic semester in accordance with Part 2 of Article 14 of Chapter 143B of
12 the General Statutes.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNCSEAA-H10(S8A.8)-P

State Education Assistance Authority
House Appropriations, Education

1 ***REQUIRE SEAA TO PROVIDE TESTING COSTS FOR PESA RECIPIENTS***

2 **SECTION 8A.8.(a)** G.S. 115C-592 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

3 "(c1) Test Costs. – In addition to the amount of the scholarship award and except as
4 otherwise provided in this subsection, for any student receiving a scholarship award in grades
5 three, eight, or 11, the Authority shall provide for the student an amount equal to the cost of the
6 nationally standardized test required to be administered as provided in G.S. 115C-562.5."

7 **SECTION 8A.8.(b)** G.S. 115C-562.5 is amended by adding a new subsection to
8 read:

9 "(b2) The parent of a student receiving scholarship funds under Article 41 of this Chapter
10 may opt that student out of any testing required by this section in accordance with rules adopted
11 by the Authority pursuant to G.S. 115C-592(c1)."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNCSEAA-H3(S8A.9)-P

State Education Assistance Authority
House Appropriations, Education

1 **CODIFY NORTH CAROLINA PATRIOT STAR FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

2 **SECTION 8A.9.(a)** Article 23 of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes is amended by
3 adding the following new Part to read:

4 "Part 9. North Carolina Patriot Star Family Scholarship Program.

5 **"§ 116-209.120. Program established.**

6 The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina shall establish the North
7 Carolina Patriot Star Family Scholarship Program. To the extent funds are made available for the
8 Program, the Board shall award funds for the purpose of administering scholarships under the
9 Program to (i) the Patriot Foundation, a nonprofit corporation, and (ii) the Marine Corps
10 Scholarship Foundation, Inc., a nonprofit corporation.

11 **"§ 116-209.122. Purpose of the Program.**

12 The Patriot Foundation and the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation, Inc., respectively,
13 shall provide for scholarships to eligible children and eligible spouses of certain veterans, eligible
14 children of certain currently serving members of the Armed Forces, and eligible disabled veterans
15 to attend eligible postsecondary institutions in accordance with the requirements of this Part.

16 **"§ 116-209.124. Definitions.**

17 For the purposes of this Part, the following definitions shall apply:

- 18 (1) Armed Forces. – A component of the United States Army, Navy, Marine
19 Corps, Air Force, Space Force, and Coast Guard, including their reserve
20 components.
- 21 (2) Eligible child or eligible children. – Any person who meets all of the following
22 requirements:
- 23 a. Is attending or has been accepted to enroll in an eligible postsecondary
24 institution.
- 25 b. Is a legal resident of North Carolina when scholarship documentation
26 is completed, provided that if a child is claimed as a dependent by the
27 child's parent, residency may be established based on a parent meeting
28 the requirements of sub-sub-sub-subdivision IV. of
29 sub-sub-subdivision 1. of sub-subdivision d. of this subdivision.
- 30 c. Has complied with the requirements of the Selective Service System,
31 if applicable.
- 32 d. The parent of the person is a veteran or a currently serving member of
33 the Armed Forces that meets all of the following criteria:
- 34 1. One of the following residency conditions:
- 35 I. Is a resident of North Carolina at the time of
36 scholarship documentation completion.
- 37 II. Was a resident of North Carolina at the time of entrance
38 into service in the Armed Forces.
- 39 III. Was permanently stationed in North Carolina at the
40 time of his or her death.

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- IV. Is an active duty service member permanently stationed in North Carolina at the time of documentation completion.
- 2. One of the following service conditions:
 - I. Was a member of the Armed Forces who was killed in action or in the line of duty or died of wounds or other causes not due to the service member's willful misconduct during a period of war, national emergency, or training in preparation for future conflicts and is a direct result of service in the line of duty.
 - II. Was a member of the Armed Forces who died of service-connected injuries, wounds, illness, or other causes incurred or aggravated while a member of the Armed Forces during a period of war, national emergency, or training in preparation for future conflicts and is a direct result of service in the line of duty. Standard documentation of the parent's death, wounds, injury, or illness shall be supplied by a scholarship recipient at the time of scholarship request.
 - III. Is a veteran of the Armed Forces who meets both of the following criteria:
 - A. Incurred traumatic injuries or wounds or sustained a major illness while a member of the Armed Forces during a period of war, national emergency, or training in preparation for future conflicts, and the injuries, wounds, or illness are a direct result of service in the line of duty.
 - B. Is receiving compensation of at least fifty percent (50%) as rated by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs for a disability connected to the injuries, wounds, or illness identified in accordance with sub-sub-sub-sub-subdivision A. of this sub-sub-sub-subdivision.
 - IV. Is a current member of the Armed Forces who incurred traumatic injuries or wounds or sustained a major illness while a member of the Armed Forces during a period of war, national emergency, or training in preparation for future conflicts, and the injuries, wounds, or illness are a direct result of service in the line of duty. The parent's traumatic wounds, injury, or major illness must be documented by the member's Unit Commander.
- (3) Eligible disabled veteran. – Any person who is a veteran who meets all of the following criteria:
 - a. Incurred traumatic injuries or wounds or sustained a major illness while a member of the Armed Forces during a period of war, national emergency, or training in preparation for future conflicts, and the injuries, wounds, or illness are a direct result of service in the line of duty.

1 **b.** Is receiving compensation of at least fifty percent (50%) as rated by
2 the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs for a disability connected to
3 the injuries, wounds, or illness identified in accordance with
4 sub-subdivision a. of this subdivision.

5 **c.** Is a resident of North Carolina when scholarship documentation is
6 completed.

7 **d.** Is attending or has been accepted to enroll in an eligible postsecondary
8 institution.

9 **(4)** Eligible postsecondary institution. – Any of the following postsecondary
10 educational institutions:

11 **a.** A constituent institution of The University of North Carolina.

12 **b.** A community college under the jurisdiction of the State Board of
13 Community Colleges.

14 **c.** A junior college, senior college, or university that meets all of the
15 following requirements:

16 **1.** Is operated and governed by private interests not under the
17 control of the federal government, the State, or any local
18 government.

19 **2.** Has a main permanent campus, as defined in G.S. 116-280(4),
20 located within the State of North Carolina.

21 **3.** Does not operate for profit.

22 **4.** The curriculum is primarily directed toward the awarding of
23 associate, baccalaureate, or graduate degrees.

24 **5.** Meets one of the following requirements:

25 **I.** Is a private educational institution, as defined in
26 G.S. 143B-1224.

27 **II.** Is accredited by an accrediting agency that is
28 recognized by the United States Department of
29 Education as a reliable authority concerning the quality
30 of education or training offered by institutions of higher
31 education.

32 **d.** A private vocational institution, including Federal Aviation
33 Administration certificated aviation training programs.

34 **(5)** Eligible spouse. – Any person who meets all of the following criteria:

35 **a.** Is attending or has been accepted to enroll in an eligible postsecondary
36 institution.

37 **b.** Is a legal resident of North Carolina when scholarship documentation
38 is completed.

39 **c.** Has complied with the requirements of the Selective Service System,
40 if applicable.

41 **d.** Meets one of the conditions set forth in sub-sub-sub-subdivisions I.
42 through III. of sub-sub-subdivision 2. of sub-subdivision d. of
43 subdivision (2) of this section.

44 **(6)** Program. – The North Carolina Patriot Star Family Scholarship Program
45 established pursuant to this Part.

46 **(7)** Veteran. – An individual who has served and is no longer serving in the Armed
47 Forces of the United States. For the purposes of this subdivision, the veteran
48 shall have separated from the Armed Forces under honorable conditions or
49 whose death or disability of at least fifty percent (50%) or more was incurred
50 as a direct result of service in the line of duty.

51 **"§ 116-209.126. Administration; awards.**

1 (a) To the extent funds are made available for the Program, the Patriot Foundation and
2 the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation, Inc., shall each separately administer and award
3 scholarships to eligible applicants in accordance with the requirements of the Program. To
4 account for the demand for scholarships, the Board of Governors of The University of North
5 Carolina may reallocate funds appropriated for the Program between the Patriot Foundation and
6 the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation, Inc., in each fiscal year funds are made available for
7 the Program as long as each nonprofit corporation agrees to the reallocation in that year. In
8 administering the Program, each nonprofit corporation shall be responsible for oversight for the
9 scholarships awarded through its organization under the Program to ensure compliance with the
10 provisions of this Part.

11 (b) Each nonprofit corporation shall, at a minimum, establish criteria and procedures
12 related to scholarship documentation completion, the amount of individual scholarships, the
13 permissible uses of scholarship funds, the period of eligibility for award of a scholarship, the
14 conditions for a revocation of a scholarship, and any other procedures it deems necessary for its
15 administration of the Program.

16 (c) If an eligible child or eligible spouse receives a scholarship or other grant covering
17 the costs of attendance at an eligible postsecondary institution for which the scholarship is
18 awarded, then the amount of a scholarship awarded under this Part shall be reduced so that the
19 sum of all grants and scholarships covering the costs of attendance received by the eligible child
20 or eligible spouse does not exceed the costs of attendance for the institution. For the purposes of
21 this section, costs of attendance shall include monies for tuition, fees, books, supplies, and
22 school-related expenses, including laptops, equipment, tutoring support, as well as room and
23 board, as long as the scholarship recipient is enrolled as at least a half-time student at the
24 institution. Off-campus housing costs for room and board are also included to the extent the
25 eligible postsecondary institution includes it in its costs of attendance.

26 **"§ 116-209.128. Reporting.**

27 (a) The Patriot Foundation shall submit a report by April 1 of each year in which the
28 Patriot Foundation spends State funds made available for the Program to the Joint Legislative
29 Education Oversight Committee and the Fiscal Research Division on the activities related to the
30 Program and the use of the State funds.

31 (b) The Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation, Inc., shall submit a report by April 1 of
32 each year in which the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation, Inc., spends State funds made
33 available for the Program to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and the Fiscal
34 Research Division on the activities related to the Program and the use of the State funds."

35 **SECTION 8A.9.(b)** Notwithstanding any other provision of law or the Committee
36 Report described in Section 43.2 of S.L. 2021-180, the recurring funds appropriated to the Board
37 of Governors of The University of North Carolina and allocated to the Patriot Foundation and
38 the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation, Inc., to administer the North Carolina Patriot Star
39 Family Scholarship Program pursuant to Section 8.3 of S.L. 2021-180, as amended by Section
40 2.8 of S.L. 2022-6, Section 3.6 of S.L. 2022-71, Section 8.22 of S.L. 2023-134, and Section 2.13
41 of S.L. 2024-1, shall instead be used to administer the North Carolina Patriot Star Family
42 Scholarship Program pursuant to Part 9 of Article 23 of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes, as
43 enacted by this section.

44 **SECTION 8A.9.(c)** Section 8.3 of S.L. 2021-180, as amended by Section 2.8(a) of
45 S.L. 2022-6, Section 3.6 of S.L. 2022-71, Section 8.22 of S.L. 2023-134, and Section 2.13 of
46 S.L. 2024-1, is repealed.

47 **SECTION 8A.9.(d)** This section is effective when it becomes law.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNCSEAA-H14A-P

State Education Assistance Authority
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 ***NURSING FELLOWS PILOT PROGRAM AT WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY***

2 **SECTION #.(a)** Definitions. – The following definitions apply in this section:

- 3 (1) Academic term. – A semester or summer session.
- 4 (2) Authority. – The State Education Assistance Authority.
- 5 (3) Dean. – The Dean of the School of Health Sciences at WSSU.
- 6 (4) Eligible nurse. – A nurse who meets all of the following criteria:
- 7 a. Enrolled at WSSU beginning in the 2026-2027 or 2027-2028
- 8 academic year.
- 9 b. Received a forgivable loan under the Program.
- 10 c. Graduated within 10 years from at least one of the following at WSSU,
- 11 excluding any authorized deferment for extenuating circumstances:
- 12 1. A Bachelor of Science in Nursing program.
- 13 2. A Master of Science in Nursing Education program.
- 14 d. Is licensed as a registered nurse in this State.
- 15 (5) Forgivable loan. – A forgivable loan made under the Program.
- 16 (6) Program. – The Nursing Fellows Pilot Program.
- 17 (7) Qualifying nurse. – An eligible nurse who meets all of the following criteria:
- 18 a. Holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from WSSU.
- 19 b. Is employed as a nurse in this State.
- 20 (8) Qualifying nurse instructor. – An eligible nurse who meets all of the following
- 21 criteria:
- 22 a. Holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from WSSU and a
- 23 Master of Science degree in Nursing Education from WSSU.
- 24 b. Is employed as an instructor in a qualifying nursing program.
- 25 (9) Qualifying nursing program. – A nursing program at one of the following that
- 26 prepares students to earn a degree in nursing and become a licensed practical
- 27 nurse as defined in Article 9A of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes:
- 28 a. A community college.
- 29 b. A university or private postsecondary institution.
- 30 (10) Trust Fund. – The Nursing Fellows Program Trust Fund.
- 31 (11) University or private postsecondary institution. – Either of the following:
- 32 a. A postsecondary constituent institution of The University of North
- 33 Carolina as defined in G.S. 116-2(4).
- 34 b. An eligible private postsecondary educational institution as defined in
- 35 G.S. 116-280(3).
- 36 (12) WSSU. – Winston-Salem State University.

37 **SECTION #.(b)** Program. – There is established the Nursing Fellows Pilot Program.

38 The purpose of the Program is to recruit, prepare, and support eligible nursing students enrolling
39 at WSSU beginning in the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 academic years for preparation as highly
40 effective nurses and instructors in qualifying nursing programs. The Program shall be used to

1 provide forgivable loans to nursing students who are (i) enrolled in degree programs at WSSU to
2 receive a Bachelor of Science in Nursing or a Master of Science in Nursing Education and (ii)
3 interested in preparing to become nurses in the State or instructors in qualifying nursing
4 programs.

5 **SECTION #.(c) Program Administration; Dean.** – The Authority shall administer
6 the Program in cooperation with the Dean. The Dean shall determine forgivable loan recipient
7 selection criteria and selection procedures and shall select the recipients to receive forgivable
8 loans under the Program in accordance with the requirements of this section. The Dean shall
9 appoint any needed staff of the Program and shall be responsible for recruitment and coordination
10 of the Program, including proactive, aggressive, and strategic recruitment of potential recipients.
11 Recruitment activities shall include (i) targeting regions of the State with the greatest need for
12 nurses and nursing instructors in qualifying nursing programs, (ii) actively engaging with
13 registered nurses, business leaders, experts in human resources, elected officials, and other
14 community leaders throughout the State, and (iii) attracting candidates to the Program. WSSU
15 shall provide office space and clerical support staff, as necessary, to the Dean for the Program.

16 **SECTION #.(d) Trust Fund.** – There is established the Nursing Fellows Program
17 Trust Fund to be administered by the Authority, in conjunction with the Dean. All funds (i)
18 appropriated to, or otherwise received by, the Program for forgivable loans and other Program
19 purposes, (ii) received as repayment of forgivable loans, and (iii) earned as interest on these funds
20 shall be placed in the Trust Fund. The purpose of the Trust Fund is to provide financial assistance
21 to qualified students to fill needed positions for nurses in the State and instructors in qualifying
22 nursing programs through completion of a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing or both a
23 Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing and a Master of Science degree in Nursing Education.

24 **SECTION #.(e) Uses of Monies in the Trust Fund.** – The monies in the Trust Fund
25 may be used only for forgivable loans granted under the Program, administrative costs associated
26 with the Program, including recruitment and recovery of funds advanced under the Program,
27 mentoring and coaching support to forgivable loan recipients, and extracurricular enhancement
28 activities of the Program in accordance with the following:

- 29 (1) The Authority shall transfer six percent (6%) of the available funds from the
30 Trust Fund to WSSU at the beginning of each fiscal year for the following
31 purposes:
 - 32 a. The Program's administrative costs.
 - 33 b. Extracurricular enhancement activities of the Program.
 - 34 c. Mentoring and coaching support to forgivable loan recipients.
- 35 (2) The Authority may use up to four percent (4%) of the funds appropriated to
36 the Trust Fund each fiscal year for administrative costs associated with the
37 Program.

38 **SECTION #.(f) Student Selection Criteria for Forgivable Loans.** – The Dean, in
39 consultation with the Associate Dean of Nursing at WSSU, shall adopt stringent standards for
40 awarding forgivable loans based on multiple measures to ensure that only the strongest applicants
41 receive them, including the following:

- 42 (1) Grade point averages.
- 43 (2) Performance on relevant assessments.
- 44 (3) Experience, accomplishments, and other criteria demonstrating qualities
45 positively correlated with highly effective nurses and instructors in qualifying
46 nursing programs, including excellent verbal and communication skills.
- 47 (4) Demonstrated commitment to serve in North Carolina.

48 **SECTION #.(g) Awards of Forgivable Loans.** – The Program shall provide
49 forgivable loans to selected students who are initially enrolled in a Bachelor of Science in
50 Nursing degree program at WSSU. Loan payments shall be provided each year for completion
51 of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program and, if a loan recipient seeks to become a

1 qualifying nurse instructor, for a Master of Science in Nursing Education program. The student
2 shall be eligible to receive loan payments for the Master of Science in Nursing Education
3 program as long as the student enrolls within two years of graduation from the Bachelor of
4 Science in Nursing program. Forgivable loans may be used for tuition, fees, the cost of books,
5 and expenses related to completing a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing and a Master of
6 Science degree in Nursing Education. Forgivable loans shall be awarded per academic term in
7 amounts of up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per semester or two thousand five hundred dollars
8 (\$2,500) per summer session, as follows:

9 (1) For students pursuing careers as qualifying nurses, for up to five semesters.

10 (2) For persons pursuing careers as qualifying nurse instructors, for up to nine
11 semesters.

12 **SECTION #.(h)** Administration of Forgivable Loan Awards. – Upon the naming of
13 recipients of the forgivable loans by the Dean, the Dean shall transfer to the Authority its
14 decisions. The Authority, in coordination with the Dean, shall perform all of the administrative
15 functions necessary to implement this section, which functions shall include rulemaking,
16 disseminating information, acting as a liaison with participating institutions of higher education,
17 implementing forgivable loan agreements, loan monitoring, loan canceling through service and
18 collection, determining the acceptability of service repayment agreements, enforcing the
19 agreements, and all other functions necessary for the execution, payment, and enforcement of
20 promissory notes required under this section.

21 **SECTION #.(i)** Annual Report. – The Dean, in coordination with the Authority, shall
22 report no later than January 1, 2027, and annually thereafter while forgivable loans are being
23 serviced under the Program, to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee regarding
24 the following:

25 (1) Forgivable loans awarded from the Trust Fund, including the following:

26 a. Demographic information regarding recipients.

27 b. Number of recipients by institution of higher education.

28 (2) Placement and repayment rates, including the following:

29 a. Number of graduates who have been employed as qualifying nurses in
30 the State and qualifying nurse instructors in qualifying nursing
31 programs within two years of graduation.

32 b. Number of graduates who have elected to do loan repayment and their
33 years of service, if any, prior to beginning loan repayment.

34 c. Graduation rates of associate degree students taught by instructors in
35 qualifying nursing programs who are recipients of loans under the
36 Program.

37 (3) Mentoring and coaching support, including the number of forgivable loan
38 recipients who received mentoring and coaching support.

39 (4) Selected nurse employer outcomes by degree program, including the
40 following:

41 a. Turnover rate for forgivable loan graduates, including the turnover rate
42 for graduates who also received mentoring and coaching support.

43 b. Fulfillment rate of forgivable loan graduates.

44 **SECTION #.(j)** Terms of Forgivable Loans. – All forgivable loans shall be
45 evidenced by notes made payable to the Authority that bear interest at a rate not to exceed ten
46 percent (10%) per year as set by the Authority and beginning on the first day of September after
47 completion of the applicable degree program or 90 days after graduation, whichever is later. If a
48 forgivable loan is terminated, the note shall be made payable to the Authority 90 days after
49 termination of the forgivable loan. The forgivable loan may be terminated upon the recipient's
50 withdrawal from the Program or by the recipient's failure to meet the standards set by the Dean.

1 **SECTION #.(k)** Forgiveness. – For every year a qualifying nurse remains a
2 qualifying nurse or a qualifying nurse instructor remains a qualifying nurse instructor, the
3 Authority shall forgive one-third of the total loan amount received over the course of enrollment
4 in the applicable degree program and any interest accrued on that amount. The Authority shall
5 also forgive the loan if it finds that it is impossible for the recipient to work for up to three years,
6 within 10 years after completion of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program for
7 persons pursuing forgiveness as qualifying nurses or of the Master of Science in Nursing
8 Education degree program for persons pursuing forgiveness as qualifying nurse instructors,
9 because of the death or permanent disability of the recipient. If the recipient repays the forgivable
10 loan by cash payments, all indebtedness shall be repaid within 10 years after completion of the
11 latest applicable degree program supported by the forgivable loan. If the recipient completes the
12 applicable degree program, payment of principal and interest shall begin no later than the first
13 day of September after the completion of the program. Should a recipient present extenuating
14 circumstances, the Authority may extend the period to repay the loan in cash to no more than a
15 total of 12 years.

16 **SECTION #.(l)** Notwithstanding G.S. 116-209.45(h), beginning in the 2026-2027
17 fiscal year, to the extent funds remain available in the Forgivable Education Loans for Service
18 Fund at the end of each fiscal year, the Authority may use those funds to administer the Nursing
19 Fellows Pilot Program in accordance with this section.

20 **SECTION #.(m)** The Dean of the School of Health Sciences at Winston-Salem State
21 University shall establish initial selection criteria for recipients no later than November 15, 2025,
22 and shall make available applications to prospective students no later than December 31, 2025.

23 **SECTION #.(n)** The Dean of the School of Health Sciences at Winston-Salem State
24 University shall select recipients and award the initial forgivable loans for the 2026-2027
25 academic year no later than April 1, 2026.

26 **SECTION #.(o)** This section applies beginning with applications for enrollment in
27 the Nursing Fellows Program in the 2026-2027 academic year.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNCSEAA-H15-P

State Education Assistance Authority
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 ***INCREASE CARRYFORWARD AUTHORITY FOR PERSONAL EDUCATION STUDENT***
2 ***ACCOUNTS***

3 **SECTION #.(a)** G.S. 115C-600(b) reads as rewritten:

4 "(b) The Authority shall make reasonable efforts to ensure the amount of scholarship funds
5 awarded for a school year do not exceed the funds that are available for awards to eligible students
6 in each fiscal year. However, to ensure that as many eligible students receive scholarship funds
7 in a timely manner as possible, at the end of each fiscal year, the Authority shall place any
8 unexpended funds appropriated for the Program into an institutional trust fund established in
9 accordance with the provisions of G.S. 116-36.1 to accrue a cash balance in the institutional trust
10 fund of up to ~~ten million dollars (\$10,000,000)~~ fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000). The
11 Authority shall use these funds to award scholarship funds in any fiscal year that the funds
12 required to award scholarships to eligible students for a school year exceed the funds available
13 for the distribution of those awards. All interest earned on these funds shall also be placed in the
14 institutional trust fund established pursuant to this subsection. For any fiscal year in which funds
15 are expended from the institutional trust fund, the Authority shall submit a report as required by
16 G.S. 115C-598(b). In any fiscal year in which the cash balance of the institutional trust fund is
17 greater than ~~ten million dollars (\$10,000,000)~~ fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) any funds
18 above ~~ten million dollars (\$10,000,000)~~ fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) remaining at the
19 end of the fiscal year from the funds appropriated for the Program shall revert to the General
20 Fund."

21 **SECTION #.(b)** This section becomes effective June 30, 2025.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNCSEAA-H16-P

State Education Assistance Authority
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 **MAKE VARIOUS CHANGES TO THE PRINCIPAL FELLOWS PROGRAM**

2 SECTION #.(a) Article 5C of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes reads as rewritten:

3 "Article 5C.

4 "North Carolina Principal Fellows Program.

5 ...

6 **"§ 116-74.44. North Carolina Principal Fellows Program established; administration.**

7 (a) Established. – There is established the North Carolina Principal Fellows Program as
8 a competitive grant program for eligible entities for the purpose of elevating educators in North
9 Carolina public schools by transforming the preparation of principals across the State and
10 providing for (i) forgivable scholarship loans to the participants of those school leader
11 preparation programs–programs and (ii) grants to school leader preparation programs to develop
12 innovative ways of training principals. The Authority shall administer the North Carolina
13 Principal Fellows Program in collaboration with the Commission as set forth in this Article to
14 provide funds for the preparation and support of highly effective future school principals in North
15 Carolina.

16 ...

17 (c) Administration of Forgivable Scholarship Loans. – Upon the ~~grant recipients'~~
18 ~~selection~~selection by grant recipients for forgivable scholarship loans of the program participants
19 for the school leader preparation programs, the Commission shall transfer the names of all
20 program participants to the Authority. The Authority shall perform all of the administrative
21 functions necessary to implement the forgivable scholarship loans to the school leader
22 preparation program participants, which functions shall include rule making, disseminating
23 information, acting as a liaison with participating eligible entities, implementing forgivable loan
24 agreements in the form of promissory notes, monitoring loan repayment through service and
25 cash, and performing all other functions necessary for the execution, payment, and enforcement
26 of promissory notes required under this Article.

27 ...

28 **"§ 116-74.45. Grant applications; priority.**

29 (a) Application Requirements. – Subject to the availability of funds for this purpose, the
30 Commission shall issue a request for proposal with guidelines and criteria for applying for a
31 ~~grant~~grants to provide forgivable scholarship loans and develop innovative ways of training
32 principals. An eligible entity that seeks a grant shall submit to the Commission an application at
33 such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Commission may
34 require. Eligible entities may create partnerships to develop and establish school leader
35 preparation programs and apply jointly to be a grant recipient. An applicant shall include at least
36 the following information in its application for consideration by the Commission:

37 ...

38 **"§ 116-74.46. Recipient selection; use of grant funds; duration and conditions of grants;**
39 **reporting requirements.**

1 (a) Selection. – After evaluation of grant applications pursuant to G.S. 116-74.45, the
2 Commission shall notify the Authority of its selection of the recipients of grants for each fiscal
3 year. The Commission shall select up to eight grant recipients to ~~be operating~~ operate a school
4 leader preparation program with grant funds for forgivable scholarship loans in any fiscal
5 ~~year~~ year and up to two recipients for a grant of up to two hundred fifty thousand dollars
6 (\$250,000) per recipient per fiscal year to develop innovative ways of training principals.

7 (b) Use of ~~Funds~~ Grant Funds for Forgivable Scholarship Loans. – Each eligible entity
8 that receives grant funds for forgivable scholarship loans shall use those funds to carry out the
9 following:

10 ...

11 (c) Duration and Conditions of Grants. – The Commission shall also notify the Authority
12 of its decisions on the duration and renewal of grants to eligible entities made in accordance with
13 the following:

14 (1) The duration of grants for forgivable scholarship loans shall be as follows:

15 a. Grants shall be no more than six years and no fewer than two years in
16 duration, unless the Commission finds early termination of a grant is
17 necessary due to noncompliance with grant terms.

18 b. The Commission may renew a grant based on compliance with the
19 grant terms and performance, including allowing the grantee to scale
20 up or replicate the successful program as provided in subdivision (3)
21 of this subsection.

22 (1a) The duration of grants for training development shall be for one year. The
23 Commission may renew a grant for training development, in its discretion, on
24 an annual basis.

25 ...

26 (3) In evaluating performance for purposes of grant renewal and making its
27 renewal decisions to provide to the ~~Authority~~, Authority pursuant to
28 subdivision (1) of this subsection, the Commission shall consider at least the
29 following:

30 ...

31 (d) Reporting Requirements for Grant Recipients. – Recipients of grants shall participate
32 in all evaluation activities required by the Commission and submit an annual report to the
33 Commission with any information requested by the Commission. The recipients shall comply
34 with additional report requests made by the Commission. Whenever practicable and within a
35 reasonable amount of time, grant recipients shall also make all materials developed as part of the
36 program and with grant funds publicly available to contribute to the broader sharing of promising
37 practices. Materials shall not include personally identifiable information regarding individuals
38 involved or associated with the program, including, without limitation, applicants, participants,
39 supervisors, evaluators, faculty, and staff, without their prior written consent. The Commission
40 shall work with recipients, local school administrative units, and public schools, as needed, to
41 enable the collection, analysis, and evaluation of at least the following ~~relevant data~~, data related
42 to grants for forgivable scholarship loans, within necessary privacy constraints:

43 (1) Student achievement in eligible schools.

44 (2) The percentage of program completers who are placed as school leaders
45 within three years in the State.

46 (3) The percentage of program completers who are placed as school leaders
47 within three years in high-need schools in the State.

48 (4) The percentage of program completers rated proficient or above on school
49 leader evaluation and support systems.

1 (5) The percentage of program completers that are school leaders who have
2 remained employed in a North Carolina public school for two or more years
3 of initial placement.

4"

5 SECTION #.(b) G.S. 116-74.41B reads as rewritten:

6 "§ 116-74.41B. The North Carolina Principal Fellows Trust Fund.

7 ...

8 (b) Use of Monies in the Trust Fund. – The monies in the Trust Fund may be used only
9 for the purposes set forth in this subsection, including the award of grants pursuant to
10 G.S. 116-74.44, administrative costs, and costs associated with Program operations in
11 accordance with this Article. The Authority may use up to two percent (2%) of the funds
12 appropriated for the Program or one hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$160,000) from the Trust
13 Fund, whichever is greater, each fiscal year for administrative costs, including recovery of funds
14 advanced under the Program, and may allocate to the Commission up to eight hundred thousand
15 dollars (\$800,000) from the Trust Fund each fiscal year for the following:

16 (1) The salary and benefits of the director and staff of the Program.

17 (2) The expenses of the Commission to administer the Program.

18 (3) Program monitoring and evaluation.

19 (4) Extracurricular enhancement activities for the Program.

20 (5) Repealed by Session Laws 2019-60, s. 1(y), effective July 1, 2021.

21 (6) Programming on research-based school leadership practices to be shared with
22 eligible entities in order to improve principal preparation throughout the State.

23 (c) Remaining Funds. – If at the end of each fiscal year there are funds remaining in the
24 Trust Fund that are not obligated or otherwise encumbered for another purpose, upon the request
25 of the Commission, the Authority shall allocate the funds to the Commission for any of the
26 purposes identified in subdivisions (3) through (6) of subsection (b) of this section."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNCSEAA-H17-P

State Education Assistance Authority
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

**1 REQUIRE NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS RECEIVING OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP
2 FUNDS TO RETAIN CERTAIN TESTING RECORDS AND VERIFY COMPLIANCE**

3 SECTION #.(a) G.S. 115C-562.5 reads as rewritten:

**4 "§ 115C-562.5. Obligations of nonpublic schools accepting eligible students receiving
5 scholarship grants.**

**6 (a) A nonpublic school that accepts eligible students receiving scholarship grants shall
7 comply with the following:**

8 ...

**9 (4) Administer, at least once in each school year, tests as provided in this
10 subdivision. Test performance data shall be submitted to the Authority by July
11 15 of each year. Test performance data reported to the Authority under this
12 subdivision is not a public record under Chapter 132 of the General Statutes.
13 Tests shall be administered to all eligible students enrolled in grades three and
14 higher whose tuition and fees are paid in whole or in part with a scholarship
15 grant as follows:**

- 16 a. The nationally standardized test designated by the Authority in grades
17 three and eight.**
- 18 b. The ACT in grade 11.**
- 19 c. A nationally standardized test or other nationally standardized
20 equivalent measurement selected by the chief administrative officer of
21 the nonpublic school in all other grades four and higher. For grades
22 four through seven, the nationally standardized test or other equivalent
23 measurement selected must measure achievement in the areas of
24 English grammar, reading, spelling, and mathematics. For grades nine,
25 10, and 12, the nationally standardized test or other equivalent
26 measurement selected must measure either (i) achievement in the areas
27 of English grammar, reading, spelling, and mathematics or (ii)
28 competencies in the verbal and quantitative areas.**

29 ...

**30 (b1) A nonpublic school that accepts eligible students receiving scholarship grants shall
31 annually certify compliance with subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of this section and shall retain
32 records of the test administration for a period of four years. Each year the Authority shall select
33 at least four percent (4%) of nonpublic schools to verify testing administration in accordance
34 with subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of this section.**

35"

36 SECTION #.(b) This section applies beginning with the 2025-2026 school year.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2025

Proofed
SPECIAL PROVISION



2025-UNCSEAA-H18-P

State Education Assistance Authority
House Appropriations, Education

Requested by

1 **REDUCE TOTAL INDIVIDUAL CARRYFORWARD FOR PERSONAL EDUCATION**
2 **STUDENT ACCOUNTS**

3 **SECTION #.(a)** G.S. 115C-592(b1) reads as rewritten:

4 "(b1) Scholarship Awards for Students with Certain Disabilities. – A student who has one
5 or more of the following disabilities listed as a primary or secondary disability on the student's
6 eligibility determination form submitted as required by subsection (e) of this section at the time
7 of application for scholarship funds may be awarded scholarship funds for each school year in
8 an amount of up to (i) seventeen thousand dollars (\$17,000) for an eligible student or (ii) eight
9 thousand five hundred dollars (\$8,500) for an eligible part-time student:

- 10 (1) Autism.
- 11 (2) Hearing impairment.
- 12 (3) Moderate or severe intellectual disability.
- 13 (4) Orthopedic impairment.
- 14 (5) Visual impairment.

15 For eligible students who qualify for scholarship funds under this subsection, no more than
16 four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500) of funds remaining in an electronic account at the
17 end of a school year shall be carried forward until expended for each school year upon renewal
18 of the account under subsection (b2) of this section. In no event shall the total amount of funds
19 carried forward for an eligible student in a personal education student account exceed ~~thirty~~
20 ~~thousand dollars (\$30,000).~~ fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000). Any funds remaining in the
21 electronic account if an agreement is not renewed under G.S. 115C-595 shall be returned to the
22 Authority."

23 **SECTION #.(b)** This section becomes effective June 30, 2028.