



SENATE BILL 61: Community Colleges Budget/2019-2021 Biennium.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee:		Date:	January 29, 2020
Introduced by:		Prepared by:	Brian Gwyn*
Analysis of:	S.L. 2019-235, Secs. 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.8, 4.1		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *S.L. 2019-235 makes changes related to the North Carolina Community College System.*

Section 3.1: Codify Reorganization Authority of Community Colleges System Office

Section 3.1 of S.L. 2019-235 codifies the authority of the President of the North Carolina Community Colleges System Office to reorganize that office with approval of the State Board of Community Colleges.

This section became effective July 1, 2019.

Section 3.2: Community College Tuition Waiver/Campus Police of Private Institutions of Higher Education

Section 3.2 of S.L. 2019-235 allows the State Board of Community Colleges to provide waivers of tuition and registration fees to the campus police agencies of private institutions of higher education that have been certified by the Attorney General to be campus police agencies pursuant to Chapter 74G of the General Statutes.

This section became effective July 1, 2019, and applies beginning with the 2019-2020 school year.

Section 3.3: North Carolina Career Coaches/Local Matching Funds

Section 3.3 of S.L. 2019-235 makes changes to the requirements for the local matching funds for the North Carolina Career Coach Program (Program).

This section became effective July 1, 2019.

Section 3.4: Community Colleges Earn FTE for Instruction in Local Jails

Section 3.4 of S.L. 2019-235 allows community colleges to earn regular budget full-time equivalents for instruction offered in local jails beginning with the 2019-2020 academic year.

This section became effective July 1, 2019.

Section 3.5: Waive Tuition/Dependents of Fallen Correctional Officers

Section 3.5 of S.L. 2019-235 waives tuition at public universities and community colleges for spouses and dependents of correctional officers killed or permanently disabled in the line of duty.

This section became effective July 1, 2019, and applies beginning with the 2019-2020 academic year.

Section 3.8: Community College System Transition

Section 3.8 of S.L. 2019-235 requires the Community College System Office to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Department of Information to coordinate information

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technology systems and policies. This section repeals a report due by October 1, 2019, and instead requires a report by February 1, 2020, from the Community College System Office and State CIO to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Information Technology and the Fiscal Research Division on the memorandum of understanding.

This section became effective July 1, 2019.

Section 4.1: Education Lottery Scholarship Modifications

Section 4.1 of S.L. 2019-235 increases the threshold for students who are eligible for education lottery scholarships in North Carolina. Under this section, students are considered "needy North Carolina students" if their expected family contribution under federal methodology does not exceed \$6,000. Additionally, this section increases the limit on annual scholarship awards from \$4,000 to \$5,100, including any federal Pell Grant.

This section became effective July 1, 2019, and applies beginning with the award of scholarships for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Section 3.1: Codify Reorganization Authority of Community Colleges System Office

CURRENT LAW: The 2017 and 2018 budgets (S.L. 2017-57 and S.L. 2018-5) authorized the President of the Community College System Office to reorganize the System Office in accordance with recommendations and plans submitted to and approved by the State Board of Community Colleges. Any such reorganization was required to be reported annually to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, Fiscal Research Division, and the House and Senate Appropriation subcommittees on Education.

BILL ANALYSIS: Section 3.1 of S.L. 2019-235 codifies the President's authority to reorganize the System Office in accordance with recommendations and plans submitted to and approved by the State Board of Community Colleges, and requires reports on such reorganizations to be reported annually by June 30 to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and Fiscal Research Division.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This section became effective July 1, 2019.

Section 3.2: Community College Tuition Waiver/Campus Police of Private Institutions of Higher Education

BILL ANALYSIS: Section 3.2 of S.L. 2019-235 allows the State Board of Community Colleges to provide waivers of tuition and registration fees to the campus police agencies of private institutions of higher education that have been certified by the Attorney General to be campus police agencies pursuant to Chapter 74G of the General Statutes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This section became effective July 1, 2019, and applies beginning with the 2019-2020 school year.

Section 3.3: North Carolina Career Coaches/Local Matching Funds

CURRENT LAW: The board of trustees of a community college and a local board of education within the service area of the community college jointly can apply for available funds for the NC Career Coach Program (Program) from the State Board of Community Colleges (SBCC). The SBCC must require at least the following for the applications: (i) evidence of a signed memorandum of understanding that meets the statutory requirements and (ii) evidence that the funding request will be matched dollar for dollar with local funds which can come from public or private sources.

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The SBCC must develop criteria for consideration in determining the award of funds that must include: (i) consideration of workforce needs of business and industry in the region; (ii) targeting of resources to enhance ongoing economic activity within the community college service area and surrounding counties; and (iii) geographic diversity of awards.

BILL ANALYSIS: Section 3.3 of S.L. 2019-235 changes the matching funds requirement for the Program. Previously, local funds were matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis. This section requires the match amount to be determined based on the local development tier designation of the county in which the local school administrative unit (LEA) is located where the career coach is assigned on the date of the award of funds by the SBCC according to the following:

- If the LEA is located in a Tier One county, then no local match is required.
- If the LEA is located in a Tier Two county, then one dollar of local funds for every two dollars of State funds is required.
- If the LEA is located in a Tier Three county, then one dollar of local funds for every one dollar of State funds is required.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This section became effective July 1, 2019.

Section 3.4: Community Colleges Earn FTE for Instruction in Local Jails

BILL ANALYSIS: Section 3.4 of S.L. 2019-235 allows community colleges to earn regular budget full-time equivalents for instruction offered in local jails beginning with the 2019-2020 academic year.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This section became effective July 1, 2019.

Section 3.5: Waive Tuition/Dependents of Fallen Correctional Officers

CURRENT LAW: Chapter 115B of the General Statutes provides for the waiver of tuition at the constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina and community colleges for the spouses and children of law enforcement officers, firefighters, volunteer firefighters, or rescue squad workers killed or permanently disabled in the line of duty.

BILL ANALYSIS: Section 3.5 of S.L. 2019-235 authorizes the waiver of tuition for the spouse and children of correctional officers killed or permanently disabled in the line of duty.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This section became effective July 1, 2019, and applies beginning with the 2019-2020 academic year.

Section 3.8: Community College System Transition

BILL ANALYSIS: Section 3.8 of S.L. 2019-235 requires the Community College System Office to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Department of Information to coordinate information technology systems and policies. This section repeals a report due by October 1, 2019, and instead requires a report by February 1, 2020, from the Community College System Office and State CIO to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Information Technology and the Fiscal Research Division on the memorandum of understanding.

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**This summary was substantially contributed to by the following Staff Attorneys: Drupti Chauhan, Kara McCraw, and Samantha Yarborough.*