



NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

Dr. R. Scott Ralls, President

May 16, 2012

The Honorable Jerry W. Tillman
North Carolina Senate
Room 627, Legislative Office Building
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

The Honorable Bryan R. Holloway
North Carolina House of Representatives
Room 529, Legislative Office Building
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

The Honorable Linda P. Johnson
North Carolina House of Representatives
Room 301D, Legislative Office Building
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

Dear Senator Tillman and Representatives Holloway and Johnson:

Please find attached the annual 2011-12 report for the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee regarding the Lateral Entry Certificate program available through the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS). The report is required per Session Law 2005-198 House Bill 563.

Sincerely,



R. Scott Ralls

RSR/aj

Attachment

c: Mr. Kennon Briggs
Dr. Sharon Morrissey
Mr. Van Wilson
Ms. Jennifer Frazelle
Ms. Dee Atkinson
Ms. Jennifer Willis

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Dr. R. Scott Ralls, President

Lateral Entry Certificate Program Report

As presented to

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**Report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee
Lateral Entry Certificate Program – (Session Law 2005-198 House Bill 563)**

Overview

Lateral entry is an alternate route to becoming certified to teach for qualified individuals outside of the public education system. Lateral entry allows qualified individuals to obtain a teaching position and begin teaching immediately while obtaining a professional educator's license as they teach.

Session Law 2005-198 House Bill 563 authorizes the State Board of Community Colleges to provide a program of study for lateral entry teachers to complete the coursework necessary to earn a teaching certificate. The NC Community College System offers the Lateral Entry program through a certificate (see attachment A) which is jointly offered with an education degree granting senior institution. The certificate leads to development of the general pedagogy competencies needed to become certified to teach by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.

Structure of Program

There are currently nine competencies required to become a lateral entry teacher. Legislation allows community colleges to offer six of these competencies. Four of the six competencies that the legislation allows community colleges to offer can also be obtained through in-service training by the Local Education Agency (LEA). The remaining three additional courses must be completed at a senior institution.

Community colleges have offered the courses from the lateral entry certificate in a variety of ways to meet the needs of the student. Courses are face-to-face (traditional) classes, on-line classes and hybrid classes.

Enrollment

The State Board of Community Colleges approved the Lateral Entry certificate program on April 22, 2006. There are 25 community colleges currently approved to the program.

Final enrollment data is not available for 2012. The latest enrollment data (2010-11 year) reflects that 14 community colleges enrolled a total of 145 students into lateral entry certificate coursework. The remaining 11 community colleges did not offer the program. As indicated in attachment B, enrollment has been declining since 2008. Our colleges have indicated that low enrollment has often been due to the structure of the program and lack of student interest.

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Challenges

Four colleges terminated the lateral entry program in 2011-12. Other colleges have reported low enrollment. In a survey response, colleges indicated the following challenges:

- the structure of program is not clear for students
- budget constraints
- lack of clear advertising
- some area school district not employing lateral entry teachers
- teacher layoffs
- cost of books and tuition
- meeting prerequisites for courses
- confusion about the general competencies
- lack of communication and expectations from the universities and local education agency.

Recommendations

Our recommendations for a stronger lateral entry program include:

- centralized location for assisting students
- clear articulation between community colleges and universities
- clear communication between all stakeholders.
- collection and analysis of data to provide data driven recommendations
- in-depth collaboration this year with DPI and senior institution to review guidelines
- review of coursework for alignment with 21st Century Teaching Standards
- examination of the structure of the program

CURRICULUM STANDARD

Effective Term
Summer 2006
[2006*02]

Curriculum Program Title

Lateral Entry (Certificate)

Code

C55430

Concentration

(not applicable)

Curriculum Description

The Lateral Entry curriculum provides a course of study leading to the development of the general pedagogy competencies needed to become certified to teach by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.

Course work includes human growth and development, learning theory, instructional technology, school policies and procedures, home, school, and community collaborations, and classroom organization and management to enhance learning. Courses offered by partnering senior institutions include instructional methods, literacy, and diversity.

Graduates should meet the general pedagogy competencies within the first three years of teaching, including a minimum of six semester hours per school year. Additional requirements, such as pre-service training and passing the PRAXIS, are required for licensure.

Curriculum Requirements*

[for associate degree, diploma, and certificate programs in accordance with 23 NCAC 02E.0204 (3)]

- I. **General Education.** Degree programs must contain a minimum of 15 semester hours including at least one course from each of the following areas: humanities/fine arts, social/behavioral sciences, and natural sciences/mathematics. Degree programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of communications. Diploma programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of general education; 3 semester hours must be in communications. General education is optional in certificate programs.
- II. **Major Hours.** AAS, diploma, and certificate programs must include courses which offer specific job knowledge and skills. Work experience, including cooperative education, practicums, and internships, may be included in associate in applied science degrees up to a maximum of 8 semester hours of credit; in diploma programs up to a maximum of 4 semester hours of credit; and in certificate programs up to a maximum of 2 semester hours of credit. (See second page for additional information.)
- III. **Other Required Hours.** A college may include courses to meet graduation or local employer requirements in a certificate, diploma, or associate in applied science program. These curriculum courses shall be selected from the Combined Course Library and must be approved by the System Office prior to implementation. Restricted, unique, or free elective courses may not be included as other required hours.

	AAS	Diploma	Certificate
Minimum General Education Hours	15	6	0
Minimum Major Hours	49	30	12
Other Required Hours	0-7	0-4	0-1
Total Semester Hours Credit (SHC)**	64-76	36-48	12-18

*Within the degree program, the institution shall include opportunities for the achievement of competence in reading, writing, oral communication, fundamental mathematical skills, and basic use of computers.

[ref. 23 NCAC 02E.0204 (3)]

- Lateral Entry (Certificate) C55430**

++This certificate program is offered jointly between the NC Community College System and Education Degree Granting Senior Institutions

Lateral Entry Annual Student Enrollment Data By College
Colleges Approved to offer Lateral Entry
Session Law 2005-198 House Bill 563

Community College	Date of Program Approval	Date of Termination If Applicable	Annual Totals 2006-07	Annual Totals 2007-08	Annual Totals 2008-09	Annual Totals 2009-10	Annual Totals 2010-11
Beaufort County	08/14/07		N/A	1	0	0	0
Bladen	05/26/06	5/20/2011	0	0	0	0	0
Brunswick	12/21/07	3/5/2012	N/A	0	2	0	0
Carteret	06/21/07	3/14/2012	N/A	0	2	2	0
Central Piedmont	05/19/06		22	52	86	99	62
Cleveland	06/23/06		0	0	5	5	2
Coastal Carolina	05/08/06		0	0	0	1	0
College of The Albemarle	04/13/07		0	0	0	0	0
Davidson County	08/04/06		0	0	0	0	0
Edgecombe	04/26/06		0	1	0	0	2
Forsyth Technical	06/17/07		N/A	0	1	0	0
Gaston	06/26/06		0	6	14	4	7
Guilford Technical	04/26/06	10/20/2011	30	43	59	11	6
Halifax	05/31/06		1	1	4	3	3
Lenoir	06/19/06		0	0	0	0	0
Martin	04/13/07		N/A	0	0	0	0
Mitchell	12/11/06		1	11	8	7	3
Montgomery	08/16/06		0	0	0	0	0
Richmond	03/31/06		0	1	14	9	6
Roanoke Chowan	07/19/06	5/14/2012	0	0	4	2	1
Robeson	05/26/06		6	20	15	13	21
Rockingham	07/20/06		0	0	0	0	0
Sandhills	05/19/06		0	12	0	0	0
Southeastern	10/16/06		0	0	4	0	0
Southwestern	06/20/06		1	3	1	1	2
Stanly	06/23/06		0	0	4	2	2
Vance-Granville	05/24/06		0	26	49	31	16
Wake Technical	09/16/08		N/A	N/A	1	20	12
Wilson Technical	12/05/07		N/A	0	0	0	0
Totals			61	177	273	210	145

Twenty nine colleges have been approved to offer the Lateral Entry program. Five of these colleges terminated the program during 2011/12. *N/A in annual column indicates that college was not yet approved to offer the program; therefore, enrollment numbers were not applicable.