



# 2021 CONSENSUS BUDGET PRIORITIES

*Endorsed by the State Board of Community Colleges,  
NC Association of Community College Presidents (NCACCP), and  
NC Association of Community College Trustees (NCACCT)*

## North Carolina's Community Colleges

- Help **students achieve a better life** through high school equivalency programs, short-term workforce training, tuition free college courses for qualified high school students, and high-quality, affordable college-transfer programs and are a **driving force in the State's economy** providing thousands of skilled workers for North Carolina's employers.
- Continue to have **difficulty recruiting and retaining faculty and staff** to prepare the State's workforce, especially in high-demand, high-skilled areas. Faculty salaries **rank 40<sup>th</sup> in the nation** and are **behind both the UNC System faculty salaries and NC's K-12 average teacher salary. Additional salary information on reverse.**
- Like community colleges across the country, almost all NC community colleges have **suffered significant enrollment declines related to Covid-19** making it difficult for colleges to stabilize budgets and prepare the workforce needed for North Carolina to recover from the pandemic.
- Continue to **need a modernized and secure IT system.**

Budget Priority	Request
<b>Increase Employee Salaries*</b> Five-percent (5%) salary increase for community college employees. Unlike State employees, community college employees did not receive a salary increase in Fiscal Years 2019-20 & 2020-21. <i>(See reverse)</i>	\$62,000,000 R
<b>Fund Enrollment Adjustments &amp; Budget Stabilization*</b> Provide one-time funds to maintain budget stability for colleges which have experienced enrollment declines due to Covid-19. Provide recurring funds for the few colleges that experienced nominal growth.	\$TBD – NR \$TBD -- R
<b>Continue Funding Modern &amp; Secure College IT Systems</b> Upgrade the IT system serving all 58 colleges by appropriating funds to continue to develop and to operate and maintain IT projects funded in the 2019 session.	\$28,500,000 NR \$3,500,000 R
<b>Fund Surry CC-Yadkin Multicampus Center</b> Provide funding for State Board of Community Colleges approved multicampus center housing the Yadkin Early College, an agriculture and education center, and an industrial training center.	\$579,413 R
<b>Include Community Colleges in Capital Funding Proposals</b> Community colleges continue to have significant capital and equipment needs. A 2019 survey identified over \$1B in unmet capital needs.	

\* **Funding request will be updated in mid-February and mid-March when additional enrollment data becomes available.**