



Dr. Bryan W. Wilson, President

August 13, 2012

Dr. Belle S. Wheelan
President
Commission on Colleges
1866 Southern Lane
Decatur, GA 30033-4097

Dear Dr. Wheelan:

The North Carolina Community College System has approved McDowell Technical Community College to begin offering the Associate in Science degree program effective spring semester 2013. This degree program will be offered on McDowell Tech's main campus, located at 54 College Drive, Marion, NC 28752. This new program is closely related to the Associate in College Transfer degree.

McDowell Tech is also participating in North Carolina's Career and College Promise Pathways initiative. This initiative allows eligible high-school students to earn college credits while still enrolled in high-school. The Career and College Promise initiative replaces the Dual Enrollment/Huskins Bill initiatives which also allow high-school students to earn college credit. Career and College Promise provides three pathways to help advance eligible students' post high-school success:

- College Transfer – a program that McDowell Tech is approved of offer.
- Technical Career – students can obtain an entry-level job credential, certificate or diploma in a technical career. No new programs have been developed; only programs that McDowell Tech is currently approved to offer are available.
- Cooperative Innovative High Schools – students earn college credits as a high-school freshman. McDowell Early College is the initiative that satisfies this offering.

Upon reviewing the Substantive Change policy, we believe these offerings are not a significant departure or change from our current offerings. This letter serves as notification to the Commission of our new offerings.

Sincerely,

Ladelle Harmon
SACS Liaison

C: File
Dr. Bryan Wilson
Ms. Shirley Brown