



AGENDA

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Electronic Conference Call Meeting

Monday, September 28, 2020
11:45 A.M.

If accessing the meeting from the internet via a computer or smartphone, use this link to access the electronic meeting:

<https://virginiatobaccocommission.my.webex.com/virginiatobaccocommission.my/j.php?MTID=m9d0997054a492b2bc42029fcb5fb95a3>

If accessing the meeting by telephone dial: 1-408-418-9388 (US toll) and utilize the meeting number: 132 060 4648# and meeting password: ymMFXnD2f32 (96639632 from phones and video systems)

If you have any access issues at the time of the meeting, contact David Bringman via email at DBringman@revitalizeva.org or call 804-894-9659.

Welcome and Call to Order	<i>Ms. Becky Coleman, Chairman</i>
Items Related to Remote Meeting	<i>Andy Sorrell, Deputy Director</i>
Call of the Roll	<i>Evan Feinman, Executive Director</i>
Election of Vice Chairman	<i>Evan Feinman, Executive Director</i>
Approval of the <u>5/18/20</u> Minutes	<i>(published on website)</i>
Extensions and Modifications	<i>Sarah Capps, Southern Regional Director</i>
NCI Extension Request (#2882)	<i>Sarah Capps, Southern Regional Director</i>
SVAM COE Briefing (#3100)	<i>Sara Williams, Southwest Regional Director</i>
Healthcare Talent Attraction Program	<i>Stephanie Kim, Finance Director</i>
Other Business	<i>Evan Feinman, Executive Director</i>
Public Comments	
Adjournment	

Education Committee

September 28, 2020

EXTENSIONS AND MODIFICATIONS

New College Institute New College Institute Center of Excellence (#2882) One Year Extension Request

Staff Overview & Comments: In May 2014, the Commission approved this \$2 million grant to the New College Foundation (NCF) to establish an advanced manufacturing Center of Excellence at the New College Institute (NCI). In May 2017, the Commission froze both this and a separate \$1,581,088 phase 2 COE grant (grant #3098) while issues related to the relationship between NCF and NCI and development of the COE were resolved. In September 2017, the Commission reassigned both grants to NCI. The project resumed in October 2018 when NCI developed a detailed training plan, partnership agreement, and revised detailed budget.

In October 2019, the Commission approved an extension of the grant period for this grant to September 22, 2020 given the delay experienced during the freeze, gaps in leadership directing development of the COE, and unexpected staff turnover at NCI. While implementing the COE, NCI has seen two changes in its advanced manufacturing coordinator position, four changes to its assigned project manager and three executive directors.

NCI's new leadership has worked attentively to redefine the value that NCI can offer and recently presented an overview of its updated plan for the COE to staff. There is a balance of approximately \$453K to support expenses at both NCI and Patrick Henry Community College associated with the COE. This extension will permit NCI and PHCC to continue to provide training after mandated closures related to the COVID pandemic.

Staff recommends approval of the extension to September 30, 2021.

Southwest Virginia Alliance for Manufacturing Southwest Virginia Advanced Manufacturing Center of Excellence (#3100) Project update and request for final extension

Staff Overview & Comments: Although this project is no longer active, additional time is necessary to complete close out activities, including relocating Commission-funded assets and completing facility repairs required at the Southwest Virginia Advanced Manufacturing Center of Excellence's (COE) former locations. The COE also requests that grant funds be allowed to reimburse for its share of an upcoming audit.

Staff's diligent efforts to encourage the COE to develop a sustainable business model were unsuccessful and it became apparent the COE could not sustain operations after the grant period. Commission staff notified COE leadership in March 2020 that grant funds would no longer be available as of June 30, 2020 due to these longstanding concerns. Requiring the cessation of COE activities prior to the September 30, 2020 grant expiration date allowed TRRC to control the wind down of the Center's operations and to preserve the balance of the grant funding for appropriate project close-out expenses.

A substantial amount of welding, mechatronics, and machining training equipment was purchased with Commission funds and located at the COE's three sites. Because there was limited demand for the trainings COE was established to provide, the majority of this equipment was effectively brand new. COE and TRRC staff worked diligently to locate new homes for the equipment to ensure that it would continue to be used for training purposes within the Southwest region.

In May, staff received a proposal from the Manufacturing Technology Center (MTC), a non-profit organization comprised of manufacturing and educational partners and housed at Wytheville Community College, to assume ownership of COE assets. The MTC proposal called for the development of a "hub and spoke" training model linking the five community colleges serving the Southwest Virginia Region (Wytheville Community College, Virginia Highlands Community College, Southwest Virginia Community College, Mountain Empire Community College, and New River Community College). Each participating college will focus on an individual area of expertise in the areas of welding, mechatronics, and machining. By relocating the equipment to entities that provide workforce training successfully, many of the original objectives of the COE will be continued in a model that is both practical and financially viable.

The MTC and the participating colleges have successfully relocated much of the COE equipment. An MOU among the MTC and the community colleges required that recipient schools shoulder the expenses associated with moving the equipment. Once all equipment has been moved, facility repairs that the COE is required to make will be performed.

Despite the challenging history of this project, the Southwest region will continue to benefit because all of the equipment will be put to productive use in various training programs. Commission staff will continue to monitor the MTC's work to measure the training outcomes that are accomplished under the arrangement.

Staff recommends an extension through December 31, 2020 to allow the remaining balance (\$199,533.70) to be used for project close out expenses.



Talent Attraction Programs

September 2020 Update

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Two Programs

- VDH VA-SLRP
 - \$2 million awarded in June 2020 and disbursed
 - Targeting medical professions
 - First year partnering with VDH-OHE
- TAP
 - \$4 million allocated to date
 - \$1.6M awarded in Oct 2019
 - \$1.3 M awarded in April 2020
 - Targeting non-medical hard-to-fill occupations

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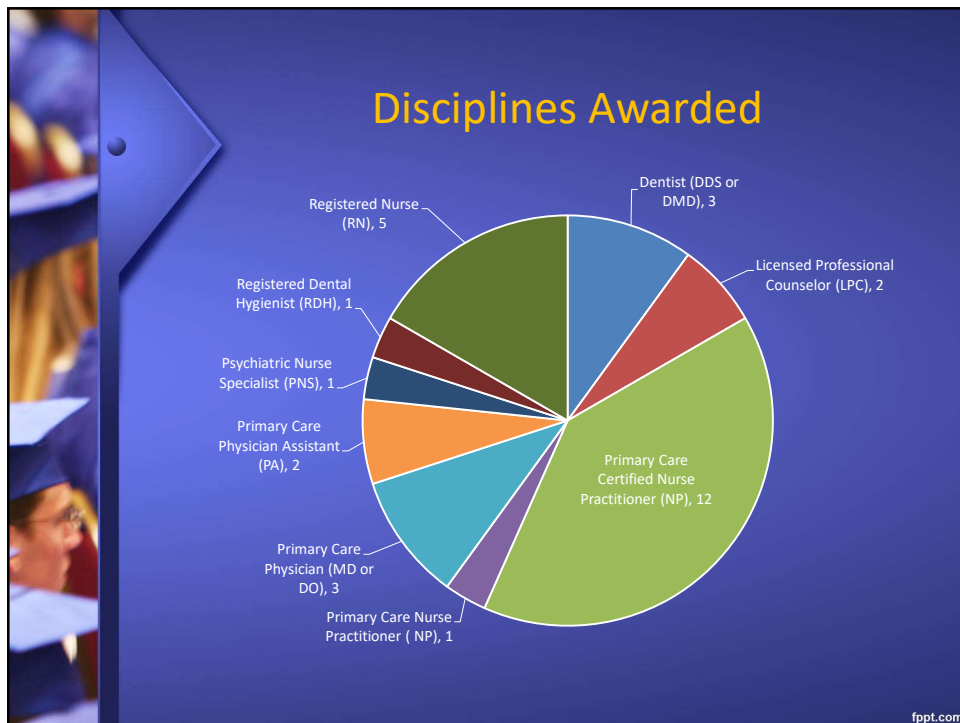
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VDH VA-SLRP

- Loan repayment program for qualified medical, dental, behavioral health, and pharmaceutical professionals in return for 2 years of service in HPSAs
- Handled by VDH Office of Health Equity
- \$2 million of Commission funds awarded leveraging \$1 million in federal, state, and local funds
- 30 of 56 awards made to tobacco region residents and workers

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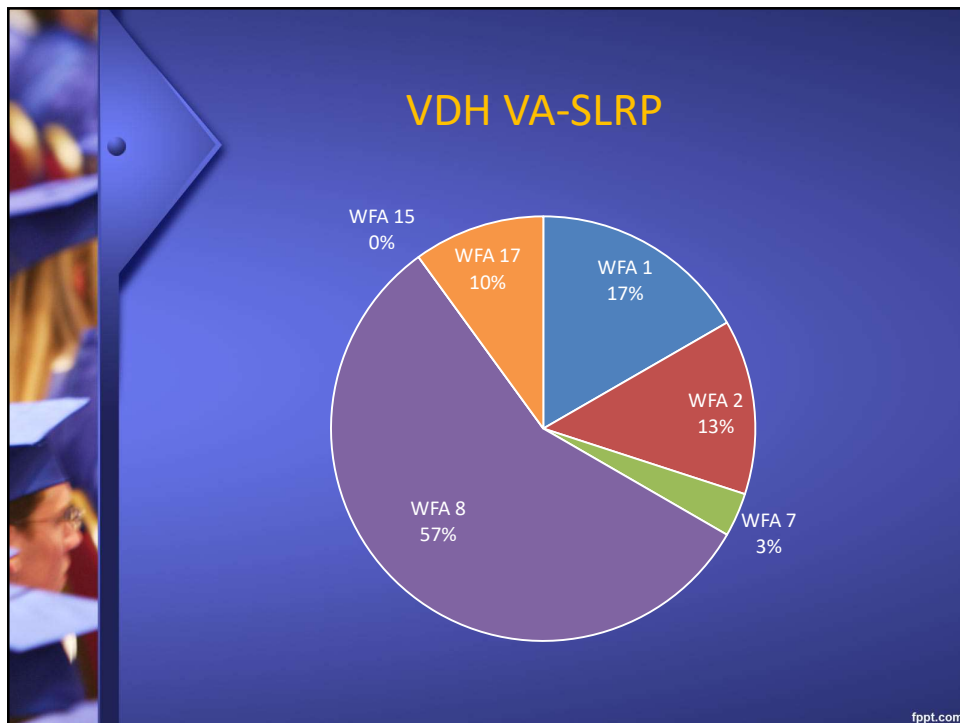
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Workforce Areas

WFA	Localities
WFA 1	Buchanan, Dickenson, Lee, Norton, Russell, Scott, Tazewell, Wise
WFA 2	Bland, Bristol, Carroll, Floyd, Galax, Grayson, Smyth, Washington, Wythe
WFA 7	Appomattox, Bedford, Campbell
WFA 8	Amelia, Brunswick, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Halifax, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, Nottoway, Prince Edward
WFA 15	Dinwiddie, Emporia, Greensville, Sussex
WFA 17	Danville, Franklin, Henry, Martinsville, Patrick, Pittsylvania

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TAP Eligible Occupations

- Public School Teacher in Science, Math, Technology/Computer Science, or Career and Technical Education (Grades 6-12)
- Public School Special Education Teacher (K-12)
- Speech Language Pathologist, Physical or Occupational Therapist
- Industrial or Electrical Engineer
- Information Security, Network, or Computer Systems Analyst

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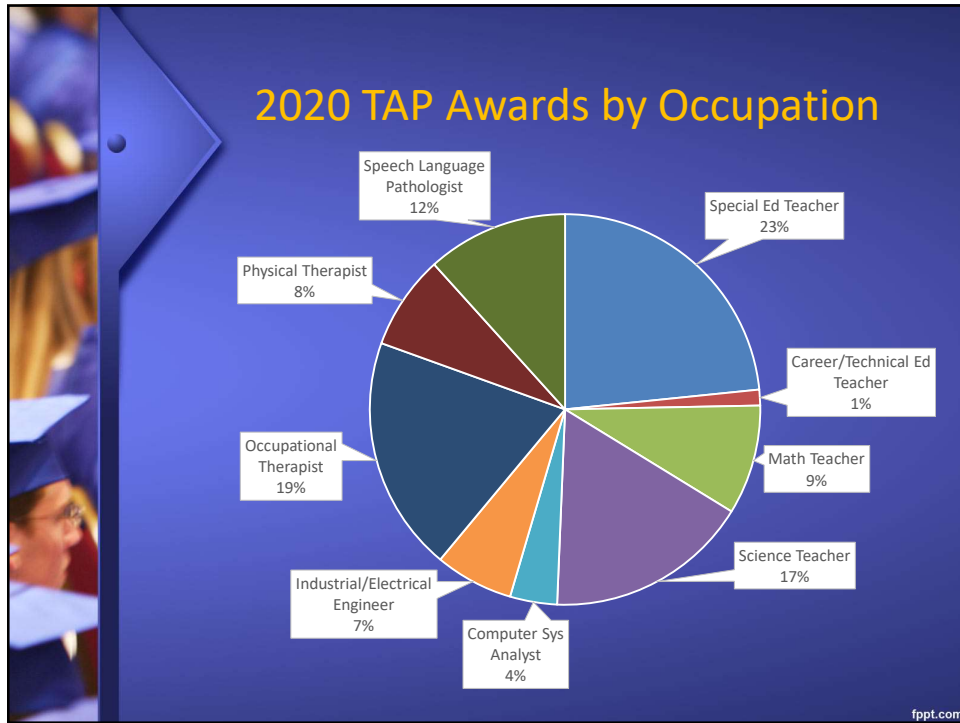


2020 TAP Awards

- 91 applications received
- 77 awards made
- Total awarded: \$1,348,000
- Average award: \$ 17,506
- Average debt: \$ 59,192
- 21% (16 recipients) not originally from Tobacco Region

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Potential Issues

- Volunteer hours may be waived this year with expectation to partially make up hours next year
- Some 2020 recipients may not graduate on time due to COVID-19 and may need award extensions

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Motions Needed

- Funding for 2021 VDH Student Loan Repayment Program for healthcare occupations
- Funding for 2021 Talent Attraction Program targeting hard-to-fill occupations

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