

FY 2014-2015 Legislative Priorities

Priority 1: Base Funding for the System — \$5.0 Million (Recurring)

South Carolina has seen tremendous growth in manufacturing and STEM-related jobs. In fact, projections show a growth of nearly 50,000 jobs in manufacturing, healthcare and STEM-related fields over the next five years. Business and industry are relying on South Carolina's technical colleges to educate and train the workforce for roughly 62% or 30,000 of these positions. Currently operating at or near capacity, the System requires additional recurring funding to meet this growing demand. Increased funding will guarantee the System continues to deliver exceptional instruction and educational programs while ensuring labs and curriculum for a broad range of unique programs meet all accreditation and industry certification standards.

The System requests \$5.0M in recurring base funding. This funding will work to expand workforce training and education capacity, enhance economic development by creating a pipeline of highly skilled workers and sustain affordable tuition for students, many of whom are low-income and first-generation college students.

Priority 2: Equipment for Manufacturing, STEM and Allied Health Programs — \$7.5 Million (Non-Recurring)

Keeping pace with the latest advances in manufacturing, STEM and health-related fields requires the right equipment. The System must maintain cutting-edge equipment in order to stay current with today's technological innovations and deliver the highly skilled workforce demanded by business and industry. Additional non-recurring funding support is essential to meet training demand and acquire, upgrade and replenish sophisticated, state-of-the-art training tools, equipment and lab space.

The System requests \$7.5M in non-recurring funding. This funding is vital for purchasing high-tech equipment and simulators to meet the demands of business and industry, particularly in manufacturing, STEM and allied health programs.

Priority 3: Lottery Tuition Assistance — \$49.1 Million

One out of every three South Carolina technical college students relies on Lottery Tuition Assistance (LTA). This funding provides access to affordable higher education and training necessary to enter or remain in the workforce. Since its inception in 2002, nearly 400,000 LTA awards have been made. The maximum award per semester is \$1,140.

readySC™ — \$5.438 Million (Non-Recurring)

A key component of South Carolina's economic development engine, readySC™ focuses on the recruiting and initial training needs of new and expanding organizations in South Carolina. readySC remains one of the state's top incentives for companies creating new jobs with competitive wages and benefits. Last year, the program trained nearly 4,700 employees for 83 companies. Non-recurring funds for this program will ensure that funds are in place to assist eligible new and expanding companies in meeting their workforce needs in the upcoming year and fulfilling the needs of existing commitments.



The System Working with Business and Industry

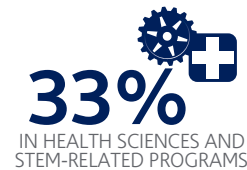
Dedicated to furthering economic and workforce development in our state, the System works diligently with local business and industry to ensure our programs and services are a reflection of the local communities we serve. A sampling of those companies include:



2011-2012 Enrollment



2011-2012 Awards



Percent of all South Carolinians enrolled as undergraduates in South Carolina's public higher education attend one of our 16 colleges



Percent of all students enrolled at colleges within the SC Technical College System are residents of SC



Accessibility and Affordability



Increase the opportunity for South Carolinians to obtain a post-secondary education and specialized training by providing market-driven programs at a reasonable, affordable tuition.

Student Success



Enhance the employability of South Carolinians by providing quality training and education with job-ready credentials for successful employment or entrepreneurship in a global economy.

Program Excellence



Ensure a quality higher education for South Carolinians by continually examining and enhancing the quality, rigor and relevance in all academic and training opportunities.