

**Request for Authorization to Establish
Bachelor of Science (BS) in Supply Chain Management and Technology
CIP 52.0203
Fayetteville State University**

I. Program Highlights

- Fayetteville State University proposes the establishment of a Bachelor of Science in Supply Chain Management and Technology.
- The proposed degree program would prepare graduates for careers in critical 21st century jobs that utilize intelligent infrastructure and digitization.
- The proposed degree program aligns with the FSU mission to offer robust and innovative degree programs that meet the educational, career and personal aspirations of its students and equip them with academic and practical knowledge to serve local, state, national, and global communities as engaged solution creators.
- As intelligent infrastructure and digitization play a more dominant role in twenty-first century production, businesses will need a workforce with skills that are essential to company success and customer satisfaction. The proposed degree program could position North Carolina to provide businesses with a workforce prepared with critical skills.
- Graduates of the proposed degree program would efficiently manage the flow of materials and services for businesses from transformation into finished products to ultimate delivery at the point of consumption.

II. Academic Program Planning Criteria (UNC Policy 400.1)

1. **Relation to Campus Distinctiveness and Mission.** The proposed degree program is consistent with the FSU mission to offer robust and innovative degree programs that meet the educational, career, and personal aspirations of its students and equip them with academic and practical knowledge to serve local, state, national, and global communities as engaged solution creators. The proposed curriculum leverages FSU's unique offerings in enterprise resource planning (ERP) to respond to one of the greatest workforce needs in southeast North Carolina. The North Carolina Southeast Organization, a regional public/private partnership established to promote economic growth in the Southeast Region, identified 'Distribution and Logistics' as one of its top five target industries in the region most directly served by FSU.
2. **Student Demand.** According to the UNC System Interactive Data Dashboard for enrollments, the Logistics, Materials and Supply Chain Management major enrolled 170 students at Appalachian State University and 39 students at East Carolina University in fall 2021, with more than 25 percent overall increase since pre-pandemic enrollment in fall 2019. In addition, the proposed program would expand STEM related opportunities to students in Tier 1 and Tier 2 counties.

FSU's existing specialization program, Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System Management (also known as SAP Certification training) and the relevant course enrollment provides additional leads to estimate student interest in supply chain careers. Upon examination of student enrollment every spring over five years, it was observed that enrollment increased by about 15 students per semester. Fifty percent of the students were military affiliated.

The proposed degree program would provide an online completion option at the UNC Promise tuition rate. Given the industry demand for the supply chain discipline, it could attract students throughout the Sandhills region, as well as military students stationed at Fort Liberty.

- 3. Employment Opportunities for Graduates.** According to the North Carolina Department of Commerce, the occupation of ‘logistician’ received a five-star rating (out of one to five stars, with five stars offering the greatest growth and earnings potential). Data from the job data analysis firm Burning Glass indicated that, in the 12 months ending July 2022, there were more than 1,500 job postings for logistics/supply chain analysts in North Carolina, at an average estimated salary of \$65,000 for those with a bachelor's degree. It should also be noted that Burning Glass data show that those with a bachelor's degree in supply chain/logistics management often get hired as generalized operational managers.

Lightcast, a labor market research firm, provided analysis of jobs in North Carolina for graduates in supply chain management and technology. Between July 2022 and July 2023, there were 907 job postings for industrial production managers, logisticians, and transportation, storage, and distribution managers. The median salary offered during this period was \$90,527.

- 4. Impact on Access and Affordability.** FSU is not requesting any program-specific fees or tuition differential for this program. Tuition and fees for the 2023-2024 full-time (12+/9+ credit hour) rates are as follows:

Full-Time 2023-2024 Undergraduate Tuition and Fees per Year (In Dollars)

Category	Resident	Non-Resident
Tuition	(NC Promise Tuition) 1,000.00	5,000.00
Tuition Differential	N/A	N/A
Mandatory Fees (Athletics, Student Activities, Health Services, Educational & Technology, Campus Security, Debt Service, ASG)	2,525.00	2,525.00
Special Fees	N/A	N/A

As an NC Promise institution, the cost of tuition at FSU is more affordable for students and reduces overall student charges and debt.

- 5. Expected Quality.** The proposed degree program would consist of 120 credit hours, offered online and on campus. Students would be required to complete 39 credit hours of general education courses and 81 credit hours for Supply Chain Management and Technology program courses. The 81 credit hours would include the following: 40 credit hours in required business courses, 18 credit hours in management courses, nine credit hours in major electives, three credit hours in business electives, and 11 credit hours in free electives.

The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) is the accreditation organization that independently evaluates business schools with a rigorous external review of the mission, faculty qualifications, curricula, and ability to provide the highest quality programs. Currently, five undergraduate degree programs and one graduate degree program offered by

BCBE (Broadwell College of Business and Economics) are AACSB accredited until 2027. If approved, the proposed degree program would be added as a prospect program for inclusion in the 2026-2027 reaffirmation visit by AACSB.

Consistent with the UNC Policy Manual, FSU and AACSB program review requirements, the proposed degree program would be reviewed every year. The review would consist of 1) Relation to BCBE Mission and Strategic Goals, 2) Curriculum Effectiveness, 3) Assurance of Learning, 4) Faculty Qualifications, 5) Student Learning Experience, and 6) Societal Impact.

- 6. Faculty Quality and Number.** The proposed degree program would need to hire two tenure-track and one non-tenure-track supply chain faculty. The new hires and the current faculty would absorb the teaching responsibilities of both the proposed degree program and the current Business Administration program. The existing degree programs are not expected to be negatively impacted with minor shifts in the teaching workload. Additional need for faculty would be evaluated after four years.

The tenure-track undergraduate faculty would continue to have a 3-3 (18 credit hours) teaching load per academic year, while non-tenure track faculty would have a 4-4 (24 credit hours) teaching load. The added 36 credit-hour teaching load capacity in the first year should provide enough capacity to offer nine new courses. Starting from the second year onward, extra sections in both major, business, and core requirements would be covered by additional non-tenure-track faculty, new hires, extra duty, or adjuncts. Teaching schedules would be adjusted to ensure AACSB accreditation guidelines encompassing faculty intellectual contributions, assurance of learning, and societal impact.

- 7. Relevant Lower-level and Cognate Programs.** BCBE has related concentration and degree programs, including the BS in Business Administration with a concentration in Management and the BS in Information Systems and Business Analytics. In addition, the College has an enterprise resource planning (ERP) system management optional track program that can support the proposed degree program.
- 8. Availability of Campus Resources (library, space, etc.)** The Chesnutt Library maintains resources and staff which are sufficient to support the proposed degree program. The library has 232,506 prints and 299,552 eBooks, 311 individual journal subscriptions, and 56,051 e-journal subscriptions. The library provides electronic access to 388 multidisciplinary and subject-specific databases. The university's facilities are adequate to support the proposed degree program. Currently, BCBE hosts one of the 12 SAP Next-Gen Labs in the nation, established in 2019 with the cutting-edge IT technology of the time. By 2025, there will be requirements to upgrade the labs' technology and student desktop and laptops, estimated to cost about \$100,000. With the support of FSU ITS, the upgrade could be scheduled to take place in the summer of 2025.
- 9. Existing Programs (Number, Location, Mode of Delivery).** Similar programs in the UNC System include the following: BS Business Administration in Operations and Supply Chain Management (Appalachian State University), BS in Industrial Distribution and Logistics (East Carolina University), BS Business Administration in Supply Chain Management (East Carolina University), Information Systems and Supply Chain Management (University of North Carolina at Greensboro), and the BS in Supply Chain Management (North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University).

10. Potential for Unnecessary Duplication. Other programs may offer somewhat similar content, but FSU's unique stakeholders require learning modalities and customer service initiatives that fit their specific requirements. The courses would be offered based on local constituents' requirements. The proposed degree program would be tailored to FSU students' life demands, including affordability of education, military deployments, work, and adult/childcare endeavors.

11. Feasibility of Collaborative Program. FSU is planning to collaborate with other institutions to enrich global industry outreach to make North Carolina a premier state that educates supply chain professionals. Collaborations may occur with the following institutions:

- Fayetteville Technical Community College (FTCC) – FSU had multiple meetings with FTCC that resulted in consensus to create an articulation agreement upon approval of the proposed degree program in Supply Chain Management and Technology. Through the proposed agreement, FTCC graduates with an associate degree in supply chain management or operations management programs could seamlessly transfer to FSU for a four-year degree.
- Military Affiliated and Veteran Resource Center and ROTC – The Student Veterans' Center at FSU and Fort Liberty Education Center expressed interest in promoting the proposed degree program to military students, who might have practical experience in managing military supply chains and ERP systems.
- Deloitte – FSU and Deloitte have collaborated to establish talent pipelines, industry outreach, curriculum feedback, student consulting club and teaching partnerships.

III. Summary of Review Processes

1. **Campus Review Process and Feedback.** The academic proposal was reviewed and approved by the following: The Department of Management, Marketing, Entrepreneurship, and Fire and Emergency Services Administration Curriculum Committee, Dr. Abdoul Wane, Department Chair, BCBE Academic Affairs Committee, Dr. Ulysses Taylor, Dean of BCBE, the Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee (Chair, Dr. Kimberly Hardy), the Faculty Senate (Chair, Dr. Zahra Shekarkhar), Dr. Nicole Lucas, SACSCOC Liaison, and Dr. Monica Leach, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

2. **UNC System Office Review Process and Feedback.** Throughout the review process, FSU provided relevant information pertaining to program requirements and resources. The institution submitted appropriate documentation and research to support the statements made.

IV. Recommendation

Staff recommends that the University of North Carolina Board of Governors approve Fayetteville State University's request to establish the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Supply Chain Management and Technology (CIP 52.0203) effective fall 2024.

**Request for Authorization to Establish
Bachelor of Science (BS) in Biochemistry
CIP 26.0202
University of North Carolina Wilmington**

I. Program Highlights

- The University of North Carolina Wilmington proposes the establishment of a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry, to train students in the field of biochemistry, the chemistry associated with life processes.
- UNC Wilmington is developing a new strategic plan for the next decade. The BS in Biochemistry falls squarely under the proposed priorities three (develop career-ready students upon graduation) and four (be a destination employer). As part of UNC Wilmington's evolution as a research university, the proposed degree will align with the needs of the state of North Carolina, while considering student interest and promoting career opportunities.
- The latest Occupational Outlook Handbook published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projects a 15 percent average growth rate for employment opportunities available to biochemists and biophysicists in the 2021-2031 decade, which far exceeds the five percent growth rate predicted for all occupations. The pharmaceutical industry is a growth sector in North Carolina for which students with a biochemistry degree will be especially well trained.
- Graduates will be prepared for a career in the pharmaceutical industry, further training in health-related professional schools, or a graduate degree in biochemistry.

II. Academic Program Planning Criteria (UNC Policy 400.1)

1. **Relation to Campus Distinctiveness and Mission.** UNC Wilmington is growing as a research university and the proposed program is a natural complement to the recently established PhD degree in pharmaceutical chemistry. The BS in biochemistry interfaces seamlessly with existing expertise in pharmaceutical chemistry and the marine sciences.
2. **Student Demand.** Data provided by Hanover Research indicates that student demand at the bachelor's level in biochemistry grew at a faster rate than the average for all programs at this level. UNC Wilmington conducted a student survey of 3000 undergraduates who were enrolled in any chemistry course. Responses from 440 students indicate high levels of interest (51 percent) in the BS biochemistry degree. Hanover Research supports the degree program as favorable for the state and region, indicating, "competitive conditions support a new degree program."
3. **Employment Opportunities for Graduates.** BLS predicts higher than average growth for biochemistry-related occupations. For the decade ending in 2026, the BLS projects 11.4 percent growth for biochemists and biophysicists nationwide, which exceeds the growth in the number of employed in all other surveyed areas, except that of Medical Scientists. The projections for North Carolina are even higher than that at 16.7 percent (data provided by Hanover Research).

National Projections for Biochemistry-Related Occupations, Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) Titles, 2016-2026

- 4. Impact on Access and Affordability.** In 2017, UNC Wilmington announced it would seek an enrollment increase of low-income students of 7.5 percent over 2015 levels by the fall of 2021, a goal that was surpassed in the fall of 2019. Initiatives to actively recruit lower-income students and those from rural counties are underway across the institution, and the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry will contribute by evaluating the undergraduate curriculum in all majors. Special attention will be devoted to teaching licensure to address the critical need for middle and high school teachers in STEM. The proposed BS in biochemistry program is expected to contribute to these efforts because student interest in biochemistry generally exceeds that in traditional areas, which is expected to facilitate student recruitment.

UNC Wilmington is not requesting any program-specific fees or tuition differential for this program. Tuition and fees for the academic year full-time (12+/9+ credit hour) rates are as follows:

Full-Time ACADEMIC YEAR DEGREE LEVEL Tuition and Fees per Year (In Dollars)

Category	Resident	Non-Resident
Tuition	\$4,443	\$20,016
Tuition Differential	--	--
Mandatory Fees (Athletics, Student Activities, Health Services, Educational & Technology, Campus Security, Debt Service, ASG)	\$2,874	\$2,874
Special Fees	--	--

The following analysis is based on a student loan balance of \$16,400, which is the average debt incurred by students graduating with a BS degree in chemistry from UNC Wilmington¹. We assumed an average federal student loan interest rate of 3.9 percent, and an annual salary of \$42,000 after graduation, with an annual income growth rate of 5 percent. No loan forgiveness programs were taken into consideration. The loan simulator provided by the Office of Federal Student Aid, predicts a monthly payment of \$165 over a 10-year period to repay the loan in its entirety. In this context, it is of note that the average initial salaries of biochemists exceed those of traditional chemists by 20-25 percent ².

- 5. Expected Quality.** The major, as planned, has 74 credit hours, which is on par with the existing ACS accredited BS in chemistry. A unique feature of the biochemistry curriculum is the option to take a series of elective courses with rotating topics during both semesters of the senior year, which allows students to delve more deeply into specific areas of interest. The option to participate in an industry internship for course credit is also included. The entire curriculum, with the exception of external internships, will be taught by existing faculty. The plan anticipates enrollment growth and additional hires, which will offer more elective courses. If the degree is as successful as anticipated, the program will seek accreditation through the American Society

¹ <https://studentaid.gov/loan-simulator/repayment/wizard/personal-info/select-what-applies>

² [1] "May 2017 Occupation Profiles." Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2017.

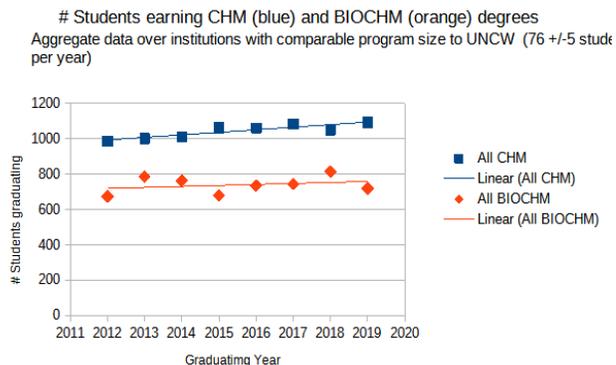
https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_stru.htm#19-0000 [2] "North Carolina - May 2016 OES State Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates." Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2016. https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_nc.htm#19-0000. Data supplied by Hanover research.

for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB). The current curriculum has been designed with the suggested guidelines in mind.

6. **Faculty Quality and Number.** The Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry currently employs 28 full-time faculty, all of whom will be involved to some degree in the teaching of the basic curriculum of the biochemistry BS. Of the 28 full-time faculty, 22 are research-active, tenure-track faculty, and of those, six faculty members are trained specifically in the area of biochemistry or biophysical chemistry.
7. **Relevant Lower-level and Cognate Programs.** The proposed degree aligns with the existing chemistry BS degree, especially during the first year of study.
8. **Availability of Campus Resources (library, space, etc.)**
Current infrastructure is sufficient to support the program.
9. **Existing Programs (Number, Location, Mode of Delivery).** Dedicated biochemistry programs leading to a BS degree are currently offered by NC State University, East Carolina University, and University of North Carolina at Greensboro.
10. **Potential for Unnecessary Duplication.** BLS projects a 15 percent average growth rate for employment opportunities available to biochemists and biophysicists in the 2021-2031 decade. Although a BS in biochemistry is not a unique degree, the projected need for trained biochemists in North Carolina is high³, which strongly argues for the establishment of additional degree programs in the state. Moreover, the establishment of dedicated undergraduate programs in biochemistry is a very common choice in institutions where the size of the existing parent program, a BS in chemistry, is sufficiently large to merit a specialized degree. In 2019, UNC Wilmington was the only institution nationwide with a sizable number of chemistry majors who did not offer a biochemistry degree, or an equivalent umbrella program.
11. **Feasibility of Collaborative Program.** There are three obvious ways in which the program can support existing programs or institutions in the UNC System I.) Increase enrollment in programs beyond UNC Wilmington. Graduates can directly enter a school of pharmacy (Eshelman School of Pharmacy, UNC-Chapel Hill; medical school (UNC-Chapel Hill, ECU), a school of veterinary medicine (NC State), dental school (UNC-Chapel Hill, ECU), a physician assistant studies program (UNC-Chapel Hill, ECU), or enter any graduate program in biochemistry, a biochemistry-associated umbrella program, or biomedical engineering (NC State). II.) Enrollment in research courses during the summer months. Students enrolled in the UNC Wilmington program or at one of the other UNC System institutions, could take a Directed Individual Studies course (CHM491) at any UNC System institution and receive course credit at their home institution. To be useful, these should be project-oriented, thematic courses. III.) Seminar series. Expand our weekly seminar series to include at least one biochemist from one the other UNC System institutions to facilitate scientific exchange and promote collaborations.

³ All state and regional labor projections drawn from "Long-Term Projections." Projections Central. <http://www.projectionscentral.com/projections/longterm>, as provided by Hanover Research

12. Other Considerations. The concern has been raised that the proposed biochemistry degree could depopulate existing programs, such as the BS degrees in chemistry or biology. UNC Wilmington believes this to be unlikely. The Department of Biology and Marine Biology has a strong emphasis on marine biology and related fields. There is little thematic overlap between the new program and any program in the biology department and the plan for a biochemistry BS is fully supported by our colleagues in biology and marine biology. To address the possible impact on the existing chemistry program, UNC Wilmington analyzed nationwide data⁴ from departments that offer both a traditional chemistry and a biochemistry degree. The aggregate data shown on the right, collected from chemistry programs with a size similar to that at UNC Wilmington, show that on average, both programs grew in parallel – not antiparallel - over the 8-year period analyzed.



III. Summary of Review Processes

- 1. Campus Review Process and Feedback.** All proposals for a new undergraduate degree are reviewed and approved through an established approval process: the department, a delegate in the dean’s office, the College Curriculum Committee, the University Curriculum Committee, the Faculty Senate, the SACSCOC Liaison, Planning and Space Management, Academic Affairs Resource Management, the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education and Faculty Affairs, the Provost, the Chief Financial Officer, and the Chancellor.
- 2. UNC System Office Review Process and Feedback.** Throughout the review process, UNC Wilmington provided relevant information pertaining to program requirements and resources. The institution submitted appropriate documentation and research to support the statements made.

IV. Recommendation

Staff recommends that the University of North Carolina Board of Governors approve the University of North Carolina Wilmington’s request to establish the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Biochemistry (CIP 26.0202) effective Fall 2023.

⁴ Data USA. (Deloitte, MIT Media Lab), <https://datausa.io/> and National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), <https://nces.ed.gov/>

**Request for Authorization to Establish
Master of Public Health (MPH)
CIP 51.2201
Appalachian State University**

I. Program Highlights

- Appalachian State University proposes the establishment of a Master of Public Health (MPH) degree program.
- The proposed program includes a concentration in Applied Public Health focused on Rural Resilience and Sustainability. The MPH is the standard and terminal degree for practitioners in the field of public health. The degree provides a grounding in the theories and core disciplines of public health, including biostatistics, environmental health, epidemiology, health policy, and social and behavioral sciences focusing on practice rather than research.
- The proposed program aligns with strategic priorities at App State including providing exceptional educational experiences; advancing research, innovation, and creativity; advancing local, regional, and global engagement.
- The field of public health is projected to grow substantially in the future due to the aging of the population and the increasing threats to the population's health. Training quality professionals with the expertise to address the public health (PH) issues of a particular population is paramount. COVID-19 has highlighted many of the needs and challenges facing us moving forward and illustrated the unique challenges practicing PH in rural areas like western North Carolina and the Appalachian region.
- PH professionals work in such areas as epidemiology, community planning and organization, policy making and analysis, and health education throughout an array of professional settings (e.g., environmental protection/emergency preparedness, occupational safety and health, nursing/medicine, and social services) to both protect and promote the health of the public.
- According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, "most employment gains over the 2020-30 period are expected to occur in the service-providing sectors and to be led by strong growth in the healthcare and social assistance sector. An aging population will continue to create strong demand for industries and occupations that provide healthcare and related services." Examples of predicted increases in demand from 2020-2030 for MPH-related job classes include: environmental scientists and specialists eight percent; epidemiologists 27 percent; community health workers 21 percent; and health educators 12 percent.

II. Academic Program Planning Criteria (UNC Policy 400.1)

- 1. Relation to Campus Distinctiveness and Mission.** App State is a long-established public institution that honors the founding commitment to educational access and excellence and our rural mountain heritage through teaching, research, and service.

In keeping with this mission, PH professionals work to protect and improve the health of populations and communities. As the field of public health is projected to grow substantially in the future due to the increasing threats to our populations' health, training quality professionals with the expertise to address the PH issues of specific populations is paramount. COVID-19 has highlighted many of these needs and challenges facing us moving forward in the 21st century. The

Appalachian Mountains of western North Carolina and the Appalachian region more broadly present a unique challenge to public health practice. The field of PH is interprofessional and at its core seeks to engage communities to identify health threats and develop sustainable approaches to address health needs in diverse populations and cultures.

2. **Student Demand.** The institution surveyed current undergraduate students majoring in Public Health at App State and found that 100 percent are either moderately or very interested in pursuing an MPH; of these, 98 percent reported being likely to enroll in an MPH program at App State within the next three years. Among other majors in the college and across the university, 69 percent reported being moderately or very interested in an MPH degree generally and of these, 87 percent reported being likely to enroll in an MPH program at App State within the next three years. Among alumni of the undergraduate PH program that were surveyed, 79 percent are either moderately or very interested in pursuing an MPH; of these, 94 percent reported being likely to enroll in an MPH program at App State within the next three years. In addition to undergraduate students and practitioners without formal public health training, App State also anticipates that physicians, nurses, and other health care professionals will be interested in pursuing an MPH at App State. As health care systems become more focused on population health and prevention, training in public health methods is increasingly important.

3. **Employment Opportunities for Graduates.** In examining the current labor market demands for North Carolina, when using the search term "public health" on ncworks.gov, there are more than 450 current open positions, including such positions as (but not limited to): public health nurse; public health educator; local public health director; public health education specialist; environmental health supervisor; and biostatistician/epidemiologist. Each of these either requires or strongly prefers applicants with the MPH degree. The salaries range from approximately \$35,000/year for entry level jobs all the way up to \$100,000+ for more administrative positions in the field.

4. **Impact on Access and Affordability.** App State is not requesting any program-specific fees or tuition differential for this program. Tuition and fees for the 2023-2024 full-time (12+/9+ credit hour) rates are as follows:

Full-Time 2023-24 Graduate Tuition and Fees per Year (In Dollars)

Category	Resident	Non-Resident
Tuition	5,081.00	20,841.00
Tuition Differential	--	--
Mandatory Fees (Athletics, Student Activities, Health Services, Educational & Technology, Campus Security, Debt Service, ASG)	3,138.00	3,138.00
Special Fees	--	--

Comparing the cost of this degree program with other UNC System programs and private programs, this four-semester program will provide one of the most cost-effective Master of Public Health in the state and in the southeast.

5. **Expected Quality.** App State already has a strong BS degree program in PH that is Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)-accredited. It is one of the only CEPH accredited BS degrees in the country not connected to an MPH program. The current tenure-track faculty and lecturers have a wealth of experience and earn teacher ratings among the highest in our college. The proposed public health program has a strong pool of adjunct faculty that are experienced practitioners from the Watauga County public health department and those in leadership positions with nonprofit agencies. In addition, the PH program is already strongly rooted in the community and region with collaborations ongoing with the Appalachian Regional Healthcare System, the Children’s Council, High Country Area Agency on Aging, Community Care Clinic, Hunger and Health Coalition, High Country Community Health, Hospitality House, and others. This will provide students living in the region with many opportunities.
6. **Faculty Quality and Number.** Currently, the PH program has three full-time tenured faculty, two full-time tenure-track faculty, two full-time senior lecturers, two full-time lecturers, and is in the process of a faculty search for one other tenure-track faculty member in PH. In addition, the PH program has a strong pool of five adjunct faculty that have MPH degrees and are practitioners with experience in the course material they teach. This includes practitioners from the Watauga County public health department and those in leadership positions with nonprofit agencies. There are also other Beaver College of Health Sciences departments as well as related departments across campus whose faculty expertise overlaps with PH and will support our program.
7. **Relevant Lower-level and Cognate Programs.** As mentioned previously, the BS public health degree is a strong academic program accredited by CEPH. The MPH degree builds on this program.
8. **Availability of Campus Resources (libraries, space, etc.)** With the existing BS program, university resources are already in place, and no additional space is needed, as this is an online degree program. The Belk Library and Information Commons supports the study and research needs of faculty and students in all programs in BCHS. Library resources are adequate for the proposed MPH degree program. The library invests over 3.5 million dollars each year in electronic resources and journals. The library also buys books and electronic books (ebooks) in response to faculty and student requests, proactively in response to patterns of use and availability of relevant books, and through Demand Driven Acquisition programs. The university has a strong BS degree program in PH and resources in this area are already good.
9. **Existing Programs (Number, Location, Mode of Delivery).** University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has an MPH program with a cohort of students in Asheville—partnered with University of North Carolina Asheville. East Carolina University, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and University of North Carolina at Greensboro have programs, as well as Campbell University and Lenoir-Rhyne University.

Potential for Unnecessary Duplication. No other programs exist in northwestern North Carolina. Additionally, the distinct focus of the program also indicates no significant duplications in programming. The proposed program would be an Applied Public Health focused program on Rural Resilience and Sustainability that would target individuals throughout Western North Carolina seeking the MPH to advance their knowledge and career and improve the public health services in this rural underserved region. Only two of the UNC System universities have an online MPH option, and neither has a specific focus on rural health. ECU has a separate certificate but not an MPH concentration. Specifically, the App State MPH aims to recruit, train, and develop

new generations of public health leaders ready to respond to public health needs through public health service and capacity building in North Carolina’s rural Appalachian communities. The program will recruit working professionals in rural Appalachia, as well as future providers. The MPH will help meet public health needs of the North Carolina rural Appalachian communities by providing needed capacity and support to local public health and community settings, in collaboration with state and regional partners, to advance more equitable health outcomes for communities who are currently and historically underserved.

10. Feasibility of Collaborative Program. In discussions with other programs thus far, UNC Charlotte expressed interest in collaborative opportunities for sharing of resources including faculty, courses, and student experiences. Conversations with other programs, including UNC Greensboro and ECU, are ongoing.

11. Other Considerations. None.

III. Summary of Review Processes

- 1. Campus Review Process and Feedback.** The proposal was reviewed by App State’s faculty, graduate committee, dean, provost, and chancellor and approved at all levels.
- 2. UNC System Office Review Process and Feedback.** Throughout the review process, App State provided relevant information pertaining to program requirements and resources. The institution submitted appropriate documentation and research to support the statements made.

IV. Recommendation

Staff recommends that the University of North Carolina Board of Governors approve the Appalachian State University’s request to establish the Master of Public Health (CIP 51.2201) effective fall 2024.

**Request for Authorization to Discontinue and/or Consolidate
Academic Degree Programs**

**East Carolina University – Theatre Arts Education (BFA)
(CIP 13.1324)**

Overview: The Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Arts Education (13.1324) at East Carolina University will be discontinued and consolidated effective fall 2023. The request to discontinue and consolidate delivery of the degree program was approved by the head of the program, appropriate institutional committees, and chief academic officer.

The Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Arts Education will be discontinued and consolidated into the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Arts (50.0501). East Carolina University is creating an educational theatre concentration under the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Arts. No faculty or staff members will be affected by the discontinuation and consolidation of the program. Students currently enrolled in the program will be taught out (currently 12 students are enrolled in the program: six will graduate before the effective discontinuation date and the remaining six students will be taught out). Prospective students will be notified of the change via the undergraduate calendar, information on the East Carolina University website, as well as notifications during recruitment events.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the approval East Carolina University's request to discontinue and consolidate the delivery of the Bachelor's in Theatre Arts Education (13.1324) effective fall 2023.

**Request for Authorization to Discontinue and/or Consolidate
Academic Degree Programs**

NC State University – Educational Administration and Supervision (Ed.D.)

(CIP 13.0499)

Overview: The Doctor of Education in Educational Administration and Supervision (13.0499) at NC State University will be discontinued and consolidated effective spring 2023. The request to discontinue and consolidate delivery of the degree program was approved by the head of the program, appropriate institutional committees, and chief academic officer.

The Doctor of Education in Educational Administration and Supervision will be discontinued and consolidated into the Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership (13.0401). This action is being requested because two active entries exist in the UNC API that represent the same degree program. All information associated with the two active entries should be combined for accuracy and comprehensiveness. No faculty or staff members will be affected by the discontinuation and consolidation of the program. Currently enrolled students will be asked to confirm whether they would like to graduate under the current name and CIP code (Educational Administration and Supervision) or under the requested new name and CIP code (Educational Leadership).

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of NC State University's request to discontinue and consolidate the delivery of the Doctor of Education in Educational Administration and Supervision (13.0499) effective spring 2023.

**Request for Authorization to Discontinue and/or Consolidate
Academic Degree Programs**

**University of North Carolina Asheville – Master’s in Liberal Arts and Sciences (MLAS)
(CIP 24.0101)**

Overview: The Master’s in Liberal Arts and Sciences (24.0101) at the University of North Carolina Asheville will be discontinued effective fall 2023. The request to discontinue delivery of the degree program was approved by the head of the program, appropriate institutional committees, and chief academic officer.

The request to discontinue the Master’s in Liberal Arts and Sciences is due to low enrollment. No faculty, staff members or students will be affected by the discontinuation of the program. All students who were admitted and enrolled before fall 2019 graduated and since spring 2021, no additional courses have been offered. The University of North Carolina Asheville noted that in the chaos of the March 2020 COVID pandemic, they neglected to notify the University of North Carolina System Office of the recommendation to discontinue the program.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve the University of North Carolina Asheville’s request to discontinue the delivery of the Master’s in Liberal Arts and Sciences (24.0101) effective fall 2019.

**Request for Authorization to Discontinue and/or Consolidate
Academic Degree Programs**

**University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill – Master’s in Maternal and Child Health (MSPH)
(CIP 51.2209)**

Overview: The Master’s in Maternal and Child Health (51.2209) at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill will be discontinued effective fall 2023. The request to discontinue delivery of the degree program was approved by the head of the program, appropriate institutional committees, and chief academic officer.

The Master’s in Maternal and Child Health has been on pause since AY2022-23 (students were not enrolled in AY2022-23 and the last MSPH student graduated in August 2022). No students, faculty, or staff members will be affected by the discontinuation of the program. The request to discontinue delivery of the program is due to low enrollment, and challenges differentiating it from the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree program and Master of Science (MS) degree program per revised accreditation requirements.

Recommendation: Staff recommend approval of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill’s request to discontinue the delivery of the Master’s in Maternal and Child Health (51.2209) effective fall 2023.

**Request for Authorization to Discontinue and/or Consolidate
Academic Degree Programs**

**University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill – Master of Science in Marine Sciences (MS)
(CIP 40.0607)**

Overview: The Master of Science in Marine Sciences (40.0607) at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill will be discontinued and consolidated effective fall 2023. The request to discontinue and consolidate delivery of the degree program was approved by the head of the program, appropriate institutional committees, and chief academic officer.

The Master of Science in Marine Sciences will be discontinued and consolidated into the Master of Science in Earth and Marine Sciences (40.0699). This discontinuation and consolidation action aligns with the newly combined Department of Earth, Marine, and Environmental Sciences. No faculty or staff members will be affected by the discontinuation and consolidation of the program. Currently enrolled students will be able to complete their program of study and newly enrolled students will begin the combined curriculum under the new title.

Recommendation: Staff recommend approval of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's request to discontinue and consolidate the delivery of the Master of Science in Marine Sciences (40.0607) effective fall 2023.

**Request for Authorization to Discontinue and/or Consolidate
Academic Degree Programs**

**University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill – Doctor of Philosophy in Marine Sciences (Ph.D.)
(CIP 40.0607)**

Overview: The Doctor of Philosophy in Marine Sciences (40.0607) at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill will be discontinued and consolidated effective fall 2023. The request to discontinue and consolidate delivery of the degree program was approved by the head of the program, appropriate institutional committees, and chief academic officer.

The Doctor of Philosophy in Marine Sciences will be discontinued and consolidated into the Doctor of Philosophy in Earth and Marine Sciences (40.0699). This discontinuation and consolidation action aligns with the newly combined Department of Earth, Marine, and Environmental Sciences. No faculty or staff members will be affected by the discontinuation and consolidation of the program. Currently enrolled students will be able to complete their program of study and newly enrolled students will begin the combined curriculum under the new title.

Recommendation: Staff recommend approval of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's request to discontinue and consolidate the delivery of the Doctor of Philosophy in Marine Sciences (40.0607) effective fall 2023.