



# PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | June St. Clair Atkinson, Ed.D., *State Superintendent*

WWW.NCPUBLICSCHOOLS.ORG

March 11, 2016

TO LEA Superintendents

FROM Dr. Rebecca Garland *R.G.*  
Deputy State Superintendent

Ms. Sneha Shah-Coltrane *SSC*

## 2016 TIMELINE FOR SUBMISSION OF CIHS APPLICATIONS

The Innovative Education Initiatives Act encourages LEAs to partner with their local postsecondary educational institution to establish a Cooperative Innovative High School. The purpose of these schools is to target first-generation college students, students who are at risk of dropping out of high school, and/or offer accelerated learning opportunities. Districts interested in creating such a school must apply in partnership with an institution of higher education to develop a Cooperative Innovative High School (CIHS).

### Submission of a Letter of Intent:

All LEAs and their higher education partner seeking to develop a (CIHS) must submit a letter of intent by using the electronic form at <http://goo.gl/forms/pYDzIRpI0t> by **April 15, 2016**. This letter of intent notifies the Joint Advisory Committee (JAC), which consists of representatives from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI), the North Carolina Community College System, the University of North Carolina General Administration, the North Carolina Independent College and Universities, and partner NC New Schools/Breakthrough Learning (NCNS/BL) of the intent to submit an application. This step is required for all applicants, including any existing CIHS now seeking funding. The purpose of the letter of intent is to activate application support from the JAC and NCDPI staff housed at NCNS/BL. This assistance will be provided as a service to application partners.

### Technical Assistance for Application Development:

The JAC is committed to providing you support in the development of your application. A CIHS Applicant Orientation will be held on **May 18, 2016**, at UNC Greensboro. Additional information including time and place of the meeting will be forthcoming. We encourage all application partners to attend this session to learn more about the application process and to discuss critical components of a CIHS. Further sessions will also be held throughout the application development phase.

### Submission of Application:

Applications to develop a CIHS are due to NCDPI by **September 15, 2016**. Applications must follow the electronic template that will be provided by May 18.

### Selection of Cooperative Innovative High School Programs:

In accordance with law, the JAC shall review the applications and recommend to the appropriate Governing Boards those programs that meet the requirements and that achieve the purposes set out in G. S. 115C-238.50. This process will continue through spring 2017.

## ADVANCED LEARNING

Sneha Shah Coltrane, *Director* | [sneha.shahcoltrane@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:sneha.shahcoltrane@dpi.nc.gov)

6307 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-6307 | (919) 807-3849 | Fax (919) 807-4065

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

An increasing number of students are benefitting from new opportunities that CIHS provide which lead to stronger outcomes with higher rates of academic achievement, graduation and postsecondary enrollment. We are committed to supporting your goals and those of your local communities in providing choices for students to reach their potential.

RBG/ssc

C: NCCCS  
UNC GA  
ICU  
NCNS/BL