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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **ROANOKE CHOWAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE RECEIVES GRANT FROM USDA**

**Oct. 31, 2018** – Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue today announced that USDA is awarding grants for [128 projects to increase access to job training](#) (PDF, 351 KB), educational and health care services in rural areas. “Empowering rural Americans with access to services for quality of life and economic development is critical to rural prosperity,” Secretary Perdue said. “Distance learning and telemedicine technology bridges the gap that often exists between rural communities and essential education, workforce training and health care resources.” USDA is awarding \$39.6 million through the [Distance Learning and Telemedicine \(DLT\) Grant Program](#). More than 4.5 million residents in 40 states and three territories will benefit from the funding.

**AHOSKIE, N.C.** – The Roanoke-Chowan Community College has been awarded a \$436,457 grant by the United States Department of Agriculture for the 2018 fiscal year. The support will allow the college to establish a distance learning teleconferencing network in 12 area businesses. The project — called the RC3 Special Delivery Project — will focus on STEM-related career training, such as nursing/allied health, Emergency Medical Response, computer technology, manufacturing by establishing a distance learning teleconferencing network in 12 area businesses, to include five emergency medical services departments. When implemented, the project will serve the 68,050 residents of the college’s service area and will serve another approximately 7,500 employees of the seven companies and 23 EMS agencies. Another aim of the Special Delivery project is to replace outdated teleconferencing equipment in a room currently outfitted with this capability; furthermore, one of our Associate Degree Nursing classrooms will be outfitted with teleconferencing capability so that the instructors and classes can connect with other nursing students or nursing personnel in other cultures to bring a larger range of diversity to their studies. This would also allow for the instructor to broadcast trainings and instruction to other sites that fall within our service area but are not within easy driving distance.

### About USDA Rural Development

USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities and create jobs in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural areas. For more information, visit [www.rd.usda.gov](http://www.rd.usda.gov).

### About Roanoke-Chowan Community College

R-CCC is one of the 58 community colleges in the North Carolina Community College System and is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate degrees, diplomas, and certificates. The College currently has approximately 20 curricular programs including high-demand STEM-related Occupational Training in Welding, Industrial Systems, and HVAC, with a Mechatronics Engineering program starting in fall 2018. The Hertford County Early College, which is located on the college's campus, is a product of efforts to increase transfer to institutions providing higher-level degrees, as well as a formal transfer agreement with the 16-member UNC-System and a variety of private colleges.

For more information, visit [https://www.rd.usda.gov/files/USDADLT-NRChartOct31\\_2018.pdf](https://www.rd.usda.gov/files/USDADLT-NRChartOct31_2018.pdf) or call (252) 862-1200.

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