1. **Issue:** Bismarck State College (BSC) has submitted a Stage II request to offer the Certificates in Critical Care/Flight and Community Paramedic, both using CIP Code 51.0904, via distance delivery and on-campus.

2. **Proposed actions:** Approve/deny the Stage II request of Bismarck State College (BSC) to offer the Certificates in Critical Care/Flight and Community Paramedic, both using CIP Code 51.0904, via distance delivery and on-campus.

3. **Background information:** Local community ambulance services reported the need for additional advanced certifications in the areas of critical care/flight and a community paramedic program. The objectives of the two certificates are to (1) prepare paramedics to receive advanced certifications in Critical Care/Flight; (2) provide an “advancement ladder” for paramedics (3) fill local healthcare gaps by using existing providers in different roles and providing access to advanced care transportation alternatives; and (4) meet the needs of healthcare facilities and emergency management services employers for paramedic specialty certifications.

4. **Financial implications:** The costs of the program will be borne by the institution via (1) collaboration from industry partners; (2) new revenue generated by tuition; and (3) private donations and federal grants.

5. **Legal/policy issues:** State Board of Higher Education (SBHE) Policy 403.1 Program Approval states: “Board approval is required for all new programs of study that designate a focused collection of instructional/learning activities the completion of which signifies a level of competence which the awarding institution so designates by a notation on the front of the student transcript.”

6. **Academic issues:** No academic issues were raised at the March 8, 2017 Academic Affairs Council (AAC) meeting.

7. **Coordination:** On March 8, 2017, the AAC voted unanimously to recommend that the Stage II request for review by the Chancellor’s Cabinet and advance to the SBHE Academic and Student Affairs Committee/SBHE for approval/denial.

8. **Attachments:** The Stage II request is attached.

9. **Contact information:** Richard M. Rothaus, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, NDUS. Ph: 701-328-4136/email: richard.rothaus@ndus.edu.
10. **Chancellor's recommendation:** Reviewed at the March 15, Chancellor's Cabinet meeting. Chancellor recommends approval.