SCCC wins START-UP NY approval

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SCHENECTADY — Schenectady County Community College has received approval from the state to lure businesses to campus under Gov. Andrew Cuomo’s business tax incentive program START-UP NY.

SCCC is pitching two sites in downtown Schenectady as tax-free zones for businesses including the college-owned Kindl Building at 201 State St. and the NYBizLab at 251 State St.

The college is looking to attract expanding, out-of-state and start-up companies focused in education technology, logistics, software development and applications, SCCC announced on Thursday.

Those areas align with the college’s programs in nanoscale materials technology, storage battery technology, public safety, supply chain management, computer networking systems and cyber security.

“START-UP NY provides a new opportunity for SCCC to forge partnerships with growing businesses looking to partner with the college’s excellent faculty and leverage the education assets of the college to secure future growth,” said Martha Asselin, acting president of SCCC.

START-UP NY was signed into law by Gov. Andrew Cuomo in an effort to bring more companies to New York and create job opportunities for college graduates. The program allows new, expanding and out-of-state companies to locate on or near college campuses and pay no local or state taxes for 10 years.

The University at Albany and the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering in Albany were also approved under the program in March and April, respectively. No companies have announced their move to the campuses since their plans were approved by the state.

On Wednesday Cuomo announced the first 12 companies partnering with Cornell University, Rochester Institute of Technology, University at Buffalo and SUNY Downstate Medical Center as part of START-UP NY. The businesses are expected to create nearly 400 jobs and invest $80 million in those areas.