

## **Report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee On the Prospective Teacher Scholars Focus Growth Pilot**

Attracting and retaining high quality teachers for North Carolina's public school classrooms is of paramount importance. The University of North Carolina's deep, urgent commitment to ensuring a sufficient supply of high quality teachers for the state's children is evidenced in our teacher preparation programs' models for teacher recruitment, preparation, licensure, and professional development. One promising model of teacher recruitment that is being piloted on select focus growth campuses is the Prospective Teacher Scholars Focus Growth Pilot. This program is one of the many ways the University is responding to the state's wide and pervasive teacher supply-demand gap.

The University of North Carolina established a pilot program in 2003-04 on three focused growth campuses; Elizabeth City State University (ECSU), UNC Pembroke (UNC-P), and Western Carolina University (WCU). The focus growth pilots, entitled the Prospective Teacher Scholars Program, allows these campuses to recruit non-resident students to pursue a full-time course of study that will lead to teacher certification in North Carolina and to employment teaching in a North Carolina public school (or school operated by the United States government in North Carolina).

Participating students must sign a promissory note with the institution agreeing to teach an equal number of years in North Carolina. If the student later decides not to pursue teacher education or does not teach in North Carolina, the student will be charged the difference between resident and non-resident tuition plus interest.

Pursuant to Senate Bill 1115, Section 9.9 (2001), the UNC Board of Governors developed guidelines and regulations for the pilot programs and reported to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee Chairs on November 12, 2002.

This report provides information on the progress of the pilot programs and their costs to date. The data in Table 1 presents specific campus level information as well as collective totals for the three participating focus growth campuses. Legislation enacting this pilot, Senate Bill 1115 Section 9.9 (2001), is provided in Attachment 1. The UNC Board of Governors' guidelines and regulations, 800.4.1, adopted on November 8, 2002 are provided in Attachment 2.

In 2003-04, the first year of the Prospective Teacher Scholars Program, fifteen scholars were enrolled on the three campuses participating in this focus growth pilot: 5 at ECSU, 2 at UNC-P, and 8 at WCU. The 2003-04 tuition waiver cost for the fifteen newly enrolled students was \$134,936. The cost by campus for the first year of the pilot was \$41,320 at ECSU, \$18,728 at UNC-P, and \$74,888 at WCU.

In the second year of the pilot program, 2004-05, thirteen of the fifteen scholars returned, and the campuses collectively enrolled an additional fourteen new scholars. Seven of the fourteen new scholars and five returning enrolled at ECSU, three new and one returning scholar enrolled at UNC-P, and four new and seven returning scholars enrolled at WCU. A total of twenty-seven scholars were enrolled in the program in the 2004-05 academic year, increasing the tuition waiver costs for the program in year two to \$227,468. The cost by campus for the second year of the pilot is \$100,068 at ECSU, \$33,040 at UNC-P, and \$94,360 at WCU.

Tuition waiver costs expended to date for the two years this pilot has been in existence is \$362,404; \$141,388 at ECSU, \$51,768 at UNC-P, and \$169,248 at WCU. Students have been recruited from fourteen states. Eleven scholars have come from the North Carolina boarder states of South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, and Virginia.

**TABLE 1: Prospective Teacher Scholars Program**

Focus Growth Campus	2003/04 New Scholars	2003/04 Tuition Waiver Cost	2004/05 Returning Scholars	2004/05 New Scholars	2004/05 Tuition Waiver Cost	Total Scholars Enrolled	Tuition Waiver Cost To Date	States Recruited From
Elizabeth City State University	5	\$41,320	5	7	\$100,068	12	\$141,388	CT - 1, GA - 1, MD - 3, NY - 4, VA - 3
UNC-Pembroke	2	\$18,728	1	3	\$33,040	4	\$51,768	SC - 1, FL - 1, MA - 1, MN - 1
Western Carolina University	8	\$74,888	7	4	\$94,360	11	\$169,248	SC - 5, FL - 2, TN - 1, GA - 1, CA - 1, KS - 1, MI - 1, OH - 1
<i>Totals</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>\$134,936</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>\$227,468</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>\$362,404</i>	<i>Students have been recruited from 11 states</i>

**NOTES:**

ECSU – For 2003/04 the difference in out-of-state and in-state tuition at ECSU was \$8,264. For 2004/05 the difference in out-of-state and in-state tuition at ECSU is \$8,339.

UNC-P – In the 2003/04 year, UNC-P made 15 offers and 3 accepted. In addition, one of the three was removed from the program because the student's father was retroactively charged the in-state tuition rate due to a military residency waiver. For 2003/04 the difference in out-of-state and in-state tuition at UNC-P was \$9,364. In the 2004/05 year, UNC-P made 14 offers with 3 accepting, and one of two students returning from the prior year. One of the returning scholars from the 2003/04 year transferred to UNC Wilmington. For 2004/05 the difference in out-of-state and in-state tuition at UNC-P is \$9,440.

WCU – Costs in 2003/04 reflect tuition waivers for 8 students (one student has since dropped out). For 2003/04 the difference in out-of-state and in-state tuition at WCU was \$9,361. Costs in 2004/05 reflect tuition waivers for 5 students (one student dropped out). For 2004/05 the difference in out-of-state and in-state tuition at WCU is \$9,436.

Attachment 1

**SENATE BILL 1115, SECTION 9.9 (2001)**

**FOCUSED GROWTH PILOT PROGRAM**

**SECTION 9.9.** The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina may allow Elizabeth City State University, the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, and Western Carolina University each to allocate up to one hundred seventy-eight thousand three hundred eighty dollars (\$178,380) of the funds allocated to them for focused enrollment growth for a maximum of 20 Prospective Teacher Scholars. These funds may be used to recruit new nonresident students to enter into agreements to: (i) pursue a full-time course of study that will lead to teacher certification in North Carolina and (ii) teach in a North Carolina public school or a school operated by the United States government in North Carolina for one year for each year that they receive this benefit. The Board of Governors shall establish guidelines and regulations for this pilot program, including methodology for determining its success in increasing the supply of qualified teachers for North Carolina public schools. The Board shall report its guidelines and regulations to guide these pilot programs to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by November 15, 2002. The Board shall report annually to the Committee on the progress of the pilot programs and their costs.

Requested by: Senators Dalton, Lucas, Garrou, Plyler, Odom, Lee; Representatives Nesbitt, Boyd-McIntyre, Rogers, Yongue, Michaux, Smith, Hackney, Easterling, Oldham, Redwine

**THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
POLICY MANUAL: 800.4.1**

Adopted 11/08/02

**PROSPECTIVE TEACHER SCHOLAR PROGRAM**

The University of North Carolina has been directed to establish a pilot program at three of the Focused Growth campuses to recruit new nonresident students to pursue a full-time course of study that will lead to teacher certification in North Carolina and to employment teaching in a North Carolina public school (or school operated by the United States government in North Carolina). Pursuant to Senate Bill 1115, Section 9.9 (2001), the UNC Board of Governors is required to report guidelines and regulations for these pilot programs to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by November 15, 2002, and then report annually to the Committee on the progress of the pilot programs and their costs.

The following policies are to be used for implementation of the Prospective Teacher Scholar programs at Elizabeth City State University, the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, and Western Carolina University.

1. The Prospective Teacher Scholar funds are to be used for non-resident students who make a commitment to pursue a degree in teacher education at one of the three constituent institutions, ECSU, UNCP, or WCU.
2. The Prospective Teacher Scholar program is a scholarship-loan program. Scholarship funds will be used to pay the difference between the cost of resident tuition and fees and non-resident tuition and fees. For each year the student receives the scholarship-loan, the student must teach full-time for an academic year in a North Carolina (K-12) public school or a school operated by the United States Government in North Carolina. The student will have a maximum of seven (7) years or two years time for each year of the scholarship (whichever is less) from the date of graduation to fulfill the payback agreement by teaching in a North Carolina public school.
3.
  - a. Eligibility to participate in the Prospective Teacher Scholar program is limited to non-resident students who enter as a new freshman or as an undergraduate transfer student, and will be enrolled full-time each fall and spring semester, and make satisfactory progress toward a teaching degree.
  - b. The student must maintain a satisfactory GPA and be in good standing with the university each year of study.

- c. The student must meet the criteria and be admitted to the Teacher Education program by the beginning of the Junior year.
  - d. The student must graduate and be eligible for a license to teach in a North Carolina public school within six months after graduation.
- 4. Students participating in the Prospective Teacher Scholar program will not be included in the campus' cap of 18% freshmen non-resident students.
- 5. Any Prospective Teacher Scholar student who chooses to attend summer school classes will be eligible for the in-state resident rate for tuition and fees.
- 6. Each recipient of a Prospective Teacher Scholar scholarship-loan is required to sign a promissory note, along with a surety, agreeing that if the student does not fulfill the payback requirement to teach in a North Carolina public school (as described in #2), the student will be required to repay the campus the differential between the resident and non-resident tuition and fees for each year they do not fulfill the payback requirement. The student will also be required to pay the campus the cost as identified above plus 10% interest on the identified amount which begins to accrue from the date of graduation or the date the student transfers to another institution or the date the student is no longer enrolled full-time and full-term, whichever is earliest.
- 7. Any Prospective Teacher Scholar recipient who does not complete the teacher education program or who terminates the degree program will be subject to the repayment of the scholarship as described in item #6.
- 8. Awards may begin as early as the spring 2003 semester for new freshmen or new transfer students. Currently enrolled students are not eligible to participate in the Prospective Teacher Scholar program.
- 9. Students selected as Prospective Teacher Scholar recipients will be eligible for consideration for additional merit awards and non-state funded need-based financial aid.
- 10. The Prospective Teacher Scholar scholarship-loan must be considered as part of the student's financial aid package. When the total financial aid award exceeds financial need, the scholarship may not be reduced to prevent an over-award.
- 11. The campus shall forgive the repayment if it finds that it is impossible for a person to comply with the requirements of item #2 or item #6 because of the person's death or permanent disability. The campus may forgive the repayment if the President finds that a person could not comply with the requirements of item #2 or item #6 for extraordinary circumstances not within the person's control.

