



**EARLY COLLEGE GRADUATES/THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA ADMISSION POLICY REPORT TO
THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

A Report to the
Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee

Submitted by
The University of North Carolina

September 30, 2017

As Required by
Session Law 2015- 241 (HB 97)

**EARLY COLLEGE GRADUATES/THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA ADMISSION POLICY REPORT TO
THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
September 30, 2017**

HOUSE BILL 97: 2015 Appropriations Act, Sec. 11.16: Early College Graduates/The University of North Carolina Admission Policy

Sec. 11.16 of S.L. 2015-241 directs the Board of Governors (BOG) of The University of North Carolina to adopt a policy to require each constituent institution to offer to any student who graduated from a cooperative innovative high school program with an associate degree and who applies for admission to a constituent institution the option of being considered for admission as a freshman or as a transfer student. The constituent institution must provide relevant information regarding each option to the student.

Beginning September 30, 2017, the BOG must report annually to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee regarding the number of students who graduated from a cooperative innovative high school program with an associate degree and which option was chosen by those students when applying to a constituent institution.

This section became effective July 1, 2015, and applies to the 2016-2017 academic year and each subsequent academic year.

Implementation of House Bill 97 Section 11.16

On April 1, 2016 the Early College/UNC Admissions Policy work group was convened at UNC General Administration to review House Bill 97 Section 11.16 and develop regulations for implementation and assessment. The following campuses were represented on the working group: Appalachian State University, East Carolina University, Fayetteville State University, North Carolina Central University, North Carolina State University, UNC Chapel Hill, UNC Charlotte, UNC Greensboro, UNC Wilmington, and Western Carolina University. Additionally, representatives from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and the North Carolina Community College System served on the working group.

From this working group, UNC Policy 700.1.1/Minimum Requirements for First-time Undergraduate Admissions Minimum Course Requirements was revised to include the following requirements, which were approved by the UNC Board of Governors on July 29, 2016.

IV. Graduates of Cooperative Innovative High Schools (Early College)

Beginning with the 2016-2017 admissions application cycle for enrollment in the 2017-2018 academic year, each UNC constituent institution must offer to any student who graduated from a cooperative innovative high school program with an associate degree and who applies for admission to a constituent institution the option of being considered for admission as a freshman or as a transfer student.

The constituent institution shall also provide written information to the student regarding the consequences that accompany each option and any other relevant information that may be helpful to the student when considering which option to select.

Beginning March 1, 2017, the Board of Governors shall report annually regarding the number of students who graduated from a cooperative innovative high school program with an associate degree and which option was chosen by those students when applying for admission to a constituent institution.

Following the approval of these revisions, all campuses posted relevant information outlining the policy update to campus websites no later than November 22, 2016 (see Appendix A). The College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC) updated the common application to include a question specifically for cooperative innovative high schools graduates to ascertain how applicants wanted to be reviewed in the admissions process. On November 14, 2016 the revised application went live in conjunction with the kick-off for the statewide College Application Week. The fourteen UNC campuses that utilize the CFNC.org admissions application were able to customize the question to best meet enrollment functions.

As the admission cycle for 2016-2017 had already commenced at the time of UNC Board of Governors approval, campuses who utilize third party vendors for applications (i.e. Common Application, Coalition Application, and Admission Pro) were unable to make application changes. In order to obtain the applicant's preference on admission status and to ensure applicants understood the policy, campuses directly contacted applicants, either through phone or email, to explain both options. After providing this additional outreach, campuses provided applicants a defined time period to submit a decision on admissions status.

Appendix B provides a table that reports the number of students who self-identified they would graduate from a cooperative innovative high school program with an associate degree and which option was chosen by those students when applying for admission to one of the 16 UNC constituent institutions. Each campus submitted this information to UNC General Administration and collected this information either directly from the student's application or through follow-up communications with the student. UNC campuses received 2,927 applications from this cohort of students.

Appendix A: Website Information for Early College Admissions

Campus	Link to Early College Admissions Policy
ASU	https://admissions.appstate.edu/how-apply
ECU	http://www.ecu.edu/admissions/freshmen.cfm
ECSU	http://www.ecsu.edu/admissions/admission_requirements/admission_requirements_freshman.html
FSU	http://www.uncfsu.edu/admissions/freshmen
NCA&T	http://www.ncat.edu/divisions/academic-affairs/bulletin/2016-2017/admissions/criteria-early-middle-college-applicant.html
NCCU	http://www.nccu.edu/admissions/early.cfm
NCSU	https://admissions.ncsu.edu/apply/admission-review/
UNCA	https://admissions.unca.edu/other-students
UNC-CH	http://admissions.unc.edu/apply/faqs-n-c-cooperative-innovative-high-school-applicants/
UNCC	https://admissions.uncc.edu/freshmen/application-requirements
UNCG	https://admissions.uncg.edu/apply-early-college.php
UNCP	http://www.uncp.edu/admissions-aid/undergraduate-admissions/early-college-students
UNCW	http://uncw.edu/admissions/EarlyCollege.html
WCU	https://www.wcu.edu/apply/undergraduate-admissions/first-year-students/early-college.aspx
WSSU	http://www.wssu.edu/admissions/admission-requirements/early-college.aspx?site=full

Appendix B: Fall 2017 ECHS Application Information

UNC Campus	Total Number of Applicants who Self-Identified They Would Graduate from a Cooperative Innovative High School Program with an Associate Degree	Applicants Reviewed as Freshman	Applicants Reviewed as Transfer
Appalachian State University*	405	24	22
East Carolina University	171	155	16
Elizabeth City State University	149	149	
Fayetteville State University	440	400	40
North Carolina A&T State University	574	572	2
North Carolina Central University	502	473	29
North Carolina State University	715	605	110
UNC Asheville	21	18	3
UNC Chapel Hill	441	394	47
UNC Charlotte	531	485	46
UNC Greensboro	589	564	25
UNC Pembroke	301	295	6
UNC School of the Arts	1	1	
University of North Carolina Wilmington	270	249	21
Western Carolina University	42	29	13
Winston-Salem State University	50	47	3
TOTAL	2,927	2,277	291

**After ECHS students complete their application, Appalachian State sends an email requesting the student state whether they want to be reviewed as a freshman or transfer student. Only 46 students responded to these emails. ASU has changed this procedure for Fall 2018 and students will now complete a checklist item.*