



THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA SYSTEM

COMPREHENSIVE TRANSITION POSTSECONDARY (CTP) PROGRAMS REPORT TO THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

A Report to the
Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee

Submitted by
The University of North Carolina Board of Governors

July 31, 2024

As Required by
H259 (Budget bill), Section 8.12.(a)

**COMPREHENSIVE TRANSITION POSTSECONDARY (CTP) PROGRAMS REPORT TO THE JOINT
LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
July 31, 2024**

**REQUIRE COMPREHENSIVE TRANSITION POSTSECONDARY PROGRAMS REPORT AND ESTABLISH CTP
PROGRAM AT UNC WILMINGTON**

SECTION 8.12.(a) Article 35A of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read: "§ 116-298. Report: The University of North Carolina System Office shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by March 15 of each year on the impact on participants of Comprehensive Transition Postsecondary Programs at constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina. At a minimum, the report shall include the following information for each CTP Program at a constituent institution: (1) Admissions requirements. (2) Number of participants. (3) Participant outcomes, including credits earned toward a degree, diploma, or certificate and job placements for participants and graduates."

This section became effective January 1, 2024, and applied to the 2022-23 and 2023-24 academic years and each subsequent academic year.

Appalachian State University, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and Western Carolina University each submitted this information to the UNC System Office. In 2022-23 enrollment across all three programs was 57 students, and 57 students were enrolled for 2023-24 (see Appendix A).

Appalachian State University's Scholars with Diverse Abilities Program (SDAP)

Admissions Requirements:

In order to be eligible to apply to SDAP, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Are between 18 and 25 years of age at the time of admission.
- Have documentation that indicates an intellectual disability.
- Are enrolled in or have completed an occupational course of study (OCS) or similar program during high school.
- Are interested in having defined career, personal growth, social engagement, and health and wellness goals.
- Have the ability to effectively communicate with staff, supports, and peers.
- Have a base level of skills in areas of self-care, money management, and navigation.
- Are able to be unsupervised in a variety of settings.
- Are able to manage their own medication needs.
- Are not otherwise eligible to attend Appalachian State University as a degree-seeking student.

Number of Participants:

- 2022-23: 12 students
- 2023-24: 18 students

Participant Outcomes:

Credits Earned

Each student earns a minimum of 12 credits per semester or 24 credits per year

- 2022-23 12 students × 24 credits = Total 288 student credit hours for 2022-23
- 2023-24 18 students × 12 credits fall semester = 216, 16 students × 12 credits spring semester = 192, Total of 408 student credit hours for 2023-24
- All credits for SDAP students are audited credits

Job Placements

- 2022-23: 12 students in paid employment on campus (IT, Campus Dining, Student Union)
- 2023-24: 18 students in paid employment on campus (IT, Campus Dining, Student Union, Catering, University Recreation Services, Event Management, Beans2Brew), also volunteer hours at an assisted living facility off-campus
- In 2023 we had only one graduate as we moved from a two-year to four-year program. That graduate is employed in paid employment at a thrift shop in Seneca, South Carolina.

For more information about the program, visit sdap.appstate.edu

University of North Carolina at Greensboro's Integrative Community Studies

Admissions Requirements:

- Have a documented diagnosis of an intellectual disability. Refer to the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities for a definition of intellectual disability.
- Be their own legal guardian.
- Be at least 18 years old by the fall semester for which they are applying.
- Have concluded secondary education with a diploma, certificate of completion, or equivalent before fall enrollment.
- Not meet admissions requirements for Undergraduate Admissions.
- Have basic safety skills in unsupervised settings during non-service hours.

Number of Participants:

2022-23 academic year – 33 students across four cohorts (four-year program)

- First-year cohort – 6
- Second-year cohort – 12
- Third-year cohort – 6
- Fourth-year cohort – 9

2023-24 academic year – 29 students across four cohorts (four-year program)

- First-year cohort – 8
- Second-year cohort – 5
- Third-year cohort – 11
- Fourth-year cohort – 5

Participant Outcomes:

For students completing the program during 2022:

- 100 percent of students earned credit toward their Integrative Community Studies (ICS) Certificate. ICS courses have gone through curriculum review and are listed in the course catalog; students do earn credit for these courses. These credits are only earned toward the ICS Certificate (not toward an undergraduate degree).
- Most students take a minimum of one additional course in another department for credit, which counts toward their ICS Certificate as well. Very few students take coursework for audit. Therefore, the majority of students are earning ICS credit as well as some “undergraduate” credits.

For students completing the program during 2023:

- 100 percent of students earned credit toward their Integrative Community Studies (ICS) Certificate. ICS courses have gone through curriculum review and are listed in the course catalog; students do earn credit for these courses. These credits are only earned toward the ICS Certificate (not toward an undergraduate degree).
- Most students take a minimum of one additional course in another department for credit, which counts toward their ICS Certificate as well. Very few students take coursework for audit. Therefore, the majority of students are earning ICS credit as well as some “undergraduate” credits.

Paid or Unpaid Internships:

- The Integrative Community Studies program does not require an internship every year.

- An internship is required (130 hours) in the third year of the program. Some are paid by the site; some are paid through Vocational Rehabilitation (depending on student eligibility and connection); some are unpaid.
- First- and second-year students are required to earn 25 “campus involvement” hours and 50 “volunteer” hours.
- Volunteer/involvement site examples:
 - Farmer’s Market
 - Children’s Museum
 - Backpack Beginnings
 - Brothers Being Positive
 - Spartan Open Pantry
 - Various community churches
 - Animal Hospital
 - PIKE – Fraternity
 - UNCG Theater
 - Community Garden
 - SPCA
 - UNCG Catalyst events
 - Esports events
 - Aquatic Center
 - Reading Connections
 - Salvation Army
 - UNCG Office of Leadership and Civic Engagement
 - ASL Network
- Internship Site Examples
 - Reading Connections
 - Tutoring and child day care on campus
 - 6-Tech (UNCG ITS)
 - A Special Blend (coffee shop)
 - Community church (IT/AV Tech assistance)
 - Sports photography with UNCG Basketball
 - Hope Academy
 - Autism Society
 - Greensboro Science Center
 - UNCG Recreation & Wellness Center
 - UNCG Women’s Club Soccer (manager)
 - Urban Ministries
 - Kellin Foundation
 - Goodwill
 - Downtown Hounds
 - Allen Middle School
 - Endless Plastics
 - Greensboro Parks & Rec Country Park
 - Chuck E. Cheese
 - Childcare Network
 - MOPS – Mothers of Preschoolers

Job Placements for 2023-24 Participants:

- ICS does not “place” students in “Job Placements.” The goal is that an internship may lead to a paid job or offer the experience for their résumé to lead to paid employment in the same/or similar field.
- Students enrolled in the ICS program are not required to work while they are enrolled. Students must maintain a minimum of 12 credit hours of coursework; many enroll in 15 credit hours per semester. Therefore, working a job isn’t always feasible. Some students work part time in jobs while they are enrolled to help pay the bills, but that may not always be related to their “career” goals.
- Examples of student jobs Academic Year 22-23:
 - Seven graduates
 - Chuck E. Cheese (paid during senior year and post grad continued)
 - YMCA (post grad)
 - The Budd Group (janitorial and landscaping) × 2 (during senior year and one post grad continued)
 - Three graduates were moving back to their hometown to find work (not lined up at graduation)
 - One graduate went on to community college to pursue animal science (vet tech)
 - Underclass students (work during first, second, and third cohorts)
- Examples of student jobs in academic year 2023-24:
 - Five graduates
 - 6-Tech (customer service) (paid during senior year, moving to hometown post grad to look for another job)
 - A Special Blend (coffee shop) (paid during senior year, continuing post grad)
 - Harris Teeter (paid during senior year and continuing post grad with increasing hours)
 - Bojangles (paid during senior year; post grad plans for restaurant in hometown)
 - Student moving back to hometown (had applied) looking for work in child care or elementary school (not lined up yet at graduation in May, planning for fall 2024).

For more information about the program, visit: <https://ics.uncg.edu/>

Western Carolina University's University Participant (UP) Program

Admissions Requirements:

Consideration for admission to the UP Program is given to those who meet the following admission requirements:

- Age 18-25 at the time of admission with a documented intellectual disability (IQ ~ 70 or lower)
- Have been enrolled in a high school special education program (such as the Occupational Course of Study or Certificate of Completion) that does not allow students to complete requirements necessary for standard admission to WCU
- Demonstrates communication skills adequate to interact with others on the WCU campus
- Demonstrates socially acceptable behavior that will allow a favorable experience on the WCU campus
- Demonstrates ability to be unsupervised overnight and manage own medications
- Adequately motivated to learn and benefit from participation in the UP Program
- Expresses interest in living and working as independently as possible in their community with paid employment at or above minimum wage working 20 or more hours per week after completing the UP Program and supported by parents and families to do so

All applicants to the UP Program are reviewed by the UP Program Steering Committee. This committee comprises the following individuals:

- A WCU undergraduate or graduate student
- Former parents of UP Program graduates
- WCU Director of Financial Aid
- UP Program Director
- UP Program Career Development Coordinator/Administrator
- Administration representative from the College of Education and Allied Professions
- Representatives of Undergraduate Admission
- Representatives of Educational Outreach
- Representatives of Residential Living
- Director of Accessibility Resources
- WCU faculty who have taught UP students
- WCU employers who have worked with UP students
- Representatives from tutoring and student success centers

Number of Participants:

2022-23: 12 students

2023-24: 10 students

Participant Outcomes:

For students completing the program during 2022-23, 100 percent of students received University Participant (UP) Program Certificates of Accomplishment. WCU does not offer a degree or diploma, but a certificate with specific requirements with total hours and goals. For students completing the program during 2023-24, 100 percent of students received UP Certificates of Accomplishment. Participants received 900 or more hours in 2023 for first year of completion toward their UP Certificate of Accomplishment. UP students at WCU do audit seven-12 credit hours (taking courses offered to all other WCU students) each semester within the WCU course catalog. WCU doesn't have specialized coursework only for UP students to take as they are taking courses with and/or courses are facilitated with peer supports.

Paid or Unpaid Internships:

For 2022-23 12 students completed internships, 11 of which were paid internships. Students worked an average of 10 hours per week.

Job Placements:

For fall 2023 semester, 11 students had secured employment with various employers: Bardo Performing Arts, Aramark, Facilities Management, Western Carolina University Bookstore, Blue Ridge Inn, Comfort Inn, WCU Hunter Library, and WCU Student Mailroom.

For spring 2024 semester, 10 students had secured employment with various employers: Aramark, WCU Bookstore, Facilities Management-Mechanic Shop, County Animal Shelter, WCU Housekeeping, Campus Recreation and Wellness Fitness Assistant, Facilities Management-Greenhouse, and Entourage and Parking Services.

For more information about the program, visit: <https://www.wcu.edu/learn/departments-schools-colleges/ceap/stl/special-education-programs/university-participant-up-program/index.aspx>

Appendix A

Student Enrollment

	Appalachian State University	UNC Greensboro	Western Carolina University	Total
2022-23	12	33	12	57
2023-24	18	29	10	57