



**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 Board of Governors

September 30, 2024

As Required by
Session Law 2015-241 (H.B. 97)

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

Section 11.16 of S.L. 2015-241 directs the University of North Carolina Board of Governors to adopt a policy to require each constituent institution to offer any student who graduated with an associate degree from a cooperative innovative high school program 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 Board must report annually to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee regarding the number of students who graduated with an associate degree from a cooperative innovative high school program and which option those students chose when applying to a constituent institution.

This section became effective July 1, 2015, and applied to the 2016-17 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 working group was convened at the UNC System Office to review House Bill 97 Section 11.16 and develop regulations for implementation and assessment. The following institutions were represented on the working group: Appalachian State University, East Carolina University, Fayetteville State University, North Carolina Central University, NC State University, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, University of North Carolina 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, Section 700.1.1 of the UNC Policy Manual, *Minimum Requirements for First-time Undergraduate Admissions/Minimum Course Requirements*, was revised to include the following requirements, which the UNC Board of Governors approved on July 29, 2016:

700.1.1. Section 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 constituent institutions posted relevant information outlining the policy update to institution websites by November 22, 2016, and have continued to update these links (see Appendix A).

The table in Appendix B reports the number of students who self-identified as candidates for graduation 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 System constituent institutions. Each institution submitted this information to the UNC System Office and collected this information either directly from the student's application or through follow-up communications with the student. Constituent institutions received 8,903 applications from this cohort of students.

Appendix A: Website Information for Early College Admissions

Institution	Link to Early College Admissions Policy
ASU	https://admissions.appstate.edu/how-apply/first-year-students
ECU	https://admissions.ecu.edu/apply/freshmen/
ECSU	https://www.ecsu.edu/admissions/prospective-students.php
FSU	https://www.uncfssu.edu/fssu-admissions/undergraduate-admissions/early-college
N.C. A&T	https://www.ncat.edu/admissions/undergraduate/freshman/nc-cooperative-innovative-high-school-students.php
NCCU	https://www.nccu.edu/admissions/early-college-students
NC State	https://admissions.ncsu.edu/apply/early-college/
UNCA	https://www.unca.edu/admission/apply/other-students/
UNC-CH	http://admissions.unc.edu/apply/faqs-n-c-cooperative-innovative-high-school-applicants/
UNCC	https://admissions.uncc.edu/admissions/early-college-high-schools
UNCG	https://admissions.uncg.edu/apply/freshmen/early-college-students/
UNCP	https://www.uncp.edu/admissions/undergraduate-admissions/freshman
UNCSA	https://www.uncsa.edu/admissions/undergraduate/index.aspx
UNCW	https://uncw.edu/admissions/undergraduate/early-college
WCU	https://www.wcu.edu/apply/undergraduate-admissions/first-year-students/early-college.aspx
WSSU	https://www.wssu.edu/admissions/apply/early-college.html

Appendix B: Fall 2024 ECHS Application Information

UNC System Institutions	Total Number of Applicants who Self-Identified They Would Graduate from a Cooperative Innovative High School Program with an Associate Degree	Applicants Requested to be Reviewed as Freshman	Applicants Requested to be Reviewed as Transfer
Appalachian State University	1051	996	55
East Carolina University	440	382	58
Elizabeth City State University	109	109	0
Fayetteville State University	120	116	4
North Carolina A&T State University	271	270	1
North Carolina Central University	575	563	12
North Carolina State University	1629	1606	23
University of North Carolina Asheville	473	466	7
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	1066	1064	2
University of North Carolina at Charlotte	1353	1328	25
University of North Carolina at Greensboro	60	60	0
University of North Carolina at Pembroke	447	446	1
University of North Carolina School of the Arts	22	21	1
University of North Carolina Wilmington	237	202	35
Western Carolina University	529	529	0
Winston-Salem State University	521	521	0
TOTALS	8903	8679	224