

Adopted 02/10/84
Amended 04/12/00
Amended 04/11/03
Amended 07/01/07

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSION

I. MINIMUM COURSE REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirement that students should hold a high school diploma or its equivalent, the University of North Carolina Board of Governors has, since 1988, established minimum course requirements for undergraduate admission.¹ The requirements in effect in 2001-02 were first implemented in the fall of 1990, and will continue until the fall semester of 2004, when a second language requirement will be added. Effective in the fall of 2006, a fourth unit of mathematics will be required for admission. These requirements are summarized below. They are based on actions taken by the Board on April 14, 2000, in response to the report *Background on the Increase in UNC Board of Governors' Minimum Course Requirements for Undergraduate Admission*, which is available on the world wide web at: www.ga.unc.edu/UNCGA/assessment/MCR_BACKINFO.pdf.

Effective until Fall 2004

Four course units² in **English** emphasizing grammar, composition, and literature, and

Three course units of **mathematics**, in any of the following combinations:

- algebra I and II, and geometry,
- algebra I and II, and one unit beyond algebra II, or
- integrated math I, II, and III.

It is recommended that prospective students take a mathematics course unit in the twelfth grade.

Three course units in **science**, including

- at least one unit in a life or **biological science** (for example, biology),
- at least one unit in **physical science** (for example, physical science, chemistry, physics), and
- at least one **laboratory course**.

Two course units in **social studies**, including one unit in **U.S. history**, but an applicant who does not have the unit in U.S. history may be admitted on the condition that at least three semester hours in that subject will be passed by the end of the sophomore year.

¹ The standard course of study required for graduation from the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics shall meet or exceed these minimum course requirements. See G.S. 116-235.

² "Course units" as defined in these requirements may include those high school-level courses taken and passed by an applicant after graduating from high school, as well as those taken while enrolled as a high school student. For some transfer students and students who graduated from high school prior to 1990, special considerations have been made.

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Effective in Fall 2004 and Fall 2005

Six course units in **language**, including

- four units in **English** emphasizing grammar, composition, and literature, and
- two units of a **language other than English**.

Three course units of **mathematics**, in any of the following combinations:

- algebra I and II, and geometry,
- algebra I and II, and one unit beyond algebra II, or
- integrated math I, II, and III.

It is recommended that prospective students take a mathematics course unit in the twelfth grade.

Three course units in **science**, including

- at least one unit in a life or **biological science** (for example, biology),
- at least one unit in **physical science** (for example, physical science, chemistry, physics), and
- at least one **laboratory course**.

Two course units in **social studies**, including one unit in **U.S. history**, but an applicant who does not have the unit in U.S. history may be admitted on the condition that at least three semester hours in that subject will be passed by the end of the sophomore year.

Effective in Fall 2006

Six course units in **language**, including

- four units in **English** emphasizing grammar, composition, and literature, and
- two units of a **language other than English**.

Four course units of **mathematics**, in any of the following combinations:

- algebra I and II, geometry, and one unit beyond algebra II,
- algebra I and II, and two units beyond algebra II, or
- integrated math I, II, and III, and one unit beyond integrated math III.

(The fourth unit of math affects applicants to all institutions except the North Carolina School of the Arts.) It is recommended that prospective students take a mathematics course unit in the twelfth grade.

Three course units in **science**, including

- at least one unit in a life or **biological science** (for example, biology),
- at least one unit in **physical science** (for example, physical science, chemistry, physics), and
- at least one **laboratory course**.

Two course units in **social studies**, including one unit in **U.S. history**, but an applicant who does not have the unit in U.S. history may be admitted on the condition that at least three semester hours in that subject will be passed by the end of the sophomore year.

Articulation with Graduation Requirements in the North Carolina Public High Schools

Following the board's change in minimum course requirements, the North Carolina State Board of Education revised the requirements for high school graduation by offering four courses of study: (1) career; (2) college tech prep; (3) college prep; and (4) occupational. These requirements are summarized below. Option 3 tracks the UNC minimum course requirements closely.

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NC COURSE OF STUDY GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS*

Content Area	CAREER Course of Study Requirements	COLLEGE TECH PREP Course of Study Requirements	COLLEGE PREP Course of Study (UNC 4-yr. College) Requirements	OCCUPATIONAL Course of Study
English I, II, III, IV	4 credits I, II, III, IV	4 credits I, II, III, IV	4 credits I, II, III, IV	This course of study shall be made available for certain students with disabilities who have an IEP, beginning with first time ninth graders in 2000-01. Curriculum content requirements will be presented to the State Board of Education by May 2000.
Mathematics	3 credits Including Algebra I	3 credits Alg. I, Geometry, Alg. II or Alg. I, Technical Math I & II or Integrated Mathematics I, II & III	3 credits Alg. I, Alg. II, Geometry (or higher level math course for which Alg. II is prerequisite) (Recommended one course unit in 12 th grade) or Integrated Mathematics I, II & III	
Science	3 credits a physical science course Biology earth/env. science	3 credits a physical science course related to career pathway (CP) Biology earth/env. science	3 credits a physical science course a life or biological course (Biology) earth/env. science	
Social Studies	3 credits Govt./Econ. (ELPS) US History World Studies	3 credits Govt./Econ. (ELPS) US History World Studies	3 credits Govt./Econ. (ELPS) US History World Studies (UNC admission policy requires 2 courses to meet minimum admission requirements – US History and 1 elective)	
Second Language	Not Required	Not Required	Not Required Recommended at least two (2) course units in one second language with one course unit taken in 12 th grade	

* Effective for ninth graders entering for the first time in 2000-01.

Note: Courses that meet the following requirements may be taken prior to grade 9: Algebra I & II, Geometry, Advanced Math, Technical Math I & II, English I, Biology, ELPS, US History, World Studies. However, the student must still complete the required number of courses for that subject area in grades in 9-12.

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Computer Skills	A specific course is not required but students must demonstrate proficiency through state testing (starting with the graduating class of 2001)	A specific course is not required but students must demonstrate proficiency through state testing (starting with the graduating class of 2001)	A specific course is not required but students must demonstrate proficiency through state testing (starting with the graduating class of 2001)	
Health & Physical Ed.	1 credit Health/Phys. Ed.	1 credit Health/Phys. Ed.	1 credit Health/Phys. Ed.	
Career/Technical	4 units of credits Select courses appropriate for career pathway to include a second level (advanced) course	4 units of credits Select courses appropriate for career pathway to include a second level (advanced) course	Not required	
Arts Ed. (Visual Arts, Dance, Music, Theatre Arts)	Not required (local decision)	Not required (local decision)	Not required (local decision)	
Electives or other requirements	2 Elective Credits and other credits designated by the LEA Proficiency on exit exam	2 Elective Credits and other credits designated by the LEA Proficiency on exit exam	6 Elective Credits and other credits designated by the LEA Proficiency on exit exam	
Total	Depends on local requirements	Depends on local requirements	Depends on local requirements	

Notification of Stakeholders and Educational Policymakers

The President is directed to develop plans and further recommendations to inform key stakeholders and educational policymakers of the changes in requirements.

MINIMUM ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS (for HS GPA and SAT scores)

All applicants for first-time admission as freshmen must meet minimum high school GPA and SAT scores. The minimum combined SAT score (on mathematics and critical reading) for admission is 700 or a composite ACT of 15. The SAT (ACT) minimum score is effective for students entering in Fall 2009. The minimum SAT score will be increased to 750 or ACT composite of 16 for students entering in Fall 2011. The minimum SAT score will increase to 800 or ACT composite of 17 for students entering in Fall 2013 and beyond.

The minimum high school GPA for first-time freshmen beginning in Fall 2009 is 2.0. The minimum high school GPA requirement will increase to 2.3 for students entering in Fall 2011 and will increase again to 2.5 for students entering in Fall 2013 and beyond.

The maximum number of chancellor's exceptions is limited to one percent (1%) of the total

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number of applicants accepted as new freshmen each year. A chancellor's exception may be applied to the SAT minimum requirement and/or the GPA minimum requirement.

Students entering in Fall	Minimum GPA	Minimum SAT	Minimum ACT
Fall 2009	2.0	700	15
Fall 2010	2.0	700	15
Fall 2011	2.3	750	16
Fall 2012	2.3	750	16
Fall 2013 and beyond	2.5	800	17

III. OTHER ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

All applicants for admission to any campus, except those exempted by current campus policies, must submit a standardized test score. The SAT I is preferred, but students may also submit the ACT.

Students applying for admission for fall 2006 or after, for whom standardized test scores are required, must submit either the new SAT I (which includes the writing component) or the ACT with the writing component. The ACT without the writing component will not be acceptable as a standardized test for admission after the spring semester of 2006.

The President may establish regulations to implement this policy.

Proposal to establish Minimum Admissions Requirements



Harold L. Martin
Senior Vice President
for Academic Affairs

November 8, 2007

Board of Governor's Policy on Improving Graduation and Retention Rates (400.1.5)

- Policy established in 1993 - highlights
 - Board mandated thresholds for campus response to survey results
 - Board mandated reduction of credit hour requirements for 4-year degrees to 128 or fewer hours
 - Board mandated tuition surcharge for all students attempting 140 or more credit hours toward a 4-year degree
 - Board expected undergraduate students to enroll in at least 15 semester hours credit per term



Board of Governor's Policy on Improving Graduation and Retention Rates (400.1.5)

- Revision to Policy in 2006 and 2007
 - Goal Setting
 - Measures of Progress and Success
 - Campus Reporting



Accountability Measures

- Student Success – Undergraduates
 - Access
 - Retention
 - Retention of freshmen to sophomore year
 - Graduation (including community college transfers)
 - 4- and 6-year graduation rates of first-time freshmen
 - 2- and 4-year graduation rates of community college transfers
 - Affordability



Retention and Graduation Rates

Retention Rate

The percent of students who enroll in the university as freshmen in a given year (cohort) who return to the university in the second year.

Graduation Rate

The percent of students who complete all degree requirements within a fixed timeframe, typically measured over a 4-year or 6-year period.



General Administration

Data Analysis

■ **Review of campus goals and plans:**

- **Internal data review:**
 - **Retention and graduation rates by demographic variables (gender, residency, race, etc.)**
 - **Academic performance**
 - **Student satisfaction**
- **External review of campus goals and plans:**
 - **by Noel-Levitz**



Campus Interactions

■ Discussions to finalize campus goals and plans (February – April)

- Review data (from internal data analysis)
- Review plans (from Noel-Levitz findings)
- Revise goals and modify plans as needed

■ UNC Benchmarks

- Retention Goal – 80%
- 6-year Graduation Goal – 50%
- 4-Year Graduation Goal – 30%



Campus Goals Summary

Institution	Retention Rate 2005	Retention Rate Goal	6-Year Graduation 2000	6-Year Graduation Goal	4-Year Graduation 2002	4-Year Graduation Goal
NCSU	89.4%	92.0%	70.1%	75.0%	38.4%	43.0%
UNC-CH	96.5%	96.5%	83.8%	87.0%	72.6%	75.0%
ECU	78.7%	82.0%	56.4%	60.0%	27.2%	32.5%
NCA&T	68.9%	80.0%	38.0%	50.0%	14.8%	28.0%
UNCC	77.4%	83.0%	49.8%	51.6%	24.2%	28.8%
UNCG	76.1%	80.0%	52.0%	60.0%	27.4%	34.0%
ASU	84.5%	90.0%	61.6%	75.0%	39.9%	50.0%
FSU	70.8%	80.0%	37.0%	50.0%	18.4%	30.0%
NCCU	70.9%	85.0%	49.3%	55.0%	23.3%	33.0%
UNCP	67.5%	76.0%	37.6%	50.0%	14.2%	27.0%
UNCW	83.1%	90.0%	65.1%	70.0%	44.9%	50.0%
WCU	71.3%	76.0%	46.7%	55.0%	28.2%	30.0%
ECSU	72.3%	80.0%	49.3%	58.0%	23.6%	35.0%
NCSA	76.6%	85.0%	54.2%	60.0%	52.1%	60.0%
UNCA	80.7%	85.0%	53.5%	60.0%	33.1%	40.0%
WSSU	73.0%	82.0%	44.1%	56.0%	18.1%	30.0%
UNC System	80.6%	85.8%	59.3%	64.9%	35.0%	41.3%

*Goals to be achieved at the end of 5 years



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Retention & Graduation Advisory Board

- **Discussions and data review of potential policies**
 - **Minimum admission requirements for UNC System**
 - **Credit hour requirements for graduation**
 - **Campus surveys**



Examining Minimum Admissions Standards

- What are the requirements of other state systems and the NCAA?
 - California
 - Colorado
 - Wisconsin
 - Georgia
 - Louisiana
 - NCAA Regulations



Georgia

■ Georgia:

- Freshmen Index (FI) based on:
 - SAT or ACT score
 - High school GPA (based on a common core curriculum)
 - $FI = 500 * HS\ GPA + SAT(V) + SAT(M)$
- To be admitted, student must fall in range:
 - Research University (3) $FI = 2585$ to 3320
 - Regional University (2) $FI = 2330$ to 2780
 - State University (13)* $FI = 2070$ to 2850
 - State Colleges (2) $FI = 2210$ to 2769

[* Minimum GPA = 2.35 Minimum SAT Total = 810]



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Louisiana

- Minimum criteria based on high school GPA; or ACT score; or Class Rank

	<u>GPA</u>	<u>ACT</u>	<u>Class Rank</u>
• <i>Regional University (10)</i>	≥ 2.0	≥ 20	<i>Top 50%</i>
• <i>Statewide University (3)</i>	≥ 2.5	≥ 23	<i>Top 25%</i>
• <i>Flagship University (2)</i>	≥ 3.0	≥ 25	<i>Top 10%</i>



NCAA Regulations

- Division I is based on a sliding scale using:
 - High school GPA (based on a common core curriculum)
 - SAT or ACT score (3.55/400 to 2.00/1010)
- Division II:
 - Minimum GPA = 2.000 and SAT = 820 (verbal and math), or Minimum ACT = 17 (composite)



Number of First-time Full-time Students Enrolled in 1998-2000 by HSGPA and SAT

	1	1.5	2	2.5	3	3.5	4	4.5	5	6	Grand Total
400											4
450											3
500			6								10
550		6	9	18	7						42
600		13	45	43	9						117
650		23	196	146	54	13					433
700		56	481	416	197	29					1180
750	8	72	609	677	418	92					1879
800	9	64	647	970	961	300	19				2970
850		70	580	1281	1638	712	75				4360
900		39	492	1467	2268	1384	201				5855
950		28	371	1390	2497	1989	471	8			6755
1000		18	324	1286	2693	2549	932	24			7827
1050		9	272	1008	2272	2748	1280	64			7653
1100		6	178	777	1799	2661	1880	119			7422
1150			97	504	1239	2195	1945	219			6205
1200			66	350	815	1693	2017	299			5241
1250			33	154	473	1175	1611	379	11		3836
1300			15	83	276	743	1239	374	8		2738
1350			6	51	141	433	811	348	15		1806
1400				31	75	290	534	325	19		1276
1450				14	37	133	252	211	18		667
1500				5	20	65	142	116	12		362
1550				5		26	63	36	8		141
1600							6	12			21
Grand Total	30	411	4436	10678	17895	19237	13483	2536	96	1	68803

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Six Year Graduation Rates of 1998-2000 Cohort by HSGPA and SAT

	1	1.5	2	2.5	3	3.5	4	4.5	5	6	Grand Total
400											25.00%
450											66.67%
500			33.33%								30.00%
550		16.67%	44.44%	66.67%	42.86%						47.62%
600		23.08%	37.78%	48.84%	33.33%						41.88%
650		21.74%	38.27%	45.89%	50.00%	38.46%					41.57%
700		35.71%	33.26%	40.63%	45.69%	58.62%					38.64%
750	0.00%	20.83%	33.99%	42.98%	50.48%	53.26%					41.25%
800	0.00%	29.69%	34.00%	40.82%	49.12%	57.33%	57.89%				43.43%
850		24.29%	32.07%	41.06%	49.45%	60.39%	69.33%				46.35%
900		28.21%	29.27%	40.56%	53.00%	61.13%	71.14%				50.28%
950		21.43%	32.88%	41.15%	51.62%	63.75%	71.13%	50.00%			53.23%
1000		33.33%	34.26%	41.91%	53.55%	63.91%	75.00%	87.50%			56.83%
1050		11.11%	34.93%	40.48%	52.07%	65.79%	74.38%	75.00%			58.74%
1100		33.33%	25.84%	40.93%	51.25%	64.49%	78.40%	88.24%			61.75%
1150			23.71%	41.07%	53.43%	65.28%	79.02%	88.13%			65.40%
1200			28.79%	43.71%	49.08%	65.80%	80.17%	89.63%			68.14%
1250			39.39%	44.81%	55.39%	66.04%	80.07%	89.18%	90.91%		71.90%
1300			26.67%	46.99%	58.70%	65.14%	81.84%	87.97%	87.50%		74.47%
1350			16.67%	62.75%	57.45%	73.67%	83.60%	88.22%	86.67%		79.29%
1400				74.19%	60.00%	69.66%	83.33%	91.69%	100.00%		81.03%
1450				42.86%	54.05%	75.19%	87.70%	90.52%	94.44%		83.36%
1500				40.00%	70.00%	72.31%	85.21%	93.97%	91.67%		84.53%
1550				80.00%		65.38%	93.65%	86.11%	87.50%		85.11%
1600							100.00%	66.67%			80.95%
Grand Total	6.67%	26.52%	32.82%	41.67%	51.99%	64.66%	79.04%	88.80%	91.67%	0.00%	59.23%

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Example of Data Reviewed

1998, 1999 & 2000 cohort with SAT > 700

Retention and Graduation Data for 1998, 1999, & 2000 Cohort with SAT Greater than or Equal to 700

		1st to 2nd Year Retention	4-year Graduation Rate	5-year Graduation Rate	6-year Graduation Rate
N=68,818		Percent of Cohort*	Percent of Cohort*	Percent of Cohort*	Percent of Cohort*
HSGPA	N	%	%	%	%
3.0+	54,116	84.07	41.77	65.34	70.42
2.9	2,592	73.73	19.68	42.52	48.73
2.8	2,284	73.07	18.56	41.81	48.42
2.7	1,929	71.12	16.23	37.33	43.65
2.6	1,657	70.19	15.51	35.24	40.74
2.5	1,580	71.27	17.85	37.03	43.29
2.4	1,053	67.81	14.25	31.15	36.75
2.3	928	67.78	12.72	30.71	36.10
2.2	630	67.62	14.29	29.05	35.08
2.1	499	65.93	11.22	25.05	33.47
2.0	575	67.48	6.96	22.26	29.04
<=1.9	467	69.81	20.34	31.05	36.62
Missing GPA	508	74.02	32.68	46.65	51.18

* Percent of Cohort = Rate for the group (i.e. the students with SAT <= 700 and HS GPA of 2.4 has retention rate of 67.81%)

Proposed Requirements – New Board of Governors Policy

Students entering in Fall:	Minimum GPA	Minimum SAT	Minimum ACT	Maximum percent of Chancellor's waivers
2009	2.0	700	15	1%
2010	2.0	700	15	1%
2011	2.3	750	16	1%
2012	2.3	750	16	1%
2013 and beyond	2.5	800	17	1%



The University of North Carolina General Administration

***Impact on Freshmen Enrollment
(Chancellor's Exceptions based on Freshman Applications)***

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Impact on Freshmen Enrollment (Chancellor's Exceptions based on Freshman Accepted)

	Freshmen	Freshmen	Freshmen		GPA < 2.0 and		GPA < 2.3 and		GPA < 2.5 and		1%
	Apps for 2006	Accept.	Fall 2006		SAT < 700		SAT < 750		SAT < 800		Chancellor's
		for 2006			N	% Enroll	N	% Enroll	N	% Enroll	Exceptions
ASU	10,131	6,972	2,633		0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	70
ECU	12,311	9,506	3,779		2	0%	4	0%	5	0%	95
ECSU	1,725	1,245	496		0	0%	36	7%	94	19%	12
FSU	1,897	1,512	749		0	0%	56	7%	122	16%	15
NC A&T	5,777	4,440	2,011		4	0%	83	4%	251	12%	44
NCCU	2,645	2,099	906		6	1%	51	6%	141	16%	21
NCSA	582	268	166		6	4%	6	4%	9	5%	3
NCSU	15,138	9,448	4,483		0	0%	0	0%	2	0%	94
UNCA	2,537	186	538		0	0%	0	0%	1	0%	2
UNC-CH	19,277	6,602	3,742		7	0%	9	0%	11	0%	66
UNCC	8,731	6,455	2,693		5	0%	5	0%	6	0%	65
UNCG	8,554	6,237	2,369		1	0%	1	0%	3	0%	62
UNCP	2,181	1,818	886		1	0%	2	0%	6	1%	18
UNCW	7,911	4,960	1,960		0	0%	0	0%	1	0%	50
WCU	4,638	3,599	1,514		0	0%	1	0%	3	0%	36
WSSU	3,113	2,019	896		3	0%	6	1%	20	2%	20
											0
UNC TOTAL	107,148	68,986	29,821		35	0%	260	1%	675	2%	690

Note: These are the number of first-time freshmen applicants and enrolled students from the applicant pool that have been out of high school 12 months or less.

Impact on Freshmen Enrollment

(Chancellor's Exceptions based on Freshman Enrolled)

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Next Steps

■ Presentation and feedback from:

- UNC General Administration
 - President Bowles
 - General Administration Council
 - Faculty Assembly
- Campuses
 - Chancellors
 - Chief Academic Officers



Next Steps (cont'd)

- November 8 – Presentation of final recommendations to Committee on Educational Planning, Policies, and Programs
- January 10 – Action by Committee on Educational Planning, Policies, and Programs
- January 11 – Action by Board of Governors



Proposed Communication Plan

- Announcement to all stakeholders, e.g.,
 - State Board of Education
 - Department of Public Instruction
 - State Board of Community Colleges
 - NC Community College System and colleges
 - NC PTA's
 - NC School Boards Association
 - NC Association for School Administrators, etc.
- CFNC.org and training programs
- CACRAO Conferences for School Counselors
- NC School Counselors Association



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Accountability and Evaluation

- Annual Board Report
- Incentive Funding
- Inclusion in Campus Accountability Reports
- Annual Evaluation of Chancellors



Continuing Support from GA

- Annual Conference
- Workshops
- Data Analysis
- Standard Agenda Item for Meetings with Campus Leaders
 - Chancellor's Administrative Council
 - Chief Academic Officers



Other Important Discussions

- Importance of Summer School
- Summer School Funding
- Importance of Financial Aid
- Transfer Articulation



Questions



The University of North Carolina General Administration
