

UNC MAR Pilot Program Proposal

It is recommended that the UNC Board of Governors delegate authority to the President of the University of North Carolina to establish a three year pilot program at (ECSU, FSU and NCCU) authorizing these institutions to admit students who have High School Grade Point Averages (HSGPAs) above the current UNC Minimum Admissions Requirements (MAR) but who do not meet the current SAT/ACT thresholds. This pilot program will be implemented based on a “sliding scale” that allows for differing levels of SAT/ACT, as students’ HSGPAs increase.

The President shall monitor the progress of the pilot program and provide an annual evaluation and report at the January Board meeting. The overall goal of the MAR pilot program is to reward successful high school students and ensure their postsecondary success. Each pilot will include structure, academic rigor, student-centered learning, high expectations, data collection and assessment.

Pilot Program Objectives:

- Students will meet Satisfactory Academic Progress, per the UNC Fostering Undergraduate Student Success Policy;
- Students will earn 30 credits per academic year;
- Students receiving financial aid will maintain eligibility by meeting all academic standards as required by Federal Title IV standards; and
- Cohort will achieve 80% first year retention.

Pilot Program Structure:

- Students must participate in required program requirements which may include tutorials, learning communities, individual advising, and will be provided support labs, mentoring, and counseling;
- Each student will sign a contract during an orientation outlining the academic, conduct, and professional expectations of the program;
- Students will complete Gateway courses prescribed for the pilot cohort including English, math, and other courses as required by the respective institution's general education requirements;
- Institutions will monitor all students through the campus' Early Warning System (EWS) at least twice per semester and provide mandatory academic support;
- Institutions will review grades and overall group performance through qualitative and quantitative measures each semester;
- Students will provide feedback in the form of evaluations that assess program activities;
- Students will have an academic plan review session with their advisor at the beginning and conclusion of each semester;
- Students needing additional support will meet with their department chairperson and dean;
- A summary report will be provided to the provost each semester; and
- All students must meet the criteria set forth in the pilot program and must make Satisfactory Academic Progress per the Fostering Undergraduate Student Success policy and regulations.

Metrics used to monitor student success in the MAR pilot program:

- Year-to-year and term-to-term retention
- Four- and six-year graduation rates
- Earned hours toward degree
- Credit hours earned each semester and academic year
- Term and cumulative grade point average
- DWIF grade rates

MAR Pilot Program Reporting:

- Each pilot campus must submit a proposal describing the program design to UNC GA.
- Each pilot campus must submit a comprehensive review of each cohort of the pilot in reaching its goals and submit this report and programmatic next steps to UNC GA.
- The President will report the findings of the campus reports to the Board of Governors in January of each year.