



**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, 2021

As Required by  
Session Law 2015- 241 (HB 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 Board of Governors (BOG) of The University of North Carolina System 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 BOG 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 was chosen by those students when applying to a constituent institution.

This section became effective July 1, 2015, and applied 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 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, 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, 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 were approved by the UNC Board of Governors 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.*

## APPENDIX L

*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 5,362 applications from this cohort of students.

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**Appendix A: Website Information for Early College Admissions**

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

**Appendix B: Fall 2021 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	291	211	34
East Carolina University	649	503	146
Elizabeth City State University	180	159	21
Fayetteville State University	72	68	4
North Carolina A&T State University	759	758	1
North Carolina Central University	13	13	0
North Carolina State University	218	216	2
University of North Carolina at Asheville	475	475	0
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	860	813	47
University of North Carolina at Charlotte	825	800	25
University of North Carolina at Greensboro	216	212	4
University of North Carolina at Pembroke	104	72	32
University of North Carolina School of the Arts	4	4	0
University of North Carolina at Wilmington	559	496	63
Western Carolina University	137	95	42
Winston-Salem State University	0	0	0
TOTAL	5,362	4,895	421

\*The 46 students who are unaccounted for did not submit the Early College Choice Act form to indicate how they wished to be reviewed. Those 46 students without a response were reviewed as first year/freshman students at Appalachian.