



**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, 2023

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 University of North Carolina Board of Governors (BOG) 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 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 University of North Carolina 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 BOG approved 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.

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 6902 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.uncfsu.edu/fsu-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
NCSU	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 2023 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	823	759	64
East Carolina University	115	92	23
Elizabeth City State University	146	146	0
Fayetteville State University	88	76	12
North Carolina A&T State University	975	886	89
North Carolina Central University	503	503	0
NC State University	152	128	24
University of North Carolina Asheville	376	366	10
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	934	933	1
University of North Carolina at Charlotte	1515	1478	37
University of North Carolina at Greensboro	328	328	0
University of North Carolina at Pembroke	213	212	1
University of North Carolina School of the Arts	6	5	1
University of North Carolina Wilmington	201	160	41
Western Carolina University	527	527	0
Winston-Salem State University	0	0	0
TOTAL	6902	6599	303