



TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Transmittal Letter 130  
November 22, 2019

THIS LETTER TRANSMITS CHANGES TO THE UNC POLICY MANUAL

Number	Title of Policy, Regulation, or Guideline	Action
<a href="#">300.2.19[R]</a>	Regulation of Declaration of Condition Levels for Adverse Weather and Emergency Events	Adopted 11/07/19
<a href="#">300.2.20[R]</a>	Regulation on Paid Parental Leave for EHRA Employees	Adopted 11/19/19
<a href="#">400.1.1[R]</a>	Regulation for Academic Program Planning and Evaluation	Amended 10/16/19 <i>Redline version attached below.</i>
<a href="#">700.10.1</a>	Policy on Awarding Undergraduate Credit on the Basis of Advanced Placement Exam Scores	Amended 11/15/19 <i>Redline version attached below.</i>
<a href="#">700.10.1[R]</a>	Regulation on Awarding Undergraduate Credit on the Basis of Advanced Course Examination Scores	Amended 11/20/19 <i>Redline version attached below.</i>
Technical corrections (chart attached below)		
<a href="#">The Code, Appendix I</a>	Technical correction to <i>The Code</i> , Appendix 1, Section I.D – Delegation of Duty and Authority of Boards of Trustees	See chart*
<a href="#">The Code, Section 301</a>	Technical correction to <i>The Code</i> , Chapter III – Committees of the Board of Governors, Section 301D.	See chart*
<a href="#">200.9</a>	Technical correction to Policy on Requests for Information or Data from the General Assembly	See chart*

The entire UNC Policy Manual is accessible at:

[https://www.northcarolina.edu/apps/policy/index.php?tab=policy\\_manual](https://www.northcarolina.edu/apps/policy/index.php?tab=policy_manual)

\*Technical corrections are made pursuant to Section 100.2 IV. of the UNC Policy manual. Corrections to these policies were reported to the Board of Governors at its November 2019 meeting per the attached chart.

### **Regulation for Academic Program Planning and Evaluation**

I. Purpose. This regulation defines the authority, responsibilities, and required processes as related to academic program planning and evaluation in the University of North Carolina System (UNC System).

A. Compliance

1. UNC System institutions are individually accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) and are responsible for compliance with SACSCOC criteria and procedures with respect to any action related to academic programs that may constitute a substantive change as defined by SACSCOC.

2. UNC System institutions are required to adhere to the SACSCOC policies and Best Practices and Protocols for Electronically Offered Degree and Certificate Programs in planning, delivering and assessing distance education courses and programs.

3. UNC System institutions are responsible for meeting SACSCOC expectations for the review of the effectiveness of their educational programs, inclusive of student learning outcomes.

4. The University of North Carolina System Office (UNC System Office) utilizes the most recent Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP), for the classification of all degree programs.

5. If a program will be delivered out of state, whether face-to-face or electronically mediated, the institution must assure the UNC System Office that all required licensing or other authorization is secured before the program is offered out of state.

6. The UNC System Office will maintain an Academic Program Inventory (API) as the official record of degree programs offered by the University and of all actions taken regarding degree programs. Constituent institutions will work with the UNC System Office to maintain the integrity of the API.

B. Constituent Institution Policy and Procedure. Each institution must have a clearly defined process for the review and approval of proposals to plan or establish new degree programs, including online or site-based distance education, off-campus, or alternative delivery of degree programs. All constituent institution processes must be followed and constituent institution approval must be received before a proposal may be submitted to the UNC System Office.

C. Communication and Forms. Chancellors of the constituent institutions shall communicate to the UNC System Office their intentions or requests with respect to the following:

1. Request for authorization to plan any new degree program.

2. Request for authorization to establish any new degree program.

3. Request for authorization to establish a new delivery mode of any existing degree program.
4. Request for authorization to change the title, degree type, or CIP of an existing degree program.
5. Request for authorization to discontinue a degree program.
6. Request for authorization to consolidate degree programs.
7. Notification of intent to establish or discontinue a certificate or teacher licensure program.

Constituent institutions must utilize the most recent versions of request forms as required, maintained, and made available by the UNC System Office. Forms for new degree program requests must at minimum address the areas indicated in Section 400.1, Policy on Academic Program Planning, of the UNC Policy Manual, as the basis for decision making on the requests.

## II. Academic Program Planning

### A. New Baccalaureate, Master's, and Doctoral Degree Program Proposals

1. In addition to demonstrated capacity of the institution to deliver a quality program, major considerations in the planning and evaluation of new degree program proposals are student demand for the program, societal demand (availability of employment for graduates of the program), budget and source of funding for the proposed program, collaboration possibilities with other degree programs within UNC System, and relationship of the new degree program with institutional mission.
2. Constituent institutions must comply with regulations on fostering undergraduate student success that limit the number of baccalaureate degree program credit hours to no more than 128 and that designate baccalaureate programs exceeding 135 semester credit hours as five-year baccalaureate programs.<sup>i</sup>
3. The UNC System Office will be responsible for managing the review process for new degree proposals and for making a recommendation to the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina (Board) according to the attached flowcharts: Process for Planning and Establishment of New Baccalaureate Degree Program, Process for Planning and Establishment of New Master's Degree Program, and Process for Planning and Establishment of New Doctoral Degree Program. The UNC System Office may approve authorization to plan proposed programs that clearly meet the considerations in II.A.1, above. External reviews will be required for all doctoral programs and may also be sought to evaluate constituent institution readiness to deliver online or site-based distance education, off-campus, or alternative delivery of degree programs at any level.
4. The senior vice president of academic affairs at the UNC System Office, in cooperation with the constituent institutions, will periodically review and determine a standard maximum number of new degree program proposals that each constituent institution can have under active review at UNC-GA at any given time. Proposals for new joint degree programs shall be exempt from these limitations.

B. Online and Site-Based Distance Education Programs and Off-campus Programs. Distance education occurs when students and instructors are not in the same place. Distance education may be mediated through use of the Internet (online) or other means. Off-campus program delivery occurs when students and instructors are together at an instructional site that is geographically separate from the main campus of the institution.

The UNC System Office has authority to approve online and site-based distance education delivery and off-campus delivery of degree programs previously established by the board according to the flowchart Process to Request New Delivery Mode for Existing Degree Program (any level); otherwise, new degree programs to be delivered online, site-based, or off-campus are processed in the same way as all other new degree program proposals and require board approval. Approval by the UNC System Office is required if 50 percent or more of the degree program will be offered in an alternative, online, or distance delivery mode, or a combination of these modes with the following exceptions:

1. The first online or site-based distance education degree program offering for which a constituent institution must follow any SACSCOC substantive change procedure, regardless of the percent offered in that format, must be approved by the UNC System Office.
2. Any off-campus offering of a degree program, regardless of the percent offered in that format, must be approved by the UNC System Office.

Constituent institutions proposing such programs will be expected to document how online and site-based distance education programs and off-campus programs exhibit comparable quality to programs offered on site at the constituent institution in terms of both academic standards and standards for student support. The application and maintenance of academic standards are the responsibility of the academic unit and constituent institution offering the instruction online or at a site off-campus.

Constituent institutions proposing such programs will also be expected to document how online and site-based distance education programs and off-campus programs do not result in an unnecessary duplication of effort and resources, including among programs delivered to students on campus.

For off-site delivery, priority should be given to partnering with UNC constituent institutions and with the North Carolina Community College System where appropriate.

Rapidly changing technology may lead to new modes of delivery of courses and degrees. Proposals for other methods for delivery of degree programs must document the comparable quality of the proposed programs to programs offered by the constituent institution in terms of both academic standards and standards for student support.

C. Degree-Related Distance Education Courses. The development and delivery of individual degree-related distance education courses are institutional responsibilities. Courses may be offered without prior approval of the UNC System Office. However, institutions should list these courses on their distance education web site. Proposals to offer courses or programs through the Southern Regional Electronic Campus (SREC) will be coordinated through the UNC System Office.

D. Doctor's Degree – Professional Practice. Professional practice doctoral program proposals (formerly First Professional program proposals, as in medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, veterinary medicine, law, and others) normally involve outside reviewers in the early stages of

development and in many cases an on-site review team. Other high-cost programs may also be addressed in the same manner. Constituent institutions should consult with the UNC System Office before beginning to prepare a Professional Practice program proposal.

E. Joint Degree Programs. Joint Degree programs result in the awarding of a single joint degree by two or more UNC constituent institutions or by a UNC constituent institution and non-UNC educational institution. Joint degree programs must be approved through the regular institutional processes and have the approval of the chancellor of each participating UNC institution before submission to the UNC System Office for review and presentation to the board for approval.

Proposals for joint degree programs must include documentation that, at minimum, the fundamental elements of the following institutional processes have been agreed to by the partners:

1. Admission process;
2. Registration and enrollment process for students;
3. Committee process for graduate students;
4. Plan for charging and distributing tuition and fees;
5. Management of transcripts and permanent records;
6. Participation in graduation; and
7. Design of diploma.

Each student who will receive a Joint Degree must be approved by each UNC institution whose name will appear on the diploma using the institutional process for certifying a student to receive a degree.

F. Dual Degree Programs. A Dual Degree program involves two academic units, either at the same institution or at different institutions, including non-UNC institutions, in a formal agreement to offer two degrees as part of a program of study that will result in a student being awarded both degrees (two diplomas). While such programs offer the advantage that some course work may count for each degree, the requirements for each of the two degrees in a Dual Degree program must be substantially equivalent to the requirements for a student taking only one of the degrees. For example, a juris doctorate and an MBA could be linked in a Dual Degree program. While SACSCOC must approve dual degree arrangements, these arrangements are considered by the UNC System Office as articulation agreements among existing degree programs and do not require additional approval by the UNC System Office or the Board.

G. Expedited Program Review. While board policy requires that the academic program planning and evaluation process achieve a balance between responsiveness, due diligence, and a state-wide outlook, it also necessitates development of expedited program review processes for circumstances when rapid response is warranted. A request for an expedited review will be warranted where there is an extraordinary need to have a program start up immediately to meet a clear state need, or to announce immediately that the program will be available at a certain future time. An example might be the need for a degree program as part of a state effort for recruiting or expanding business, industry, or a governmental function. An expedited review will not require a request for permission to plan, and some or all external review requirements may be eliminated at the discretion of the UNC System Office academic affairs leadership.

H. Discontinuation of Academic Degree Programs. The Board of Governors has the authority to establish and discontinue degree programs. A constituent institution may recommend the discontinuation of a degree program at any time. The proposal for discontinuation should provide a reasonable time for currently-enrolled students to complete their academic requirements or provide an alternative way for these students to complete their program of study. **The constituent institution may submit a letter for approval to reinstate the degree program within five years of its discontinuation.**

I. Program Consolidation. Constituent institutions may request that two or more existing degree programs be discontinued in order to be combined in a single degree program. If the resulting consolidated program differs substantively from the component programs in both curricular requirements and program classification, then the constituent institution must complete an abbreviated request for establishment for expedited review by the UNC System Office and approval by the Board as a new degree program. Alternately, a constituent institution may seek to discontinue one or more degree programs to become concentrations or tracks within another degree program whose core requirements and program classification will otherwise not change. In this case, the request for establishment and board approval as a new program are not required, but for the programs to be discontinued, the request to discontinue must be completed and approved by the board. Constituent institutions should work closely with the UNC System Office to assure the correct steps are taken for consolidation requests.

III. Academic Program Evaluation. In accordance with state statutes and on behalf of the Board of Governors, the UNC System Office shall manage a biennial program review process in cooperation with constituent institutions.<sup>ii</sup> All academic degree programs are to be reviewed against criteria specifically developed to determine program productivity. The review may result in either decisions to strengthen programs that are or can reasonably be made productive or in program discontinuation. Availability of educational opportunities for North Carolina citizens, including racial and geographic diversity, are also considered.

IV. Other Matters

A. Effective Date. The requirements of this regulation shall be effective on the date of adoption of this regulation by the president.

B. Relation to Federal and State Laws and Policies. The foregoing regulation as adopted by the president is meant to supplement, and does not purport to supplant or modify, those statutory enactments, regulations, and policies which may govern or relate to the subject matter of this regulation.

**Process for Planning and Establishment of New Baccalaureate Degree Program:**

<b>Letter of Intent Review</b>	<i>Within four weeks</i>	UNC System Office responds with approval to move forward with request	UNC System Office approves and invites submission of Request to Establish	Campus submits Request to Establish <b>within four months</b>
		<i>or</i>		
		UNC System Office responds with questions; campus replies <b>within four weeks</b>		

<b>Request to Establish Review</b>	<i>Within four weeks</i>	UNC System Office responds that proposal is complete	Completed Request to Establish is posted to Academic Planning Website for <b>four weeks</b> for system-wide review and comments	UNC System Office reviews comments received	<i>Within two weeks</i>	UNC System Office is prepared to make recommendation to EPPP Committee	UNC System Office makes recommendation to EPPP Committee
		<i>or</i>				<i>or</i>	
		UNC System Office requests information; campus replies <b>within four weeks</b>				Campus notified of any remaining issues; campus replies <b>within four weeks</b>	

<b>Board of Governors Action</b>	Upon UNC System Office recommendation degree program brought to next EPPP Committee meeting	Upon EPPP Committee approval degree program brought to next Board of Governors meeting	Board of Governors acts on EPPP Committee recommendation
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**Process for Planning and Establishment of New Master's Degree Program:**

<b>Letter of Intent Review</b>	<i>Within four weeks</i>	UNC System Office responds with approval to move forward with request	UNC System Office approves and invites submission of Request to Establish	Campus submits Request to Establish <b>within four months</b>
		<i>or</i>		
		UNC System Office responds with questions; campus replies <b>within four weeks</b>		

<b>Request to Establish Review</b>	<i>Within four weeks</i>	UNC System Office responds that proposal is complete	Completed Request to Establish forwarded to the UNC Graduate Council for <b>four-week</b> review period. Graduate deans submit campus comments to UNC System Office for information and consideration	UNC System Office reviews comments received	<i>Within two weeks</i>	UNC System Office is prepared to make recommendation to EPPP Committee	UNC System Office makes recommendation to EPPP Committee
		<i>or</i>				<i>or</i>	
		UNC System Office requests information; campus replies <b>within four weeks</b>				Campus notified of any remaining issues; campus replies <b>within four weeks</b>	

<b>Board of Governors Action</b>	Upon UNC System Office recommendation degree program brought to next EPPP Committee meeting	Upon EPPP Committee approval degree program brought to next Board of Governors meeting	Board of Governors acts on EPPP Committee recommendation
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**Process for Planning and Establishment of New Doctoral Degree Program:**

<b>Letter of Intent Review</b>	Letter of Intent submitted to UNC System Office  <i>UNC System Office acknowledges receipt within 48 hrs.</i>	<b>Within four weeks</b>	UNC System Office responds that proposal is complete	Completed Letter of Intent is forwarded to the UNC Graduate Council for review and discussion/vote at the <b>next quarterly</b> Graduate Council meeting	<b>Within two weeks</b>	If Council vote is positive and key decision-making criteria are met, UNC System Office will authorize permission to plan new doctoral program	UNC System Office/EPPP approves and invites submission of Request to Establish	Campus submits Request to Establish <b>within four months</b>
			<i>or</i>			If Council vote is negative, campus may revise and resubmit Letter of Intent.  Campus resubmits <b>within four weeks</b>		
			UNC System Office requests information; campus replies <b>within four weeks</b>					

<b>Request to Establish Review</b>	Request to Establish submitted to UNC System Office  <i>UNC System Office acknowledges receipt within 48 hrs.</i>	<b>Within four weeks</b>	UNC System Office responds that proposal is complete	Completed Request to Establish is forwarded by UNC System Office to selected external reviewers	<b>Within ten weeks</b>	External reviews sent to campus / campus notified whether reviews will be sent to Graduate Council Subcommittee	<b>Next quarterly meeting</b>	Proposal presented to Graduate Council	UNC System Office makes recommendation to EPPP Committee
			<i>or</i>			Graduate Council will be given access to external reviewers' comments	<i>or</i>	If utilized, Graduate Council Subcommittee will respond to UNC System Office	
			UNC System Office requests information; campus replies <b>within four weeks</b>						

<b>Board of Governors Action</b>	Upon UNC System Office recommendation degree program brought to next EPPP Committee meeting	Upon EPPP Committee approval degree program brought to next Board of Governors meeting	Board of Governors acts on EPPP Committee recommendation
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**Process to Request New Delivery Mode for Existing Degree Program (any degree level):**

<b>Request to Deliver Review</b>	Request to Deliver submitted to UNC System Office	<b>Within four weeks</b>	UNC System Office responds with approval to move forward with request	UNC System Office approves and posts Request to Deliver for system-wide review and comments for <b>thirty days</b>	If no comments are received, UNC System Office responds that proposal is complete and grants approval
			<i>or</i>		<i>or</i>
	<i>UNC System Office acknowledges receipt <b>within 48 hrs.</b></i>		UNC System Office responds with questions; campus replies <b>within four weeks</b>		UNC System Office requests information; campus replies <b>within four weeks</b>

\*Supersedes Section 400.1.1[R] of the same title, originally adopted May 6, 2009, and amended August 26, 2013.

<sup>1</sup>See Section 400.1.5[R] of the UNC Policy Manual.

<sup>2</sup>Relevant statutes are S.L. 1993-407 and G.S. 116-11(3).

**Policy on Awarding Undergraduate Credit on the  
Basis of Advanced ~~Placement Exam~~ Course Examination Scores**

I. Purpose. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-174.26 (hereinafter G.S.), establishes the intent of the state to enhance accessibility and encourage students to complete rigorous advanced courses at the secondary level. The state has defined advanced courses as Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme, and Cambridge International Advanced Subsidiary (AS) Level and Cambridge International Advanced (A) Level. Students enrolled in North Carolina public schools are exempt from paying any fees for the administration or registration of examinations for these Advanced Courses. With this substantial support from the state of North Carolina, students in the state's high schools have the opportunity to earn credit toward a postsecondary degree via ~~Advanced Placement (AP) exams. AP exams and associated courses are developed by committees of college and university faculty and expert high school teachers to correspond to expectations in introductory level courses at colleges and universities. Scores on these AP exams range from a low of one to a high of five; the developers of AP exams represent that a score of three on any AP exam signals that a student has "proven...capable of doing the work of an introductory level course in a particular subject at college."~~<sup>‡</sup> AP, IB, and Cambridge A Level and AS Level examinations.

It is ~~therefore~~ in the best interest of North Carolina's students that the University of North Carolina's (UNC) ~~System~~ constituent institutions award undergraduate credit on the basis of ~~AP exam~~ ~~Advanced Course examination~~ scores in a uniform manner, and that potential students and their families receive clear and consistent information regarding this awarding of undergraduate credit. Furthermore, it is in the best interest of students and the state that UNC ~~System~~ undergraduate students who prove that they have completed college-level work via ~~a national exam receive one of these state-supported Advanced Course examinations receive~~ credit so that ~~those students~~ they might complete a degree in a timelier manner.

Accordingly, the constituent institutions shall adopt policies governing the awarding of undergraduate credit on the basis of ~~AP exam~~ ~~Advanced Course examination~~ scores not inconsistent with this policy.

II. Awarding Credit for Advanced ~~Placement Exam~~ Course Examination Scores. UNC System constituent institutions shall award appropriate credit to undergraduates who have earned a ~~score of three or higher on one or more AP exams~~ ~~Qualified Advanced Course Examination Score~~, as defined in the Regulation on Awarding Undergraduate Credit on the Basis of Advanced ~~Placement Exam~~ Course Examination Scores, Section 700.10.1[R] of the UNC Policy Manual. ~~An institution with compelling reasons as~~ Any exceptions to ~~why a score other than three~~ this policy must be ~~required for a student to receive appropriate credit may petition to have an exception approved by its~~ the institution's board of trustees. ~~Compelling reasons must be based on analyses of academic outcomes as~~ in accordance with the guidance described in Section 700.10.1[R] of the UNC Policy Manual.

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<sup>‡</sup> See "About AP Scores" from the College Board, the organization that develops and administers AP courses and exams (with substantial input from high school and university faculty across the United States), at <https://apcore.collegeboard.org/scores/about-ap-scores/>, retrieved on June 21, 2018.

III. Report on Exceptions Granted. An institution must report any exceptions granted by its board of trustees, and the reasons and evidence for those exceptions, to the president ~~by July 1, 2019, and annually thereafter. The president shall report a summary of these exceptions to the Board of Governors on an annual basis~~ annually no later than July 1.

IV. Relationship to Other Credit Programs. The purpose of this policy is to provide a standard minimum consideration of college credit for Advanced Courses, as defined by G.S. 115C-174.26. This policy does not preclude UNC System constituent institutions from electing to award additional college credit for other scores on the AP, IB, Cambridge A-Level, or Cambridge AS-Level exams, or for acceptable performance in other programs as identified by the constituent institution.

V. Other Matters

A. Effective Date. The requirements of this policy ~~with regard to AP examinations~~ shall be effective as of the 2019-20 academic year and thereafter; ~~the requirements of this policy with regard to IB and Cambridge AS-Level and A-Level examinations shall be effective as of the 2020-21 academic year and thereafter.~~ Requirements are stipulated further in Section 700.10.1[R] of the UNC Policy Manual.

B. Relation to Federal and State Laws. The foregoing policy as adopted by the Board of Governors is meant to supplement, and does not purport to supplant or modify, those statutory enactments which may govern or relate to the subject matter of this policy.

C. Regulations and Guidelines. This policy shall be implemented and applied in accordance with such regulations and guidelines as may be adopted from time to time by the president.

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**Regulation on Awarding Undergraduate Credit on the  
Basis of Advanced ~~Placement Course~~ Examination Scores**

I. Purpose. The following regulation (“this regulation”) is designed to provide system-wide consistency and clarity regarding implementation of the Policy on Awarding Undergraduate Credit on the Basis of Advanced ~~Placement Course~~ Examination Scores (“the policy”), Section 700.10.1 of the UNC Policy Manual.

Among the goals of the policy and this regulation are to enable improvements to student progression and completion according to student readiness, while avoiding awarding credit for material that a student has not mastered or placing a student into a course for which she or he is not prepared.

Faculty representing ~~individual~~ relevant academic departments should be engaged in institutional decisions for the implementation of the policy and this regulation, to ensure that decisions are informed by the standards of applicable disciplines. Another benefit of faculty involvement in the implementation of the policy and this regulation will be to ensure that implementation is in alignment with ~~the accrediting standards of the Commission on Colleges~~ of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools ~~Commission on Colleges~~ and of accrediting bodies for specific disciplines and professions.

II. Definitions. The following operational definitions apply to the policy and this regulation:

A. “Academic Outcomes.” Results of a student’s performance in the course aligned with the subject content of the Advanced Placement (AP), ~~International Baccalaureate, or Cambridge Advanced International Certificate AS Level or A Level e~~Examination scores in question or in the Subsequent Course.

B. “Appropriate Credit.” A determined number of credit hours granted for a particular course or courses, aligned with the subject content and Academic Outcomes of the AP, IB, or ~~Cambridge AS Level or A Level e~~Examination score in question.

1. After achieving a Qualified ~~AP–Advanced Course~~ Examination Score, a student shall be awarded specified credit hours associated with an institution’s course(s) that is/are aligned with the subject content of the relevant ~~Advanced Course~~AP ~~e~~Examination score.

2. In general, equivalents for Appropriate Credit for particular course(s) in a constituent institution’s course catalog (and/or other sources of information for students and potential students) shall be listed for ~~Qualified Advanced Course~~AP ~~e~~Examination scores ~~of three and above~~. The particular course(s) shall be listed as equivalent to a particular number of credit hours. These particular course(s) and credit hours shall contribute to a student’s progress toward an undergraduate degree.

C. “Compelling Reasons.” Rationales of sufficient evidentiary quality, based on Academic Outcomes, as to why scores higher than ~~three–the established Qualified Advanced Course Examination Score~~ might be required of an institution’s students (if those students are to receive

*Redline version*

Appropriate Credit), submitted to an institution's board of trustees in support of an institution's petition for an exception to the policy; or rationales of sufficient evidentiary quality as to why a constituent institution might discontinue awarding Appropriate Credit on the basis of ~~scores for an AP Exam~~ Qualified Advanced Course Examination Score.

D. "Qualified ~~AP~~ Advanced Course Examination Score." ~~A score of three or higher on an AP Exam. Unless~~ a constituent institution has been granted an exception whereby ~~the institution may require a higher score higher than three~~ may be required, the following shall constitute the minimum score required to receive college credit:-

1. A score of three or higher on an AP examination;
2. A score of five or higher on a Standard Level IB examination;
3. A score of four or higher on a Higher Level IB examination; and/or
4. A score of C or higher on a Cambridge A Level or AS Level examination

~~D.E.~~ "Quantitative Study." A rigorous analysis based on reliable, numerical data regarding Academic Outcomes.

~~E.F.~~ "Subsequent Course." A course in which a student would be unable to enroll without first obtaining credit in a prerequisite course.

III. Affected Students. The requirements of this policy and regulation regarding AP examination scores shall affect first-time (or "freshman") undergraduate students entering constituent institutions for the fall semester of the 2019-20 academic year and thereafter. Other undergraduate students (including but not limited to transfer students, readmitted students, and upperclassmen) may benefit from the requirements of the policy and this regulation by electing into all standards documented in an institution's catalog (and/or other sources of information for students and potential students) for the 2019-20 academic year or thereafter.

The requirements of this policy and regulation regarding IB and Cambridge AS Level and A Level examination scores shall affect first-time (or "freshman") undergraduate students entering constituent institutions for the fall semester of the 2020-21 academic year and thereafter. Other undergraduate students (including but not limited to transfer students, readmitted students, and upperclassmen) may benefit from the requirements of the policy and this regulation by electing into all standards documented in an institution's catalog (and/or other sources of information for student and potential students) for the 2020-21 academic year or thereafter.

~~III-IV.~~ Awarding Appropriate Credit. UNC System constituent institutions shall award Appropriate Credit to undergraduates who have earned a ~~score of three or higher on one or more AP Exams~~ Qualified Advanced Course Examination Score. An institution with Compelling Reasons as to why a score higher than three must be required for a student to receive Appropriate Credit may petition to have an exception approved by its board of trustees. Compelling Reasons must be based on analyses of Academic Outcomes.

Constituent institutions should not deny Appropriate Credit to students on the basis of the age of ~~AP Exam scores~~ Advanced Course Examination Scores that are ten years old or newer, although constituent institutions may request that a student submit a newer ~~AP e~~Exam score in the event that an older score reflects course content or testing design for an ~~AP e~~Exam that subsequently has been revised in a significant manner.

~~Constituent institutions are not required to modify existing AP standards that apply to AP scores lower than three.~~

Constituent institutions are not required to offer Appropriate Credit for every AP, IB, Cambridge A Level, or Cambridge AS Level eExam offered by the College Board; but, if an institution does offer credit for a particular AP Exam, it must offer Appropriate Credit in compliance with the policy and this regulation. If an institution elects to discontinue the awarding of credit for an AP Exam for which credit is awarded during the 2018-19 academic year, however, approval must first be provided by the institution's board of trustees.

A. An institution may offer Appropriate Credit that varies by different scores for the same AP Exam. ~~That is~~For example, an institution may offer a specified number of credit hours for a course or courses for students who earn an AP Exam score of three, and may offer credit hours for different courses for AP Exam scores higher than three.

B. Constituent institutions may award Appropriate Credit (on the basis of Qualified AP Advanced Course Examination Scores) for elective courses, credits toward General Education requirements, or the requirements of a potential major. Appropriate Credit awarded for any elective courses should contribute to students' progress toward an undergraduate degree.

~~B.C. Constituent Institutions are not required to modify existing standards that apply to scores lower than those defined as Qualified Advanced Course Examination Scores.~~

#### ~~IV.V.~~ Policy Exceptions

A. Evidence in support of an institution's Compelling Reasons for an exception to the policy shall be supported by the most recently available and practicable data on Academic Outcomes of that constituent institution's own students, from the undergraduate discipline most analogous or relevant to the content area of the AP-Advanced Course Examination in question, except as outlined below.

B. In general, evidence for a Compelling Reason should address whether or not students who earn a Qualified AP-Advanced Course Examination Score are prepared to succeed in the Subsequent Course within the relevant discipline. For example, constituent institutions may demonstrate that students who earn a Qualified AP-Advanced Course Examination Score would perform significantly better, according to one or more Academic Outcomes, if those students were required to take the equivalent course for the AP-Advanced Course Examination Score at the constituent institution, versus if those students were given credit for said course solely on the basis of the Qualified AP-Advanced Course Examination Score.

To generate this sort of evidence, institutions should endeavor to compare the Academic Outcomes of their enrolled students through Quantitative Study at a conventional level of statistical significance.

Evidence in support of an institution's Compelling Reasons for an exception to the policy may be supported by data on the Academic Outcomes of another institution's (or other institutions') students if the following conditions are met:

*Redline version*

1. Data on Academic Outcomes available are as recent as possible and practicable, from the undergraduate discipline most analogous or relevant to the content area of the ~~AP Exam~~ **Advanced Course Examination** in question; and
2. The other institution(s) for comparison is/are limited to those peer institutions approved by the Board of Governors.

~~V~~.VI. Student Choice Regarding Undergraduate Credit on the Basis of **AP-Advanced Course Examination** Scores. Although an institution is required by the policy to offer Appropriate Credit, a student may decline to accept the offered credit, audit the course aligned with the **AP-Advanced Course Examination** in question, or enroll in the course aligned with the **AP-Advanced Course Examination** in question, depending on institutional practice.

A. Whenever possible, institutional academic advisors should inform eligible undergraduates of the above-described options available to them under the policy and this regulation, along with the potential benefits and disadvantages of those options.

B. Institutions may choose to complement advice from academic advisors with a standardized communication to incoming students regarding **AP-Advanced Course Examination** standards and the potential benefits and disadvantages of the above-mentioned options.

~~V~~.VII. Prohibition Against Additional Requirements for Awarding Undergraduate Credit on the Basis of Scores for an **AP-Advanced Course Examination**. A constituent institution shall not require a student to fulfill additional requirements in order to receive credit on the basis of Qualified **AP-Advanced Course Examination** Scores. A placement test or other assessment may be required, however, to determine Subsequent Courses for which a student is prepared.

~~VII~~.VIII. Prohibition Against Discontinuance of Awarding Undergraduate Credit on the Basis of Scores for an AP Exam. Any institutional policy or practice of awarding credit on the basis of scores for any **AP Advanced Course Examination** in place prior to the implementation of the policy (during the 2018-19 academic year) shall not be discontinued thereafter without approval of the institution's board of trustees.

~~VIII~~.IX. Documenting and Communicating Institutional **AP-Advanced Course Examination** Standards to Undergraduate Students and Potential Undergraduate Students. Institutional **AP-Advanced Course Examination** standards, devised to comply with this policy and regulation, shall be documented and updated annually in institutional course catalogs, undergraduate student handbooks, and/or online resources for undergraduate students. Institutional **AP-Advanced Course Examination** standards shall likewise be documented and updated annually in online and/or printed resources for potential undergraduate students. Constituent institutions should likewise publicize their own policies or practices regarding **AP-Advanced Course Examination** scores that may or may not be accepted on the basis of the age of those scores.

~~IX~~.X. Reporting Requirements. Initial reports regarding exceptions to the policy and/or discontinuances of awarding Appropriate Credit on the basis of Qualified **AP-Advanced Course Examination** Scores, granted by institutional boards of trustees, shall be reported to the president by July 1, 2019. Subsequent reports of exceptions, discontinuances, and/or other alterations relative to this policy shall be reported to the president annually by July 1. Reports to the president shall include full documentation of Compelling Reasons considered by boards of trustees, along with documentation of the board's approval, for each exception granted.

*Redline version*

~~XI.~~ Assessment of the Policy and this Regulation's Effectiveness. The effects of the policy and this regulation, at the level of the UNC System and across its constituent institutions, shall be assessed by the UNC System Office ~~every three years~~ *within three years of implementation, and then on a period basis.* Recommendations for altering the policy and this regulation shall be made accordingly to the president (for this regulation) or Board of Governors (for the policy), on the basis of appropriate evidence.

~~XII.~~ Other Matters

A. Effective Date. The requirements of the policy and this regulation *with regards to AP examinations* shall be effective as of the fall semester of the 2019-20 academic year and thereafter; *the requirements of the policy and this regulation with regards to IB and Cambridge AS-Level and A-Level examinations shall be effective as of the 2020-21 academic year and thereafter.*

B. Relation to Federal and State Laws. The foregoing regulation as adopted by the president is meant to supplement, and does not purport to supplant or modify, those statutory enactments, regulations, and policies which may govern or related to the subject matter of this regulation.

## Report on Technical Corrections to *The Code* /UNC Policy Manual

<i>The Code</i> /UNC Policy Manual	UNC Policy Manual - Chapter	Policy/ Regulation/ Guideline	Section(s)	Technical Correction(s)	Effective Date (Posted to Webpage)
<i>The Code</i>	Appendix I	<i>The Code</i>	I.D., Chancellor Selection	Technical changes made to align with recently approved amendments to Section 200.8 of the UNC Policy Manual, Policy on Chancellor Searches and Elections.	10/21/2019
UNC Policy Manual	Chapter 200, Board of Governors	Policy	200.9, Requests for Information or Data from the General Assembly	Update references made to "General Administration" to "UNC System Office"; UNC Style Guide corrections, and corrections for consistency to later amendments to the UNC Policy Manual.	10/21/2019
<i>The Code</i>	Section 301. The Standing Committees' Jurisdiction	<i>The Code</i>	301 D. (Committee on Personnel and Tenure)	Technical changes made to align with recently approved Code and policies changes to faculty appeals; corrections made in line with the UNC System Style Guide and later UNC Policy Manual amendments.	10/21/2019