



HOUSE BILL 15: Year-Round Funds for CC UGETC

**This Bill Analysis
reflects the contents
of the bill as it was
presented in
committee.**

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee:	House Education - Community Colleges	Date:	March 3, 2015
Introduced by:	Reps. Pendleton, Stam, Yarborough	Prepared by:	Denise Adams
Analysis of:	First Edition		Legislative Analyst

SUMMARY: *House Bill 15 would allow community colleges to teach Universal General Education Transfer Courses (UGETC) during the summer term and include the student membership hours from these courses when calculating full-time equivalent students (FTE) for use in budget funding formulas at the State level. House Bill 15 would also require the State Board of Community Colleges to file a report on FTE for the 2015 summer term with the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by October 1, 2015.*

CURRENT LAW: The budget for the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) is calculated based on a Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) student. An FTE for budget purposes is determined to be a student who takes 256 credit hours a semester or 512 credit hours a year. The NCCCS budgeted enrollment for funding requests is calculated by using the average of the past two years of budgeted FTE or the highest of those two years.

Courses taught in the summer term are typically not utilized in this calculation and NCCCS does not receive State funding to teach them. In 2013, NCCCS received the authority to teach, and use for budgeted FTE calculation purposes, the following courses in a summer term: technical education, health care, developmental education, and STEM-related courses.

BILL ANALYSIS: Section 1 of HB 18 expands the list of courses community colleges may teach, and use for budgeted FTE calculation purposes, in the summer term to include courses contained in the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement entered into between The University of North Carolina and the NCCCS. Student membership hours from these courses should be counted when computing FTE students for use in budget funding formulas at the State level.

Section 2 of HB 18 directs the State Board of Community Colleges to report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by October 1, 2015, on FTE for the summer 2015 term.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This bill would be effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with the summer 2015 term.

BACKGROUND: In February of 2014, The University of North Carolina and the NCCCS entered into a new Comprehensive Articulation Agreement (CAA), which is a statewide agreement governing the transfer of credits between North Carolina community colleges and public universities. Among other things, the new CAA made changes to the Transfer Course List, including identifying certain courses as "Universal General Education Transfer Courses" (UGETC), which are courses guaranteed to transfer for general education equivalency credit to each of the 16 constituent institutions. The new CAA went into effect with the 2014 fall semester.

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