



# SENATE BILL 315: Implement UNC Undergrad Completion Plan.

2017-2018 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b> Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate	<b>Date:</b> April 6, 2017
<b>Introduced by:</b> Sens. Barefoot, Curtis, Tarte	<b>Prepared by:</b> Drupti Chauhan
<b>Analysis of:</b> First Edition	Committee Counsel

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**OVERVIEW:** *Senate Bill 315 directs the President of The University of North Carolina to implement The University of North Carolina Undergraduate Degree Completion Improvement Plan.*

**BILL ANALYSIS:** Senate Bill 315 directs the President of The University of North Carolina to implement The University of North Carolina Undergraduate Degree Completion Improvement Plan that was submitted to the General Assembly in December, 2016. The bill directs the Plan to be implemented beginning with the 2017-2018 academic year.

A copy of the report can be found at:

<http://www.ncleg.net/documentsites/committees/JLEOC/Reports%20Received/2017%20Reports%20Received/Modify%20NCGAP-Improve%20Student%20Degree%20Completion%20Rates.pdf>

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The bill would become effective when it becomes law.

**BACKGROUND:** In 2015, the General Assembly directed the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina and the State Board of Community Colleges to study and evaluate how a deferred admissions program, the North Carolina Guaranteed Admission Program (NC GAP), could improve graduation rates at the constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina and provide students with a college education at significantly lower costs for the students and the State. NC GAP would require students who satisfy the admissions criteria of a constituent institution but whose academic credentials are not as competitive as other admitted students, to first enroll in a community college and earn an associate's degree before enrolling in the constituent institution. Each constituent institution was to design a deferred admission program as a part of NC GAP for implementation at that institution beginning with the admissions process for the 2017-2018 academic year.

In 2016, the General Assembly made some revisions to its 2015 provision and directed the President of The University of North Carolina, in consultation with the Board of Governors, to adopt a plan to improve student completion of baccalaureate degrees that include specific targets for each constituent institution's completion rates. The plan could allow for a variety of strategies designed to best meet the needs of the individual constituent institutions including redesigned courses, early alert systems, and tutoring. This resulted in The University of North Carolina Undergraduate Degree Completion Improvement Plan which is to be implemented by this bill. Any constituent institution that does not implement the requirements of the Plan would have to implement NC GAP and a deferred admissions program.

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