

FAPSC Motion for revision of the ESCROW policy.

Background and rationale for proposed revisions

Based on the absence of age restrictions across the UNC system it was agreed that the age restriction and requirement that the student be accompanied by a guardian could be removed from the Escrow policy for early admission of gifted students.

The revision also addresses FAPSC concerns that, prior to admission, students be reviewed on an individual basis by the Director of Admissions. The qualification of the students is already covered by the requirement that School Principals write a supporting letter for the reviewer. A statement preventing the student from living on campus has also been added.

These revisions have been reviewed by the Associate Provost for Enrollment Management and it is hoped that our legal department will also provide a review of these revisions in time for the upcoming Faculty Council meeting.

Recommendation of the FAPSC committee

Following discussions during the March 9th 2012 meeting of FAPSC and a subsequent email ballot, the FAPSC recommends revision to the ESCROW policy statement as outlined in Appendix B below.

Appendix A: Original request and background materials.

Request for consideration from Tina McEntire:

2011: I surveyed campuses in the UNC System last year and most did not have a specific age restriction at all. *I suggest that we don't use any reference to age or if we have to be specific then use "highly qualified students of high-school age"*.

The Policy Language (from the university Catalog) is as follows:

ESCROW PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

The Escrow Program provides an opportunity for highly qualified students over the age of 15 to take college credit courses while enrolled in secondary school. Records of credit earned will be maintained for use at the University or at another institution of higher learning. The program is designed for those students who have exhausted their course offerings at their high school and need to supplement their high school curriculum with college courses. The program is not designed for students who wish to take courses to fulfill high school requirements.

Applicants recommended for participation in the program usually have shown very advanced ability in particular academic areas. The recommendations are normally made by the secondary school principal.

Requests for additional information and application forms should be directed to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at UNC Charlotte.

In 2006, the Faculty Council passed additional restrictions (that apparently did not make it into the policy language, but nonetheless are still policy). The entire minutes are attached; the motion is here:

A motion from FAPSC recommended that **escrow students under the age of 16 must be accompanied on campus by a parent or guardian**. Escrow students are high-school students (often home-schooled) who take courses at university, and the credits go in

escrow towards their college education at UNC-Charlotte or elsewhere. We have had requests from persons as young as 12, and there are concerns about their safety while on campus. In response to a question from Dr. Starrett, Dr. Booth confirmed that the parent or guardian would be required to be physically with the child at all times. In response to a question from Dr. Calhoun, Dr. DiBiase said that the escrow student policy would not apply to the proposed early college program to be established on campus. The motion passed unanimously.

NOTE: In 2009, the age above was changed from 16 to 15 after consultation with Legal, General Administration, and institutions with the UNC system.

Appendix B:

The existing policy statement with revision edits [in blue](#) reads

ESCROW PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

The Escrow Program provides an opportunity for highly qualified students ~~over the age of 15~~ to take college credit courses while enrolled in secondary school. Records of credit earned will be maintained for use at the University or at another institution of higher learning. The program is designed for those students who have exhausted their course offerings at their high school and need to supplement their high school curriculum with college courses. The program is not designed for students who wish to take courses to fulfill high school requirements.

Applicants recommended for participation in the program usually have shown very advanced ability in particular academic areas. The recommendations are normally made by the secondary school principal [and are reviewed by the Director of Admissions on an individual basis. Escrow students are not permitted to live in campus housing.](#)

Requests for additional information and application forms should be directed to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions ~~at UNC Charlotte.~~

~~[In 2006, the Faculty Council passed additional the following additional restriction:]
Escrow students under the age of 16 must be accompanied on campus by a parent or guardian.~~

With these edits, the revised policy will read:

ESCROW PROGRAM

The Escrow Program provides an opportunity for highly qualified students to take college credit courses while enrolled in secondary school. Records of credit earned will be maintained for use at the University or at another institution of higher learning. The program is designed for those students who have exhausted their course offerings at their high school and need to supplement their high school curriculum with college courses. The program is not designed for students who wish to take courses to fulfill high school requirements.

Applicants recommended for participation in the program usually have shown very advanced ability in particular academic areas. The recommendations are normally made by the secondary school principal and are reviewed by the Director of Admissions on an individual basis. Escrow students are not permitted to live in campus housing.

Requests for additional information and application forms should be directed to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.