



Carolina College Advising Corps

OUR MODEL

The “Near-Peer” Model

Recent graduates serve as advisers, which allows students to more easily develop relationships and trust.

Best-Match and Best-Fit

Advisers help students identify and apply to post-secondary programs that will best serve them, both academically and socially.

Building a College-Going Culture

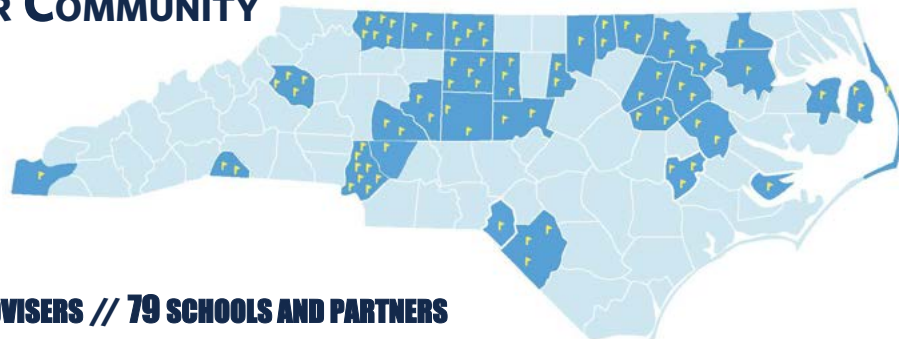
Currently, less than 50% of low-income students admitted to a post-secondary institution end up enrolling, and fewer than 1 in 12 graduate. Advisers focus on fostering a college-going culture at their schools to boost college enrollment rates.

The Carolina College Advising Corps (Corps) helps low-income, first-generation, and under-represented students apply to and enroll in college by placing recent UNC-Chapel Hill graduates as college advisers in selected public high schools throughout the state. Advisers help students apply for college admission as well as scholarships and financial aid.

OUR SUCCESS

- On average, Corps partner schools saw an increase of 10-11% in college enrollment within the first year of partnership.
- Corps schools see on average an increase of \$1 million dollars in scholarships earned during the first years of partnership.
- Approximately 74% of Corps students who enrolled in college return for their second year, exceeding the national average of 69% for low-income students. In 2016, 74% of Corps students also persisted through their second year of college.
- Through sustained growth, 49% of all American Indian, 15% of all Latinx, 22% of all African-American or Black students in the state will have access to a Corps adviser.

OUR COMMUNITY



59 ADVISERS // 79 SCHOOLS AND PARTNERS



**CAROLINA COLLEGE
ADVISING CORPS**



WHY COLLEGE?

During the course of a lifetime, those with a college degree earn nearly twice as much as those with only a GED.

67% of North Carolina jobs will require a college degree by 2020. Education is vital for both employees and employers.

WHY LOW-INCOME & FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS?

According to the Department of Education, less than half of low-income seniors who intend to go to college end up enrolling. To increase post-secondary degree attainment, we must work systematically to close achievement gaps.

WHO ISN'T ENROLLING — AND WHY?

50% of seniors aren't enrolling in a post-secondary institution — often because of difficulty navigating systems or lack of awareness about opportunities, or both.

482:1 National counselor-to-student ratios are sky high, leaving the average high school student only 20 minutes per year to meet with a counselor.

"In the past 10 years, college advisers have helped to create a true college-going culture in our school. Our recent graduates will often credit the advisers for helping them find potential in themselves. As a high school counselor, I can't imagine not having them as a resource to help our students and families."

— Joy Toms, *Counselor at Morehead High School in Rockingham County*

"When I was applying to colleges, my adviser was there every step of the way. Ms. McGuire was really easy to connect with. With her guidance I not only applied, but I was able to seek out financial aid and scholarship opportunities.

— Nicole Bonilla, *Class of 2017*
West Charlotte High School

OUR IMPACT

- **86%** of seniors met with their adviser
- **70%** of students submitted at least one college application
- **53%** of students completed the FAFSA by June 18
- **43%** of students received assistance with FAFSA completion
- **47,545** one-on-one interactions between adviser and **12,138** seniors
- **6,603** students submitted **29,702** college applications
- **5351** students were assisted with standardized test registrations
- **2691** students participated in college campus visits
- Over **145 million** reported in awarded scholarships and aid dollars



Carolina Student Transfer Excellence Program (C-STEP)

Supporting Transfer Student Success

Founded in 2006 with the support of the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, the Carolina Student Transfer Excellence Program, or C-STEP, fosters success by identifying talented low- to moderate-income students while they're in high school or early in their community college careers. Selected students are guaranteed admission to Carolina after earning an associate degree and successfully completing the program. C-STEP students are offered mentorship and guidance while pursuing their degrees.

Before they enroll at Carolina, C-STEP students will have:

- Connected with students, faculty, and staff
- Conducted community service
- Earned their associate degree
- Prepared to smoothly transition
- Shadowed a Carolina student

Program Overview

Host Community College (years 1-2)

Students take 12-15 hours and meet regularly with advisors to plan their academic path.
Highlights: Shadow program, kickoff event on campus in Chapel Hill, and personal advising

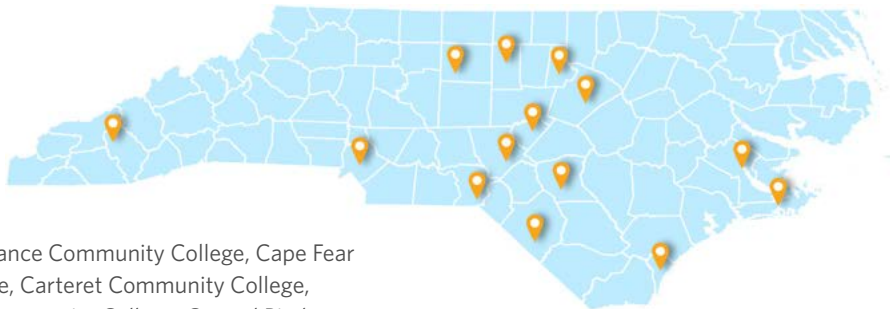
Transitioning to Carolina

After earning their associate degree, students prepare to come to Chapel Hill.
Highlights: Tailored orientation, peer mentors, and academic and social outings

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (years 3-4)

Students develop an Individualized Carolina C-STEP Plan (ICCP) with C-STEP staff, meet with faculty and peer mentors, and take advantage of all that Carolina has to offer.
Highlights: Summer internship stipend and monthly gatherings

Proudly Serving North Carolina



PARTNERS: Alamance Community College, Cape Fear Community College, Carteret Community College, Central Carolina Community College, Central Piedmont Community College, Craven Community College, Durham Technical Community College, Fayetteville Technical Community College, Guilford Community College, Robeson Community College, Richmond Community College, Sandhills Community College, Southwestern Community College, and Wake Technical Community College

SINCE 2006

1,000+

C-STEP students served

4:1

student:faculty/staff ratio

36%

of C-STEP students qualified for the Carolina Covenant, which enables students from low-income backgrounds to graduate debt-free

90

students affiliated with the U.S. military

82%

graduation rate from Carolina





CHARLES McMILLAN

Carolina class of 2015

Making the world a safer place – from the barracks to the classroom.

2010 Leaves the U.S. Army with an honorable discharge and enrolls at Fayetteville Technical Community College with his eye on Carolina.

2013 Transfers to Carolina through the Carolina Student Transfer Excellence Program (C-STEP), which provides a clear pathway from community college to Carolina with continuous support.

2014 Selects Peace, War, and Defense (PWAD) as his major, combining his passion for national security and experiences in the military.

2015 Graduates and lands a job working with government agencies at Oracle, a technology corporation.

Today Continues his education at Johns Hopkins University working toward a master's degree in Global Security Studies.

"Graduating from UNC and being surrounded by some of the brightest minds in the country gave me the knowledge and confidence to succeed in academia."

When to Apply to C-STEP

We add new students to C-STEP twice a year, and we encourage you to apply as soon as possible. There are two deadlines:

- **April 1:** You'll receive your decision by late April.
- **October 1:** You'll receive your decision by late October.

Application Checklist

In order to be considered for C-STEP, please submit the following materials by the deadline for which you are applying:

- Fill out the online application at admissions.unc.edu/CSTEP. Please include all requested information.
- If you answer "yes" to any of the community standards questions, please submit an explanation and supporting documentation as requested in the instructions.
- Mail your official hard copy transcripts from your graduating high school and all colleges and universities attended. Please note that you must submit transcripts from all post-secondary institutions in which you have enrolled, regardless of whether you completed coursework.
- Email two letters of recommendation in PDF format to cstep@admissions.unc.edu.
- *High school students only:* submit official SAT or ACT results, or scores from a community college placement exam.