



THE UNIVERSITY  
of NORTH CAROLINA  
at CHAPEL HILL

## C-STEP: Carolina Student Transfer Excellence Program

The *Carolina Student Transfer Excellence Program* (C-STEP) is a partnership between Craven Community College (Craven CC) and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-Chapel Hill) made possible by a grant from the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation. The goal of C-STEP is to identify high-achieving, low-to-moderate-income students who would not otherwise attend a selective college or university; to enroll these students in the Associate in Arts (AA) or Associate in Science (AS) program at one of the partnering community colleges like Craven CC; to mentor these students through successful completion of an associate degree (AA/AS); to transfer these students, as juniors, to UNC-Chapel Hill; and to support their successful completion of a baccalaureate degree.

Entry into the program is competitive and is based on both demonstrated financial need and academic excellence. Statistics show that transfer students from North Carolina Community Colleges perform better on average as juniors than those who enter UNC-Chapel Hill as freshmen.

### Helpful Links

[C-STEP at UNC-Chapel Hill](#)  
[Craven CC's Degree Programs](#)  
[Jack Kent Cooke Foundation](#)  
[Carolina Covenant](#)

### Need Help? Have Questions?

**Contact**  
**Craven Community College's**  
**C-STEP Advisor**

Cameron Kishel  
STEM Center, Room 103  
Havelock Campus  
[kishelc@cravenc.edu](mailto:kishelc@cravenc.edu)  
(252) 444-5249

**C-STEP is not part of the general process routinely followed by students applying to UNC-Chapel Hill as college freshmen or traditional community college students applying to UNC-Chapel Hill as transfer students.**

Rather, C-STEP identifies talented low-to-moderate-income students as early as high school and facilitates their eventual admission and transfer to UNC-Chapel Hill as juniors if they earn an appropriate associate degree at Craven CC and complete C-STEP participation and admissions requirements. In addition to eligibility for up to \$500 per academic year in scholarships through the Craven Community College Foundation, C-STEP students are provided exemplary advising, mentoring, and support during their transition and subsequent enrollment at UNC-Chapel Hill.

This collaborative effort will ensure that Craven CC C-STEP students feel “firmly planted” at UNC-Chapel Hill almost immediately after transferring there. These students will be academically prepared and fully engaged in the campus community—and both are strong indicators of student success.

An important consideration for many students interested in transferring to a four-year university is how to pay for their education. Once enrolled at UNC-Chapel Hill, the university attempts to meet 100% of each admitted C-STEP student's demonstrated financial need through grants, scholarships, loans, and work-study programs.

In addition, qualified C-STEP students will be eligible to apply for the Carolina Covenant, a landmark program that enables students from low socioeconomic backgrounds to graduate with minimal debt from UNC-Chapel Hill.

**The following criteria apply to C-STEP applicants:**

- Current enrollment or plans to enroll in an Associate in Arts (AA) or Associate in Science (AS) degree program student at Craven CC;
- Record of strong academic performance;
- Demonstration of financial need, according to FAFSA;
- Completion of all developmental studies requirements; and
- Commitment to be a full-time student each semester.

*Craven CC would like to express appreciation to Durham Technical Community College for providing the original source for this content.*

**Application Information & Deadlines**

Students who wish to apply to C-STEP at Craven CC must complete the UNC-Chapel Hill C-STEP application process. The application link is posted below.

<b>C-STEP Application Requirements</b>	<b>Application Deadline</b>	<b>Notification Date</b>
Graduating high school seniors – OR – High school seniors with 30 dual enrollment credit or less – OR – Current Craven CC students with 30 credit hours or less including current semester coursework	<b>April 1</b>	April 30
Current Craven CC students with 30 credit hours or less including current semester coursework	<b>October 1</b>	October 31

**Student Testimonial**

*C-STEP has provided me with invaluable opportunities. When I started at Craven I lacked direction and confidence in myself; I knew that I wanted to study English and I knew that I wanted to transfer, but I had no idea what the next step should be. I spent a year at Craven as a part-time student, then I came across C-STEP.*

*Since I was accepted into C-STEP, my academic career has changed; since then, I have had direction and a plan. I was always a good student, but with the help of C-STEP I have become a great student. The friendships that I have forged thanks to C-STEP have made me more comfortable in the college setting, and the advising that I have received has given me confidence in myself.*

*My intended major at UNC is English and I hope to pursue a minor in Medicine, Culture, and Literature. Thanks to C-STEP, I am ready to transfer, to succeed, and to fulfill my educational goals.*

Hallie French, C-STEP student  
Craven CC Class of 2015  
UNC-Chapel Hill Class of 2017

**[Click Here for More Information](https://cravencc.edu/cstep)**

<https://cravencc.edu/cstep>