

TO: Academic Affairs Committee
Faculty Senate

FROM: Center for Global Engagement (Leisha DeRiso, Amir Maleki, Carrie Taylor, Darla Domke-Damonte)

DATE: November 26, 2019 (revised)

SUBJECT: CCU Global Achieve Pathway Program Support Materials

As background to the catalog change proposed for adding language for the CCU Global Achieve Program, an international English pathway program, to the 2020 – 2021 catalog, contingent on getting federal approval, we provide the following supportive materials.

Why are we taking action and who has been involved in the conversation to date?

This year was the fifth year of a 5-year contract with ELS Educational Centers to operate the ELS Language Center on our campus. Given changes that have placed increased pressure on the competitive environment of US-based English language programs for non-native speakers (including scholarship changes by governments abroad to support participation in such programs, among others), US providers of such programs have consolidated their program locations. As such with the closing of the ELS Language Center on our campus and the lack of a successful bidder for the next five-year cycle, we have worked with campus community members to develop an International Pathway Program to replace the ELS Language Center to continue to support CCU’s international recruitment goals of having international students be at least 3% of the student population. Involved in this process have already been the following campus community members: Amanda Craddock, Daphne Holland, Ed Jadallah, Dan Lawless, Chris Mee, Joe Oestreich, Carol Osborne, Jim Solazzo, Claudia Bornholdt, David Frost, and Daniel Ennis to frame the International Pathway Model to assure its compliance and operational feasibility as well as fit with accreditation, registrar, admissions, and explore synergies, where possible, with existing campus units and areas.

Coastal Carolina University Global Achieve Program

What are we trying to achieve?

CCU has been partnering in the Cooperation in Higher Education and Professional Development (CHEPD) program since 2009 to enable students from Chinese institutions to complete their first year of instruction in China, then transfer to CCU to complete remaining CCU degree requirements, then return back to China for the final year to complete remaining degree requirements of their Chinese institution. Students are presented their diplomas for both institutions in a ceremony held in China at the conclusion of the program. As a condition of this program, these students are able to apply and come to the US institution without having passed TOEFL or other English proficiency test. If they present English proficiency scores at level required, then they may immediately begin CCU coursework. Otherwise, they participate in English instruction until they meet passing levels before beginning CCU coursework. They have two semesters to reach that passing level. The ELS Language Center on campus has been fulfilling that role for the past five years. Since 2014, CCU has had an active international recruitment program through which we meet students who have not yet passed TOEFL and would benefit from this program, and the program would enable us to admit them as degree-seeking students with the Global Achieve Program as the starting point. In addition, we periodically get students who are applying but not meeting our admission requirements for English, but otherwise present exceptional applications. Finally, we have some students we encounter abroad, who would choose to do a pathway style model (first English, then academic programs) to enable a slower trajectory takeoff for their academic program. **We are seeking to get, support, and retain these students to participate in and complete CCU degree programs.**

What is an international pathway program?

A pathway program allows international students who want to study in the US to take English as a second language (ESL) courses and per SEVP federal immigration guidelines, "All pathway programs must contain credit-bearing coursework that is transferrable to the curricular requirements of a certified degree program at the school." These programs typically last one-academic year and generally offer "conditional acceptance" to the college or university with which they are affiliated. This means that students who finish the program with acceptable English language skills and a high enough GPA are automatically able to transition into the academic program requirements of the university.

Pathway programs are especially useful for international students who want to study in the US, but do not yet have the English language skills they need to score well on the English language standardized tests that are required for US colleges and universities. It is also considered a soft-landing for international students allowing for not only English Proficiency to be gained with one-year, but also a strong foundation of acculturation for the US academic system and the area in which they will live leading to greater success and retention.

This program would appear in the University Catalog under one of the admission ways to begin at CCU.

The ESL courses would generally appear in the non-credit side of Datatel (Continuing Education), while all students would also take at least one CCU credit-bearing course (the students with higher level English would be taking more regular CCU academic-credit-bearing courses). Pathway students are otherwise treated the same as regular university students with regard to university services, residence halls, degree program choices, meal plans, parking and health services as well as the ability to participate in university organization, student intramural teams, and access to the HTC center. We would anticipate all pathway students would live in University Housing.

The following are examples of top pathway programs in the USA: Marshall University, University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), American University, Queen's University School of English, University of South Florida (USF), Drew University, George Mason University, and Auburn University. Other CHEPD competing schools include Troy University and The only pathway model in South Carolina is the University of South Carolina International Accelerator Program. Students in this program are conditionally accepted to the University of South Carolina and provided an I20 document from USC Columbia. Some of these programs have in-house programs (what we are proposing), while others contract with external organizations to run all of it (for about \$250K or more annually to start on long-term agreements), while others have hybrid programs.

How does it work?

The Coastal Carolina University Global Achieve Program establishes a lower English requirement for students to enter the program than is required for University admission. Currently CCU’s required TOEFL score is 71. Students who meet noted criteria are brought into the pathway program in one of two levels (Introductory – Teal Level – Heavy ESL with one academic course; or Intermediate – Coastal Level - partial ESL and partial academic coursework).

Students are charged a “tuition” fee for the program, which we suggest be set at the same level as CCU in-state tuition annually. Students are taught by instructors who meet TESOL (or other English as Second language certification), and a program director assures compliance, tracks progress, registers students, mentors them in coordinating with academic units for future steps, organizing activities and cultural enrichment, and assuring interfaces and cooperation with international student services staff to assure visa compliance, etc.

Comparisons on Tuition fees for International Pathways (per semester) include: University of Alabama Birmingham (\$7,200 per semester); University of South Florida (\$14,720 – INTO); George Mason University (approx.. \$14,000); Queen’s University School of English (\$2283 CAD ~ \$1723 USD); American University (approx.. \$25,000 per semester); Auburn University (\$7,300). In addition, it is helpful to know that the Intensive English program tuition fees at other universities competing with us in offering the CHEPD Program include: University of North Texas (\$5,640 per semester). Troy University (\$3,750);Northern Arizona University (\$7,501); University of North Carolina Pembroke (\$5,120).

What are the entrance requirements?

For **The Coastal Carolina University Global Achieve Program**, the following table summarizes draft admission requirements, curriculum expected, as well as requirements to move to next level.

Program level	CCU Global Achieve Program – Teal Level	CCU Global Achieve Program – Coastal Level
Admission Requirements	Fall ONLY 1. Completed application	Fall or Spring ONLY

	<p>2. \$45 application fee 3. Submitted copy of photo page of passport 4. Receipt of official high school report and English translation from current school showing 3.0+ GPA and graduation certificate OR university transcript showing the equivalent of 24 credit hours and 2.0+ GPA along with full course descriptions (UNLESS established MOU is in place for other adjustments) 5. Receipt of English Proficiency test score that meets at least Duolingo level 50 or TOEFL iBT 40, or IELTS level 3.5.</p> <p><i>Students would ONLY be admitted to the Introductory level in Fall Semester annually. Students could be admitted to the Intermediate level in Fall or Spring semesters.</i></p>	<p>Successful passing of Teal Level (see progression notes below)</p> <p>OR</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Completed application 2. \$45 application fee 3. Submitted copy of photo page of passport 4. Receipt of official high school report and English translation from current school showing 3.0+ GPA and graduation certificate OR university transcript showing the equivalent of 24 credit hours and 2.0+ GPA along with full course descriptions UNLESS established MOU is in place. 5. Receipt of English Proficiency test score of at least those listed below (Duolingo 70, TOEFL 49, IELTS 4.5, or SAT 880 – 910 with EBRW of at least 475, or ACT of 16).
<p>Courses to be taken (* designates Continuing Ed courses / \$ designates regular CCU academic courses)</p>	<p>Achieve English Speaking (3 clock hours)</p> <p>Achieve Academic Writing/Reading (3 clock hours)</p> <p>Achieve English Listening (3 clock hours)</p> <p>Achieve English Lab (2 clock hours)</p> <p>PLUS</p> <p>UNIV 110 (3 credits \$) (Taught by qualified CGE Staff)</p>	<p>Achieve English Composition 1 (3 clock hours)</p> <p>Achieve English Writing Lab (with online Writing Assignments) (3 clock hours)</p> <p>ANTH 102 (3 credits \$) or UNIV 110*if first-time entrance into GAP pathway (3 credits \$) (Taught by qualified CGE Staff)</p> <p>ACED 101 Academic Strategy Development (section taught GAP Program Coordinator) (0 credits \$)</p> <p>PLUS</p> <p>CCU course (choose 1 course that is 3 credit hours \$ - in consultation with GAP Program Coordinator/or CHEPD Coordinator)</p> <p>Choose from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSCI 101 – Intro to Internet and WWW PHIL 105 – Critical Thinking MATH 138 – Mathematics w/applications in business (recommended for business and science majors) MATH 139 – Basic Concepts for Contemporary Mathematics business (recommended for business and science majors) ANTH 120 – Cultures and Environments HIST 205 – US History UNIV 122Q – Introduction to Sustainability
<p>Program level</p>	<p>CCU Global Achieve Program – Teal Level</p>	<p>CCU Global Achieve Program – Coastal Level</p>

Progression Qualifiers:	<p>Progression to next level if: GPA of 2.0 or higher in Achieve English Speaking Achieve Academic Writing & Reading Achieve English Listening Achieve English Lab</p> <p>AND Maintains 2.0+ in UNIV 110</p> <p>*If not progressed, then retake all same courses in Spring Semester. If passed UNIV 110, can take one of following as credit-bearing course: ANTH 120 – Cultures and Environments HIST 205 – US History UNIV 122Q – Introduction to Sustainability</p> <p><i>If not successful after 2nd semester, student will be removed from the program.</i></p>	<p>Progression as graduates from Global Advance Pathway and admitted to full CCU academic course load if:</p> <p>Cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher in: Achieve English Composition 1 and Achieve English Writing Lab (with online Writing Assignments)</p> <p>AND Maintains a 2.0 or higher GPA in all CCU academic courses.</p> <p>OR Takes and scores levels required for admission on any of the English proficiency tests accepted for admission to CCU.</p> <p>And maintains a 2.0 or higher GPA on all CCU academic courses.</p> <p>IF not progressed, then repeats this semester courses. (May file for grade forgiveness if in for-credit courses.)</p>
--------------------------------	--	---

How does the economics of the program work?

<u>(using 2019-20 figures for information only)</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Allocated to:</u>
<u>Global Pathway Tuition - (would need to be adopted by BoT)</u>	<u>\$5,820 (per semester) - same as in-state tuition</u>	<u>Center for Global Engagement (with transfers out to 10 fund for proportionate courses at per credit hour registration (e.g., enrolled in 3 CCU academic credit hours – transfer \$1461 to 10 account)</u>
<u>International Student Fee</u>	<u>\$60</u>	<u>Existing account (same as for all international students)</u>
<u>International Student Orientation Fee</u>	<u>\$155</u>	<u>Current university orientation fund</u>
<u>Global Pathway Application Fee</u>	<u>\$1200 (one-time)</u>	<u>Admissions (\$45); Center for Global Engagement (\$1200)</u>

*All Global Pathway students would register for housing and meal plan from among choices provided. Fees include technology fee, lab fees, immigration fees, application, orientation and testing fees; cultural and academic support. Department-specific fees are charged for Direct Admission students who are enrolled in many majors and vary from \$200 to \$1500 per semester. All classes would follow regular CCU schedule, with breaks the same as for CCU courses. Facilities used would include same ones as being used by ELS Center for Fall 2019: Kearns 209 (Director Office with workspace also in Kearns 207 and office space in 206 (note: effective December 2019 – all International Student and Scholar Services also will move to Kearns 207 to support synergies with program), and use of two classrooms (Kearns 206a and Kearns 206b) already allocated to this purpose.

Implementing the Global Achieve Pathway Program

The Program will operate with the addition of one staff member and include some retasking of other roles initially and add staff members as growth supports the need and financial resources are generated. It should be noted that we were paying ELS Language Centers about \$100,000 annually (\$5,100 - \$5,700 per student per semester over each of the last five years, charged to students) for their teaching as pass through of costs charged to the students. The revenue model for this program is positive for cost management even without the additional student flow we expect through our targeted international recruitment initiatives beyond CHEPD program and new partnerships.

We have built into the model, in cooperation with the Department of English, the teaching of 1- 2 sections for the Department of English in Spring (and/or Summer) annually by the GAP Coordinator who would serve as also an Adjunct English Instructor. Mr. Joe Oestreich, Chair of the Department of English, has agreed to work with us to finalize job description and to serve on search committee to assure compliance with SACS requirements for English instructors. This cooperation would promote reduced need for adjuncts in English and represent cost-sharing.

We have reached out to the College of Education to explore synergies with the TESOL program, but at present this is not possible, given the hold that this program has right now. Education's Teaching Fellows, however, can be collaborating with the students in the Pathway Program. This collaboration was modeled in partnership with our ELS Language Center and was highly regarded with strong and positive results for our student teachers in helping them work with limited-English-proficient students and develop confidence for their future classroom management. Collaboration is also possible with the Department of Language and Intercultural Studies, both through Language Fellows Program introduced as collaboration with ELS Language Center and through cooperation more formally between students in foreign language classes at CCU and students in Pathway program.

The Global Achieve Pathway Program will be operated through the Center for Global Engagement, which was responsible for supervising the ELS Language Center from initial proposal through daily operation. The CCU Director of International Recruitment and Admissions (IRA) will be the direct supervisor of the program, and she has had experience in managing such programs in the past, both as standalone facilities and as part of larger corporate pathway models. The GAP Director also would have a reporting relationship to the Department of English similar to any staff member on campus teaching in Adjunct Role as Teaching Associate.

Anticipated Timeline:

- December 2019: Approval through Academic Affairs for Catalog language
- February 2020: Approval through Faculty Senate for Catalog language
- March 2020: Executive Action for Approval/ Final SEVP request to include program as update to institutional I17 submitted / Request Board approval of new fees: Pathway Tuition Fee, Pathway Application Fee, subject to being approved by I17 adjustment
- August 2020: I17 update approval through SEVP
- Fall 2020: Recruitment of students (beyond CHEPD Program) for GAP Program begins
- Spring 2021: Hiring of GAP Director
- July 1, 2021: Start Date of GAP Director
- August 2021: First students begin program

Attachment A shows requirements of the program to be approved through the federal SEVP. Attachment B shows costs at peer and aspirant institutions with intensive English programs.

ATTACHMENT A– SEVP Policy Guidance on Pathway Programs for Reasons of English Proficiency

SEVP's policy guidance defines **pathway program for reason of English proficiency** as:

A postsecondary program of study combining credit-bearing and developmental ESL coursework to prepare a student who is unable to meet the English proficiency standards for admission. Such a program leads into an SEVP-certified degree program.

The guidance then further defines two terms used in the above definition:

- **Credit-bearing course.** A course that counts toward the curricular requirements of an SEVP-certified degree program. This includes meeting core, general education, major, minor, or any other coursework which can be credited toward completion of the curricular requirements of a certified degree program of study.
- **Developmental ESL course.** A course that addresses one or more deficiencies in general competencies in reading, writing, speaking, or understanding the English language necessary for a regular postsecondary curriculum and educational setting. This course does not count towards completion of the curricular requirements of a certified degree program of study.

“SEVP will only approve ESL pathway programs that meet the following conditions”:

- Like all other programs at SEVP-certified schools, a pathway program must have stated standards for admission that a student must meet before a designated school official (DSO) issues a Form I-20 for enrollment in the program. If the pathway program includes English proficiency requirements for admission, the student must meet those standards before the DSO issues a Form I-20.
- SEVP must verify that the school guarantees admission to one of its degree programs for participants that successfully complete the pathway program.
- All pathway programs must meet full course of study requirements as they apply to credit or clock hour programs." (we understand this to mean enrollment in at least 18 hours of in-seat coursework per week, though we currently understand this to include both credit and non-credit formal programming.)
- A pathway program must have stated policies regarding normal academic progress and program completion.
- A pathway program "must contain credit-bearing coursework that is transferrable to the curricular requirements of a certified degree program at the school. (We have built in at least some credit-bearing coursework for both semesters of the program.)
- SEVP considers a pathway program to be a language training program and subject to the requirements of the Accreditation of English Language Training Programs Act. The petitioning school must possess institutional or programmatic accreditation for the pathway program by an ED-recognized accrediting agency. A school must provide evidence from a U.S. Department of Education-recognized accrediting agency confirming accreditation covers pathway program(s) listed on the Form I-17.
- No online or distance education classes may count toward the student's full course of study.
- A student [in an ESL pathway program] is ineligible for practical training.
- The school must list any location where a student may receive any portion of the pathway program as an instructional site in [SEVIS].

Required Updates to I-17 (SEVIS):

- Program name
- Degree level(s) for which the program is preparing students
- Unit(s) of measure used in program (i.e., credit hours or clock hours)
- Number of credit or clock hours required per term (a school must list clock hour programs, lecture hours and lab hours separately)
- Program length (number of weeks it takes to complete the program)
- Date on which instruction in the program originally began at the school
- Mode of delivery (in person, online, distance, hybrid, etc.)
- Location(s) where the program will be taught
- Standards for admission and enrollment criteria
- Full course of study requirements
- Proof of pathway program accreditation
- SEVP may also request additional evidence regarding pathway programs at any time.

After SEVP approves the pathway program addition to the school's Form I-17, the school can issue Forms I-20 for students who have been accepted to that program, and the school must update its Form I-17 with any changes to the program, within 21 days of the change.

ATTACHMENT B – Example of tuition and cost of other similar programs at peer and aspirant institutions

1. The University of West Florida Intensive English Program (not a pathway)
 - Tuition is \$4,000 for Term A (full semester) and \$2125 for Term B (half semester) and includes course textbooks and tutors.
 - <https://uwf.edu/academic-engagement-and-student-affairs/departments/intensive-english-program/>

2. The College of Charleston Intensive English Program (not a pathway) – **TOTAL \$6,025**
 - Application Fee* \$75
 - Tuition \$1995
 - Student Services Fee* \$359
 - Medical Insurance \$323
 - Housing (estimated) \$2023
 - Meal Plan (estimated) \$1050
 - Books (estimated) \$200
 - <http://sps.cofc.edu/english-proficiency/intensive-english/tuition-and-fees/>

3. The University of North Florida Intensive English Program (not a pathway)
 - EXPENSES PER SEMESTER FEES
 - Tuition Session A (**13 weeks**) \$3,950
 - Health Insurance (Approximately)
 - International Student Insurance
 - Travel Insurance Services
 - ISO Health Insurance
 - \$400
 - Living Expenses (Approximately) \$4,000
 - Books (Approximately) \$250
 - **Total: \$8,600**
 -
 - EXPENSES PER SEMESTER FEES
 - Tuition Session B (**7 weeks**) \$2,000
 - Health Insurance (Approximately)
 - International Student Insurance
 - Travel Insurance Services
 - ISO Health Insurance
 - \$400
 - Living Expenses (Approximately) \$2,000
 - Books (Approximately) \$250
 - **Total: \$4,600**
 - Session B
 - **Tuition fees for Pre-University Concurrent Enrollment class may vary depending on the UNF credit hour costs.
 - https://www.unf.edu/elp/IEP_SCHEDULE_AND_COST.aspx

4. Western Washington University Global Pathway Program
 - PROGRAM TUITION
 - Program Fees Per Quarter Program Length Total Tuition Cost
 - International Year \$8,230 1-Quarter \$8,230
 - 2-Quarter \$16,460
 - 3-Quarter \$24,690
 - Pre-Master's Program
 - \$7,266 to \$9,333 1-Quarter \$9,333
 - 2-Quarter \$16,600
 - 3-Quarter \$23,867
 - Direct Entry Undergraduate \$24,690

- Direct Entry Graduate \$23,559
- SUPPLEMENTAL FEES
- Additional fees will vary dependent on your program and personal requirements.
- Additional costs Frequency Cost
- Accommodation Per year \$11,465
- Student Fees (undergraduate) Per year \$1,930
- Student Fees (graduate) Per year \$1,682.85
- <http://international.wvu.edu/study-programs>