

Costing DE Relative to On-campus  
for the UNC System and for ECU**Overall Results:**

- Studies at the national, state and local level agree that DE is more expensive
- The additional cost of DE is due to two factors
  - Higher preparation costs for DE than on-campus
  - Lower average enrollment in DE than on-campus
- When the additional costs are equalized DE and on-campus cost the same to deliver
- In all cases personnel costs are greatest

**National Results:**

- The FIPSE funded "Technology Costing Methodology Study" is nationally recognized
- UNC-OP used it to validate the UNC 2002 study and adapted it for the 2004 study
- Results were reported to the legislature in the bi-annual "In almost all test cases, face to face was less expensive than technology based delivery"

**UNC System Results:**

- Uniform procedures for collecting and analyzing data were used system-wide
- The UNC-OP Report to the Legislature in 2002 and 2004 concluded DE is more expensive "In the current costs analysis, the total costs for funding distance education courses per course enrollment (*i.e.*, one student registration in one course) were higher than funding for on-campus students."
- This study included courses from constituent institutions across the system
- Two interesting results
  - Facility costs for on campus were less of a factor than anticipated – "a small charge"
  - Costs of infrastructure required for DE were not included

**ECU Results:**

- ECU used OP procedures for the 2004 OP report to the legislature
- ECU considered cost of ADED 6453 in the spring of 2004
- DE cost = \$23,228
- On-campus cost = \$23,354



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<u>Unit</u>	Fall 04 RT SCH	RT 1310 Salary Base/2	RT Cost per SCH	Fall 04 DE SCH	* DE 1310 Salary Base/3	DE Cost per SCH
College of Business	22638	\$3,863,293	\$171	1653	\$345,449	\$209
College of Education	15902	\$3,011,715	\$189	8937	\$1,152,079	\$129
College of Fine Arts/Comm.	28795	\$4,531,001	\$157	1639	\$176,069	\$107
College of Human Ecology	20002	\$2,446,926	\$122	1192	\$271,951	\$228
College of Hlth & Human Perf.	17065	\$2,198,417	\$129	722	\$104,404	\$145
College of Tech./Comp Science	9941	\$1,857,617	\$187	1992	\$472,439	\$237
TH College of Arts & Sciences	126474	\$11,520,762	\$91	1691	\$406,429	\$240
Allied Health Sciences	7799			1651		\$0
Nursing	6891			2153		\$0
<b>Totals or Average</b>	<b>255507</b>	<b>29,429,730</b>	<b>\$115</b>	<b>21630</b>	<b>2,928,820</b>	<b>\$135</b>

Notes:

\* Base salary for DE is divided by 3 since summer I and summer II DE SCH are reportable