



NC COUNTDOWN  
TO COLLEGE

FALL 2023

# CFNC Countdown to College Partner Engagement Toolkit



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UPDATED FALL 2023

# College Application Week Participating Schools

Many North Carolina schools are waiving their application fees from Oct. 16-20—IF you apply through [CFNC.org](https://CFNC.org)! Start on [CFNC.org](https://CFNC.org)'s Application Hub. Other schools may be accepting special fee waivers, too, through ACT, SAT or NACAC.

Visit [CFNC.org/C2C](https://CFNC.org/C2C) for more information.

Barton College  
Belmont Abbey College  
Bennett College  
Brevard College  
Cabarrus College of Health Sciences\*  
Campbell University  
Catawba College  
Chowan University  
Davidson College\*  
East Carolina University  
Elon University\*  
Fayetteville State University  
Gardner-Webb University  
Greensboro College  
Guilford College  
Johnson and Wales University - Charlotte  
Johnson C. Smith University  
Lees-McRae College  
Lenoir-Rhyne University  
Livingstone College  
Louisburg College  
Mars Hill University

Meredith College  
Methodist University  
Montreat College  
North Carolina A&T State University\*  
North Carolina Central University\*  
North Carolina Wesleyan University  
Pfeiffer University  
Queens University of Charlotte  
Saint Augustine's University  
Salem College  
Shaw University\*  
St. Andrews University  
UNC Asheville  
UNC Pembroke  
UNC School of the Arts\*  
University of Mount Olive  
Warren Wilson College  
Western Carolina University  
William Peace University  
Wingate University  
Winston-Salem State University\*  
And all 58 community colleges

*\*Application fees are only waived for certain applicants (e.g. NC residents). Check with the institution for more information.*

## OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

FALL 2023

# COUNTDOWN TO COLLEGE VIRTUAL STUDENT SESSIONS

## Week 1: Virtual Career Fair: Health & Animal Sciences

Oct. 5, 2023, 3:30 p.m.-5 p.m. ET

Registration: <https://cfnc.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/cfnc/event.jsp?event=35>

**Description:** Are you or your student considering a future career in health or animal sciences? Attend this free virtual career fair to learn more about it! College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC) and NC Countdown to College (C2C) will host a virtual career fair for students, families and educators to learn more about a variety of careers and pathways, ranging from degrees and credentials earned at community colleges, to transfer options and four-year programs.

Don't miss this informative panel of experts to learn more about potential career options in health and animal sciences and get your questions answered!

## Week 2: C2C and College Application Week (CAW) Planning for Students

Oct. 10, 2023, 6 p.m. ET

Registration: [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_sMaPH8u4SIC7Sri7fA7\\_xA](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_sMaPH8u4SIC7Sri7fA7_xA)

**Description:** Join us for a walk through these three important aspects of NC Countdown to College: 1.) Applications and how to take advantage of fee waivers using the CFNC Application Hub. 2.) Transcripts using CFNC.org to send and track free official electronic public high school transcripts. 3.) Career exploration using CFNC.org and NCcareers.org to explore careers and find educational programs.

## Week 3: CAW Insta-Email Days

Oct. 16 and Oct. 19, 2023, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. ET

Email address: [C2C@cfnc.org](mailto:C2C@cfnc.org)

**Description:** Questions surrounding NC Countdown to College or College Application? Send them to us! The [C2C@cfnc.org](mailto:C2C@cfnc.org) inbox is always monitored, but on Oct. 16 and 19, we'll have folks waiting from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. to hear from you nonstop in English and Spanish, so expect a quick response turnaround. Feel free to ask us about admissions, applications, careers, financial aid, etc.

## OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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29	30	31	1	2	3	4

FALL 2023

# COUNTDOWN TO COLLEGE VIRTUAL STUDENT SESSIONS

## Week 4: How to Pay for College

Oct. 24, 2023, 6 p.m. ET

Registration: [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/3316942011454/WN\\_S9l-u1TcSbWUY6R7RZX9ZA](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/3316942011454/WN_S9l-u1TcSbWUY6R7RZX9ZA)

**Description:** In this session, we will cover the main ways families and students pay for their education and provide some additional places to look for support that you might not have thought of.

## Week 5: How to Pay for College: "Ask the Experts" Scholarships Panel

Nov. 2, 2023, 6 p.m. ET - 7 p.m. ET

Registration: [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_yK8HrqqXTYun3veedbFQuA](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_yK8HrqqXTYun3veedbFQuA)

**Description:** The best scholarships are local ones, and these experts will share where to look for scholarships you qualify for and how to put your best foot forward in your application.



Dear NC Countdown to College Site Coordinator:

On behalf of CFNC, thank you for hosting a NC Countdown to College event at your school or organization! The goal of NC Countdown to College is to support high school seniors in completing three important college enrollment steps: residency, FAFSA, and applications. While NC Countdown to College focuses especially on first-generation college students and students who may not otherwise apply to college, we encourage participating sites to include activities for all students and ages.

For almost 20 years, NC Countdown to College has been a statewide effort, and we look forward to continuing this tradition across North Carolina. We hope this handbook assists you, whether this is your first year or you are seasoned! Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns about planning and implementing the event at your site. Be sure to visit our website, [NC Countdown to College](https://www.nccountdowntocollege.org), for up-to-date information about the event!

Thank you in advance for your commitment to this important statewide college access event. Your participation will encourage North Carolina students and their families to make college a part of their future.

Sincerely,  
NC Countdown to College Committee  
[C2C@northcarolina.edu](mailto:C2C@northcarolina.edu)





# Planning Your Site for NC Countdown to College

We intend for this to be a useful guide for Site Coordinators when planning and implementing a NC Countdown to College event. Additional resources and materials are available online at [www.CFNC.org/C2C](http://www.CFNC.org/C2C).

## Step 1. Identify a Site Coordinator

Every school or organization participating in NC Countdown to College (C2C) should identify a site coordinator or co-coordinators. This can be a counselor, advisor, coach or other professional who will be responsible for planning and implementing event(s) for your site. It is also recommended that you designate a back-up coordinator.

## Step 2. Register Your Site

To participate in NC Countdown to College 2023, your school should [register online](#).

### Why Register?

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1. Receive "I Applied" stickers
2. You will be among the first to receive the list on October 1st of which colleges are waiving their fees for CAW!
3. You will receive C2C and College Application Week (CAW) updates from us, including any updates to the fee waiver list.
4. Timely emails from us leading up to October, with updates, activities for students, etc.
5. Any communication related to technology that is deemed necessary for site coordinators.
6. Data! We use the registration data to make improvements each year. Help us get the most accurate information to use in analytics.
7. We will send all site coordinators a feedback survey after C2C to get your thoughts and to continue those yearly improvements.

## Step 3. Perform Technology Preparations

The success of your event could hinge on your technology readiness. Here is a list of preparations:



1. Provide your IT staff with the [Technology Guidelines](#).
2. Ensure your IT staff reviews the list of whitelisted websites.
3. Work with technology support staff to ensure that firewalls or other access restrictions will not prevent students from accessing online applications the day of the event.

## Step 4. Coordinate Your Site Team

1. Bring together a planning committee to help plan month-long activities. This group may include faculty, staff, parents, students, and community members. Students could earn community service hours for volunteering.
2. Survey students to find out what they want to know about education beyond high school and plan mini workshops around those topics.
3. Contact your local campus-based admissions and financial aid office to help with your events. Don't forget that your [CFNC Rep](#) is also a valuable resource.
4. Encourage your site team, and all staff at your school or organization, to print off this "[I Attended](#)" resource and place it, filled out, outside their door to originate conversation.

## Step 5. Plan Your Events

### Weekly Themes

Consider defining themes for each week of NC Countdown to College and scheduling activities related to those themes. We break up each week for students as follows: *Week 1: Plan Your Future; Week 2: FAFSA and RDS; Week 3: College Application Week; and Week 4: Special Topics/I Applied, Now What?*

### Activity Suggestions

We have activity suggestions below, listed by week. We have provided you with any resources needed, and each activity should take no more than 15 minutes. *Please note that many of these activities are also appropriate for grades 9-11, if you are interested in getting your whole school involved. The activity is noted with an asterisk if it can easily be used with younger students.*

#### *Week 1:*

- a. Be Prepared\*: Ensure that students have a log-in for CFNC.org by either having them make an account for the first time or resetting their password (if needed). This can be done via your ProTools account. ProTools information: <https://www.cfnc.org/education-professionals/professional-center-and-professional-tools/>
- b. Career Assessments\*: Have students complete an assessment on CFNC.org and review career requirements. Students can then explore programs and majors at the colleges to



ensure their plans are aligning. Assessments can be found here:

<https://www2.cfnc.org/learnAboutYourself>

- c. College Search on CFNC.org\*: Have students utilize the College Search feature to plan and finalize where they will apply during College Application Week. Have them review admissions requirements and academics, to ensure the colleges they may apply to have their major or interest area. <https://www2.cfnc.org/college-search> If these colleges align with those waiving fees during College Application Week, even better!
- d. Vision Board\*: A vision board is a representation of our goals and dreams; what better way to prep for C2C and CAW! The board may be a collage of images, words, and phrases that capture college and career goals. Here is a link to show more information: <https://www.lifehack.org/articles/productivity/8-ideas-create-your-own-vision-board.html>

### *Week 2:*

- a. Paying for College\*: Have students watch this recording from CFNC and NCSEAA on how to pay for college: <https://youtu.be/Okphkmptrqk> The bulk of the information can be found starting at minute 7, ending at minute 52.
- b. Scholarship Search: Have students review the Scholarship Search on CFNC.org. Students should find at least one scholarship they are eligible for and plan to apply for: <https://www.cfnc.org/pay-for-college/scholarship-search/> As students are researching scholarships, they can use this free scholarship tracking sheet from Mapping Your Future: [https://www.mappingyourfuture.org/downloads/MappingYourFuture\\_Scholarship\\_Tracking.xlsx](https://www.mappingyourfuture.org/downloads/MappingYourFuture_Scholarship_Tracking.xlsx)
- c. Residency Determination Service (RDS): Students should review this video to understand how to access RDS: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kEvHlod7VSk&t=17s> and where to find resources they may need: <https://www.ncresidency.org/resources/>

### *Week 3:*

- a. Who Would You Admit?\*: Have students complete the admissions activity found on page 16 here: <https://www.cfnc.org/media/4rjh0mx5/student-activities-11th.pdf> This is a great activity that gives students a feel for the decisions that admissions professionals make each day.
- b. Writing Your College Admissions Essay: Pass along this link on writing college admissions essays to give students some great tips: <https://www.cfnc.org/apply-to-college/college-application-resources/admissions-essay-tips/> Have students review the sample essay questions from colleges in NC and ask them to work on a sample essay at home. Review these as a group or in small groups as a short activity in their English classrooms or as a separate activity this week.
- c. Extra activity for grades 9-11\*: Have students complete a practice application located here: <https://www.cfnc.org/apply-to-college/college-application-resources/practice-application/>





#### Week 4:

- a. Financial Aid Offer Letters: Once students complete their FAFSA and admissions application, they will receive offer letters from the financial aid offices. Have students prepare for these by reviewing pages 16 & 17 here: <https://www.cfnc.org/media/5v1fdxr1/student-activities-12th.pdf> After they have reviewed these two pages, head to this site for videos and sample offer letters: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/for-parents/webinar-comparing-financial-aid-awards>
- b. Types of Financial Aid\*: Students may be offered various types of financial aid: grants, scholarships, loans, and/or work study. Have students review this page and watch the short video to become familiar with terms and funding options: <https://www.cfnc.org/pay-for-college/college-financing-resources/> In addition, make sure students bookmark this website for more information: <https://studentaid.gov/>
- c. Post-RDS: What happens after you complete your RDS interview? By clicking on the FAQ page, students can find information on topics such as: reconsideration and appeals, forgetting their RCN, required documentation, validation, and more. <https://www.ncresidency.org/faqs/>
- d. After You Apply: Congratulations! Students completed their admission application(s) to college. Now what? Offer students this handout to review: <https://www.cfnc.org/media/yuqpmtil/i-applied-now-what.pdf> Students may also want to become familiar with the College Redirection Pool, in case they aren't accepted, they are waitlisted, or want to look elsewhere later in their senior year.

## Step 6. Promote Your Event

### Get the Word Out

Getting the word out in your community and school are a vital part of the C2C process. It is helpful to get buy-in and support from other teachers, administration, parents, and community members. You can also consider working with your media team to submit a press release to a local media outlet, letting them know about the great work your school or site is doing to help students with the college process. Let us know if we can assist in any way and don't be shy to let us know if you have some creative and/or successful ideas that we should share in the future!

### Sample Letters



## Sample Volunteer Recruitment Letter

SCHOOL LOGO  
SCHOOL ADDRESS  
(MONTH) (YEAR)

Dear (NAME OF ORGANIZATION),

(NAME OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL) is pleased to announce its participation in the statewide NC Countdown to College event. In an effort to further expand college access initiatives, College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC) is sponsoring the annual NC Countdown to College Month to be held (C2C) DATES AND YEAR). The goal of NC Countdown to College Month is to provide every graduating high school senior the opportunity to apply to college online through CFNC.org with a particular focus on helping first-generation students and students who may not otherwise apply to college.

We will be hosting our event on (DATE(S)) and would welcome representatives from (NAME OF ORGANIZATION) to visit our school during this exciting and important time. Volunteers can greet and sign-in students, assist students with the completion of CFNC online college applications, or distribute information about financial aid opportunities. Our students would really appreciate your help and support as they take a big step in the direction of going to College.

If you or any of your colleagues at (NAME OF ORGANIZATION) are interested in working with (NAME OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL) in any capacity please contact (NAME, CONTACT INFO).

Thank you!

(YOUR NAME & TITLE)

\*\*\*\*\*



## Student/Family Information Letter

SCHOOL LOGO  
SCHOOL ADDRESS  
(MONTH) (YEAR)

Dear Students and Families,

During (C2C DATES), College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC) will be sponsoring NC Countdown to College Month. On (DATE(s) OF EVENT), all seniors expected to graduate in June (YEAR) will be encouraged to use the CFNC.org online application to apply for admission to a North Carolina college or university, if they have not already done so. Additionally, during the week of (COLLEGE APPLICATION WEEK DATES), many colleges will waive their admissions application fees, which can be a great money saver for families. The list of colleges who have opted to waive their fees will be available on October 1st, and can be found at CFNC.org/c2c. This entire event is possible due to the collaborative efforts of the administration, faculty, and staff at (NAME OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL), as well as students, their families, and volunteers across the community.

The purpose of this event is to support students in completing three important college enrollment steps: **Residency Determination Service (RDS); FAFSA; and College Applications.** In order to fully participate, students will need to have an account on CFNC.org. Your student will use his/her CFNC Account for both 1) college applications, and 2) completion of RDS (to establish eligibility for in-state tuition and state grants).

CFNC provides a host of free resources on their C2C website, [www.cfnc.org/C2C](http://www.cfnc.org/C2C). Students and their families will need to work together to prepare because parent information is essential to complete RDS and FAFSA. CFNC provides a helpful chart of parent and student information needed to complete the FAFSA and RDS. We encourage all students to print and review the College Application Checklist prior to the event, as well as FAFSA/RDS Chart, found here: <https://www.cfnc.org/media/spdnrtmk/cfnc-college-admission-checklist.pdf> and <https://www.cfnc.org/media/hrgfskx5/rds-and-fafsa.pdf>

Families are welcome to visit (NAME OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL) on (DATE(s) OF EVENT) to assist their student during the NC Countdown to College events. In addition, if family members are interested in volunteering or guest speaking during the event, please let me know. Volunteers can greet and sign-in students, assist students with the completion of CFNC online college applications, or distribute information about financial aid opportunities.

If you have any questions, please call (NAME, TITLE), at (PHONE NUMBER). Thank you in advance for your support of this exciting initiative to encourage North Carolina's students to make college a part of their future.

Sincerely,  
(SCHOOL COUNSELOR/PRINCIPAL/SITE COORDINATOR)

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## Spanish Student/Family Information Letter

SCHOOL LOGO  
SCHOOL ADDRESS  
(MONTH) (YEAR)

Estimados Estudiantes y Padres de Familia,

Durante el mes de Octubre, (YEAR), la Fundación Universitaria de Carolina del Norte (College Foundation of North Carolina, CFNC) van a patrocinar NC Countdown to College. Una semana durante este mes, todos los estudiantes de último año que piensan graduarse en junio del (YEAR) serán animados a usar las solicitudes de la página en la red de CFNC.org para solicitar ingreso a una universidad de Carolina del Norte si no lo han hecho hasta ese punto. Este evento es posible solo por los esfuerzos colaborados de la administración, la facultad, y el personal de (NAME OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL), y también por los estudiantes, sus familias y voluntarios de la comunidad.

El propósito de este programa es para ayudar estudiantes en completar tres cosas importantes: Residency Determination Service (RDS); FAFSA; y sus aplicaciones para la universidad. Los estudiantes y sus familias deberán trabajar juntos para prepararse porque la información de los padres es esencial para completar el RDS y la FAFSA. CFNC proporciona una tabla de información para padres y estudiantes necesaria para completar: <https://www.cfnc.org/media/vmyfvae0/navegando-fafsa-rds.pdf>.

Para participar completamente los estudiantes deben tener una cuenta gratis de CFNC en línea e información para la solicitud de ingreso. Un manual del estudiante (*College Application Checklist*) también está disponible para los estudiantes en la página de Recursos en [cfnc.org/C2C](http://cfnc.org/C2C) y Lista de Acciones para Asistir a la Universidad. Estamos aconsejando a todos los estudiantes que impriman y completen la información en el manual del estudiante antes del evento para que tengan todos los datos disponibles para cumplir las solicitudes de ingreso en línea. Anticipamos que los estudiantes y sus familias tendrán que trabajar juntos en compilar la información que se encuentra en el manual del estudiante (*College Application Checklist*).

Los padres de familia son bienvenidos a visitar (NAME OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL) el (DATE(s) OF EVENT) para ayudar a su hijo/hija durante el proceso de completar la solicitud. Además, si miembros de su familia están interesados en ofrecerse voluntariamente durante el evento, favor de contactarme. Los voluntarios pueden saludar y registrar estudiantes, ayudar a estudiantes con las solicitudes de ingreso a la universidad, o distribuir información sobre oportunidades de ayuda financiera.

Si tiene cualquier pregunta, por favor llama a (NAME, TITLE), al (PHONE NUMBER). Gracias adelantado por su apoyo en esta iniciativa emocionante para animar a los estudiantes de Carolina del Norte a hacer la universidad parte de su futuro.

Sinceramente,  
(SCHOOL COUNSELOR/PRINCIPAL/ SITE COORDINATOR)



## A Step-by-Step Guide to Applying to College

### STEP 1

☐ **Create/Update Your CFNC Profile.**

Your My Profile information will automatically populate the corresponding fields on your applications. Your CFNC login will be the same for NC Residency, too.

☐ **Explore Colleges and Universities.**

Go to the College Search section filter schools based on your goals and search criteria that matters to you.

☐ **Save Your Favorite Schools.**

Keep your favorite schools in one place for easy access when researching and applying.

☐ **Get Your FSA ID.**

Your Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID allows you to apply for financial aid through the FAFSA to see what you qualify for.

### STEP 2

☐ **Keep Track of Application Deadlines.**

Make sure you have a list of deadlines so you don't miss any important dates.

☐ **Explore Colleges and Identify Application Fees.**

If an application fee is required, you may still qualify to get a fee waiver. Check with your school counselor!

☐ **Complete a Practice Application.**

Fill out the CFNC practice application to help you identify and prepare for the information you may need.

☐ **Prepare Essays and Personal Statements.**

Have your essays and personal statements ready so they can be easily uploaded or copy-pasted to your application. Make sure to check for word counts or other requirements.

☐ **Carefully Read the Introduction.**

Take your time and read the application introduction carefully. Each school has different requirements and instructions.

### STEP 3

☐ **Complete Your NC Residency (RDS).**

Your residency status determines your eligibility for state grants and in-state tuition.

☐ **Submit Your FAFSA.**

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid is used to determine your eligibility for federal aid & state grants. Complete your FAFSA in early 2024!

☐ **Submit Your College Applications.**

Start your applications on CFNC.org to take advantage of waived fees at participating NC schools during College Application Week, Oct. 16-20, 2023!

☐ **Send Your Transcript.**

Send your transcript as part of your college applications. NC students can use CFNC to send these directly to NC colleges!





# NC Countdown to College Social Media Guidelines

The social media resources and guidelines have been developed to provide optional content to better support and educate the people you work with — primarily students looking toward postsecondary education and their families.

Each post — which includes both suggested copy and a social graphic — is written to be posted from your personal Instagram, Twitter and Facebook profiles and touches on important Countdown to College themes and actions.

## General Posting Guidelines

- **In general, keep posts short and to the point.** Social-media users are bombarded with information. It's easy to lose their attention with long posts.
- **Photos and videos are a great way to call attention to a post.** Links automatically populate a post with an associated image, so preview before posting. For other posts, use the provided social graphics or a related photo.
- **Tagging is important.** Be sure to tag CFNC social media in all posts and use suggested hashtags when appropriate. This will help users find relevant content easily across platforms so your content is discoverable to the right people.

### *CFNC accounts to tag*

- Instagram: @mycfnc
- Facebook: @mycfnc
- Twitter: @CFNC

### *Suggested hashtags*

- #CFNC, #myCFNC, #NC, #College, #NCCountdowntoCollege, #SaveForCollege, #PlanForCollege, #PayForCollege, #ApplyForCollege, #NorthCarolina #HigherEd, #C2C, #CollegeApp, #FAFSA, #RDS, #FinancialAid

## Useful links

CFNC offers a variety of educational content for students and families. Below are some links to consider adding.

- [NC Countdown to College Homepage](#)
- [NC Countdown to College Events Schedule and Registration for Virtual Events](#)
- [NC Countdown to College Supplemental Resources](#)
- [NC FAFSA Hub](#)



# Countdown to College Social Posts

Below are sample posts for your own channels to support and educate your audiences. Each post is suitable to be used across Facebook, Instagram or LinkedIn and includes a suggested graphic for each post. If you want to browse and download all the images for this toolkit, see [here](#).



**Purpose: Kick off Countdown to College.**

*Suggested timing: Beginning of Countdown to College.*

**Copy:** Applying to college is hard by the yard, but if you prepare, it's a cinch by the inch. Visit your CFNC Application Hub to learn what you'll need to have for your college applications: <https://bit.ly/C2Cprepare>

*Suggested creative [here](#).*



**Purpose: Explain Countdown to College.**

*Suggested timing: Beginning of/early in Countdown to College.*

**Copy:** Did you know many NC colleges waive their application fees during College Application Week each October? Your future could be closer—and cost less—than you think. Start exploring your options today: <https://bit.ly/3rlcPpo>

*Suggested creative [here](#).*

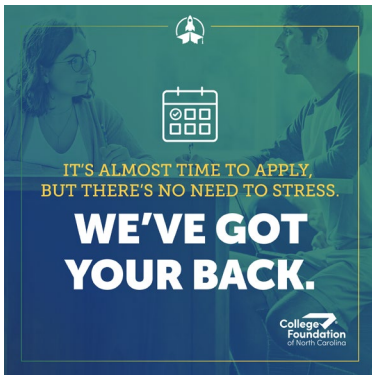


**Purpose: Inspire students with future thinking.**

*Suggested timing: Early in Countdown to College.*

**Copy:** When it comes to paying for college, one size doesn't fit all. Learn about all the resources available to you to jumpstart your future. <https://bit.ly/4536P8K>

*Suggested creative [here](#).*



**Purpose: Announce College Application Week.**

*Suggested timing: The week before College Application Week.*

**Copy:** Next week officially launches North Carolina's College Application Week—where many NC colleges waive application fees for one week only. With everything going on, it's easy to lose focus, but we can help you get ready—here's how you can get started. <https://bit.ly/C2Cprepare>

*Suggested creative [here](#).*



**Purpose: Promote College Application Week.**

*Suggested timing: Beginning of College Application Week.*

**Copy:** Run, don't walk, to CFNC to find the full list of colleges that are waiving application fees this week. Start taking advantage of free applications today! <https://bit.ly/C2Cprepare>

*Suggested creative [here](#).*



**Purpose: Reinforce College Application Week.**

*Suggested timing: During College Application Week.*

**Copy:** You don't need to study much to know that waived college application fees are a good thing! Your future—and your wallet—will be happy that you applied during College Application Week. Happening now: <https://bit.ly/C2Cprepare>

*Suggested creative [here](#).*

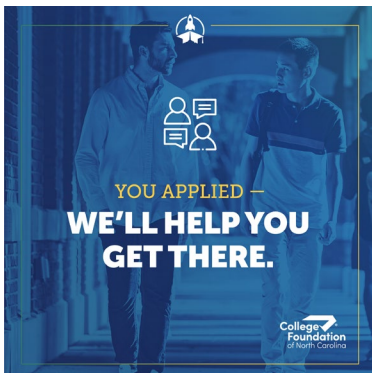


**Purpose:** Inspire students with putting college within reach.

*Suggested timing:* Following College Application Week.

**Copy:** Where there's a will, there's a college degree. If you think college is out of financial reach, you're wrong. CFNC can help you find the option that works for you, your wallet and your future. <https://bit.ly/4536P8K>

*Suggested creative* [here](#).



**Purpose:** Wrap up Countdown to College.

*Suggested timing:* At the close of Countdown to College.

**Copy:** As we close out Countdown to College, it's time to get laser-focused on financial aid, residency and graduation! Keep following along, and we'll make sure you have what you need to succeed.

*Suggested creative* [here](#).



**Purpose:** Inform students and parents about the FAFSA date change.

*Suggested timing:* At the close of Countdown to College.

**Copy:** The new Better FAFSA means new arguably better FAFSA application dates. Get ready for the Better FAFSA and a better future!

*Suggested creative* [here](#).





UPDATED AUGUST 2023

# GUARANTEED TRANSFER AND CO-ADMISSIONS PROGRAMS BETWEEN NC COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND NC FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES

## Appalachian State University: Aspire Appalachian Program with nine community colleges

<https://transfer.appstate.edu/aspire>

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|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute | 6. South Piedmont Community College   |
| 2. Catawba Valley Community College                 | 7. Wake Technical Community College   |
| 3. Central Piedmont Community College               | 8. Western Piedmont Community College |
| 4. Davidson-Davie Community College                 | 9. Wilkes Community College           |
| 5. Gaston College                                   |                                       |

## Catawba College Program with one community college

<https://catawba.edu/learnlocal/>

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| 1. Rowan Cabarrus Community College |
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## East Carolina University: Pirate Promise Program with 42 community colleges

<https://piratepromise.ecu.edu/>

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|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Alamance Community College           | 22. Martin Community College          |
| 2. Beaufort County Community College    | 23. Montgomery Community College      |
| 3. Bladen Community College             | 24. Nash Community College            |
| 4. Blue Ridge Community College         | 25. Pamlico Community College         |
| 5. Brunswick County Community College   | 26. Piedmont Community College        |
| 6. Cape Fear Community College          | 27. Pitt Community College            |
| 7. Carteret Community College           | 28. Richmond Community College        |
| 8. Central Carolina Community College   | 29. Roanoke-Chowan Community College  |
| 9. Central Piedmont Community College   | 30. Robeson Community College         |
| 10. Coastal Carolina Community College  | 31. Rockingham Community College      |
| 11. College of the Albemarle            | 32. Sampson Community College         |
| 12. Craven Community College            | 33. Sandhills Community College       |
| 13. Davidson-Davie Community College    | 34. South Piedmont Community College  |
| 14. Durham Technical Community College  | 35. Southeastern Community College    |
| 15. Edgecombe Community College         | 36. Stanly Community College          |
| 16. Fayetteville Tech Community College | 37. Surry Community College           |
| 17. Gaston College                      | 38. Vance-Granville Community College |
| 18. Halifax Community College           | 39. Wake Technical Community College  |
| 19. James Sprunt Community College      | 40. Wayne Community College           |
| 20. Johnston Community College          | 41. Wilkes Community College          |
| 21. Lenoir Community College            | 42. Wilson Community College          |

## Elizabeth City State University Program with four community colleges

<https://www.ecsu.edu/admissions/transfer-students.php>

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Albemarle Community College | 3. Pitt Community College            |
| 2. Edgecombe Community College | 4. Vance-Granville Community College |

## Fayetteville State University: \$10k Pathway Degree Program with 15 community colleges

<https://www.uncfsu.edu/admission-and-aid/transfer-to-fsu>

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| 1. Blue Ridge Community College        | 9. Isothermal Community College      |
| 2. Bladen Community College            | 10. Johnston Community College       |
| 3. Brunswick Community College         | 11. Richmond Community College       |
| 4. Central Carolina Community College  | 12. Robeson Community College        |
| 5. Davidson Community College          | 13. Sampson Community College        |
| 6. Edgecombe Community College         | 14. Wake Technical Community College |
| 7. Fayetteville Tech Community College | 15. Wayne Community College          |
| 8. Guilford Tech Community College     |                                      |

## Gardner-Webb University: Bulldog Bound Program with two community colleges

<https://gardner-webb.edu/admissions-aid/transfer-students/transfer-credit-equivalencies/bulldog-bound/>

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| 1. Davidson-Davie Community College |
| 2. Wilkes Community College         |

## Lees-McRae College Program with 28 community colleges

<https://www.lmc.edu/>

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| 1. Alamance Community College                         | 15. Lenoir Community College           |
| 2. Asheville-Buncombe Community College               | 16. Mayland Community College          |
| 3. Blue Ridge Community College                       | 17. Mitchell Community College         |
| 4. Brunswick Community College                        | 18. Richmond Community College         |
| 5. Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute | 19. Roanoke-Chowan Community College   |
| 6. Cape Fear Community College                        | 20. Rockingham Community College       |
| 7. Carteret Community College                         | 21. Southeastern Community College     |
| 8. Central Carolina Community College                 | 22. Southwestern Community College     |
| 9. College of the Albemarle                           | 23. Stanly Community College           |
| 10. Davidson-Davie Community College                  | 24. Surry Community College            |
| 11. Gaston College                                    | 25. Wake Technical Community College   |
| 12. Haywood Community College                         | 26. Western Piedmont Community College |
| 13. Isothermal Community College                      | 27. Wilkes Community College           |
| 14. Johnston Community College                        | 28. Wilson Community College           |

## Lenoir-Rhyne University: Bear Bound Program with 14 community colleges

<https://www.lr.edu/admission/undergraduate-admission>

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|---|---|
| 1. Asheville-Buncombe Technical Institute             | 8. Isothermal Community College         |
| 2. Blue Ridge Community College                       | 9. McDowell Technical Community College |
| 3. Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute | 10. Mitchell Community College          |
| 4. Catawba Valley Community College                   | 11. Southwestern Community College      |
| 5. Cleveland Community College                        | 12. Tri-County Community College        |
| 6. Gaston College                                     | 13. Western Piedmont Community College  |
| 7. Haywood Community College                          | 14. Wilke Community College             |

## Mars Hill University Program with four community colleges

<https://www.mhu.edu/future-students/traditional-undergraduate/transfer-students/>

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|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Asheville-Buncombe Technical Institute | 3. McDowell Community College     |
| 2. Blue Ridge Community College           | 4. Southwestern Community College |

## Methodist University Program with six community colleges

<https://www.methodist.edu/academics/>

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| 1. Bladen Community College            | 4. Robeson Community College   |
| 2. Central Carolina Community College  | 5. Sampson Community College   |
| 3. Fayetteville Tech Community College | 6. Sandhills Community College |

## North Carolina A&T State University: Aggie Plus Program with 10 community colleges

<https://www.ncat.edu/admissions/transfer-admissions/aggie-plus-program.php>

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|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Alamance Community College               | 6. Johnston Community College       |
| 2. Central Piedmont Community College       | 7. Richmond Community College       |
| 3. Davidson County Community College        | 8. Rockingham Community College     |
| 4. Durham Technical Community College       | 9. South Piedmont Community College |
| 5. Fayetteville Technical Community College | 10. Wake Tech Community College     |

## NC Central University: Eagle Connect with Durham Tech and Eagle Voyage with Vance Granville Program with three community colleges

<https://www.higheredworks.org/2016/03/durham-tech-nccu/>

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|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Alamance Community College         | 3. Vance-Granville Community College |
| 2. Durham Technical Community College |                                      |

## North Carolina State University: PacTrac Program with Alamance Program with 19 community colleges

<https://c3.ncsu.edu/about/>

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|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Alamance Community College               | 11. Johnston Community College        |
| 2. Brunswick Community College              | 12. Nash Community College            |
| 3. Catawba Valley Community College         | 13. Richmond Community College        |
| 4. Central Carolina Community College       | 14. Robeson Community College         |
| 5. Coastal Carolina Community College       | 15. Sampson Community College         |
| 6. Craven Community College                 | 16. Vance-Granville Community College |
| 7. Durham Technical Community College       | 17. Wake Technical Community College  |
| 8. Fayetteville Technical Community College | 18. Wayne Community College           |
| 9. Gaston College                           | 19. Wilson Community College          |
| 10. James Sprunt Community College          |                                       |

## North Carolina Wesleyan University: Wesleyan Works

<https://ncwc.edu/academics/adult-professional-studies/community-college-transfer-wesleyan-works/>

Open to all NC community college graduates but specific agreements signed with the following 22 community colleges:

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| 1. Bladen Community College              | 12. Pamlico Community College          |
| 2. Blue Ridge Community College          | 13. Piedmont Community College         |
| 3. Brunswick Community College           | 14. Randolph Community College         |
| 4. Central Carolina Community College    | 15. Richmond Community College         |
| 5. Cleveland Community College           | 16. Robeson Community College          |
| 6. Durham Technical Community College    | 17. South Piedmont Community College   |
| 7. Isothermal Community College          | 18. Southwestern Community College     |
| 8. James Sprunt Community College        | 19. Stanly Community College           |
| 9. Martin Community College              | 20. Vance-Granville Community College  |
| 10. Maryland Community College           | 21. Wayne Community College            |
| 11. McDowell Technical Community College | 22. Western Piedmont Community College |

## Queens University of Charlotte: RoyalUp Program with one community college

<https://www.queens.edu/admissions-aid/freshman/queens-royalup.html>

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| 1. Central Piedmont Community College |
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## Shaw University Program with 58 community colleges

<https://www.shawu.edu/transfer-agreements/>

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|---|--|
| 1. Alamance Community College                         | 30. Martin Community College             |
| 2. Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College     | 31. Maryland Community College           |
| 3. Beaufort County Community College                  | 32. McDowell Technical Community College |
| 4. Bladen Community College                           | 33. Mitchell Community College           |
| 5. Blue Ridge Community College                       | 34. Montgomery Community College         |
| 6. Brunswick Community College                        | 35. Nash Community College               |
| 7. Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute | 36. Pamlico Community College            |
| 8. Cape Fear Community College                        | 37. Piedmont Community College           |
| 9. Carteret Community College                         | 38. Pitt Community College               |
| 10. Catawba Valley Community College                  | 39. Randolph Community College           |
| 11. Central Carolina Community College                | 40. Richmond Community College           |
| 12. Central Piedmont Community College                | 41. Roanoke-Chowan Community College     |
| 13. Cleveland Community College                       | 42. Robeson Community College            |
| 14. Coastal Carolina Community College                | 43. Rockingham Community College         |
| 15. College of The Albemarle                          | 44. Rowan-Cabarrus Community College     |
| 16. Craven Community College                          | 45. Sampson Community College            |
| 17. Davidson-Davie Community College                  | 46. Sandhills Community College          |
| 18. Durham Technical Community College                | 47. South Piedmont Community College     |
| 19. Edgecombe Community College                       | 48. Southeastern Community College       |
| 20. Fayetteville Technical Community College          | 49. Southwestern Community College       |
| 21. Forsyth Technical Community College               | 50. Stanly Community College             |
| 22. Gaston College                                    | 51. Surry Community College              |
| 23. Guilford Technical Community College              | 52. Tri-County Community College         |
| 24. Halifax Community College                         | 53. Vance-Granville Community College    |
| 25. Haywood Community College                         | 54. Wake Technical Community College     |
| 26. Isothermal Community College                      | 55. Wayne Community College              |
| 27. James Sprunt Community College                    | 56. Western Piedmont Community College   |
| 28. Johnston Community College                        | 57. Wilkes Community College             |
| 29. Lenoir Community College                          | 58. Wilson Community College             |

## St. Andrews University Program with two community colleges

<https://www.sa.edu/admissions/transfer-students/>

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| 1. Sandhills Community College |
| 2. Richmond Community College  |

## University of Mount Olive Program with 14 community colleges

<https://umo.edu/transfer/>

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Beaufort Community College  | 8. Randolph Community College        |
| 2. Cape Fear Community College | 9. Sampson Community College         |
| 3. Craven Community College    | 10. South Piedmont Community College |
| 4. Edgecombe Community College | 11. Southeastern Community College   |
| 5. Johnston Community College  | 12. Wake Tech Community College      |
| 6. Lenoir Community College    | 13. Wayne Community College          |
| 7. Martin Community College    | 14. Wilson Community College         |

## University of North Carolina Asheville: Bulldog Promise Program with four community colleges

<https://www.unca.edu/admission/apply/partnerships/direct-admission-programs/>

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|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College | 3. Haywood Community College        |
| 2. Blue Ridge Community College                   | 4. South Piedmont Community College |

## University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill: C-STEP Program with 14 community colleges

<https://admissions.unc.edu/apply/types-of-applications/c-step/>

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|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Alamance Community College         | 8. Fayetteville Technical Community College |
| 2. Cape Fear Community College        | 9. Guilford Technical Community College     |
| 3. Carteret Community College         | 10. Richmond Community College              |
| 4. Central Carolina Community College | 11. Robeson Community College               |
| 5. Central Piedmont Community College | 12. Sandhills Community College             |
| 6. Craven Community College           | 13. Southwestern Community College          |
| 7. Durham Technical Community College | 14. Wake Technical Community College        |

## University of North Carolina at Charlotte: 49er Next Program with six community colleges

<https://49ernext.unccl.edu/>

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|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Catawba Valley Community College   | 4. Mitchell Community College       |
| 2. Central Piedmont Community College | 5. Rowan-Cabarrus Community College |
| 3. Gaston College                     | 6. Wake Technical Community College |

## University of North Carolina at Greensboro: Transfer Promise Program

<https://success.uncg.edu/departments/innovation-programs/transfer-promise-program/>

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|---|---|
| 1. Alamance Community College               | 5. Guilford Technical Community College |
| 2. Central Carolina Community College       | 6. Montgomery Community College         |
| 3. Davidson-Davie Community College         | 7. Richmond Community College           |
| 4. Fayetteville Technical Community College | 8. Rockingham Community College         |

## University of North Carolina at Pembroke: BraveStep Program with six community colleges

<https://www.uncp.edu>

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|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Brunswick Community College | 4. Sandhills Community College    |
| 2. Richmond Community College  | 5. Southeastern Community College |
| 3. Robeson Community College   | 6. Wayne Community College        |

## University of North Carolina Wilmington: Pathways to Excellence Program with 47 community colleges

<https://apply.uncw.edu/register/pathwaystoexcellence>

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|---|--|
| 1. Alamance Community College                       | 25. Lenoir Community College             |
| 2. Beaufort County Community College                | 26. McDowell Technical Community College |
| 3. Bladen Community College                         | 27. Mitchell Community College           |
| 4. Blue Ridge Community College                     | 28. Nash Community College               |
| 5. Brunswick Community College                      | 29. Pamlico Community College            |
| 6. Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute | 30. Piedmont Community College           |
| 7. Cape Fear Community College                      | 31. Pitt Community College               |
| 8. Carteret Community College                       | 32. Randolph Community College           |
| 9. Catawba Valley Community College                 | 33. Richmond Community College           |
| 10. Central Carolina Community College              | 34. Robeson Community College            |
| 11. Central Piedmont Community College              | 35. Rockingham Community College         |
| 12. Cleveland Community College                     | 36. Rowan-Cabarrus Community College     |
| 13. Coastal Carolina Community College              | 37. Sampson Community College            |
| 14. College of the Albemarle                        | 38. Sandhills Community College          |
| 15. Craven Community College                        | 39. South Piedmont Community College     |
| 16. Davidson-Davie Community College                | 40. Southeastern Community College       |
| 17. Durham Technical Community College              | 41. Stanly Community College             |
| 18. Edgecombe Community College                     | 42. Surry Community College              |
| 19. Fayetteville Technical Community College        | 43. Vance-Granville Community College    |
| 20. Gaston College                                  | 44. Wake Technical Community College     |
| 21. Halifax Community College                       | 45. Wayne Community College              |
| 22. Haywood Community College                       | 46. Wilkes Community College             |
| 23. James Sprunt Community College                  | 47. Wilson Community College             |
| 24. Johnston Community College                      |  |

## Western Carolina University: Catamount Connections Program with seven community colleges

<https://www.wcu.edu/apply/undergraduate-admissions/transfer-students/index.aspx>

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|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College | 5. Haywood Community College      |
| 2. Blue Ridge Community College                   | 6. Southwestern Community College |
| 3. Catawba Valley Community College               | 7. Tri-County Community College   |
| 4. Central Piedmont Community College             |                                   |

## Wingate University: Gateway to Wingate Program with five community colleges

<https://www.wingate.edu/admissions/transfers>

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|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Central Piedmont Community College | 4. Stanly Community College         |
| 2. Blue Ridge Community College       | 5. Rowan-Cabarrus Community College |
| 3. Richmond Community College         |                                     |

## Winston-Salem State University Program with one community colleges

<https://www.wssu.edu/admissions/dual-admissions-program.html>

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| 1. Forsyth Technical Community College |
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This list may not include all Guaranteed Admission, Transfer Partner, or Co-Admission programs in North Carolina. In addition, there are many traditional transfer programs available and explained further [here](#). Always check with the Admissions Office of your college if you have specific questions.

COUNTDOWN TO COLLEGE TOOLKIT

