

State Programs for Students Attending North Carolina Community Colleges



Education Access Rewards North Carolina (EARN) Scholars Fund Program

The Education Access Rewards North Carolina (EARN) Scholars Fund program was created by the 2007 General Assembly to provide financial assistance to replace college loans for needy North Carolina students attending eligible North Carolina schools. It is offered by the North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority through College Foundation, Inc.

Eligibility

An applicant must (1) be a North Carolina resident for tuition purposes; (2) meet all eligibility requirements for a Federal Pell Grant, except for the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) requirement; (3) be a dependent student for financial aid purposes or a ward or dependent of the court; (4) have family income that is at or below 200% of the federal poverty level; and (5) enroll as a full-time undergraduate student in a degree, certificate or diploma program immediately following graduation from a North Carolina high school or home school or receipt of a GED.

Fall semester 2009-10 EARN Scholarships have been renewed only for students who received an EARN Scholarship in the 2008-09 academic year, and who continue to meet all other eligibility requirements of the program along with the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements of the institution that they attend.

Value

The annual individual award for the 2009-10 academic year is \$2,000 for fall semester only and the Scholarship program has funding to assist up to 26,000 full-time students. The program is discontinued effective December 2009. No additional awards are available after the 2009 fall semester.

Application Procedure

Applicants must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and list at least one EARN eligible school. No formal deadline has been established, however, applicants should meet the priority deadlines established by their selected institutions. Notice of eligibility and award amount will be communicated by the school as a part of each student's financial aid package. Eligibility and awards are determined annually. To be considered for this and other aid programs, applicants must file the FAFSA each year they attend school.

North Carolina Education Lottery Scholarship Program

The North Carolina Education Lottery Scholarship program was created by the 2005 General Assembly to provide financial assistance to needy North Carolina students attending eligible colleges and universities located within the state of North Carolina. It is offered by the North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority through College Foundation, Inc.

Eligibility

An applicant must (1) be a North Carolina resident for tuition purposes; (2) meet all eligibility requirements for a Federal Pell grant, except the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) requirement; and (3) enroll for at least six credit hours per semester as an undergraduate student in a degree, certificate or diploma program at an eligible North Carolina post-secondary institution.

Students who have already earned baccalaureate (four-year) college degrees are not eligible. Students must meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements of the institution that they attend. NC Education Lottery Scholarships are not available for summer sessions.

Value

Award amounts vary according to information that is reported on and generated from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA); award amounts will be prorated for recipients enrolled less than full-time. For the 2009-10 academic year, individual awards will range from \$100 to \$3,400 for the year and will assist an estimated 30,000 students.

Application Procedure

Applicants must complete the FAFSA and list at least one North Carolina college, university, technical or vocational school in the release section of the form.

Notice of eligibility and award amount will be communicated by the school as a part of each student's financial aid package. Eligibility and awards are determined annually. To be considered, applicants must file the FAFSA each year they attend school.

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North Carolina Community College Grant Program

North Carolina Community College Grants are available to North Carolina residents who demonstrate financial need and are enrolled at North Carolina community colleges. The grant program is offered by the North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority through College Foundation, Inc.

Eligibility

An applicant must (1) be a North Carolina resident for tuition purposes; (2) meet all eligibility requirements of a Federal Pell grant, except the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) requirement; and (3) enroll for at least six credit hours per semester as an undergraduate student in a degree, certificate or diploma program at an eligible North Carolina post-secondary institution.

Students who have already earned baccalaureate (four-year) college degrees are not eligible. Students must meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements of the institution that they attend. NC Community College Grants are not available for summer sessions.

Value

Award amounts vary according to information that is generated from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA); award amounts will be prorated for recipients enrolled less than full-time. For the 2009-10 academic year, individual grants will range from \$100 to \$1,100 for the year and will assist an estimated 30,000 students.

Application Procedure

Applicants must complete the FAFSA and list at least one North Carolina community college in the release section of the form.

Notice of eligibility and award amount will be communicated by the school as a part of each student's financial aid package. Eligibility and awards are determined annually. To be considered, applicants must file the FAFSA each year they attend school.

North Carolina Student Incentive Grant Program

The North Carolina Student Incentive Grant is offered by the North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority through College Foundation, Inc.

Eligibility

An applicant must (1) be a North Carolina resident for tuition purposes; (2) meet all eligibility requirements for a Federal Pell grant; (3) enroll on a full-time basis as an undergraduate student in a degree, certificate or diploma program at an eligible North Carolina post-secondary institution; and (4) be an undergraduate who demonstrates substantial financial need as assessed through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Students who have already earned baccalaureate (four-year) college degrees are not eligible. Students must meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements of the institution that they attend. NC Student Incentive Grants are not available for summer sessions.

Value

The annual individual award available for the 2009-10 academic year is \$700 and the grant program will assist an estimated 9,000 students.

Application Procedure

Applicant must complete and file the FAFSA and list at least one North Carolina college, university, technical or vocational school in the release section of the form. The deadline for applying is March 15 of each year; however, funds are typically exhausted by the end of February.

Notice of eligibility and award amount will be communicated by the school as a part of each student's financial aid package. Eligibility and awards are determined annually. To be considered, applicants must file the FAFSA each year they attend school.

For more information and assistance, visit CFNC.org or call toll free 866-866-CFNC.