



K-12 Educators Guide to CFNC

CFNC.org

Helping you plan, apply, and pay for college

College
Foundation
of North Carolina

College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC) is a free service of the State of North Carolina that provides comprehensive career and college planning resources for elementary, middle and high school students. CFNC partners include the NC Department of Public Instruction, NC Community College System, NC Independent Colleges and Universities, University of North Carolina system, NC State Education Assistance Authority, and College Foundation, Inc. (non-profit).



Explore Careers

Students can use career exploration tools to learn about themselves, find careers that might be a good fit, and discover the education they will need. Career planning resources on CFNC.org help students to:

- Engage with Paws (for elementary students), the friendly dog with a great sense of humor, for a lively tour of Jobland with 100 job profiles, photos, and a career quiz
- Learn more about their career interests (Holland Codes), skills, work values, personality (based on Myers-Briggs), and learning style using 8 engaging assessments
- Explore over 2,400 career profiles with career details, education required, average national and NC salaries, outlook for the future, and more
- Watch hundreds of career videos and read interviews from people working in each career
- Create a resume, cover letter, thank you letter, read articles on job searching, and practice interview skills
- Link to actual job openings through the NC Employment Security Commission and national job sites

Did You Know? There are over 2 million student accounts on CFNC.org.



Build an Online Portfolio

Students can begin an online portfolio in middle school and use it through college and beyond. The portfolio enables them to:

- Plan their high school courses and stay on track to meet local high school graduation requirements as well as college admission requirements
- Upload documents (30 MB total capacity) and log information related to their short and long term goals, career plans, high school graduation project, progress through the college admission process, and much more
- Record high school honors, awards, and extracurricular activities which are automatically transferred to all their college admission applications on CFNC.org
- Give parents access to their online portfolio
- Exchange messages with educators at their school and view school-specific calendar events such as career fairs or college days

Plan for College

About two-thirds of jobs in the next decade will require some type of education beyond high school. Since CFNC partners include all North Carolina's 110 two- and four-year, public and independent colleges and universities, students can use CFNC.org to:

- Explore detailed NC college profiles that include information about admission requirements, deadlines, academic and extracurricular programs, student life, costs, and financial aid
- Search for colleges by criteria such as programs offered, size, cost, and location
- Take free online courses for SAT and ACT preparation and give educators or parents access to their course progress
- Use Transfer Navigator to see how college courses will transfer between institutions
- Search the directory of NC College Preparation Opportunities in the arts, sciences, and athletics

Did You Know? Over the last 10 years students have used CFNC.org to transmit more than 1.9 million online applications and 300,000 electronic high school transcripts.



Submit Applications and Transcripts

CFNC.org eases the process of applying to NC colleges and, through partnership with the NC Department of Public Instruction, sending the official high school transcript electronically. Students can:

- Complete an online practice application for admission
- Submit their contact information to colleges that interest them
- Use their online portfolio information from middle and high school to automatically populate multiple online applications for admission
- Send their official high school transcript to college electronically from any participating public high school using NC WISE
- Review the Financial Aid Primer and get information about the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Track submission of applications and transcripts
- Get directions or applications for federal and state financial aid
- Receive individual assistance in applying during NC College Application Week at over 400 NC high schools



Learn About Paying for College

It's more important than ever for students and families to begin planning for college costs early. CFNC.org enables them to:

- Get help completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by attending FAFSA Day in February (only open to high school seniors); details online at CFNC.org/FAFSAday
- Open a tax-advantaged NC 529 savings account for future college expenses
- Search for scholarships, grants, and loans
- Learn about money and debt management by taking an interactive online financial literacy course
- Watch videos to help understand the financial aid process
- Use financial aid calculators and tools to estimate future college costs, savings needs, possible financial aid, and debt management

Did You Know? For the 2009-10 academic year, North Carolina made over \$370 million available in grants, scholarships and scholarship-loans to more than 200,000 state residents attending colleges and universities in North Carolina.

Access Educator Resources

As an educator, you can find resources on CFNC.org to:

- Create school-specific graduation requirements
- Customize, by grade or subgroup, a set of milestones that your students should complete
- Generate reports on school-wide or subgroup usage of CFNC.org and milestone completion
- Track all of your students' submission of college applications and high school transcripts
- Send individual or group email messages to students
- Create a school calendar of events to appear on the CFNC.org accounts of all students at your school
- Run detailed reports on career and academic plans for individuals and groups of students
- Mentor students through completion of online SAT and ACT preparation courses at CFNC.org
- Comment electronically on student's portfolio items such as academic plans, journal entries, career plans, or college choices
- View students' CFNC.org usernames and reset passwords as needed
- Download curriculum materials with activities and lesson plans aligned with the NC Standard Course of Study for School Counseling
- Access local, regional, and online training on CFNC.org resources and implementation
- Arrange presentations and workshops for your school or district



Professional Development

Go to the CFNC Events section of CFNC.org to register for regional workshops and webinars, or to arrange for customized professional development for your school or district, email training@cfncresources.org.

Student, Parent, Educator Programs

For free college and career programs or workshops for K-12 schools, churches, libraries, civic groups and companies, CFNC locates Regional Representatives across the state, based within telephone area code districts. To find your area's CFNC representative, go to CFNC.org/counselor or call toll-free 866.866.CFNC, option 2. For programs in Spanish, please email espanol@cfncresources.org.



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866.866.CFNC