

Financial Aid for Teaching Careers



Teacher education
funding opportunities
in North Carolina

CFNC.org

Helping you plan, apply, and pay for college

College 
Foundation
of North Carolina

If you would like to speak with a resource person about planning,
applying, or paying for college, please call toll free

866.866.CFNC

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Teaching Programs in North Carolina

North Carolina has a number of scholarship and scholarship-loan programs designed to encourage students to enter the teaching profession.

Teaching Career Information

College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC) provides helpful online information for students interested in careers in teaching. The CFNC website, **CFNC.org**, offers information and advice on career planning, including opportunities to direct questions about the profession to current teachers, job fair listings, and other useful information for prospective teachers. Just go to **CFNC.org/teachingcareers**.

Financial Assistance Overview

The State of North Carolina provides financial assistance for individuals enrolled in college programs designed to prepare students for careers in teaching and school administration. Some of these programs provide funding in the form of scholarships, which do not have to be paid back. Other programs offer scholarship-loans; students who receive scholarship-loans must repay the debt either by working as a teacher or by repaying the loan amount in cash at an interest rate of 10%.

For more information about these programs, visit their respective websites included in the following descriptions, or call toll free 866-866-CFNC.

Students are also encouraged to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for consideration for need-based aid and for other funding opportunities. The FAFSA can be completed at **www.fafsa.gov**.

Financial Assistance for High School Students Considering Teaching Careers

North Carolina Teaching Fellows Program*

High school seniors and qualifying high school juniors are eligible to apply for the North Carolina Teaching Fellows Scholarship Program. Renewable awards of \$6,500 per year are offered to 500 North Carolina students to attend one of 17 four-year colleges and universities in the state. Students agree to teach for four years in North Carolina after undergraduate graduation or be subject to repaying the funds at an interest rate of 10%, which must be repaid within seven years of undergraduate graduation.

For more information, including a list of participating campuses, visit **CFNC.org/teachingfellows**.

Millennium Teacher Scholarship-Loan Program*

This competitive, need- and merit-based program assists qualified North Carolina high school seniors interested in teaching in North Carolina public schools. Recipients must enroll at one of three campuses: Elizabeth City State University, Fayetteville State University, or Winston-Salem State University. Students selected will receive \$6,500 per year for four years. This scholarship-loan is renewable. Recipients must teach in North Carolina one year for every year of funding received and must complete their teaching obligation within seven years of graduation, or repay the debt in cash at a rate of 10% interest within 10 years of graduation. Up to 20 recipients will be chosen at each of the three participating campuses.

For more information, visit **CFNC.org/MTSL**.

*Scholarship-loan. Must be repaid in service to the state.

NC TEACH

NC TEACH is a rigorous alternative teacher preparation program designed to recruit, train, support, and retain mid-career professionals as they become licensed teachers in North Carolina. The NC TEACH program is offered at 12 of the University of North Carolina System institutions and serves more than 85 counties and school districts in all regions of the state.

NC TEACH II serves federally recognized high-need schools in North Carolina. NC TEACH II participants commit to teaching for a minimum of three years in a high-need school and in return receive a \$3,000 stipend. It is hoped that NC TEACH II will help expand the recruitment and selection of a multicultural teaching force that reflects the diverse student population in North Carolina.

For more information, visit www.ncteach.net.

Federal TEACH Grant Program

The federal Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program will provide up to \$4,000 a year in grant aid to undergraduate and graduate students and students enrolled in post-baccalaureate teacher credential programs, or current or prospective teachers. Funding is renewable. Candidates must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and

must be U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens enrolled as undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, or graduate students in the TEACH Grant Program. Candidates must be completing course work to become teachers and must have a 3.25 or better grade point average (GPA) or score above the 75th percentile on at least one admissions test (this GPA and test score requirement may be waived for some graduate students). Recipients must sign an agreement to serve as full-time teachers for at least four years within eight years of completing their course of study and must teach math, science, a foreign language, bilingual education, special education, or a subject designated as “high need” by the federal or state government or local education agency and approved by the Department, or serve as a reading specialist. In addition, recipients must comply with the requirements for being “highly qualified teachers,” as defined in section 9101(23) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

The TEACH Grant will convert to an unsubsidized direct loan for recipients who do not fulfill the service commitment.

For more information, visit <https://teach-ats.ed.gov/ats/index.action>. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is available at www.fafsa.gov.

| Program | Merit/Need | Who May Apply | Amount | Enrollment | GPA & Test Score Minimums |
|---|--------------|--|---|------------------------|---|
| NC Teaching Fellows Program | Merit | High School Seniors & Qualifying High School Juniors | \$6,500 | Full-Time | 2.5 and SAT: 900 min. or ACT: 19 min. |
| Millennium Teacher Scholarship-Loan Program (MTSL) | Merit & Need | High School Seniors | \$6,500 | Full-Time | 2.5 and SAT: 900 min. or ACT: 19 min. |
| Prospective Teacher Scholarship-Loan Program (PTSL) | Merit | High School Seniors & College Students | \$2,500 – Freshmen and Sophomores \$4,000 – Juniors and Seniors | Full-Time | 2.5 and SAT: 900 min. or ACT: 19 min. (SAT or ACT required only for students entering from high school) |
| Teacher Assistant Scholarship Fund (TASF) | Merit & Need | Teacher Assistants | \$600/term – Community College Students \$1,200/term – 4-Yr Students | At least Half-Time | 3.0 |
| Federal TEACH Grant Program | Merit | High School Seniors, College Students, & Graduate Students | Up to \$4,000/year at a Participating Campus | Full-Time or Part-Time | 3.25 or above 75 th percentile on a College Admissions Test (may be waived for some graduate students) |

Financial Assistance for High School and College Students Pursuing Teaching Careers

Prospective Teacher Scholarship-Loan Program*

This competitive, merit-based scholarship-loan program is available to students with a non-weighted 2.5 or better grade point average (GPA) who have chosen to pursue teaching as a career. The award is \$2,500 per year for the first two years of full-time enrollment at a two-year or four-year college or university, and \$4,000 per year for the junior and senior years at four-year campuses. This scholarship-loan is renewable. The recipient agrees to work full-time as a teacher in North Carolina's public schools one year for every year of funding received or repay the loan in cash at a rate of 10% interest. Repayment in the form of teaching must be completed within seven years of graduation.

For more information, visit CFNC.org/PTSL.

Opportunities for Teacher Assistants Seeking Initial Teacher Licensure

Teacher Assistant Scholarship Fund

This need- and merit-based program provides funding to full-time teacher assistants who either are pursuing initial licensure at a North Carolina college or university with an approved teacher education program or are enrolled in a North Carolina community college transfer program leading to teacher certification at a qualifying four-year campus. Students already holding bachelor's degrees seeking initial licensure are eligible to apply. This scholarship is renewable. Students must have a 3.0 or better cumulative grade point average (GPA) and must demonstrate need by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), available at www.fafsa.gov.

For more information, visit CFNC.org/TASF.

Other Financial Aid Considerations

In addition to these state-funded programs, other state aid, federal aid, institutional funds, and private money may be available.

Students seeking financial assistance for college must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), available at www.fafsa.gov. Students should also contact the financial aid office at the campus they plan to attend for information about institutional aid.

For information about these and many other opportunities to help you plan, apply, and pay for college, call CFNC toll free at 866-866-CFNC or visit CFNC.org.

Model Teacher Education Consortium (MTEC)

Model Teacher Education Consortium (MTEC) provides tuition assistance, advice, and professional development to paraprofessionals who are earning a first license or first degree in teacher education, and to teachers who are holding a lateral entry or provisional license. MTEC's services support partnering school systems in "grow our own" initiatives, as well as attract new teachers to high-need school systems. For more information, visit www.ncmtec.org.

