



College Application Checklist

P Indicates that you'll need information from your parents to complete this item.

1. Create a My CFNC account at CFNC.org, if you haven't already.
2. Update your MY CFNC profile.
Click on My CFNC - Your Profile, to review and update the information in your student profile. The Basics fields that you complete in your profile will automatically populate the corresponding fields on your applications. Checking this information first will make your application process easier and quicker. Be sure to use the same username and password for www.ncresidency.org and www.CFNC.org.
3. Explore colleges and universities.
Check out colleges and universities in the Plan for College tab and select College Search. You have the ability to set filters for your college search by selecting them on the left menu bar.
Attend Financial Aid workshops and College Fairs.
4. Save your favorite schools.
When exploring schools, you can save your favorites by selecting Save My Colleges under the actions tab for the schools you wish to save. When you log into your My CFNC account, you are then linked to this school directly from your profile.
5. Complete your residency determination. P
The information is used to determine your eligibility for state grants and in-state tuition. NC state community colleges require you to complete a residency determination <u>prior to</u> submitting an application. Most other NC colleges and universities require completion as part of the admissions process, but not prior to the application. Check the admissions information on the school's website for timing information or contact them directly.
Complete your Residency Determination at www.ncresidency.org .
6. Submit your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). P
The FAFSA is used to determine your eligibility for federal aid and state grants for colleges. Complete your FAFSA as soon as possible after October 1. You and a parent will need a FAFSA ID. The ID gives you access to Federal Student Aid's online systems and can serve as your legal signature. Go to fsaid.ed.gov to obtain an ID.
7. Take note of application deadlines.
Take note of application deadlines when researching schools and be sure to adhere to them.
8. Identify application fees.
Many NC colleges waive application fees during College Application Week, October 21-25 . Locate fee information in the Admissions link of the School Profile, as well as on the introduction page of the application. If a fee is required, you may still be able to get it waived if you qualified for an SAT/ACT fee waiver. Check with your school counselor if you think you might be eligible. If you are required to pay a fee, then be prepared to enter a credit/debit card number on the application or mail a check once the application is submitted.
9. Prepare admission essays and personal statements.
Some schools may require an admissions essay or personal statement as part of your application. Details will be included in the application, such as word count requirements. Come prepared: bring your essays with you on a USB flash drive and/or a hard copy, so you can upload your essay file or copy/paste it during the online application session.
10. Complete a practice application from the Apply tab on www.CFNC.org. P
The practice application will help you identify and prepare for the information you will need to complete your college applications.
11. Carefully read the online introduction on your college application.
Take your time and read this information carefully. Every college has different requirements and instructions for applicants. This page offers information specific to that college.
12. Ensure the colleges you apply to receive your transcripts.
While you are applying, be sure to send your high school transcripts. If you attend a NC public high school, you can use CFNC to send free electronic high school transcripts to NC colleges. You can do it from the main page of the Application Hub, or while you are completing the online application on CFNC (select "YES" to the transcript option). You'll need to enter your First and Last Name, Date of Birth, NC Student Number, Gender and Email Address. Ask your school counselor about sending transcripts to non-NC colleges.