



## College Applications - Students/Family Frequently Asked Questions

1. [Why is the introduction page so important?](#)
2. [How long do I have to complete an application during NC Countdown to College?](#)
3. [What is my entering term and year?](#)
4. [What is my entrance status?](#)
5. [Do I have to stick to the major I choose when submitting my application?](#)
6. [There are some questions I don't know the answer to. What should I do?](#)
7. [Why do I need to provide my social security number and NC Student Identification Number?](#)
8. [What types of questions will I be asked about my past criminal activity?](#)
9. [During NC Countdown to College I'm paying the application fee with the College Board fee waiver \(available only to students who qualify and are current NC seniors from their school counselor\). What do I select in the "payment" section of the application?](#)
10. [During NC Countdown to College I'm applying to a school that is outright waiving its application fee for all North Carolina graduating seniors. What do I select in the "payment" section of the application?](#)
11. [I do not qualify for the College Board fee waiver and I am applying to a school that requires an application fee. Do I have pay right now?](#)
12. [Why am I directed off CFNC.org to complete certain applications?](#)
13. [What if I live outside of North Carolina, will colleges waive their application fees for me too?](#)
14. [How are application fees waived for NC colleges that don't use the CFNC.org application?](#)
15. [Who can I contact with more application questions?](#)

### 1. Why is the introduction page so important?

The introduction page an application has important information about each college's application process including deadlines, transcripts, scholarships, and other materials that maybe required to complete your application. Application requirements are difficult for each campus so it is important you take the time to review this section for each application you submit.

### 2. How long do I have to complete an application during NC Countdown to College?

During NC Countdown to College, Students can only submit applications during the third week of October. You can begin submitting applications Monday, October 15th at 7:30 am. All applications must be submitted by Friday, October 19th at 5:00pm. After that time, all applications revert back to their pre-NC Countdown to College statuses, including their fee status.

### 3. What is my entering term and year?

One of the first questions you'll be asked when you fill out an application is when you are planning On starting (entering) a post-secondary institution. Majority of you will be selecting the fall term of the year you are graduating high school. However, if you plan on taking college summer classes before fall enrollment, you will need to select summer.



#### 4. What is my entrance status?

Here are the definitions of your options for entrance status. Select the one that applies to you:

- a) **Freshman/First Year**: This will be the first college you enroll in after graduating high school. Check this even if you have advanced placement (AP) credit, dual enrollment, or have earned college credit in high school. This includes Early College High School (ECHS) students. If ECHS students do not select “freshman” they will not see some of the application fee waiver adjustments on the payment page.
- b) **Transfer**: If you are graduating high school and going directly to college, you are not a transfer student even if you have college credit.
- c) **Non-Degree**: You want to take college course(s) but are not seeking a degree.

#### 5. Do I have to stick to the major I choose when submitting my application?

No. Many students do change their mind about majors or programs of study during their college careers. Most applications have an “undecided option in their list if you have not chosen a major at that time.

#### 6. There are some questions I don't know the answer to. What should I do?

Fill in what you can and make sure you select “save” on the left side of your screen. You can logout and find the answers to your questions- talk with your family, school counselor, college admission officer, etc. Once you have your answers, you can log back in to your CFNC.org account and resume your application.

#### 7. Why do I need to provide my Social Security and NC Student Identification Number?

You cannot receive federal financial aid without a valid Social Security number and without your NC Student Identification number, you will not be able to send electronic transcripts to the schools you are applying to. If you have already provided these two numbers in your This Is Me section of your CFNC.org account, they will auto-populate into our CFNC.org application. If not, you will need to provide them.

#### 8. What types of questions will I be asked about my past criminal activity?

Questions asked on the application about “crime” or “criminal charge” refers to any crime other than a Traffic-related misdemeanor or an infraction. You must answer all six questions concerning crime on the application. You must, however, include alcohol to drugs offenses whether or not they are traffic related. You must disclose criminal charges or crimes dismissed as a result of a deferred prosecution or any other arrangement under which you accepted responsibility for an alleged crime. Complete honesty is expected.



**9. During NC Countdown to College I'm paying the application fee with College Board fee waiver (available only to students who qualify and are current NC seniors from their school counselor). What do I select in the "payment" section of the application?**

This varies from application to application. Some applications will have a "fee waiver" option while others do not. For those who do not have the "fee waiver" option, you must select "check or money order". Please note, no matter what you select in the "payment" section, you will need to mail your College Board fee waiver to the school for your application to be complete. More information is available on the downloadable document, ***Application Fees at a Glance***, on the NC Countdown to College For Students page, [NC Countdown to College](#)

**10. During C2C I am applying to a school that is outright waiving its application fee for all North Carolina graduating seniors. What do I select in the "payment" section of the application?**

"No Payment Necessary" will be displayed on the payment screen if the NC College or university is waiving its application fee.

**11. I do not qualify for the College Board fee waiver and I am applying to a school that requires an application fee. Do I have pay right now?**

Most applications give you the option to pay by credit card online or by check or money order. If you are going to pay by credit card and you have your credit card information, enter it to finish your application(s). If you do not have your credit card information, save your application. Once you have the necessary credit card information, you can simply log back into your CFNC.org account and resume the application. If you want to pay by check or money order, select that option and mail in your check or money order to the school with a copy of the confirmation page, if requested.

**12. Why am I directed off CFNC.org to complete certain applications?**

- a) Most colleges and universities allow students to submit applications on CFNC.org and will auto-populate information stored in your **MyCFNC** account. Some schools require that students use a different application other than CFNC.org. You will be notified in the **Application Hub** if you need to leave CFNC.org to complete an application. Be sure to carefully read the application introduction page as the instructions may differ from other CFNC.org applications. Information from your **MyCFNC** account will not auto-populate into applications on other websites. If you want to send electronic transcripts to schools whose applications are not submitted through CFNC.org, you must do so directly from the **Application Hub**.
- b) It is important to add any college or university that you apply to through another website or a paper application to your **MyCFNC** profile by entering it in the "self-reported" section. If you have questions about applications filed through other websites, you must contact the school directly using the contact information provided there.

**13. What if I live outside of North Carolina, will colleges waive their application fees for me too?**

While NC Countdown to College is not publicized outside of North Carolina, some colleges may choose to waive their application fees for both in-state and out-of-state students. If you see on [nccountdowntocollege.org](#) that a college is waiving application fees, please contact the admissions office to see if this applies to out-of-state students as well.



**14. How are application fees waived for NC colleges that don't use the CFNC.org application?**

Most, [but not all](#), NC colleges use the CFNC.org application. The CFNC Application Hub is a good place to begin since it will guide you to the preferred application for all 110 NC colleges and universities. If a college has indicated that they are [waiving fees](#) during NC Countdown to College, then the fee should also be waived on their non-CFNC.org application (just follow the instructions there). Please contact the admissions office if you have any questions.

**15. Who can I contact with more application questions?**

Talk to your school counselor if you have any additional questions or the college admissions office of the schools to which you are applying. If you have a question about CFNC.org, call center toll-free at 866-866-CFNC.