



NC State Aid for Military Families

North Carolina offers in-state tuition and need-based scholarships for qualifying legal residents and military-connected service members, veterans, and their families. Check this chart to see potential eligibility, assuming all other requirements are met.

Active Duty

Current Military Status	*In-State Tuition	NEXT NC SCHOLARSHIP	NCSEAA NC NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIP FOR PRIVATE COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS
Service member who is a legal resident of NC	✓	✓	✓
Spouse or dependent of service member who is a legal resident of NC	✓	✓	✓
At a minimum, service member needs to provide both a current Leave and Earnings Statement (LES) and one that goes back at least 12 months showing NC as the state of legal residence (and state where taxes are filed).			
Service member on active duty permanently stationed in NC with a legal residence in another state	✓	✗	✓
Includes member of Armed Forces (U.S. Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, and Navy) and Foreign Service workers on active duty.			
Spouse or dependent of active-duty service member stationed in NC	✓	✗	✓
North Carolina National Guard without legal NC residency	✓	✗	✗
Spouse or dependent of NC National Guard member who is not a legal resident of NC	✗	✗	✗
Spouses or dependents of non-resident NC National Guard members can become eligible for in-state tuition only if the member is currently serving active duty in NC.			

* In-state tuition only applies to the 16 public UNC-system universities and the 58 NC community colleges.

◇ To qualify for the Next NC Scholarship or the NC Need-Based Scholarship for Private College and University Students, students must meet eligibility criteria for each program. For more information, visit cfnc.org/nextnc or cfnc.org/nbs.

It is the individual campus's responsibility to approve and award in-state tuition for any of the veteran exceptions listed below.

Veterans

Current Military Status	In-State Tuition	NEXT NC SCHOLARSHIP	NCSEA NC NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIP FOR PRIVATE COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS
Non-resident student using a qualifying veteran's federal education benefit	✓	✗	* ✓
Verification of eligibility and certification of VA benefits are handled by the student's college campus.			
Spouse or dependent of non-resident veteran using the veteran's federal military education benefit	✓	✗	* ✓
Honorably discharged veteran who is a non-resident but served active duty for at least 90 continuous days AND Must meet ONE of the following criteria: • Graduated from high school in NC on or after 1/1/2004 • Served active duty in the Armed Forces with a permanent station in NC for 90 continuous days • Was awarded a Purple Heart	✓	✗	* ✓
Spouse or dependent of non-resident honorably discharged veteran	✗	✗	* ✓
Veteran who has lived in NC for less than 12 months (Only applies to NC private colleges and universities)	✗	✗	* ✓
Spouse or dependent of veteran who has lived in NC for less than 12 months	✗	✗	* ✓

*Veteran must provide the eligible private college a letter of intent to establish permanent residence in NC. Spouse or dependent must be living with the veteran.