



Created by the CFNC En Español Team:  
**How to Support Students Who Are Ineligible to Complete FAFSA**

**What to share with students/families of students who are ineligible to complete FAFSA:**

- There are many ways to pay for college that are not necessarily attached to federal or state financial aid:
  - Unrestricted aid through institutions or foundations
  - Scholarships are geared toward students that are not eligible to receive state or federal aid. A diverse strategy of local, regional, state, and national scholarships is recommended
  - Utilize tools such as [CSS profile](#) or schools' own forms to determine financial necessity of the family. Some schools have a goal to meet 100% financial need of the student
- Encourage students to maximize opportunities while still in high school & minimize college costs:
  - AP, IB, Dual Enrollment, or Cambridge courses
  - Career and Technical Education, students can earn certification for free
  - [Transfer and guaranteed admission programs](#)
- Encourage students to assess their prior knowledge by taking College Board's CLEP examination:
  - There are free resources to help you prepare for these exams, such as [Khan Academy](#) and [Modern States Education Alliance™](#)
- Explore promise programs at the local community college that may help reduce costs or provide financial aid for students.
- Explore the NC Promise Universities that cap their tuition at \$500 for in-state and 2,500 for out-of-state students:
  - <https://www.northcarolina.edu/future-students/nc-promise/>
- Get Informed about special rules and exceptions to reduce tuition at North Carolina Colleges and Universities. Some common exceptions include: Business-Sponsored Students, Public School Graduates, Students Sponsored by a Non-Profit Entity, and Full Scholarship at UNC System Schools. Learn more [here](#).

**How to share the above with students/families of students who are ineligible to complete FAFSA:**

- In messaging all 12th graders about their Financial Aid options
- During Financial Aid events/information sessions
  - Utilize trusted organizations already in your communities to increase participation
  - Increase target populations in the planning of the event
- Make scholarship information easily available or visible to students
  - Helpful to include eligibility requirements and deadlines
- Invite families to be part of the process of paying for college
  - Seek information in other languages to assist students and families.  
Example: CFNC en Español [publications](#)
  - Information sessions in a language other than English or interpretation services
- Encourage students to discuss costs related to postsecondary education opportunities
  - Utilize tools such as [Reality Check](#) and [financial basics](#)

- Use opportunities to connect and build trust with other communities through your language access programs, trusted community organizers, and other personnel that connects already with targeted populations in your districts
- Utilize social media, school websites, and other platforms to share special opportunities.

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