

Frequently Asked Questions at a College Fair

These are some of the most common questions that you will encounter when volunteering at a college fair or talking with prospective students.

1. **Why should I attend NC State?/Tell me more about NC State University.**

North Carolina State University is located in Raleigh, the state capital of North Carolina. NC State's campus is only a mile from downtown Raleigh and 30 minutes from Research Triangle Park, the largest research park in the nation. It is the largest public university in North Carolina with over 34,000 students total, 24,000 of those are undergraduates. NC State offers over 100 different majors and 110 different minors with a focus on STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) programs. However, we also offer a wide variety of humanities majors, architecture and other design programs, business majors and more (use this section to give a broad overview of the types of programs we offer which are listed on the back of the brochure).

Wolfpack athletics are a huge part of our campus life as a Division I school in the Atlantic Coast Conference. Being on a large campus, you can take advantage of more than 900 student organizations including Greek life, intramural and club sports, student media and performing arts groups. There is something available for students with all different interests such as an Underwater Robotics Club, a Bass Fishing team, and a cooking club, just to name a few. You can also explore the world through 400+ study abroad programs offered or study at our campus in Prague, Czech Republic. The benefit to a large university is the endless opportunities available.

2. **Do you have a major in _____?**

Check the back of the admissions brochure for a complete list of majors. Please note that certain majors have concentrations where a student can focus their area of study.

3. **Is there a response card I can fill out?**

We **do not** have a response/info card for students to fill out. Students can connect with NC State by creating a wolfPAW account. Through wolfPAW, students can create an online profile, receive important reminders and announcements and check their application status. **The Application Deadline sheet tells students how to create an account at wolfpaw.ncsu.edu.**

4. **Do you require the SAT and/or ACT?**

Students must submit a standardized test score in order to be considered for admission. We accept SAT or ACT test scores. We do not prefer one test over the other and do not require the writing portion of their test. **NC State does not require students to submit SAT subject test scores for admission purposes.**

5. **What are the requirements for admission?**

The most competitive students have taken a rigorous schedule including strong courses (AP, IB, honors, or dual enrollment) with at least a B+/A- average or better with competitive standardized test scores.

6. **Is it more difficult to get into NC State as an out-of-state student?**

No, we are looking for the same academic criteria for both in-state and out-of-state students. Although the UNC system limits NC State to 18% out-of-state enrollment, all applications are subject to the same holistic review.

7. **Is the fact that my school is very competitive considered?**

Yes. The competitiveness of the high school is one of the additional factors considered as we review your application. The competitiveness and quality of the student's school will not be a disadvantage to an applicant.

8. Can I get credit at NC State for AP, IB, or courses taken at a community college?

Yes. Please refer to the NC State Undergraduate Admissions website to see a listing of credit given for AP, IB and college level classes under the credit opportunities section: admissions.ncsu.edu/credit-opportunities.

If students are taking college level courses in high school, a grade of a 'C' or better must be achieved in each class in order to receive credit. Applicants can search our Transferable Credit Database to determine which course credits from other institutions will transfer to NC State: go.ncsu.edu/transfercredits.

9. How can I visit campus?

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions offers daily information sessions and campus tours for prospective students. The information sessions give a general overview of the University and provide insight into the freshman admissions process. A walking tour is also offered. The campus tour allows prospective families to gain a better understanding of what life at NC State encompasses.

Prospective students **must** register to visit NC State online. For more information about visiting NC State, go to the visit section of the admissions website admissions.ncsu.edu/visit. We also have a virtual campus tour if you can't make it to campus, go.ncsu.edu/tour.

10. How can I qualify for in-state tuition?

The North Carolina residency law has two primary parts; first is the creation of a permanent domicile (residence) of an indefinite duration. The second part is a 12-month waiting period after relocating to one's permanent home to NC. Residency is determined by the North Carolina Residency Determination Service (RDS). If a student goes to NC State for a year and their parents still live out of state, the student must still pay out-of-state tuition. The residency of a student, under the age of 24, is generally based on where their parent/legal guardian lives. But if the family moves to NC, they must have lived in NC for at least 12 months. After a year, a student can apply for in-state tuition. If they start asking about divorced parents, owning property in NC or other complicated situations, please refer them to the RDS at <https://ncresidency.cfnc.org/residencyInfo/home> or reach them via their hotline at 844-319-3640.

11. What is the average class size and student to faculty ratio?

The student to faculty ratio is **13 to 1**. The average class size is **35 students**. This does not mean that all classes will be 35 people or less; note that some of the freshman courses contain 200-250 students in the lecture hall style classroom (i.e., introductory biology, chemistry, and psychology). These courses will then also break into small lab or problem sessions of 20-25 students to encourage extra help and personal attention. Plus professors also have office hours if a student needs extra help.

12. Are freshmen required to live on campus?

Yes, freshmen are required to live on campus during the first year. This is common practice nationally. According to educational research, students that live on campus have higher GPA's, graduation rates and retention rates. After a student is accepted to NC State, they will receive information to sign up for housing. University housing makes every effort to honor mutual roommate requests.

13. Is it difficult to graduate in four years?

It certainly is possible, but most students nationwide do not graduate in 4 years. At NC State many students choose to participate in cooperative education programs, internships, and study-abroad programs, which may delay graduation. Many also choose to take a semester off to work or to meet family obligations. It really depends on specific situations and the student's outside interests.

14. Will I be able to receive a parking permit on campus as a freshman?

NC State Transportation Department does offer freshman the opportunity to purchase parking permits. Parking permits are issued based on seniority and space availability. Freshman may visit www.ncsu.edu/transportation and purchase their permit starting in early July. Permits are very limited and can be sold out.

15. Do you offer pre-med/ pre-dentistry/ pre-vet/ pre-law?

Students who intend to go to professional school (medical, dental, optometry, veterinary, law) after graduating from NC State can pursue **ANY** academic major as an undergraduate. In other words, there is no single "pre-med", "pre-vet", "pre-law" major. **We have advising programs for students.** The pre-professional advising program helps students become a competitive applicant when applying to a professional school. This pre-professional advising is in addition to the student's regular departmental advisor.

For pre-med, pre-dentistry and pre-vet, many students choose to study programs such as Zoology, Animal Science, Biological Sciences or Biochemistry. For pre-law, students are encouraged to select an undergraduate major in which they have an interest and would like to further pursue in law school.

16. Tell me about your Design program/Architecture/Graphic Design.

Our College of Design is one of the most competitive programs in the country and most majors require extensive studio coursework. Studio majors include: Architecture, Art & Design, Graphic Design, and Industrial Design. The final application deadline for a student interested in a studio major is October 15 and they must submit a 10 piece art portfolio and essay by November 1.

Students must undergo a 2-step admissions process. The initial review is handled by the admissions office and focuses on their academic work. The strongest candidates are then sent to the College of Design for review. Each individual department has slightly different requirements, but each will entail some sort of creativity review or portfolio, which will judge the student's talent and aptitude in Design. Qualified students will be contacted for a departmental review from the College of Design.

The College of Design also offers a Design Studies major, which is a non-studio major. It does not require a portfolio and follows the regular application deadlines.

17. Do you require the SAT Subject Tests (formerly SAT II)?

NC State **does not** require students to submit SAT subject test scores for admission purposes. Before arriving to campus for orientation, students are required to take select online placement exams. If a student has taken a subject test, their scores can be used for placement purposes.

18. I want to play for the _____ team at NC State. What do I need to do in order to be recruited?

If you are interested in a particular sport, contact the NC State coaching staff contact at gopack.com. The contact information for Athletics (gopack.com) is on the back of the Application Deadlines sheet.

19. How do I get an application for financial aid?

A student interested in receiving financial aid will need to submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA is available on October 1 of each year. A student can submit the form online by going to the FAFSA website: <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>.

The priority deadline to submit the FAFSA is March 1, but the sooner the student submits their FAFSA, the better, since financial aid is first come first serve. Students will also need to apply for NC State scholarships through Pack ASSIST, an online portal created by the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid that allows students to browse and apply for available scholarships at the university level. Students will be sent the link to Pack ASSIST once they have been admitted, but students can still explore scholarship options before receiving their decision at go.ncsu.edu/packassist. Students who submit the FAFSA by March 1 will be considered for need-based scholarships.

Admissions Process Overview

The Evaluation Process

Freshman admission to the University is very competitive. Admissions decisions are based primarily on an evaluation of the high school record and SAT or ACT scores. Participation in extracurricular activities is considered, but not weighted nearly as heavily as the overall academic record.

Students entering NC State as a freshman have taken a rigorous college prep curriculum and generally maintained at least an overall “B+/A-” average or better for all four years of high school. The most successful candidates for admission will have taken academic courses well beyond the required minimum. Many of NC State’s applicants will have AP, IB, honors, or dual enrollment courses in high school.

Also in order to be considered for admissions, every applicant must have a high school diploma or its equivalent and the following minimum high school courses:

- ◆ 4 years English
- ◆ 4 years Mathematics—including Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and a course that Algebra II is a pre-requisite (this may include statistics, pre-calculus, calculus, discrete mathematics)
- ◆ 3 years Science—1 year of life or biological science and 1 year of physical science; 1 must be a laboratory course
- ◆ 2 years Social Studies—including US History
- ◆ 2 years of same Foreign Language

These minimum course requirements are required by all of the 16 public institutions in North Carolina.

Standardized Test Scores

NC State University requires the SAT or ACT. We recommend that students take either test more than once. We will accept the highest combined SAT verbal and math scores or the best composite ACT score from one test date plus the best writing score. SAT and ACT scores must be submitted to NC State by the testing agency.

The Application Process

We are a member of The Common Application as well as The Coalition. All applicants will apply to NC State online at commonapp.org or at coalitionforcollegeaccess.org.

Students use wolfPAW throughout the application process to track their admission status and receive a final decision. All applicants will have a wolfPAW account and it is essential that they frequently check it throughout the application process.

A complete admissions application includes:

- ◆ Application for admission
- ◆ \$85 non-refundable application fee for domestic applicants/\$100 non-refundable fee for international applicants.
- ◆ Official high school transcript, including grades 9-11, senior year courses in progress, overall grade point average and class rank (if available). Sometimes we may request first semester senior year grades before making a decision.
- ◆ SAT or ACT scores sent directly from the testing agency
- ◆ Essay – students can choose 1 of the 5 Common App/Coalition essays
- ◆ **Letters of recommendation are NOT required nor recommended for admission.** We will accept one counselor letter of recommendation uploaded to the students' application and it will be reviewed as supplemental information.

Application Deadlines

NC State University follows a deadline and notification date system for freshman applicants. There are two application deadlines and corresponding notification dates. The application deadlines and notification dates are as follows:

- ◆ Early Action Deadline: October 15
- ◆ Notification Date: January 30

- ◆ Deadline for essay and portfolio submission for the College of Design and Fashion and Textile Design Program: November 1

- ◆ Regular Decision Deadline: January 15
- ◆ Final Notification Date: March 30

Applications received and completed after the January 15 Final Deadline will be considered on the basis of space availability.

Application Deadline for College of Design (no spring admission)

- ◆ Deadline: October 15

Applications for studio-based majors should be submitted and complete by October 15. Undergraduate Admissions will review applicants. Competitive applicants will be forwarded on to the College of Design. College of Design will contact students for an interview and portfolio review. **Students will receive notification mid-March.**

Design studies is a non-studio based major. Therefore it follows the regular application deadlines.

Application Deadline for Fashion and Textile Design (no spring admission)

- ◆ Deadline: October 15

This is a studio-based major located in the College of Textiles. Applications should be submitted and complete by October 15. Undergraduate Admissions will review applicants. Competitive applicants will be forwarded on to the College of Textiles. College of Textiles will contact students for an interview and portfolio review. **Students will receive notification mid-March.**

2017-2018 Estimated Expenses

	NC Residents	Out-of-State
Tuition and Fees	\$9,058	\$27,406
Books and Supplies	\$1,082	\$1,082
Housing	\$6,618	\$6,618
Meals	\$4,236	\$4,236
Total Estimated Expenses	\$23,700	\$42,248

Notes:

- Actual costs may vary depending on enrollment hours, choices for housing, meals, etc.
- Meals, books and supplies are shown as yearly estimates.
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Financial Aid and Scholarship Opportunities

The Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid offers a **limited** number of competitive scholarships for entering freshmen in an effort to recognize and encourage exceptional academic ability and talent. To have the best chance for consideration, students must apply for admission by the Early Action deadline.

Some academic scholarships also require that students demonstrate financial need. All students who apply for admission by the Early Action deadline and apply for financial aid by submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1 will automatically be considered for need-based academic scholarships.

Distinctive NC State Scholarships for Incoming Freshmen

Park Scholarship: Prestigious, competitive academic scholarship program for students who demonstrate exceptional academic ability, exemplary character, and exceptional potential in leadership and service. The Park Scholarship covers tuition and fees, books and supplies, room and board, personal/miscellaneous expenses, transportation and a one-time stipend for the purchase of a computer. In order to apply, student must be endorsed by high school or follow self-nomination process. Approximately 40 scholarships are awarded each year. park.ncsu.edu

General Hugh Shelton Leadership Initiative Scholarship: A competitive academic scholarship program to promote the mission of the Shelton initiative, "to inspire, educate and develop value-based leaders committed to personal integrity, professional ethics, and selfless service." Scholars are selected on the basis of leadership experience and potential, evidence of personal character and integrity, orientation toward community and service, commitment to personal growth,

understanding of and interest in the program and commitment to maximizing the program's opportunities and academic eligibility. This scholarship is awarded to one entering freshman and is valued at \$10,000 per academic year for a total of 4 years.

sheltonleadership.ncsu.edu

Goodnight Scholars Program: The Goodnight Scholars Program is a unique scholarship for outstanding students in the STEM and STEM education disciplines. It is available to middle income families from North Carolina and is valued at \$19,500 per year. A comprehensive professional development program allows students to grow into tomorrow's leaders, innovators, and entrepreneurs. **emas.ncsu.edu/goodnight**

For a list of other additional scholarships offered at NC State, visit the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid website: **financialaid.ncsu.edu**