

NC College Connect

Direct Admission is Here
for North Carolina Public
High School Students



What is NC College Connect?

NC College Connect is a program created with the goal of increasing access to higher education by matching North Carolina public high school seniors with **specific** UNC System universities, North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities, and their local North Carolina community college **where they already meet admissions requirements.**

The higher a student's GPA, the more colleges to which they'll be admitted!



Participating Institutions Providing Direct Admission:

UNC System Institutions

- Appalachian State University
- East Carolina University
- Elizabeth City State University
- Fayetteville State University
- North Carolina Central University
- University of North Carolina Asheville
- University of North Carolina at Charlotte
- University of North Carolina at Greensboro
- University of North Carolina at Pembroke
- Western Carolina University
- Winston-Salem State University

NC Independent Colleges and Universities

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| • Barton College | • Livingstone College | • Shaw University |
| • Belmont Abbey College* | • Louisburg College | • University of Mount Olive |
| • Bennett College* | • Mars Hill University* | • Warren Wilson College |
| • Brevard College | • Meredith College* | • William Peace University |
| • Campbell University | • Methodist University | • Wingate University |
| • Catawba College | • Mid-Atlantic Christian University | |
| • Chowan University | • Montreat College | |
| • Gardner–Webb University* | • North Carolina Wesleyan University | |
| • Greensboro College | • Pfeiffer University | |
| • Guilford College* | • Queens University of Charlotte (new!) | |
| • Johnson C. Smith University* | • Salem College* | |
| • Lees-McRae College | | |
| • Lenoir–Rhyne University* | | |

* These colleges and universities have additional requirements for a student to qualify for direct admission. These requirements will be noted in each institution's NC College Connect form.

NC Community Colleges

- All 58 North Carolina community colleges*

* Students will receive direct admission to their local community college



This Program is For...

...**ALL North Carolina public high school students on track to graduate.**

- If you start your senior year at a North Carolina public high school, and **you are on track to graduate**, you'll be directly admitted to your local community college in the fall of your senior year.
- If you start senior year at a North Carolina public high school, **you are on track to graduate, have a weighted 2.8 GPA or higher, have your fourth-level math, and meet program requirements**, you will be directly admitted into additional 4-year colleges and universities.
- **Students with a higher GPA will be eligible for more institutions. Your direct admission could be impacted by any changes in your GPA throughout your senior year.**
 - A few colleges and universities have additional requirements for a student to qualify for direct admission, such as foreign language requirements. These requirements will be noted in each institution's NC College Connect form.

Understanding GPA-Based Eligibility*

NC College Connect matches students with colleges and universities where they already meet admission requirements, based on factors like GPA and completed graduation requirements and courses.

**Based on if student also meets other admission criteria and is on track to graduate with a diploma.*

Weighted GPA Ranges

Less than 2.8

2.8 – 2.99

3.0 – 3.49

3.5 – 3.99

4.0+

Students receive a personalized list of colleges and universities where they qualify for direct admission. As a student's weighted GPA increases, the number of participating institutions available to them will also increase.

How Will Students Know They're Eligible?

- All eligible students will receive an official letter in the mail to participate in the program by mid-September — and will be able to view their personalized list in their CFNC portal starting September 15.
 - Students should see their high school counselor for more information.
- **Deadline to accept:** Friday, January 8, 2027 at 11:59pm



Dear Jane Doe,

Congratulations! We are pleased to inform you that you have been offered **direct admission** to the following UNC System universities, North Carolina independent colleges and universities, and North Carolina community college for the **2027–2028** academic year, through the NC College Connect program.

• Appalachian State University	• Lees-McRae College	• University of North Carolina at Asheville
• Barton College	• Lenoir-Rhyne University	• University of North Carolina at Charlotte
• Belmont Abbey College	• Livingstone College	• University of North Carolina at Greensboro
• Bennett College	• Louisburg College	• University of North Carolina at Pembroke
• Brevard College	• Mars Hill University	• University of Mount Olive
• Campbell University	• Meredith College	• Warren Wilson College
• Catawba College	• Methodist University	• Western Carolina University
• Chowan University	• Mid-Atlantic Christian University	• William Peace University
• East Carolina University	• Montreat College	• Wingate University
• Elizabeth City State University	• North Carolina Central University	• Winston Salem State University
• Fayetteville State University	• North Carolina Wesleyan University	• Local Community College
• Gardner-Webb University	• Pfeiffer University	
• Greensboro College	• Queens University of Charlotte	
• Guilford College	• Salem College	
• Johnson C. Smith University	• Shaw University	

Ready to meet your moment? As a senior at a North Carolina public high school who is on track to graduate with a 2.8 GPA or higher and a fourth-level math, you are now eligible for admission to select North Carolina colleges and universities — all without a traditional application, essay, or recommendation letter!

We applaud your hard work and dedication during high school. Now we encourage you to reap the benefits. College is about discovering who you are, building a network of mentors and lifelong friends, and shaping what's to come. It's a powerful pathway to your future, helping you gain the skills, experiences, and connections that open the door to career opportunities in high-demand fields, and higher salaries too.





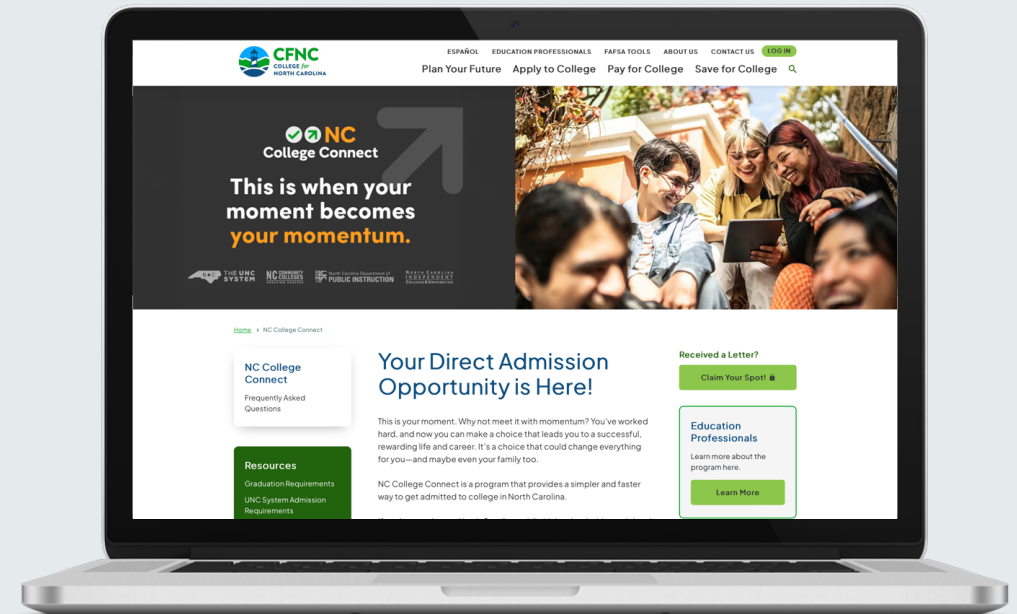




* These colleges and universities have additional requirements for a student to qualify for direct admission. These requirements will be noted in each institution's NC College Connect form.
 ** All college and university admission is conditional, based on your final high school transcript, GPA, and other graduation and NC College Connect requirements.

How Will Students Accept Their Admission?

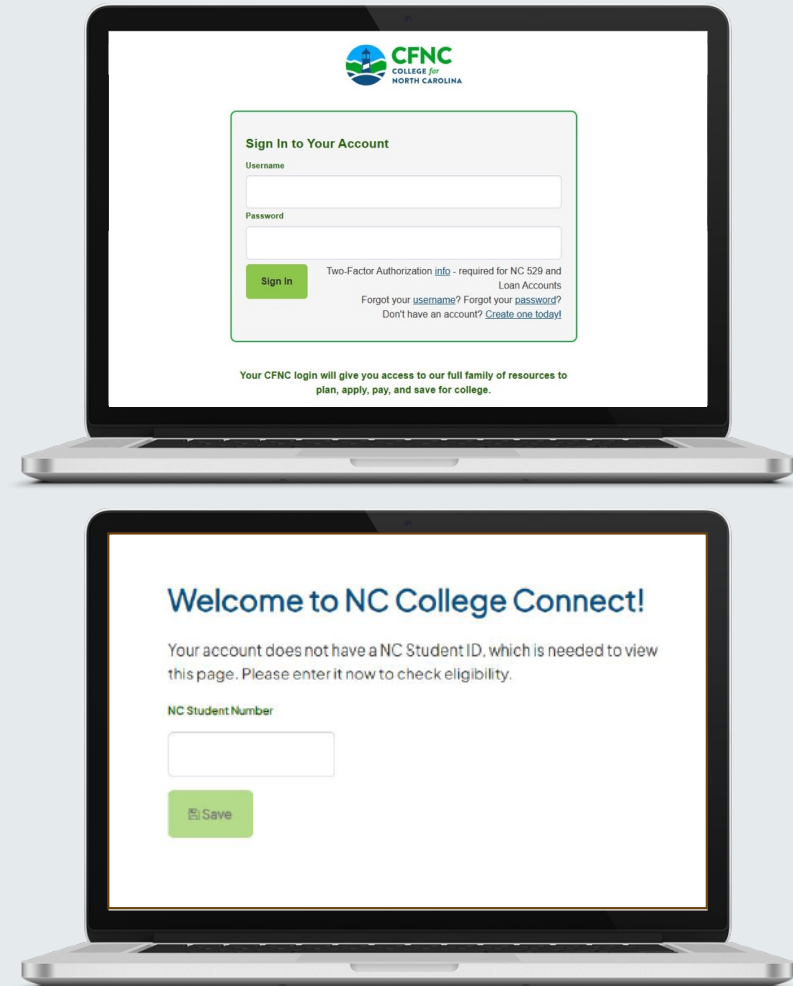
1. Students should scan the QR code on their letter or visit NCCollegeConnect.org, where they can access the portal.
 - **Note:** Students still need to complete their Residency Determination Service (RDS) to qualify for in-state tuition. Completing RDS before accepting admission makes the process smoother!



These screenshots represent the latest updated portal and are subject to change.

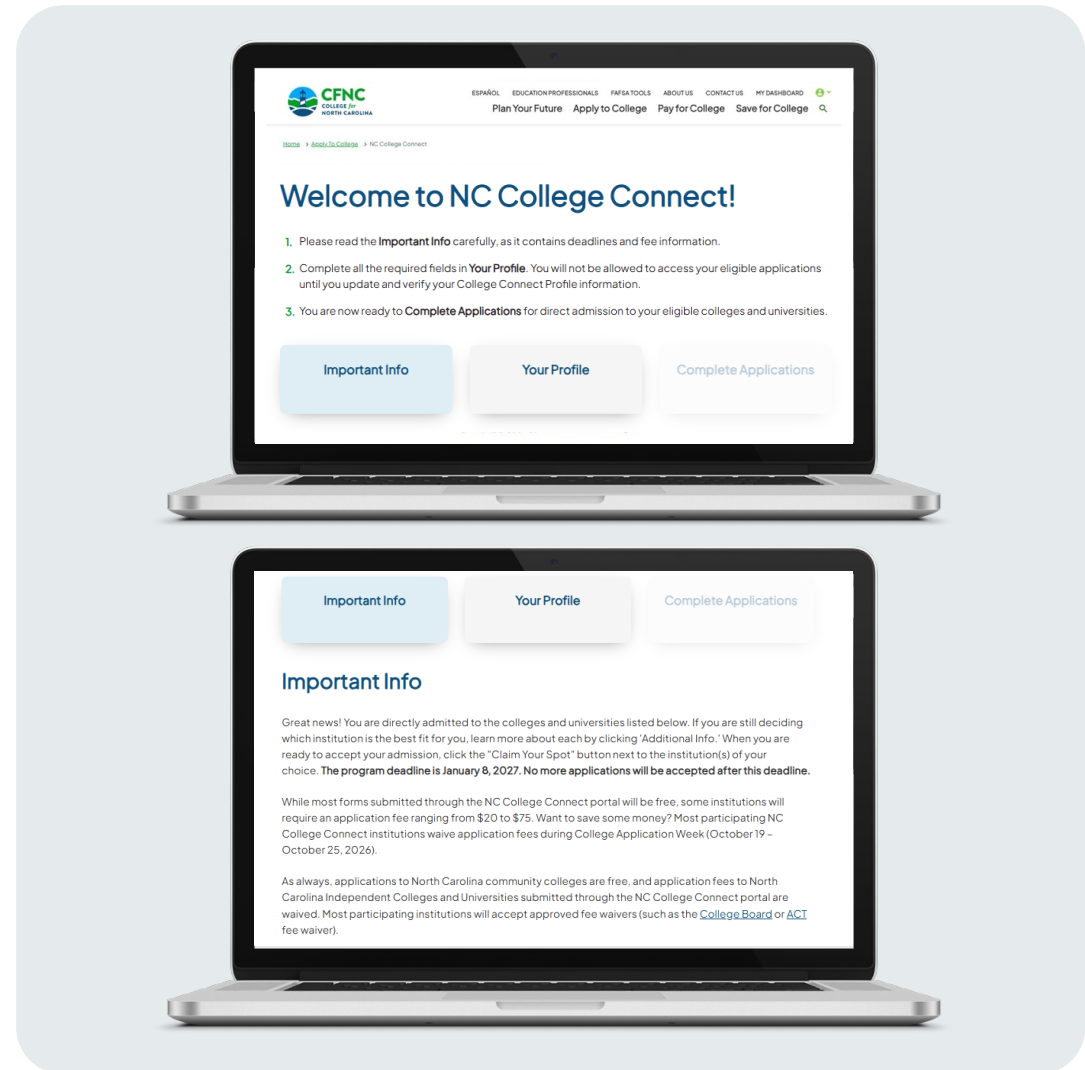
How Will Students Accept Their Admission?

2. On NCCollegeConnect.org, students will be directed to log into the NC College Connect portal using their existing CFNC.org account, or they will be prompted to create a new CFNC account. If there is no NC Student Number, they will be prompted to add it to check eligibility.
 - Students should ensure their CFNC account matches the details in Infinite Campus.



How Will Students Accept Their Admission?

3. When an eligible student opens the NC College Connect Portal page, the following landing page will be displayed. The landing page will open with the **Important Info** button selected, displaying information about deadlines and application fees.

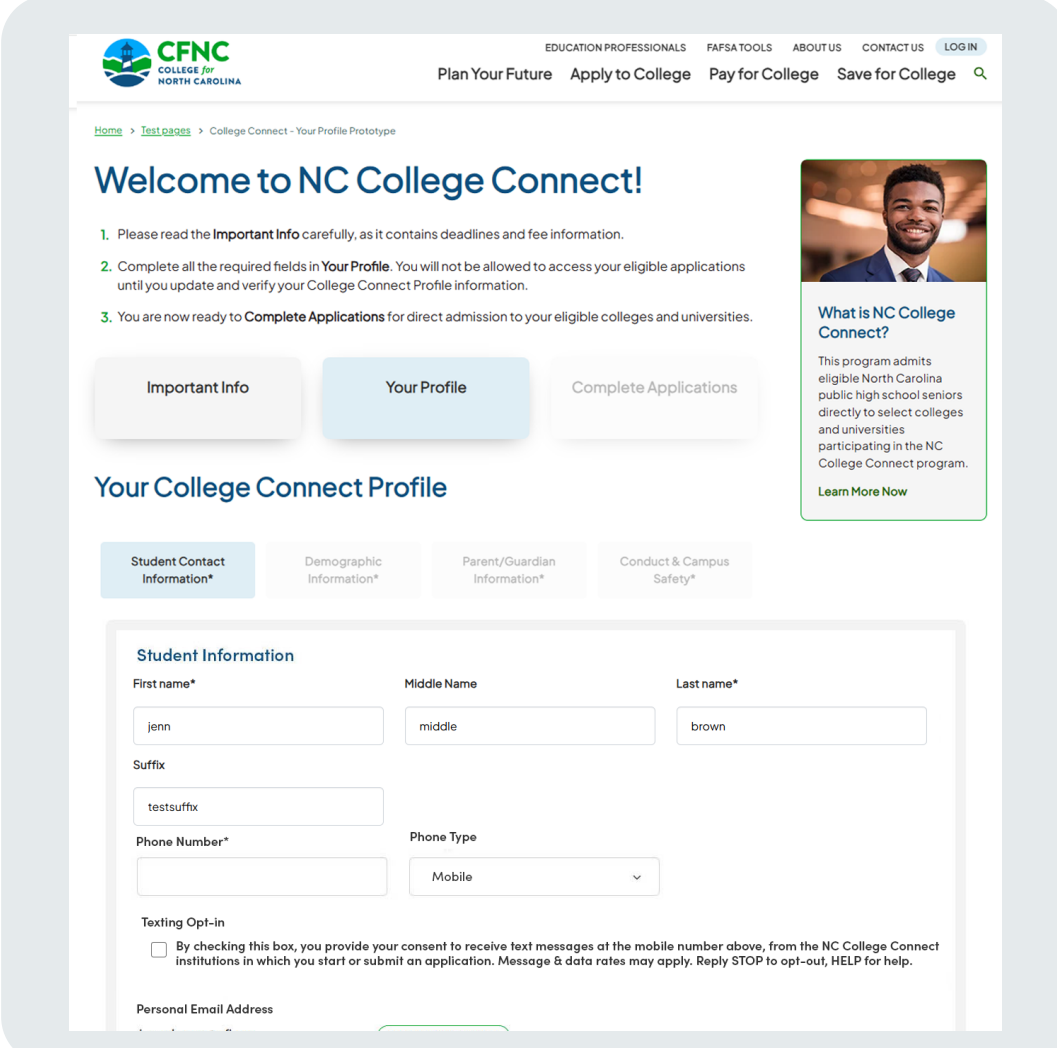


How Will Students Accept Their Admission?

4. Next, a student will complete their contact information, including:

- Phone number
- Option to opt-in to text reminders

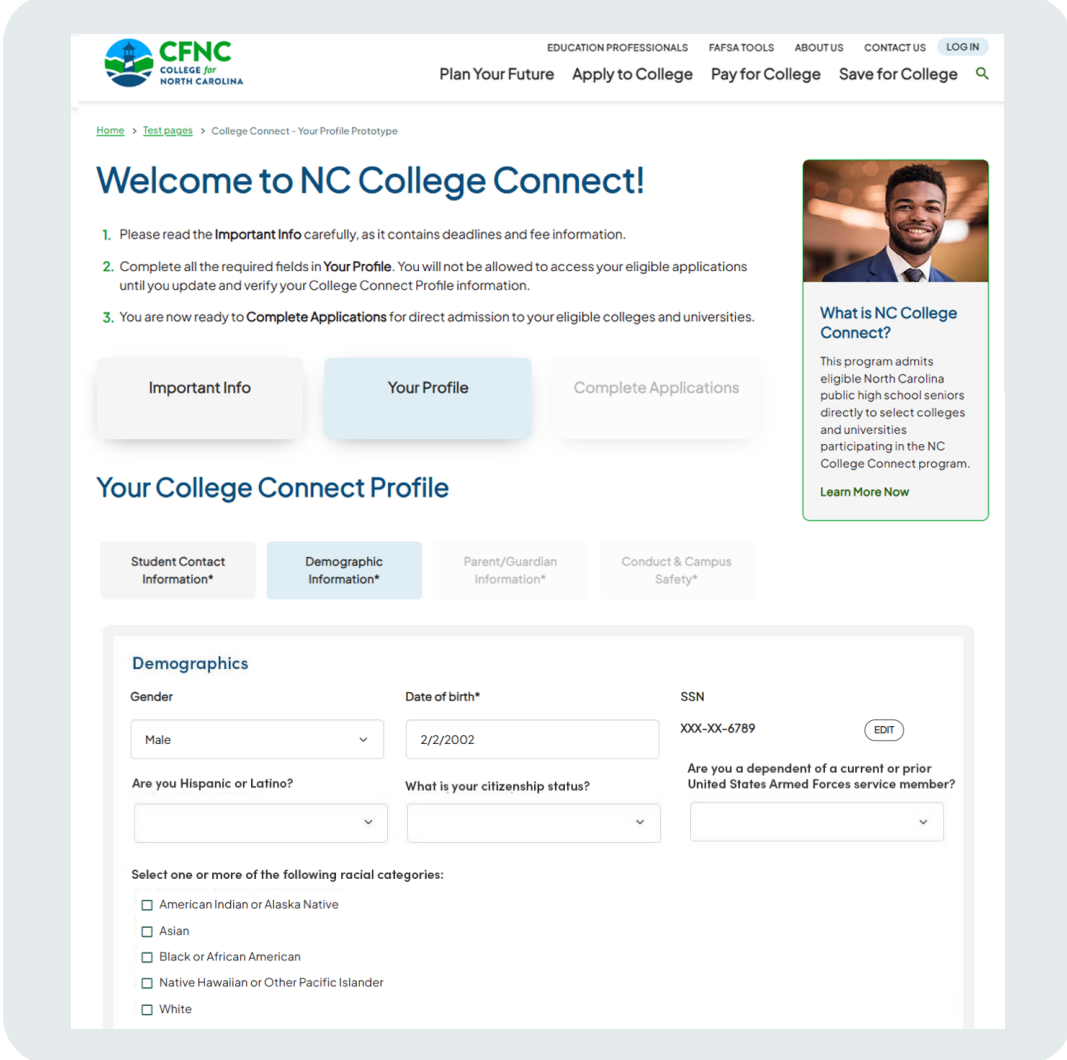
Note: Students must go through each section, clicking **Save**, before they can access the forms.



The screenshot displays the NC College Connect website interface. At the top, the CFNC logo is on the left, and navigation links for 'EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS', 'FAFSA TOOLS', 'ABOUT US', 'CONTACT US', and 'LOGIN' are on the right. Below the navigation bar, a breadcrumb trail reads 'Home > Test pages > College Connect - Your Profile Prototype'. The main heading is 'Welcome to NC College Connect!'. A three-step guide follows: 1. Read Important Info, 2. Complete Your Profile, and 3. Complete Applications. Three buttons are shown: 'Important Info', 'Your Profile' (highlighted in blue), and 'Complete Applications'. Below these is the 'Your College Connect Profile' section, which includes tabs for 'Student Contact Information*' (selected), 'Demographic Information*', 'Parent/Guardian Information*', and 'Conduct & Campus Safety*'. The 'Student Information' form contains fields for First name* (jenn), Middle Name (middle), Last name* (brown), Suffix (testsuffix), Phone Number* (empty), and Phone Type (Mobile). A 'Texting Opt-in' checkbox is present with a consent statement. At the bottom, there is a 'Personal Email Address' field.

How Will Students Accept Their Admission?

4. (contd.) Students will then complete their demographic information, including:
- Basic demographic data like birthday, gender, and race
 - Social Security Number (Optional)

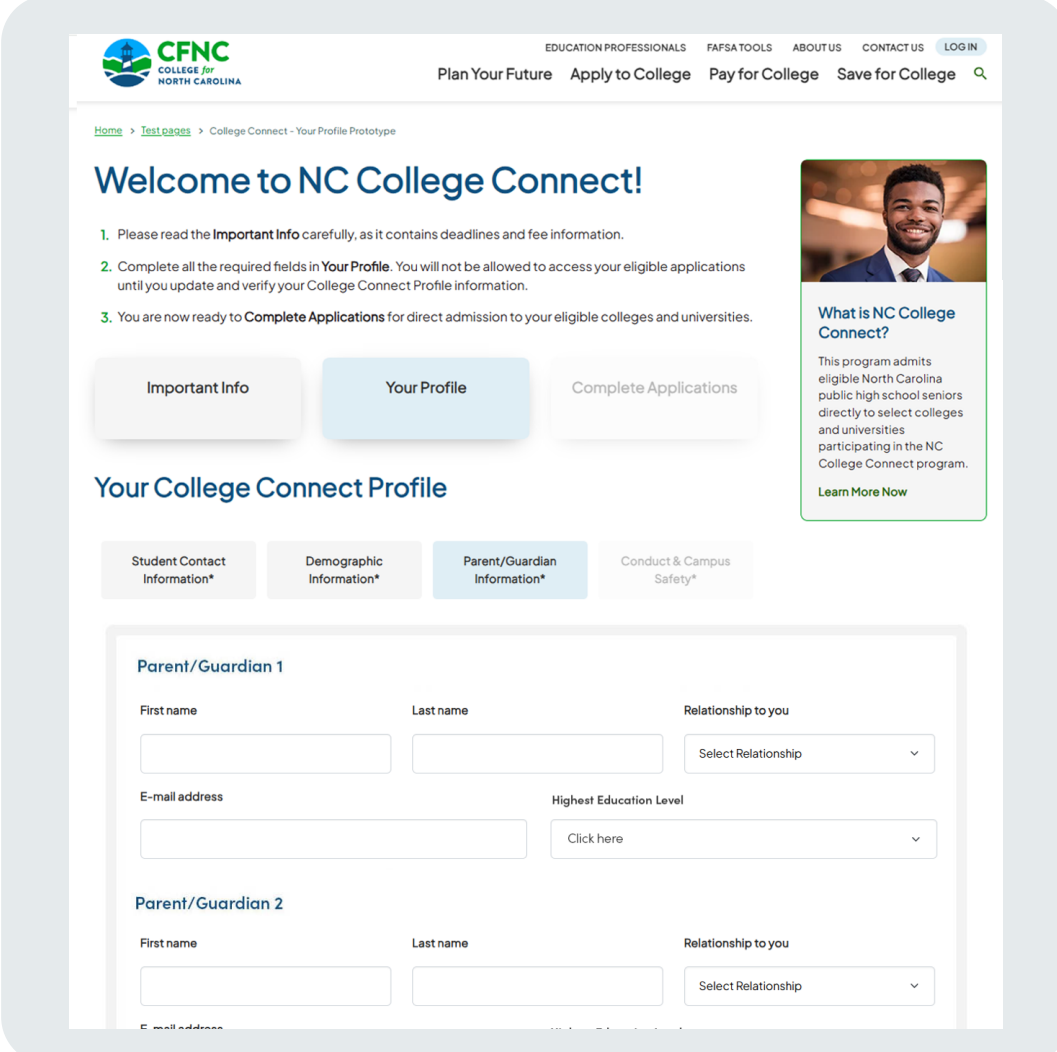


The screenshot displays the NC College Connect website interface. At the top, the CFNC logo and navigation links are visible. The main heading reads 'Welcome to NC College Connect!'. Below this, three numbered steps guide the user: 1. Read Important Info, 2. Complete Your Profile, and 3. Complete Applications. Three buttons are provided: 'Important Info', 'Your Profile' (which is highlighted in blue), and 'Complete Applications'. The 'Your College Connect Profile' section is active, showing tabs for 'Student Contact Information*', 'Demographic Information*' (selected), 'Parent/Guardian Information*', and 'Conduct & Campus Safety*'. The 'Demographics' form includes fields for Gender (Male), Date of birth* (2/2/2002), and SSN (XXX-XX-6789). It also has dropdown menus for 'Are you Hispanic or Latino?', 'What is your citizenship status?', and 'Are you a dependent of a current or prior United States Armed Forces service member?'. At the bottom, there is a section for selecting one or more racial categories with checkboxes for American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and White.

How Will Students Accept Their Admission?

4. (contd.) Parents are often a key factor in helping students enroll at the college or university of their choice. Students will complete their parent profile to continue, including:

- Parent first and last name
- Parent relationship (Mother, Father, Legal Guardian)
- Parent Email
- Parent Highest Level of Education

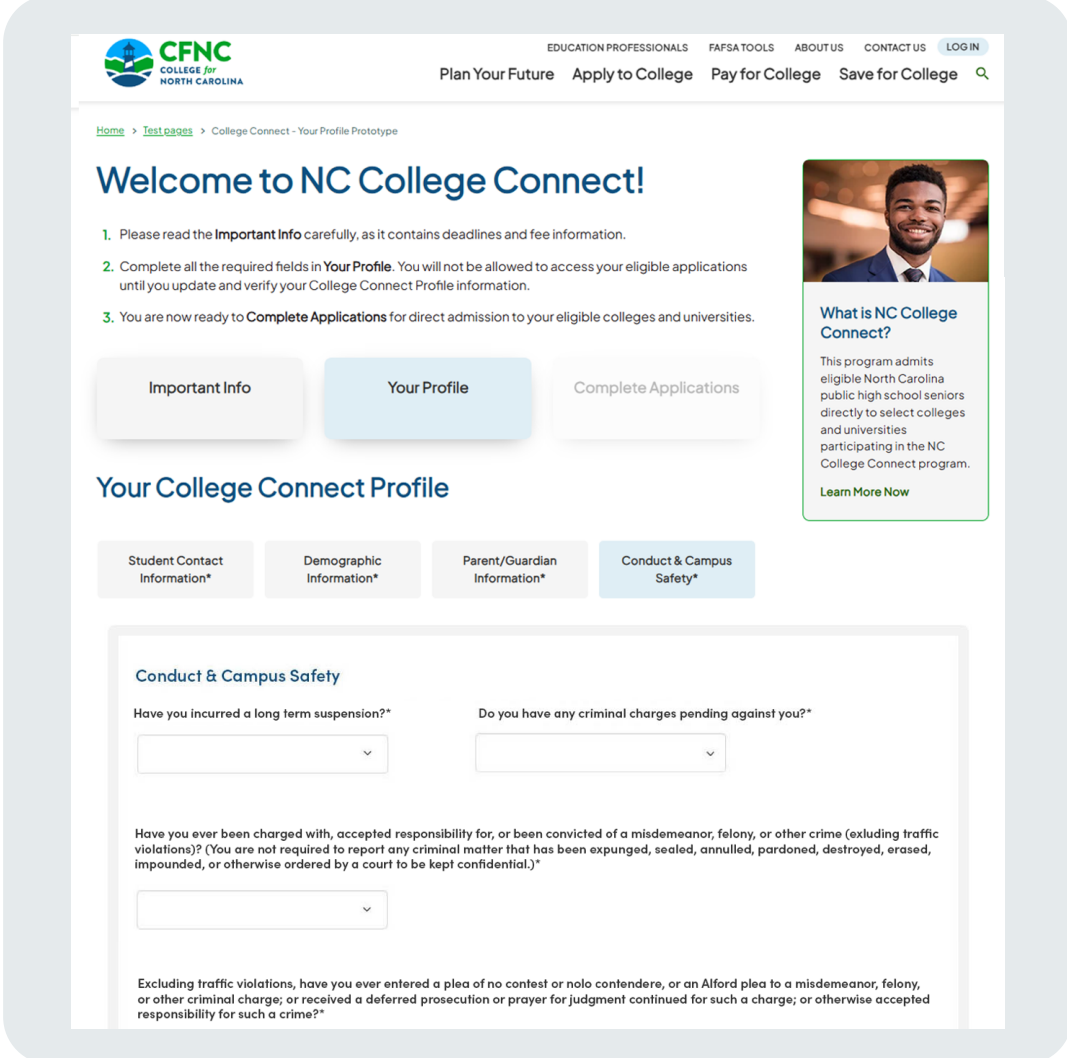


The screenshot displays the NC College Connect website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the CFNC logo, links for 'EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS', 'FAFSA TOOLS', 'ABOUT US', 'CONTACT US', and a 'LOGIN' button. Below the navigation bar, a breadcrumb trail shows 'Home > Test pages > College Connect - Your Profile Prototype'. The main heading reads 'Welcome to NC College Connect!'. A three-step guide is provided: 1. Read Important Info, 2. Complete Your Profile, and 3. Complete Applications. Three buttons are visible: 'Important Info', 'Your Profile' (which is highlighted in blue), and 'Complete Applications'. Below these, the 'Your College Connect Profile' section is shown, with tabs for 'Student Contact Information*', 'Demographic Information*', 'Parent/Guardian Information*' (which is active), and 'Conduct & Campus Safety*'. The 'Parent/Guardian 1' form includes fields for 'First name', 'Last name', 'Relationship to you' (a dropdown menu), 'E-mail address', and 'Highest Education Level' (a dropdown menu with a 'Click here' link). A similar form is partially visible for 'Parent/Guardian 2'.

How Will Students Accept Their Admission?

4. (contd.) Students will complete a safety section, which aligns with standard NC institution application questions.

This section includes a comment box to collect information on why a student might have answered “yes” to a prior question on conduct and campus safety.



The screenshot displays the NC College Connect website interface. At the top, the CFNC logo and navigation links are visible. The main heading reads "Welcome to NC College Connect!". Below this, three numbered steps guide the user: 1. Read Important Info, 2. Complete Your Profile, and 3. Complete Applications. Three buttons labeled "Important Info", "Your Profile", and "Complete Applications" are shown. The "Your College Connect Profile" section contains four tabs: "Student Contact Information*", "Demographic Information*", "Parent/Guardian Information*", and "Conduct & Campus Safety*". The "Conduct & Campus Safety" tab is active, showing a form with the following questions and input fields:

- Have you incurred a long term suspension?* (Dropdown menu)
- Do you have any criminal charges pending against you?* (Dropdown menu)
- Have you ever been charged with, accepted responsibility for, or been convicted of a misdemeanor, felony, or other crime (excluding traffic violations)? (You are not required to report any criminal matter that has been expunged, sealed, annulled, pardoned, destroyed, erased, impounded, or otherwise ordered by a court to be kept confidential.)* (Dropdown menu)
- Excluding traffic violations, have you ever entered a plea of no contest or nolo contendere, or an Alford plea to a misdemeanor, felony, or other criminal charge; or received a deferred prosecution or prayer for judgment continued for such a charge; or otherwise accepted responsibility for such a crime?*

On the right side of the profile section, there is a "What is NC College Connect?" sidebar with a photo of a student and a "Learn More Now" link.

Next, Students Will Complete Their Forms!

5. Once students complete their profile, they'll see the list of colleges and universities where they are eligible for admission, and will have the option to complete a short form to accept their admission and send their transcript to the colleges and universities of their choice.
 - Information that has already been filled out will auto-populate across submissions. No need to start over with each form!

The screenshot displays the NC College Connect website. The top navigation bar includes links for 'Plan Your Future', 'Apply to College', 'Pay for College', and 'Save for College'. The main heading is 'Welcome to NC College Connect!'. Below this, there are three numbered instructions: 1. Please read the Important Info carefully, as it contains deadlines and fee information. 2. Complete all the required fields in Your Profile. You will not be allowed to access your eligible applications until you update and verify your College Connect Profile information. 3. You are now ready to Complete Applications for direct admission to your eligible colleges and universities. There are three buttons: 'Important Info', 'Your Profile', and 'Complete Applications'. Below these is a search bar labeled 'Search Institutions'. A grid of college cards is shown, including Appalachian State University, Barton College, Cape Fear Community College, East Carolina University, and Fayetteville State University. Each card lists the application fee and a 'Claim Your Spot' button. An inset window titled 'Claim Your Spot' is overlaid on the bottom right, showing a 'First Application' form. This form includes sections for 'Application Instructions', 'Campus Specific Information', 'NC Residency', and 'Program Agreement'. The 'NC Residency' section explains that residency for tuition purposes is determined by in-state or out-of-state status and may impact admission, tuition, scholarship, or financial aid eligibility. The 'Program Agreement' section states that the offer of admission is contingent upon meeting requirements, including successfully graduating from high school and meeting additional admission requirements for specific programs.

It's Confirmed!

Once students reach this page, they have successfully completed their form to accept admission at the institutions of their choice!

Note: **Acceptance is not the same as enrollment.** A student's institution may reach out for additional information or next steps around housing, deposits, tuition, and scholarships. **Watch your email for more information!**

[COLLEGE NAME] APPLICATION AGREEMENT STATEMENT	
Congratulations, your application to [College Name] was successfully submitted.	
Please print one copy of this page now (use your browser's print function) for your records.	
For additional information, please contact:	
[Contact Info from the CFNC Undergraduate app]	
Remember to complete the admission requirements as specified in the introduction.	
Applicant Name:	Frank En Berry
Campus:	[College Name]
Date of birth:	08/01/2006
Application Term:	Spring 2027
Intended Major:	Forensic Science with concentration in Biology
E-mail Address:	datfrankenberrytests@cfi.org
Date Submitted:	03/06/2026 01:09:33 PM
Confirmation Number:	UserApplications/83651-A
View Application:	View

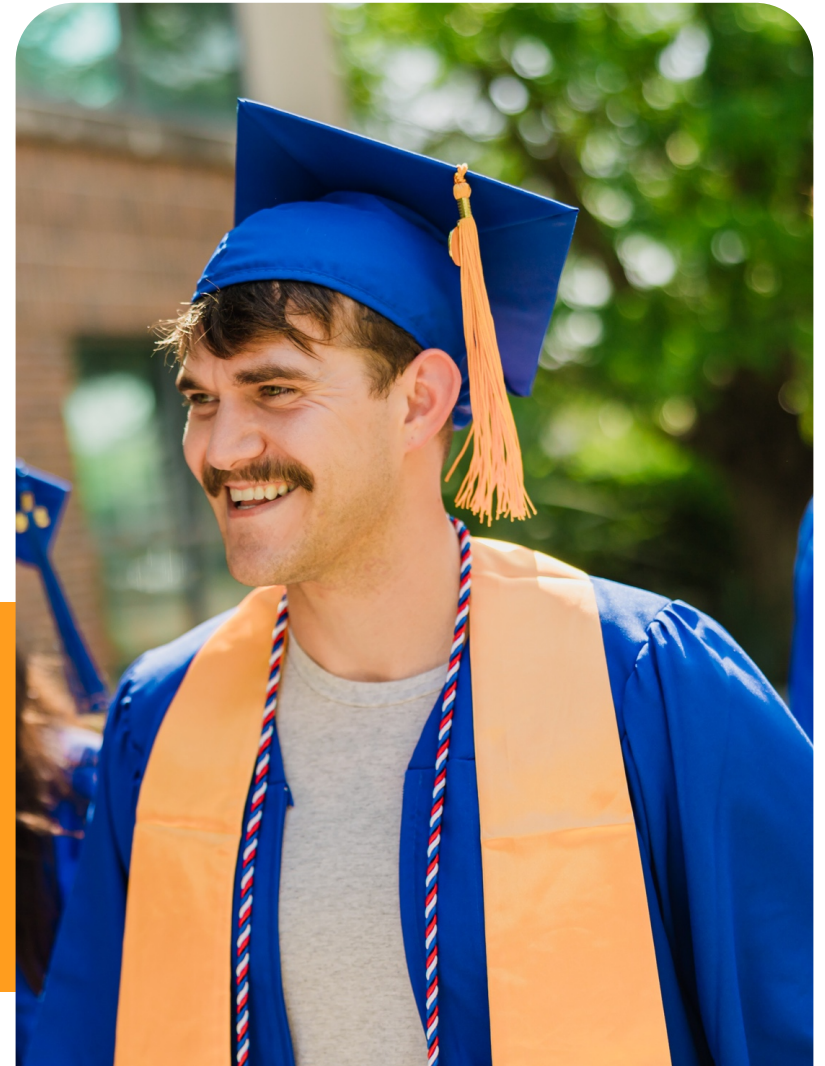
Will There Be Application Fees?

- Most forms submitted through NC College Connect will be free – including all forms submitted to North Carolina Community Colleges and North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities.
- For UNC institutions, students will be required to pay an application fee ranging from \$20 to \$75 alongside their short form.
- Most participating institutions will accept approved fee waivers (such as the College Board or ACT fee waiver). **Students are responsible for following up with their high school counselor to provide an approved fee waiver form (NACAC, SAT, or ACT) to the college.**

Students should apply early if they want to meet priority dates for financial aid, scholarships, honors programs, or specific programs.

Applying early — not waiting for College Application Week — has its advantages!

If application fees are a concern, mark your calendar for College Application Week (10/19-10/25) when application fees will be waived.



Keep in Mind

1

Once students have submitted the form through NC College Connect, there is **no need to submit another application** to apply to the same institutions, whether through their traditional application process or other application platform.

2

While students may qualify for direct admission to the colleges and universities that are a part of NC College Connect, **students are encouraged to apply to any other North Carolina college or university** they would like via CFNC.org, based on their priorities and interests.

3

Students are encouraged to **explore their financial aid options** on CFNC.org, including the Next NC Scholarship, NC Need-Based Scholarship for Private College and University Students, local scholarships, and other sources of federal and state aid, to make informed decisions about their future. **Completing the FAFSA is a great place to begin!**



You Have Support

Education and are here to support you through program details and are here to help you complete their journey to college.

- [Your L
- [Your D
- And for

EDUCATORS: FILL OUT
HIGHLIGHTED TEXT BEFORE
PRESENTING.

For Students

Mon-Thu 8

Fri 8am-5pm

866.866.CFNC (2362) Option 1

336.814.2138 (text messages only)

questions@cfncreources.org

For Educators/Staff:

For Universities and Colleges:

Cfnc-campus@northcarolina.edu

*Note: CFNC is updating self-service help centers with a chatbot and helpdesk articles related to NC College Connect.

Learn More!

