

Golden LEAF Scholarship to Attend North Carolina Colleges and Universities



The Golden LEAF Scholarship Program offers assistance to help students succeed in college and beyond. In addition to their financial award, Golden LEAF Scholars may participate in additional development opportunities and gain key workforce skills through internship experience.

Rural communities are filled with economic opportunities and resilient people, like you, who are ready to expand possibilities. The Golden LEAF Scholarship Program is intended for students who are committed to bringing their talent, knowledge, and skills back to a rural North Carolina community.

Are you ready to **redefine rural** in North Carolina?

**Resilient
Unlimited
Resourceful
Adaptable
Leadership**

Award Amount up to

\$14,000

Questions welcome!

Email us at

scholars@GoldenLEAF.org

Application Deadline

MARCH 1st



Find out
more at our
website



**Golden
LEAF**
SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarship Eligibility

- ☐ Be a North Carolina resident for tuition purposes
- ☐ Reside in a qualifying rural North Carolina county
- ☐ Be a graduating North Carolina high school senior or a currently enrolled North Carolina community college transfer student enrolling full-time in the fall
- ☐ Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5
- ☐ Plan to enroll in a participating North Carolina public or private college or university
- ☐ Have a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Student Aid Index (SAI) that does not exceed \$15,000
- ☐ Be able to communicate a commitment to returning to a rural North Carolina county after graduation from college

Scholarship Amount

High school seniors entering college as first-year students are eligible for up to a \$14,000 scholarship (\$3,500 a year for up to four years).

Community college transfer students are eligible for up to a \$10,500 scholarship (\$3,500 per year for up to three years).

Application Deadline

All application materials (application, FAFSA, transcript) must be submitted by **March 1st, 2026**.

How to Apply

Visit **CFNC.org/goldenleaf** to fill out the application form, or call **1-800-700-1775** for assistance.

Golden LEAF Scholar Opportunities

Students awarded the Golden LEAF Scholarship are also eligible to participate in additional development and internship opportunities. These engagements allow scholars to gain experience in their future career fields and build key communication and leadership skills.

Golden LEAF Rural Internship Initiative

Golden LEAF offers a paid internship opportunity for students to gain experience at an eligible business, non-profit, or government entity located in a rural North Carolina community.



This opportunity has been great in preparing me for day-to-day nursing in a medical office environment. I have been able to gain industry knowledge firsthand through both observations and hands-on opportunities. The skills that I've gained will be useful for bedside or administrative nursing roles.

Princess Alston
'22 Rural Internship Initiative Participant

For more information, check out **scholars.goldenleaf.org/rii**

Application Opens January 2026

Follow us @glscholarship