

## Frequently Asked Questions

### NC State Employee Dependent's Tuition Scholarship

As of December 1, 2016

#### **What is the NC State Employee Dependent's Tuition Scholarship?**

The NC State Employee Dependent's Tuition Scholarship is offered to full-time, first degree undergraduate students enrolled at NC State who are dependent children of full-time employees of NC State University.

#### **How is the scholarship funded?**

The scholarship is being funded through ongoing university and private support. In order for this scholarship to be awarded to current and future dependents in perpetuity, the fund's endowment must reach a projected \$30 million.

#### **How much will the scholarship award?**

Up to \$2,000 annually for a maximum of eight semesters (\$1,000 per semester) at NC State for each eligible student. The value of the award may vary and is contingent upon the number of qualified applicants and available funds. Students whose full cost of attendance, as defined by the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid (OSFA), is already met by other scholarships are not eligible to receive funds.

#### **When does the scholarship program begin?**

The first scholarships will be disbursed for the Fall 2016 semester. Awards will be disbursed equally between fall and spring semesters, in accordance with OSFA policy and in compliance with OSFA regulations governing financial aid awards.

#### **Which employees are eligible to have their dependent children participate?**

Faculty and staff must have been employed full time (1.0 FTE) and paid via the NC State University payroll for three consecutive years as of July 1 of the qualifying year.

## **What are the dependent eligibility criteria for this scholarship?**

Dependents must meet the following criteria:

- Submit a completed scholarship application on file by the established application deadline.
- Must be a qualifying dependent child under the Internal Revenue Code (see below). Exceptions will be made for dependents based on custody arrangements.
- Maintain full time enrollment (12 credit hours or more) each semester.
- Be an undergraduate enrolling or enrolled at NC State for their first degree.
- Accepted to or enrolled in an established NC State undergraduate degree seeking program at time of application.
- Current students must be eligible to continue enrollment at NC State and maintain at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA.

## **What is the IRS definition of a qualifying child?**

Your dependent must meet the IRS definition of a qualifying child. In general, to be a taxpayer's qualifying child, a person must satisfy four tests:

- Relationship - must be the taxpayer's child (whether by blood or adoption) or stepchild.
- Residence – has the same principal residence as the taxpayer for more than half the tax year. Exceptions apply, in certain cases, for children of divorced or separated parents. Refer to IRS Publication 501 for additional information.
- Age – must be under the age of 19 at the end of the tax year, or under the age of 24 if a full-time student for at least five months of the year, or be permanently and totally disabled at any time during the year. The dependent child must not attain the age of 24 on December 31 of the year in which the tuition benefit will be utilized.
- Support – child did not provide more than one-half of his/her own support for the year.

## **Are current students eligible to receive the scholarship?**

Yes. The Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid will determine the maximum number of eligible semesters based on the student's classification at the point of the initial award. (For example, students first awarded as a sophomore are eligible for a maximum of 6 semesters of funding; juniors may receive 4 semesters and seniors, 2 semesters.)

## **Do transfer students qualify for the scholarship?**

Yes. The Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid will determine the maximum number of eligible semesters based on the student's classification at the point of the initial award. (For example, students first awarded as a sophomore are eligible for a maximum of 6 semesters of funding; juniors may receive 4 semesters and seniors, 2 semesters.)

## **Can employees receive the scholarship if they are also enrolled as a student?**

No. The scholarship is intended to benefit dependent children of employees; however employees may be eligible to utilize a [tuition waiver](#).

## **Where do dependents apply for the scholarship?**

The scholarship will be administered by the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid. The application will be made available through the new scholarship application tool: PACK ASSIST. It is available at: <http://go.ncsu.edu/packassist> from December 1 through May 1 for the upcoming academic year for returning students. Students who have applied to NC State for the upcoming academic year will have access to the scholarship portal UPON ADMISSION to the university.

**Do dependents need to apply every year?**

Yes, students must apply annually for consideration. Awards are made prior to the fall semester for that fall and the subsequent spring semester. Students admitted in the spring semester are not considered until the subsequent fall. Returning students can apply beginning Dec 1. Applicants can apply once they have been formally admitted to the university and before May 1.

**Is summer school included?**

Summer semesters are not included.

**If an employee resigns or otherwise ceases to work for the university, will dependents still qualify for the scholarship?**

If the employee retires, resigns, quits, is separated, or is no longer employed due to a Reduction in Force, etc. the scholarship will cease at the end of the academic year.

**If an employee passes away or becomes disabled, will the dependents still qualify for the scholarship?**

Scholarship eligibility may continue until the end of the academic year for an eligible dependent whose parent (the employee) passes away during that academic year while in active employment or whose parent (the employee) is deemed disabled during that academic year under the Disability Income Plan of North Carolina while an active employee.

**If more than one parent works for NC State, can their dependents receive an award based on both employees?**

Awards are based on the number of eligible dependents and not the number of employees. So each dependent receives up to \$2,000 per academic year. Updated as of 12/09/2016