



# OPTIONS TO CONTINUE WITH YOUR POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION FOR ALL STUDENTS REGARDLESS OF YOUR IMMIGRATION STATUS

## **ENROLL IN NC's LEARN AND EARN PROGRAMS.**

NC's Learn and Earn program allows students to earn college credits while still in high school; in no more than five years, students can earn a high school diploma and finish with two years of college credit or earn an associate's degree, at no cost!

In addition, qualified students in participating public high schools can take a variety of online college-credit courses at no cost through Learn and Earn Online. Students earn both high school and college credit for completed courses. Access to these courses is provided during the regular school day and an online course facilitator will assist students in the classroom.

To begin the process of enrolling in Learn and Earn, contact your school guidance counselor. They will provide you with specific information regarding your high school.

<http://www.nclearnandearn.gov>

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/learnandearnonline/>

North Carolina's Learn and Earn programs are one of the best ways for undocumented students (students without a Social Security number) to gain college credits.

## **ATTEND ANY OF THE 16 UNIVERSITIES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA SYSTEM.**

The University of North Carolina System accept high school graduates irregardless if they do not have a social security number, however they must pay out-of-state tuition. The cheapest way for a student to do this is to enroll in a local UNC System's university and live at home. Without paying for room and board, students can attend a UNC system's university for about \$7,000 - \$8,000 per semester. Universities website at <http://www.northcarolina.edu/content.php/assessment/reports/profiles/current.htm>

## **ATTEND PRIVATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.**

Private colleges and universities accept ALL high school graduates (including undocumented students). This is often the best option for high achieving students. There are many private colleges and universities that are seeking to increase their enrollment of Latino students. They are more likely than public universities (UNC System) to have special scholarship programs to support students who cannot take our federal student loans.

## **ATTEND PRIVATE CAREER SCHOOLS OR PRIVATE ONLINE UNIVERSITIES.**

Private career schools, sometimes called "proprietary schools," are for-profit businesses which provide education and training. They may be privately owned, a partnership or a corporation. Some examples of private career schools would include automotive training schools, beauty schools, or schools that teach other trades. For a current list of private career schools that are accredited to operate in North Carolina, you can check this website:

[http://www.ncccs.cc.nc.us/Proprietary\\_Schools/index.html](http://www.ncccs.cc.nc.us/Proprietary_Schools/index.html)

Private online universities are similar in that they are for-profit businesses designed to provide a college education. They are easy to find online. You can learn more about online degrees at this website: <http://www.exploreonlinedegrees.com/>

## **ENROLL IN ONLINE PROGRAMS SPONSORED BY UNIVERSITIES IN YOUR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN.**

**Mexican Universities:** Enterprising Mexican universities are marketing online study programs to Mexican nationals living in the United States. These programs are usually very cheap, but they do require that the students have a high degree of proficiency in academic Spanish. For a list of these institutions, see the bottom of this email. The following list includes universities in Mexico that offer online degree programs geared towards people living in the United States<sup>1</sup>.

Consorcio Clavijero - <http://www4.clavijero.org.mx>

Universidad Popular Autónoma del Estado de Puebla - <http://online.upaep.mx/>

Universidad de Guadalajara Virtual - <http://www.udgvirtual.udg.mx/>

Tec Milenio - <http://www.tecmilenio.edu.mx/>

If you are interested in other countries, contact universities in that country directly.

## **ENROLL IN NON-DEGREE SEEKING COURSES AT COMMUNITY COLLEGES IN NORTH CAROLINA.**

Undocumented students cannot currently enroll in degree-seeking programs at the NC Community College System's 58 local community colleges. However, they can enroll in *non-degree seeking* courses, such as English as a Second Language or courses in plumbing, electricity, welding, cooking, and sewing, among others.

## **RETURN TO YOUR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN TO STUDY.**

Attending universities in Mexico and other Latin American Countries is often very inexpensive. Students with a strong connection to their country of origin and strong Spanish language skills may find this an attractive option.

**For additional information, please visit:**  
**Adelante Education Coalition – [www.adelantenc.org](http://www.adelantenc.org)**  
**NC Society of Hispanic Professionals – [www.thencshp.org](http://www.thencshp.org)**  
*A Member of the Adelante Education Coalition*

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.educamexus.org>



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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### 📌 How do I enroll in a community college or university if I have a Social Security number?

You should call the admissions office or go to the web site of the college or university to whom you plan to apply, but below are basic requirements for most colleges.

Application requirements at NC's community colleges include (1) a completed application and (2) current high school transcript. With the exception of the Certificate Programs in the Vocational Division, you will need a high school diploma or a GED. You will also need to schedule a placement test, which determines if you qualify to take college-level courses or if you will be required to take pre-curriculum (developmental) courses prior to starting your college-level coursework. If you have obtained a score of 520 on the SAT Verbal and Math or a score of 21 on the ACT Math or ACT English, your placement exam requirement may be waived.

Application requirements at NC's public universities include (1) a completed application, (2) current high school transcript, including grades 9-11, senior year courses in progress, overall grade point average and class rank, (3) personal statement/essays, (4) official ACT or SAT test scores (please note that certain exam scores are used to place enrolling students in the appropriate Math, English, and foreign language courses), (5) teacher recommendation and/or counselor statement (not required at all universities but are recommended), and (6) a non-refundable \$70 application fee.

### 📌 Will I be eligible for in-state tuition at NC public colleges or universities if I am undocumented or don't have a social security number?

No, you will not be eligible for in-state tuition at this time; you are required to pay out-of-state tuition.

### 📌 What is the cost of a regular class for someone that is paying out-of-state tuition at NC public colleges or universities?

The tuition fee for out-of-state students at all community colleges in North Carolina is \$233 per credit; if you are taking a 3 credit hour class it would be a total of \$700 per class. Typically a student takes between 24 and 30 credit hours per year for a total of \$5,999 - \$6,999 per year.

The tuition rate for out-of-state students varies at public universities. It ranges from about \$10,000 to \$13,000 per year. If you want to live on campus, it costs an additional \$5,000 - \$7,000.

### 📌 Where can I go for financial help if I am not eligible for in-state tuition?

Look for scholarships that do not require you to be a US Citizen or do not ask for your documentation status. Here are a few links:

[www.maldef.org/leadership/scholarships/2008\\_Scholarship\\_List.pdf](http://www.maldef.org/leadership/scholarships/2008_Scholarship_List.pdf)

[www.nygearup.org/collegesense/students/scholar\\_undoc.htm](http://www.nygearup.org/collegesense/students/scholar_undoc.htm)

[www.latinocollegedollars.org/](http://www.latinocollegedollars.org/)

[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)

[www.thencshp.org/resources/students/index.shtml](http://www.thencshp.org/resources/students/index.shtml)

[www1.cfnc.org/Student\\_Planner/Online\\_Learning\\_Opportunities/Online\\_Learning\\_Opportunities.aspx](http://www1.cfnc.org/Student_Planner/Online_Learning_Opportunities/Online_Learning_Opportunities.aspx)

Counselors and teachers may also be able to recommend local, community scholarships and may write letters of recommendation or review applications for you.

### 📌 What is the DREAM Act and does it have any hope of passing?

The DREAM Act is a bill that has been introduced in the US Congress for several years. If passed, the "Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act" would facilitate access to college for immigrant students in the US by restoring states' rights to offer in-state tuition to immigrant students residing in their state. The DREAM Act would also provide a path to citizenship for hardworking immigrant youth who were brought to the US as young children and a path to pursue higher education or military service, enabling them to contribute fully to our society. The DREAM Act is not a law<sup>2</sup>, but hopefully will be re-introduced in the future. You can help by contacting US Senators and Representatives from NC and telling them your story and why it is important to YOU that the DREAM Act is passed. To find your elected official, go to: <http://www.ncleg.net/> and click on Representation.

You can also contact their offices directly by dialing the U.S. Capitol switchboard number: (202) 224-3121.<sup>3</sup>



<sup>2</sup> <http://www.nilc.org/immlawpolicy/DREAM/index.htm>

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.ncslr.org/section/dream\\_act\\_support](http://www.ncslr.org/section/dream_act_support)



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