

**North Carolina Community Colleges  
Golden LEAF Scholars Program – Two-Year Colleges**

**Description:**

The Golden LEAF Scholars Program – Two-Year Colleges is funded through a grant from the Golden LEAF Foundation, a nonprofit organization established in 1999 to help transform North Carolina's economy. The scholars program provides funds up to \$750 per semester for curriculum students and up to \$250 for occupational education students. Participating colleges may vary; therefore, students are encouraged to check with the financial aid office at their college to see if the college is taking part in the program.

**Eligibility:**

To be considered for this award, students must:

- Be enrolled in a North Carolina community college during the 2011-12 academic year.
- Be a permanent resident of a qualifying rural county that is economically distressed (Tier I or II) and/or tobacco dependent.
- Demonstrate financial need.
  - Curriculum students will be selected based on their financial need as reported in their Free Application for Student Assistance (FAFSA). Degree seeking students must be enrolled as a full-time student in order to receive the maximum scholarship award. Grants for less than full-time will be prorated based on hours of enrollment.
  - Occupational Education students must demonstrate financial need under the federal TRIO formula and be enrolled in a credentialing program of at least 96 hours.

Selection factors include:

- The effect of the declining economy on his or her family.
  - Owned or employed in farming/agriculture business
  - Owned or employed in traditional industries (such as textile or furniture manufacturing)
  - Household member lost their job or gone from full-time to part-time employment
- Academic performance
- Campus activities and community service

**Value:**

Curriculum students may receive a maximum of \$750 each semester and occupational education students may receive a maximum of \$250 each semester. Scholarship funds may be used for tuition, fees, books, supplies; and with special provisions, childcare and transportation expenses.

**Application Procedure:**

Students will complete a Golden LEAF application and file it with the college financial aid office. (Applications should **NOT** be sent to the North Carolina Community College System Office.) Student applicants bear the responsibility for completing the Golden LEAF Scholars application prior to each deadline as designated by the college financial aid office.

**Other Information:**

List of qualifying counties