

**STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES**  
**2014-2015 NC Community College Grant Program Payment Schedule**

**Request for Funding:** The State Board of Community Colleges is asked to approve the 2014-2015 NC Community College Grant Program Payment Schedule.

**Background:** As demonstrated by the attached payment schedule, the NC Community College Grant program is designed to complement grants provided through the federal Pell Grant and North Carolina Education Lottery Scholarship programs. These grants help students meet the costs of tuition, books, supplies, and transportation expenses. A student must demonstrate financial need to qualify. The amount of the award provided by each program is based on the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) derived from the information on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form.

The Pell Grant is a post-secondary educational federal grant sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education. For 2014-2015 the maximum Pell Grant is \$5,730 based on a zero EFC. As the EFC range increases, Pell Grant eligibility decreases. The NC Education Lottery Scholarship is a state scholarship designed for students whose federal EFC ranges from \$2,001 to \$5,000. The combination of the Pell Grant, Education Lottery Scholarship, and Community College Grant program is intended to provide a “floor” of at least \$4,480 for full-time students with a federal EFC of \$5,000 or less. The amounts provided for students attending three-quarter or half-time are pro-rated accordingly. The Community College Grant program will also provide assistance to students whose federal EFC ranges from \$5,001 to \$8,500. College financial aid administrators will use the attached payment schedule to award aid to eligible students. Approximately \$15.8 million in NC Community College Grants will be awarded to eligible students using the federal need-based criteria.

**Eligibility:** In 2014-15 NC Community College Grant awards will be awarded to students whose federal EFC ranges from \$1,301 to \$8,500, subject to fund availability. For full-time students with an EFC equal to or less than \$5,000, the combination of federal Pell Grant, NC Lottery Scholarship and NC Community College Grant funds will provide at least \$4,480. *(Example) A student who has an expected family contribution of \$2,501-\$2,600 will receive the following awards: Pell \$3,180, Lottery Scholarship \$600 and Community College Grant \$700, totaling \$4,480.*

To increase the program’s impact, the Community College Grant Program has been expanded to provide eligibility for students whose EFC ranges from \$5,001 to \$8,500. Given the program’s commitment to Pell-eligible students, full-time students, whose EFCs range from \$1901 to \$5000, will receive the maximum Community College Grant award of \$700. Full-time students whose federal EFC ranges from \$5001 to \$8,500 will receive awards on a sliding scale from \$1,300 to \$700.

All Community College Grant awards are pro-rated for students who attend three-quarter or half time.

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