

Say Yes Guilford Public Institution Scholarship Process

What is Say Yes Guilford?

Say Yes Guilford County is the newest chapter of Say Yes to Education, a national nonprofit organization that partners with communities to build a local endowment that provides “last dollar” postsecondary tuition scholarships to all eligible graduates of the public school district.

To ensure that all students have the supports they need to be prepared to succeed in seizing this opportunity, Say Yes also facilitates on-going cross-sector collaboration to provide Guilford County Schools (GCS) students with academic and non-academic support services—beginning before kindergarten and continuing through graduation. These services include after-school and summer programs, mentoring, tutoring, family legal assistance, health services, and more.

Say Yes Guilford County Eligibility Tiers

The Say Yes scholarships are provided by the local Scholarship Board to eligible GCS students graduating high school starting in the Spring 2016 and enrolling in any UNC institution beginning in the Fall 2016. The following tiers have been approved by the Scholarship Board based on continuous enrollment in Guilford County Schools.

Grades Continuously Enrolled	% Last Dollar Tuition Scholarship
6-12	100%
7-12	75%
10-12	50%
11-12	25%
12	0%

How Say Yes and North Carolina Public Postsecondary Institutions Work Together

Say Yes Tuition Scholarships are designed to close the gap between the cost of in-state tuition (excluding mandatory fees), and grants and aid (including federal, state, and institutional aid).

The Say Yes Tuition Scholarship is available to all eligible Guilford County Schools (GCS) graduates, regardless of family income, who are enrolled at any North Carolina public institution and who have completed the FAFSA.

To ensure that the full and accurate scholarship amounts are disbursed by the Say Yes National organization to the appropriate postsecondary institutions for every eligible student, communication at key points throughout the year is essential.

Say Yes Guilford Public Institution Scholarship Process

Key Forms of Communication

College Enrollment Confirmation: Beginning on July 1 for the fall semester and January 1 for the spring semester, Say Yes National emails its designated contact person at each NC public institution with a list of Say Yes eligible students who plan to enroll at the institution (including students who were enrolled the previous spring or fall, and new or transfer students who have informed Say Yes they plan to enroll at the institution for the upcoming semester). Every institution is asked to confirm each student's enrollment status.

Note: Say Yes recognizes that student statuses change frequently. This is an initial confirmation, but we continue to be in touch throughout the year regarding students whose status may have changed.

College Certification Information Request: After enrollment rosters are confirmed, Say Yes National electronically requests additional information about each student's financial aid details and academic standing (submitted directly into Say Yes' secure web-based database, or via a secure FTP site) in order to confirm eligibility and to calculate award amounts and ensure accurate reporting. This information must be completed for every enrolled Say Yes Student once per academic year.

Notes: (1) When students apply for the Say Yes Award, they authorize colleges to release all requested information from Admissions, the Business Office/Bursar, Financial Aid, and the Registrar to Say Yes to Education for the duration of their college enrollment. (2) If a student is selected for FAFSA verification, please let Say Yes know so we can work with students to ensure their documentation is complete. We cannot offer a Say Yes Award until students have received their institutional financial package based on their completed FAFSA.

Say Yes Award Roster: Once Say Yes National has received the College Certification Information for each student, it calculates the Say Yes Award amount for each student and sends the institutions a full list of Say Yes Award amounts. Awards are disbursed the first Wednesday of the month from September-December and February-May.

Note: Say Yes cannot calculate the Say Yes Award amount until it has received the requested information from colleges in the College Certification Information Request. The sooner that information is completed, the sooner Say Yes can communicate the Award amounts to colleges and students, and disburse the Awards.

Say Yes College Certification Information Request

- Student ID #
- Enrollment Status
- Date of Graduation (only if a student is a graduate)
- Cumulative Completed Credits/Credit Hours
- Credits Earned in Previous Semester
- Number of Credits/Credit Hours Currently Registered
- Cumulative GPA
- Previous semester's GPA
- Degree Program (e.g. Bachelor, Associates, etc.)
- Intended Major
- Financial Aid Status (any outstanding requirements causing aid to be estimated)
- Full Time Undergraduate Tuition-Full Year
- Student Residential Plan (on campus/apartment, etc.)
- Room and Board Charges (institutionally charged) - Full Year
- Mandatory Fees - Full Year
- Indirect Costs - Full Year
- Total COA - Full Year
- Student Dependency Status
- Student Marital Status
- Parent Marital Status
- Total Family Income
- Household Size
- Student(s) in College
- Federal EFC
- Federal Pell - Full Year
- SEOG - Full Year
- Institutional Aid - Full Year
- Federal Work Study - Full Year
- Other/External Gift Aid - Full Year
- Direct Loans (Subsidized, Unsub., PLUS)
- Perkins Loans
- Private Loans
- Comment Box

Say Yes Guilford Public Institution Scholarship Process

Timeline of Key Correspondence

Summer	Say Yes National will email the designated contact person at the Financial Aid office at each institution to ensure that its contact information is up to date, and to remind institutional contacts of key dates.
July	Say Yes National will send the <u>Fall Enrollment Roster</u> to each school, and requests that Financial Aid contacts confirm that each student is officially enrolled.
July-September	<p>Once Say Yes National receives the Enrollment Confirmations, it will send <u>the College Certification Information Requests</u>, which request information (submitted directly into Say Yes' secure web-based database, or via a secure FTP site) about each student's financial aid details and academic standing in order to calculate the <u>Say Yes Award</u> amount. This information must be completed for every enrolled Say Yes Student once per academic year.</p> <p>Say Yes will then send the full Say Yes Award Roster to each school. <i>The sooner this information is shared, the sooner Say Yes Awards can be disbursed.</i> We cannot offer a Say Yes Award until students have received their institutional financial package based on their completed FAFSA.</p> <p>Say Yes Local Scholarship staff communicate Say Yes Award amounts to students and families.</p>
September-December	<u>Say Yes Awards</u> for the Fall semester are disbursed on the first Wednesday of each month between September and December.
January	Say Yes National will send the initial <u>Spring Enrollment Roster</u> to each school, and requests that Financial Aid contacts confirm that each student is officially enrolled.
January-March	<p>Say Yes National will send the <u>College Certification Information Requests</u> for students who are enrolled for the first time in the spring semester. Say Yes National also requests updated information on GPA and credit hours for continuing students.</p> <p>Say Yes then calculates the <u>Say Yes Award</u> amounts for each student. <i>The sooner this information is shared, the sooner Say Yes Awards can be disbursed.</i> We cannot offer a Say Yes Award until students have received their institutional financial package based on their completed FAFSA</p> <p>Say Yes Local Scholarship staff communicate Say Yes Award amounts to students and families.</p>
February-May	<u>Say Yes Awards</u> for the Spring semester are disbursed on the first Wednesday of each month between February and May.

Say Yes Student Eligibility Requirements

- In order for students to maintain Say Yes Funding eligibility, they:
 1. Must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) every year. If, at the time of enrollment verification, a student has NOT completed the FAFSA, they will NOT be considered funding eligible.
 2. Remain eligible for federal aid (by maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) and completing the FAFSA annually).
 3. Must register for and complete full time credits EACH semester. Failure to do so will result in a student being put on probation. A second semester of not completing full time credits will result in a loss of funding eligibility.
 4. Must confirm college choice with Say Yes via their online student account by August 31 for the Fall Semester and/or December 31 for the Spring Semester.
- Additionally, it is important to note that the Say Yes Award will be available to full-time students attending a four-year institution for a total of eight semesters over the five years after high school graduation; and for students attending a two-year program, the scholarship will be available for a total of four semesters over the three years following high school graduation.
- If a student begins the school year in the fall and loses federal funding eligibility for the spring semester, any award scheduled for that semester will be immediately canceled.
- If a student has poor academic performance in the spring and, as a result, loses federal funding eligibility for the following fall semester, there will be no Say Yes Award processed until federal funding eligibility is regained.
- If a student loses Say Yes funding eligibility (i.e. if they enroll for less than a full time course load, fail to maintain a 2.0 GPA, or require additional time to complete their degree beyond the semester limits outlined above), and there are extenuating circumstances they would wish to share with Say Yes, they are invited to appeal for funding eligibility via their local chapter offices by the deadline indicated by the chapter. Say Yes Funding eligibility is reviewed each semester.
- If a student fails to let Say Yes know where they are going to school, no award will be processed for that semester.

Say Yes National:

Cara McCullough

Interim National Scholarship Director
cmccullough@sayyestoeducation.org

Say Yes Guilford County:

Kristen Christman

Guilford Scholarship Director
kchristman@sayyestoeducation.org

Kinsley Fraser

Guilford Scholarship Coordinator