

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2003**

**HOUSE BILL 234  
RATIFIED BILL**

**AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE APPLICATION PROCESS FOR COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE STUDENTS REQUESTING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.**

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** G.S. 115D-40.1(c) reads as rewritten:

"(c) Administration of Program. – The State Board shall adopt rules and policies for the disbursement of the financial assistance provided in this section. ~~Students must apply for either federal Pell Grants or complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to be eligible for consideration for financial assistance.~~ Degree, diploma, and certificate students must complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to be eligible for financial assistance. The State Board may contract with the State Education Assistance Authority for administration of these financial assistance funds. These funds shall not revert at the end of each fiscal year but shall remain available until expended for need-based financial assistance.

The State Board shall ensure that at least one counselor is available at each college to inform students about federal programs and funds available to assist community college students including, but not limited to, Pell Grants and HOPE and Lifetime Learning Tax Credits and to actively encourage students to utilize these federal programs and funds."

**SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.  
In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of  
May, 2003.

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Marc Basnight  
President Pro Tempore of the Senate

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Richard T. Morgan  
Speaker of the House of Representatives

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Michael F. Easley  
Governor

Approved \_\_\_\_\_m. this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2003