



MAY 2020

FROM THE CAMPAIGN CO-CHAIR

Dear AGGIES:

Let's talk scholarships and financial aid amid COVID-19.

COVID-19 is impacting our lives in ways we could not have imagined just six weeks ago and we cannot predict with any certainty all the ways that it will impact us in the future. It, too, is impacting our students financially, emotionally and psychologically.

Some 250 students were unable to leave campus because they either had no place to go or could not afford to travel home. Some did not have laptops or iPads, so online learning was a major challenge. Some experienced a lack of food—a most basic necessity. Additionally, every year, some 300 students are unable to return to their studies because they run short of money.

Our university has set up emergency funds to address these needs and Aggies have responded to the call. I urge your continued support in this time of need.

Our alma mater is the largest (**12,556** students) and No. 1 ranked public historically black college or university in the nation. We have earned that distinction over the past 129 years through fostering academic and research excellence and inspiring promising students to stretch and achieve beyond their expectations.

In 2020 and beyond, we must continue to attract the best and the brightest from all backgrounds in order to continue this tradition and to compete and win against a peer group that is not standing still. Exceptional students are a core element of a world-class university. Hence, we must offer scholarships to compete against our peers in the state of North Carolina and across the country.

FIVE FACTS

1. **87%** of our students receive some form of financial aid.
2. Types of aid and percentage of students receiving same: **53%** grants, **37%** scholarships, **79%** loans and **3%** work study).
3. We offer **2,797** partial/merit scholarships: **73%** undergraduate, **27%** graduate, **51%** in-state; and **49%** out-of-state.
4. The approximate cost of a full in-state scholarship is **\$16,600** without books and **\$17,700** while residing in Aggie Village with an unlimited meal plan and with books.
5. The approximate cost of a full out-of-state scholarship is **\$29,500** without books and **\$31,100** while residing in Aggie Village with an unlimited meal plan and with books.

Each year, Chancellor Harold L. Martin Sr. invites **300** top scholars—**97%** of them African American—from around the country with the intent of recruiting them to attend A&T. Unfortunately, we only have **75 to 80** premium full ride scholarships (Cheatham-White, Dowdy, national alumni and college) to offer them. That means **225** of those students enroll somewhere else. They end up going to other UNC System peers, out-of-state peers or top tier national universities.

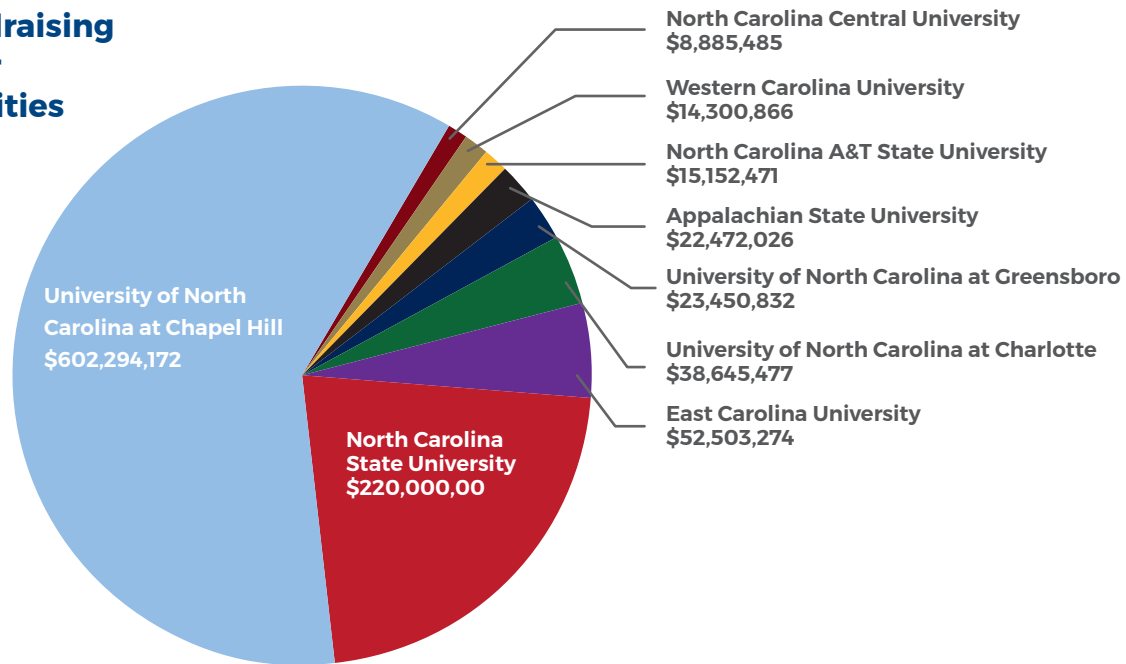
Our reputation is built on both the caliber of students we attract and how our graduates perform in the marketplace. It comes down to having the money to compete and provide scholarships. We have a large gap that we need to continue to close.



WHY WE GIVE



How does A&T fundraising compare with other constituent universities of the UNC System?



WE MUST CLOSE THE GAP

Again, I urge you to consider giving to CLOSE THE GAP on scholarships because it is absolutely imperative to our future success as the premier HBCU in the country!

Sincerely,

Willie A. Deese '77

WHAT WE'VE DONE IS GREAT, WHAT WE'LL DO IS EVEN **BETTER**