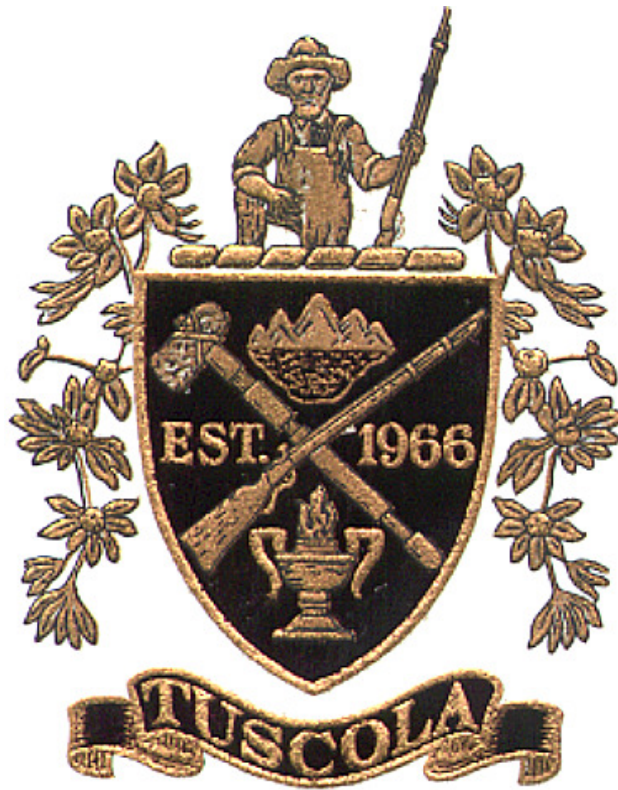


TUSCOLA HIGH SCHOOL



Junior Guidebook **Class of 2014**

TUSCOLA HIGH SCHOOL

564 Tuscola School Road

Waynesville, NC 28786

(828) 456-2408

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The Haywood County Board of Education is committed to a policy of non-discrimination in regard to race, sex, age, religion, national origin, handicapping condition, limited English proficiency or citizenship status.

Utilizing Your School Counselor









The school counselors at Tuscola High School provide school counseling in a variety of ways, academic, career, personal, and social development which address student needs. We hope to ensure your student's educational pursuits through the encouragement of career planning, developing skills, and recognizing their interests and abilities. Our goal is to provide services that help to optimize students' educational, personal, and career aspirations. In doing so, we work with not only students, but also community professionals, teachers, administration, and parents.

Here are some ways we are available to help:

- Individual counseling to help with personal and social issues you may be experiencing.
- Group Counseling is a way to interact with peers who are dealing with the same issues.
- Suggest resources for career planning, educational needs, and post-high school education.
- Classroom guidance is used to address classroom and student needs—learning styles, study skills, group building exercises, career exploration, etc.
- Work on 4-year plans and suggest classes needed to graduate and achieve post-high school plans.
- Serve as a resource for financial aid, scholarships, college searches, and summer programs.
- Write recommendation letters for scholarships, colleges, and summer programs.
- Set up and attend parent/teacher conferences to advocate for parents, teachers, and parents.
- Help families to support your high school experience.
- Make referrals to community resources as needed.

Other Resources Available in the Counseling Center:

-  College Catalogs
-  College Board Resource Books such as:
 - The Book of Majors
 - Getting Financial Aid
 - Scholarship Handbook(These must be used in the Counseling Center)
-  Military Information
-  College Applications
-  Scholarship Information
-  SAT/ACT Registration Packets & Preparation Booklets





Tuscola's Attendance Policy



ATTENDANCE- According to Haywood County School Board Policy A-5 a student must be in attendance for at least one-half day in order to be counted present. One-half of the school day is equal to four (4) full class periods. Attendance will also be taken by class periods. A student with more than eighteen (18) absences in a class during a year will not receive credit for the class unless the student attends make up sessions, for the thirteenth through eighteenth (13-18). Students with more than nineteen (19) absences must file a formal appeal to the Attendance Appeals Committee to request course credit (see APPEAL PROCEDURES). According to NC's School Attendance & Student Accounting Manual, the following absences will be excused: Personal Sickness (Illness or injury), quarantine, death in immediate family, medical or dental appointments, religious observance, educational opportunity, Local School Board Policy, Court or administrative proceedings.

ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

- **Six Days:** When a student misses 6 days, excused or unexcused, (not including Code 6, ISS, or OSS) the teacher must make a parent contact to inform the parent of the student's attendance.
- **Student Make-up:** When a student misses days, 13 - 18 the student must make up the 50-minute class period(s) with the classroom teacher or during a scheduled Attendance Makeup Session. Documentation of students who make up time will be kept by the individual classroom teachers and should be made available to administration when requested. Announcements for the scheduled Attendance Makeup Sessions should be posted in classrooms and encouraged for students who cannot make up time with individual teachers. Documentation of students who attend scheduled Attendance Makeup Sessions will be available to the teachers following the sessions.
- **Nineteen or More Days:** When a student misses 19 days in any class period the student is required to complete an EXCESSIVE ABSENCE APPEAL FORM. The appeal form and proper documentation should be submitted to the office by the appropriate deadline. The Attendance Committee will evaluate each student's appeal individually by the end of the year and determine whether the student will receive course credit. Students granted an appeal will receive the grade earned in the class if they have made up time for absences 13 - 18. Appeals, which are denied, will receive a grade of 55 for the year. Students who do not make up absences 13 - 18 will also receive a grade of 55 for the year. If a student is failing a class, in which they have 19+ absences they cannot appeal for course credit.
- **CHECKINS / CHECKOUTS:** Students must check in with the office when arriving to school after the first bell. Failure to do so will result in an unexcused absence for the day and detention. Students who leave school early must check out through the office. Failure to do so will result in truancy. When entering school late or leaving school early for an appointment, students must provide documentation of appointment from the doctor or dentist.
- **MISSED ASSIGNMENTS:** A student is expected to make up work for all absences. Students shall have two (2) school days per absence to complete missed assignments. A maximum of ten (10) days will be allowed for students to complete all missed work. Long-term assignments are exempt from the make-up consideration and are due as assigned. Students who are absent from school can request their work through the counseling center.
- **SCHOOL RELATED ABSENCES:** Field trips and approved school functions will not be counted as an absence. Seniors may take two Code 6 days; Juniors may take one Code 6 day during the school year for a college day. Verification of College Campus visit is required. All schoolwork missed due to a Code 6 absence must be made up within two (2) days following the absence per school guidelines. Students have the option of obtaining the work prior to the absence.



Future-Ready Core: Course Of Study



The purpose of this guide is to help you and your parents make better decisions concerning your course selections. Each class that a student chooses should be a part of an overall plan. Perhaps a student has a certain career in mind; perhaps he/she is exploring different fields to help in selecting a vocation. He/She may be preparing for college or developing interest in one of the fine arts areas or other creative activities. A student should select courses that best suit his/her abilities and interests.

A student's participation in a particular subject area should be based on a combination of logical and sequential courses of study, which lead to the desired objectives.

The Future Ready Course of Study has specific requirements that must be met in order to graduate. Please be aware of the credits needed and plan your years in high school accordingly.

- ☐ **4 credits of English**
- ☐ **4 credits of Mathematics** (Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, & Advanced Math)
- ☐ **3 credits of Social Studies** (World History, Civics & Economics, US History)
- ☐ **3 credits of Science** (Earth & Environmental Science, Biology, and a Physical Science)
- ☐ **1 credit of Health/Physical Education**
- ☐ **2 Elective Credits** from any combination of CTE (Career & Technical Education), Arts Education or World Languages
- ☐ **4 Elective Credits:** Four Course Concentration in one of the following:
 - 1) CTE (Career & Technical Education)
 - 2) Arts Education
 - 3) JROTC
 - 4) Any Other Subject Area (Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, English) These are in addition to core courses listed above.



GRADE POINT AVERAGE AND CLASS RANK

To encourage students to take challenging courses which prepare them for college, technical schools, and the demands of the work place, Haywood County Schools provide weighted courses. Course grades are reported in two ways: unweighted based on equal points for every class and weighted based on an extra point for selected rigorous courses. According to policy, weighted grades are used in determining class rank and, therefore, for Junior Marshall and Honor Graduate status.

The following scale applies to unweighted courses:

A=4 points

B=3 points

C=2 points

D=1 point

F=0 points

Weighted courses include Honors and Advanced Placement (AP) courses, which are taught at an advanced level. Students and parents should understand that considerable work and study are required, that high grades are more difficult to achieve, and that the level of the course cannot be modified for students lacking skills or preparation.

The following scales apply to Honors and AP courses:

Advanced

A=5 points

B=4 points

C=3 points

D=2 points

F=0 points

Advanced Placement

A=6 points

B=5 points

C=4 points

D=3 points

F=0 points

Advanced Placement (AP) courses are taught at a college level; students in AP courses are expected to take the AP exam for the course.

CLASSES WHICH CARRY EXTRA POINTS

(This is currently being debated by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and may change during the Year.)

5 Point Classes

Honors English I, II, III, IV
Advanced Algebra II
Honors Discrete Math
Advanced Chemistry II
Honors Spanish III, IV
Honors French III, IV

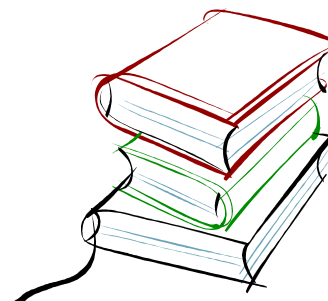
Pre-Calculus
Advanced Geometry
Advanced Biology II
Advanced Physics
Honors Symphonic Band I & II
Honors: The U.S. and World Affairs Since WWII

CET II
Honors Art III, IV
Online Honors Classes (NCVPS)

6 Point Classes

AP English III & IV
AP Calculus
AP Biology
Online AP Classes (NCVPS)

AP Environmental Science
AP U.S. History
AP Physics





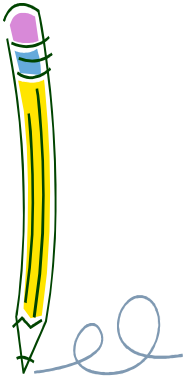
North Carolina Academic Scholars



The North Carolina Academic Scholars Program is an effort to recognize those students who have excelled in academics. The students who meet this criteria will be recognized in the graduation program and will receive a gold seal on their diploma.

GPA: 3.5 Unweighted

CREDITS	The following designated number of credits per subject area listed below <u>must</u> be taken in grades 9-12.
4	English I, II, III, IV
4	Mathematics (Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and a higher level math course with Algebra II as prerequisite OR Integrated Mathematics I, II, III, and a higher level mathematics course with Integrated Mathematics III as prerequisite)
3	Science (a Physics or Chemistry course, Biology, and an Earth/Environmental Science course)
3	Social Studies (World History, Civics/Economics, and U.S. History)
1	Health and Physical Education
2	Second Language—Two (2) elective credits in a second language required for the UNC System.
4	Elective Credits—Four (4) elective credits constituting a concentration recommended from one of the following: Career and Technical Education (CTE), JROTC, Arts Education, Second Languages, any other subject area.
3	Higher level courses taken during junior and/or senior years which carry 5 or 6 quality points such as: -AP -IB -Dual or college equivalent course -Advanced CTE/CTE credentialing courses -On-line courses -Other honors or above designated courses
24	Credits Total



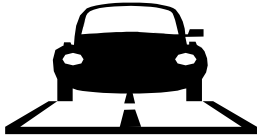
EXIT DOCUMENTS

1. **Diploma** – For students who satisfy all state and local graduation requirements.
2. **Merit Diploma** – For students who satisfy all state and local graduation requirements, whose rank is in the top ten percent of the graduating class and have a score on the SAT which is at least ten points higher than the “national average” for the previous year.

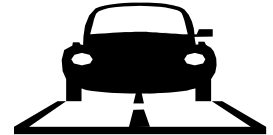
COURSE STANDARDS

What is required to enter the next grade level?

1. To enter the **10th** grade, a student must have earned a minimum of five units of credit, one of which must have been earned in English.
2. To enter the **11th** grade, a student must have earned a minimum of ten units of credit. Two of these credits must be English.
3. To enter the **12th** grade, a student must have earned a minimum of seventeen units of credit. Two of these units must be in English, and it must be possible for all other graduation requirements to be met during the upcoming year.



DRIVER'S LICENSE REQUIREMENTS



DRIVING PERMIT/DRIVING LICENSE. Students under the age of 18 must have a Driving Eligibility Certificate in order to receive a North Carolina Driver's permit or license. Once a student has completed the driving portion of driver's education, he/she must make up time for classes missed. The recorded time must be presented to a specified teacher for student to receive a Driver's Education Certificate. A student must take the Driver's Education Certificate to the office to ask for a Driver's Eligibility Certificate. To receive this certificate, the student must be enrolled in school and have adequate academic progress, which will be evaluated at the end of each semester. **Academic progress is defined as passing 5 of 7 classes.** Students who fail to make academic progress or who drop out of school will be reported to the Division of Motor Vehicles and have their permit/license revoked.

→ **SENATE BILL 769.** A student's driving permit or license shall be revoked if the student is suspended out of school and/or assigned to an alternative educational setting for more than ten days as a result of one of the following:

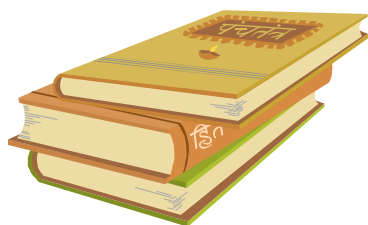
1. The possession or sale of an alcoholic beverage or an illegal substance on school property.
2. The possession or use on school property of a weapon or firearm that resulted in disciplinary action or that could have resulted in disciplinary action if the conduct had occurred in a public school.

*A written consent form must be signed by the student's parent/guardian, which allows the school to notify the Department of Motor Vehicles if the student does not meet all the requirements of the two laws. Parents who do not give written consent will not be issued a Driving Eligibility Certificate for their child.

Four Year Plan

Pathways

Don't Wait to pull up your grade point average! When you start applying to colleges, they are going to see your GPA which will consist of 9th, 10th, and 11th grade. So do your best this year!



BUILD YOUR TRANSCRIPT

While it's always important to do well in school, your grades in high school are especially crucial. When you apply to college, your high school will send a copy of your transcript to all the colleges where you apply. Your transcript includes a list of all the courses that you have taken and the grades you earned.

You should consider challenging yourself academically and enrolling in honors courses. Remember, slightly lower grades in more challenging courses may carry more weight in your GPA than higher grades in an easier curriculum. Even if your grades in one or two courses slip for a semester, it will not necessarily keep you from getting into college. Colleges look to see if you have made improvements in your grades and like to see that you have worked hard to make necessary improvements.

Keeping your grades up in high school is also important so that you will be prepared for college. The skills that you are learning now will help you succeed later. The more adept you become at keeping assignments in order, doing well on all classroom activities, and developing better study skills, the better you will do in college. Additionally, you may also want to choose courses that develop skills and personal interests such as keyboarding, business, music, art, or physical education as long as these courses do not replace the other college preparatory subjects that you need today!

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BUILD YOUR TRANSCRIPT OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM



music

Volunteer Work



employment



sports

Do you play sports, play a musical instrument, belong to a club, or volunteer? If you are planning on going to college, your extracurricular activities are important! In addition to being fun and providing opportunities to build lasting friendships, involvement with groups and teams outside of the classroom is an indicator to colleges that you are a hardworking and dedicated student. Participating in extracurricular activities shows that you have time management and leadership skills.

A great way to keep track of the activities that you are involved in outside of school is by using the CFNC High School Planner. With the planner, you won't find yourself scrambling your senior year to come up with a list of extracurricular activities from four years past; you will be able to log on and have them right in front of you! When it comes time to start looking at colleges, the High School Planner will be a great help when you are filling out applications. For some colleges, your list of extracurricular activities will actually be recorded directly into the applications—cutting your typing time and stress level down.

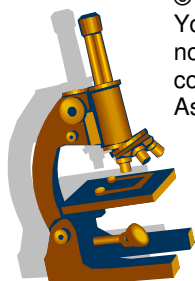
If you don't already have one, sign up for a free CFNC account online today and start creating your High School Planner! It's easy. Simply visit CFNC.org, access your account, and click on Student Planner at the top of the main page. Now you're ready to put in your information. Be sure to update your planner every semester.

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Clubs

4-H



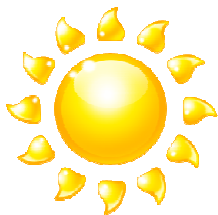
RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES



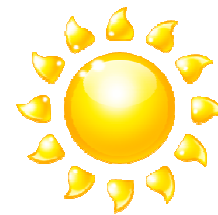
Communi-ty



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SUMMER FUN



Summer Fun Can Include Learning! What will you do with your time this summer? Do reruns on TV sound boring?

Maybe you love the outdoors. Maybe you want to become a doctor, someday. Maybe you dream of starting a business.

Whatever you like to do, this summer you can learn something new, improve your skills and challenge yourself. This summer, you can do something that will help you get into college.

The [Directory of College Preparation Programs for K-12 Students in North Carolina](http://www.gocollege.appstate.edu) is a great resource to find a summer program that interests you. It's available online – free - at www.gocollege.appstate.edu. The directory lists programs across the state, sponsored by colleges and universities, public schools and nonprofit agencies that will prepare you for college success. You can choose from programs in science and math, leadership, business, government, health careers, marine sciences, arts, humanities and more.

Many of these programs require a stay on a college campus, so in addition to academics, you'll get firsthand experience living in a college residence hall and getting a sense of life on a college campus, maybe even in a different part of the state. Take a look and see if you can find a program that sounds interesting to you.

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Listen for Information on:

- ☀ **Summer Ventures**
- ☀ **Governor's School**
- ☀ **Boys State**
- ☀ **Girls State**
- ☀ **And other summer programs**



**Find other information at www.cfnc.org
under student planner and then college**

Activities List

School Activities & Clubs

Description	9	10	11	12	Hours/ Week	Hours /Year	Offices Held

Community Organizations & Volunteer Service

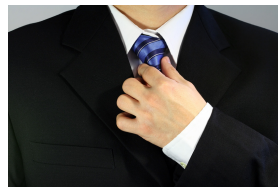
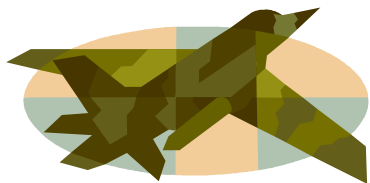
Description	9	10	11	12	Hours/ Week	Hours/ Year	Your role, function, office held, etc.

Recognitions, Awards Won, Etc._____

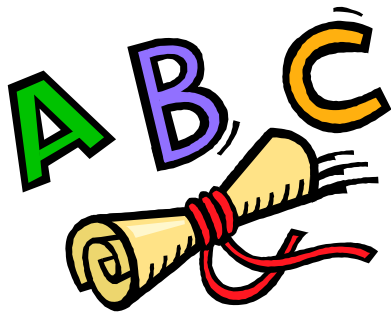
Employment

Description	Position Held	From Mo/Yr	To Mo/Yr	Hours/Week

WHAT ARE YOUR OPTIONS FOR POST HIGH SCHOOL PLANS?



- ☐ **On The Job Training**— There may be some occupations that only require on the job training.
- ☐ **Military**—We will be glad to set up conferences with Military Recruiters if you are interested in military options, including scholarships. US Army
 - US Army
 - US Marine Corp
 - US Air Force
 - US Navy—
- ☐ **Two Year College or Junior College**—There are a number of two-year colleges in our area. For more information about the programs that they offer, please see your Counselor or see www.cfnc.org. Two-year colleges offer a variety of programs from certificate programs to Associate Degrees.
- ☐ **Four Year College (Public or Private)** - There are numerous college options out there so it's important to find the appropriate fit. Research college options through their websites or for colleges in North Carolina see www.cfnc.org.
- ☐ **Trade Schools**—Trade Schools are becoming more popular for various trade industries. This type of school may allow you to learn a trade without having to complete the usual general education requirements at post-secondary schools.



Learn The ABC's of College Degrees!

Here's a quick guide to the types of degrees offered at community colleges and four-year colleges and universities.

Community colleges offer diplomas and certificates and associate's degrees.

Diplomas and certificates demonstrate that you have a set of skills for a particular occupation. The length of time required to earn diplomas and certificates varies from 6 months to less than two years, depending on the occupation. Certificates and diplomas are available in subjects like auto mechanics, welding, cosmetology and practical nursing.

Associate's degrees are two-year degrees that provide preparation for a career or for transfer to a four-year college or university. Typical careers that require an associate's degree are dental assistant, teacher assistant and medical technologist. Students can also earn an associate's degree and then transfer to a four-year school to earn a bachelor's degree.

Four-year colleges and universities offer bachelor's degrees, master's degrees, professional degrees and doctoral degrees.

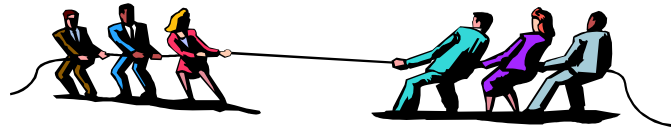
A bachelor's degree is awarded after four years of study at a college. The bachelor of arts (BA) and bachelor of science (BS) are the most common, and both include general education courses, courses in a declared major and electives. This degree is also called an undergraduate degree. Examples of careers that require bachelor's degrees are teaching and engineering.

A master's degree is an advanced degree earned in a specialized field after the completion of a bachelor's degree. Most master's degrees require two or three years of full-time study and include writing a thesis or taking comprehensive exams. School counselors, physical therapists and social workers are examples of people with master's degrees.

Becoming licensed in a recognized profession requires a professional degree. Professional degrees are awarded in a number of fields, including dentistry, ministry, law, medicine, pharmacy and veterinary medicine. The length of study varies for each profession.

A doctoral degree, also known as a doctorate, is the highest education degree you can earn. A doctoral degree indicates expertise in a specialized field. You must spend 3 to 5 years after completing a master's degree doing extensive research and a dissertation.

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Community Colleges *vs.* *Four-year Universities*

Choosing a college means venturing into a new, unfamiliar world of immense possibilities. A parent's best gift to her high school student may be to provide gentle guidance and support during the search for a college match, especially when deciding between a two-year and four-year university.

- ☆ **Costs:** The private university tuition averages nearly \$20,000 and a four-year public school adding up to about \$4,000. The annual average tuition for a two year college is around \$1,700.
- ☆ **Applications:** Community College applications are fairly simple.
- ☆ **High School Classes:** A college prep schedule in high school is unnecessary. (Foreign Language is NOT required.)
- ☆ **SATs:** The SAT is not required for admission to a community college.
- ☆ **Transfer students:** You can take classes at the community college level, get your grades up and transfer to your 4-year college of choice.
- ☆ **Flexibility:** Community college offers classes at night or during the day, and you can attend part-time or full-time.



TWO YEAR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

20% of today's careers require a four-year degree

85% of today's careers require a one or two year program beyond high school

Colleges offer a wide variety of planned educational programs, called "curriculum" programs, which range in length from one semester to two years. These programs lead to Certificates, Diplomas or Associate Degrees, depending on the nature of the curriculum. Curriculum programs include certificate, diploma, Associate in Applied Science, Associate in Arts, Associate in Fine Arts, Associate in Science and Associate in General Education programs.

➔ Tech Prep

The Tech Prep course of study forms a firm academic and technological foundation for students to move from high school through postsecondary education and apprenticeship programs into successful participation in the world of work. The Tech Prep education program means a combined, articulated secondary and postsecondary program that does the following:

- ➔ Leads to an Associate Degree or completion of a registered apprenticeship program of at least two years length;
- ➔ Provides technical preparation in one field of engineering technology, applied science, mechanical, industrial or practical art or trade, agriculture, health, or business;
- ➔ Builds student competence in mathematics, science and communications (including the use of applied academics through a sequential course of study; and,
- ➔ Leads to placement in employment.

➔ Certificate

Certificate programs are designed to provide entry-level employment training and are offered at all System colleges. Certificate programs range from 12 to 18 semester hour credits and can usually be completed within one semester by a full-time student.

➔ Diploma

Diploma programs are designed to provide entry-level employment training and are offered at all System colleges. Diploma programs range from 36 to 48 semester hour credits and can usually be completed by a full-time student within two semesters and one summer session.

➔ Associate in Applied Science

Associate in Applied Science programs are designed to provide entry-level employment training and are offered at all System colleges. Associate in Applied Science programs range from 64 to 76 semester hour credits. A full-time student can typically complete one of these programs within two years. In addition to major course work, Associate in Applied Science degree programs require a minimum of 15 semester hour credits of general education.

➔ Associate in Arts, Associate in Fine Arts and Associate in Science



Community colleges offer college transfer programs through the Associate in Arts, Associate in Fine Arts and Associate in Science degrees. The Associate in Arts and the Associate in Science programs are part of the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement (CAA). The comprehensive Articulation Agreement addresses the transfer of students between institutions in the North Carolina Community College System and the constituent institutions of the University of North Carolina.

➔ Two Year Transfer Program

The College Transfer Program is designed to parallel the freshman and sophomore years of a four-year college or university. During the first two years of college, students pursue a program of general course work in the area of Humanities, Fine Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Health and Physical Education. These general education courses will enable students to gain a well-rounded education before going on to senior institutions where they will take courses in their major areas to complete a bachelor's degree. College Transfer students may pursue an Associate in Arts (A.A.) or an Associate in Science (A.S.) degree. Students may attend full time or part time during the day or evening and may enter the program at the start of any semester, but the official curriculum program begins in the fall. Students beginning in semesters other than fall cannot be assured of completing all courses needed for graduation within two years.



CONSIDER COLLEGE CHARACTERISTICS

-  Majors and educational programs
-  Type of school and degrees offered
-  Admission policy
-  Location and size
-  Costs and financial aid
-  College affiliation and accreditation
-  Campus activities
-  Academic reputation
-  Athletic programs
-  Support services
-  Financial assistance available

CHECKLIST FOR A CAMPUS VISIT

- ✓ Meet with an Admission Counselor
- ✓ Verify admission requirements (tests & high school preparation)
- ✓ Obtain a school calendar and a catalog, if you don't already have them.
- ✓ Determine actual college costs
- ✓ Ask about financial aid opportunities, as well as deadlines, forms required, etc.
- ✓ Take a campus tour (Be sure to check out the dorms, dining hall, library, etc.)
- ✓ Meet with faculty in the academic area of interest to you. Ask questions about academic requirements/offerings & investigate your academic program.
- ✓ Attend a class to get an idea of typical size, teaching style, and academic atmosphere.
- ✓ Ask about the placement record for graduates in the field you might study and identify career planning services for undergraduates.
- ✓ Talk with students and faculty about the general academic environment and the study commitment necessary for success.
- ✓ Find out what student activities (clubs, organizations, intramurals, etc.) are available. Inquire about campus life and social activities.
- ✓ Investigate transportation options.



4-Year Colleges & Universities

College Planning Calendar for Junior Year



Fall

- ⌚ Make a list of personal qualities, social/cultural preferences, & things you may want to study and do in college.
- ⌚ Learn about colleges by looking at CFNC.org, college websites, talk to friends, parents, family, teachers, and recent graduates now in college. List college features that interest you.
- ⌚ Attend **College Night at HCC on September 10, 2012!**
- ⌚ Visit the counseling center to receive more information about colleges you are interested in.
- ⌚ If appropriate (for example, if you're interested in drama, music, art, sports, etc.), start to gather material for a portfolio.
- ⌚ Start learning about financial aid.
- ⌚ Begin making your Portfolio of activities for grades 9-12. Begin to list your activities into categories such as:
Clubs and Organizations, Honors Organizations, Awards Received, Leadership Roles, Community Involvement, Work Experience (remember volunteer work), Hobbies and Interests

Winter

- ⌚ Make an appointment with your counselor to discuss ways to improve your college preparation and selection process.
- ⌚ Sign up to take the SAT in the spring. We recommend that students take the SAT twice during their junior year. The SAT combines the best overall score, therefore it is to the student's advantage to take the SAT more than once. The SAT is offered at Pisgah in May and at Tuscola in October, November and June. By waiting until later in the junior year, students have the opportunity to learn more English and Math skills that will benefit them on the test. However, juniors are eligible to take the SAT at any time during their junior year. To register for the SAT, visit www.collegeboard.com. Our school code is 344-214. You must list our school code in order for us to get your scores.
- ⌚ Consider taking the ACT as well.
- ⌚ Start considering classes to register for your senior year. Learn about AP classes and upper level electives that require applications and teacher recommendations.

Spring

- ⌚ Visit colleges of interest and get an idea of what works for you—small, large, public, private, urban, rural, etc. Meet with an admissions counselor to find more about the college and what that particular setting can offer you.
- ⌚ Narrow down choices and learn more about those colleges of interest in terms of majors offered, cost, scholarship opportunities, etc.
- ⌚ If you are considering military academies or ROTC scholarships, contact your counselor before leaving school for the summer. If you want a four-year ROTC scholarship, you should begin the application process the summer before your senior year.
- ⌚ Register for classes. Make sure you have all requirements for colleges that you are interested in. Some out of state colleges may have different requirements such as 3 units of a foreign language or an arts credit. Also consider North Carolina Academic Scholars requirements if this is an honor you wish to obtain.

Summer

- ⌚ If you are an athlete planning to continue playing a sport in college, register with the NCAA Eligibility Center. You must do this after your Junior Year so that your transcript reflects 6 full semesters.
- ⌚ Participate in volunteer work, full-time or part-time job, summer camp, or summer college program.
- ⌚ Continue updating your Portfolio of activities.
- ⌚ Download applications from colleges to which you'll apply. Check application dates—large universities may have early dates or rolling admissions.



Asking For Letters of Recommendation

Many colleges and universities require letters of recommendation along with your application for admission. These letters are an important way for admissions officials to gain insight into your personal strengths, weaknesses, and accomplishments.

When asking for a letter of recommendation, consider the following tips: Ask for letters at least 8 weeks before the application deadline, and remind letter-writers 2-3 weeks prior to the deadline.

Be courteous and polite when requesting letters of recommendation. Remember that you are asking the person to do something extra on top of their usual workload.

Ask the person if he or she is able to write a strong letter for you; a weak letter will hurt your chances of admission. If someone doesn't know you well enough to advocate for your admission, you should find someone else who can write a strong letter on your behalf.

Provide all necessary information, forms, addresses, envelopes and postage to complete and submit the letter of recommendation. And, make sure you follow the directions on how to send them in and when.

This article is provided by the College Foundation of North Carolina, helping you plan, apply and pay for college. Visit our website at CFNC.org or call toll-free 1-866-866-CFNC.

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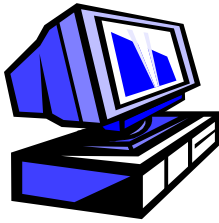
SAT INFORMATION

**Average SAT Scores from
North Carolina Public Institutions**

map

NCAA Eligibility

ncaa



IMPORTANT WEB ADDRESSES



FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS

Free Application for Federal Student Aid
www.fafsa.ed.gov

FastWeb
www.fastweb.com

FinAid!
www.finaid.org

College & Scholarship Search
Www.cappex.com

ATHLETICS

NCAA Eligibility Center
www.ncaa.org

EDUCATION

North Carolina Community College System
www.ncccs.nc.us/

The University of North Carolina System
www.ga.unc.edu

North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities
www.ncicu.org/

The College Board
www.collegeboard.com

The College Foundation of North Carolina
www.cfnc.org

ACT Assessment
www.act.org

Peterson's Education Portal
www.petersons.com

Campus Tours:Virtual College Tours
www.campustours.com

CAREER WEB ADDRESSES

America's Job Bank
www.ajb.dni.us

North Carolina State Occupational Information Coordinating Committee
www.esc.state.nc.us/

North Carolina Employment Securities Commission
www.esc.state.nc.us/

National School-to-Work Learning and Information Center
www.stw.ed.gov

General Career Awareness
www.icouldbe.com

MILITARY

My Military Future
www.myfuture.com/OUTPUT/moneycol.htm

