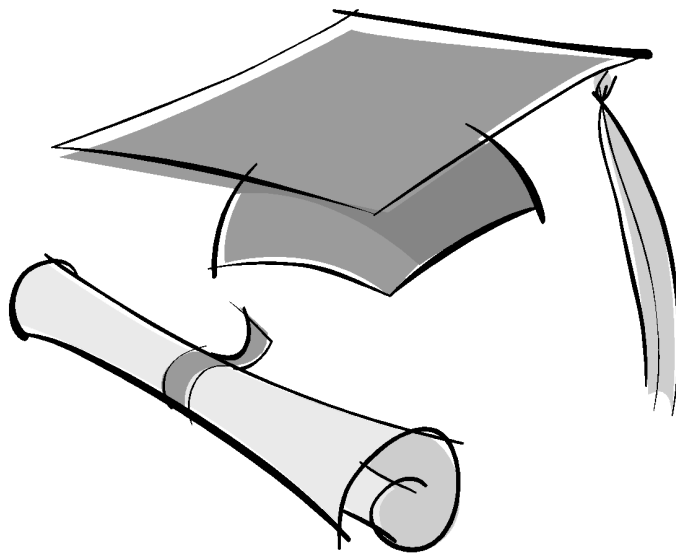




2023-2024
Senior Planning
Guide



Lenoir County Public Schools



SUPERINTENDENT
M. Brent Williams

ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT
Frances J. Herring

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
Nicholas E. Harvey, II

Connecting Your Child to a Prosperous Future

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2023-2024 School Year

Dear Students & Parents:

The information enclosed will benefit you whether your post-secondary plans include college, work, or the military. Your school counselors, college advisors, and the LCC Career Coach are available to assist you through this process, answer questions, and direct you to resources. This document provides specific information and procedures for use during this significant school year. Important dates, how to calculate GPA, tips for completing a resume or going through an interview, applying to college, and scholarship information are included in the guide.

We look forward to working with you and hope you have a successful year!

Sincerely,

LCPS Senior Planning Guide Committee:

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County-Wide Functions & Dates to Remember

- **LCPS Senior Parent Night** – Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at each individual high school (KHS-Media Center, NLHS-Auditorium, SLHS-Auditorium)
- **CFNC College Application Week** – October. 16 – October. 20 – Sign up to participate in your high school's counseling department. For more information, go to www.cfnc.org/ctc.
- **LCPS College & Financial Aid Night** – Wednesday, October 25, 2023, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Kinston Community Center – This is an opportunity to speak with college recruiters from over 50 NC colleges/universities and get assistance completing college applications. For your convenience, a financial aid presentation by Amy Denton from CFNC will be held in the banquet room across the hall from the college fair from 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- **Senior Awards Day Ceremonies:**
 - ECHS Class of 2024 Ceremony – Friday, April 26th, at 10:00 a.m.
 - KHS Class of 2024 Ceremony – Friday, May 17, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.
 - NLHS Class of 2024 Ceremony – Thursday, May 23, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.
 - SLHS Class of 2024 Ceremony – Friday, May 24, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.
- **Graduation Ceremonies:**
 - ECHS Class of 2024 Graduation – Wednesday, May 8, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.
 - KHS Class of 2024 Graduation – Saturday, June 8, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.
 - NLHS Class of 2024 Graduation – Saturday, June 8, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.
 - SLHS Class of 2024 Graduation – Saturday, June 8, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

LCPS High School Counseling Departments

Early College High School Counseling Staff

Karen Roddy – Counselor

KHS Counseling Staff

Jill Deriso – Counselor

Teresa Ast – Counseling Secretary

NLHS Counseling Staff

Vacant – Counselor (last name A-G)

Rachel Hewett – Department Chair, Counselor (last name H-N)

Treva Romig – Counselor (last name O-Z)

Debbie Campos – Counseling Secretary

SLHS Counseling Staff

Candice Tyndall – Counselor, Department Chair (Grades 10 and 12)

Kelee Moore – Counselor (Grades 9 and 11)

Wendy Hamilton – Counseling Secretary

Frequently Asked Questions

- **HOW DO I APPLY TO COLLEGES IN NC?** *(see pg. 27 for more information)*
 - Go to www.cfnc.org, click APPLY TO COLLEGE, then APPLICATION HUB.
 - Click START AN APPLICATION. For help, call 1-866-866-CFNC (2362).
- **HOW DO I APPLY TO COLLEGES OUTSIDE OF NC?**
 - Google the college name, visit the college website and click APPLY FOR ADMISSION.
- **SHOULD I WAIVE MY FERPA RIGHTS FOR ALL APPLICATIONS?**
 - YES. You want them to know you don't have anything to hide.
- **HOW DO I SEND MY HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT TO COLLEGES IN NC?**
 - Go to www.cfnc.org. For help, call 1-866-866-CFNC (2362).
 - Click APPLY TO COLLEGE, then APPLICATION HUB
 - Click REQUEST A TRANSCRIPT (You will need your school ID #.)
- **HOW DO I SEND MY HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT TO COLLEGES OUTSIDE OF NC?**
 - Complete a transcript request form in the counseling department.
- **HOW DO I GET A COPY OF MY HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT FOR SCHOLARSHIPS OR OTHER USE?**
 - Complete a transcript request form in the counseling department.
- **HOW DO I SEND MY LCC TRANSCRIPT TO COLLEGES?**
 - If you have taken any LCC transferable courses, you must send your LCC transcript to the colleges to which you apply. To send your LCC transcript:
 - Go to www.lenoircc.edu - type TRANSCRIPT in the search box
 - Click TRANSCRIPTS and then the box REQUEST FROM NATIONAL STUDENT CLEARINGHOUSE.
 - Select the school "Lenoir Community College," and then CONTINUE.
 - Students are responsible for paying the fee for the transcript.
- **HOW DO I APPLY FOR RESIDENCY DETERMINATION?** *(see pp. 33-34 for more info)*
 - Go to www.cfnc.org, click APPLY TO COLLEGE, and then RESIDENCY DETERMINATION.
 - Note that a parent/guardian's personal information is required to complete residency determination. Therefore, counselors cannot help students with this process. For help, see your college adviser or call 1-844-319-3640.
- **HOW DO I APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID?** *(see pp. 35-36 for more information)*
 - New for 2023-2024: FAFSA opens in December! Visit www.fafsa.ed.gov
 - Note that counselors are not financial aid officers and cannot help you complete the FAFSA. For help, see your college adviser or
 - Call 1-800-557-7394 or
 - Go to www.cfnc.org, Click APPLY, then FOR FINANCIAL AID.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **HOW DO I REGISTER FOR THE SAT OR ACT?**
 - To register for the SAT, go to www.collegeboard.org.
 - To register for the ACT, go online to www.act.org.
 - Note that counselors DO NOT register students for the SAT or ACT Saturday administrations. Counselors also do not have access to student accounts. Students must register themselves online. For help:
 - SAT Help: Call College Board at 1-866-756-7346
 - ACT Help: Call ACT at 1-319-337-1270
- **HOW DO I GET AN SAT AND/OR ACT TEST FEE WAIVER?**
 - Request a fee waiver eligibility form from your school counselor or college adviser.
- **HOW DO I SEND MY SAT, AP, AND/OR ACT SCORES TO COLLEGES?**
 - To send your SAT or AP scores, go to www.collegeboard.org.
 - To send your ACT scores, go online to www.act.org.
 - Note that counselors DO NOT have access to student accounts. Students must send their scores themselves online. For help:
 - SAT/AP Help: Call College Board at 1-866-756-7346
 - ACT Help: Call ACT at 1-319-337-1270
- **HOW DO I REGISTER FOR THE NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER?** *(see pg. 31 for more information)*
 - Go to www.web3.ncaa.org and click “Register.” If you have questions, see your coach.
- **HOW DO I GET A FEE WAIVER FOR THE NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER?**
 - Students must use an SAT or ACT fee waiver to be eligible for an NCAA fee waiver. If you used an SAT or ACT fee waiver, click that you are eligible for a fee waiver on the payment screen when you register. Let your school counselor know, and she will submit the waiver for you from the high school portal.
- **HOW DO I GET A COLLEGE APPLICATION FEE WAIVER?**
 - If you used an SAT fee waiver, four college application fee waivers will be sent directly to you through your College Board account. Counselors do not issue SAT college application fee waivers.
 - If you used an ACT fee waiver, you are eligible for unlimited college application fee waivers. Please put in a request to see your school counselor.
- **HOW DO I GET SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION?** *(see pg. 38 for more information)*
 - Check your school and personal email accounts. Counselors often send scholarship information via email. Also, go to your school’s counseling website at
 - KHS – <https://sites.google.com/lenoir.k12.nc.us/khscounselingcenter/home>
 - NLHS – www.nlhsguidance.weebly.com
 - SLHS – www.slhscounselingcenter.weebly.com
- **WHAT IS THE WORKKEYS? DO I NEED TO TAKE IT?**
 - WorkKeys is a job skills test employers use for hiring employees.
 - You will take the WorkKeys *if* you have a CTE concentration. Your counselor/CTE coordinator will let you know.

Graduation Requirements

Review your graduation requirements with your school counselor during your Senior Conference

4-Year College/University

- English I
- English II
- English III
- English IV

- Math I
- Math II
- Math III
- Math beyond Math III

- Earth Environmental Science
- Biology
- Physical Science or Chemistry

- World History
- Civic Literacy
- American History
- Economics & Personal Finance

- Health & PE

- 2 credits of a World Language

- 10 additional elective credits

Community College/Military/Career

- English I
- English II
- English III
- English IV

- Math I
- Math II
- Math III
- 4th Math for Post-Secondary Plans

- Earth Environmental Science
- Biology
- Physical Science or Chemistry

- World History
- Civic Literacy
- American History
- Economics & Personal Finance

- Health & PE

- 2 credits of any combination from Career Technical Education, Arts Education, or World Language

- 10 additional elective credits

*NOTE: Students graduating from Lenoir County Public Schools no longer require a 4-course concentration with the exception of those seeking the NC Academic Scholars Endorsement

NC High School Diploma Endorsements

Students enrolled in North Carolina high schools shall have the opportunity to earn endorsements to their high school diploma that identify a particular area of focused study. Each endorsement has a seal that may be added to their diploma. They are also noted on their high school transcript. Students may graduate high school with no endorsements or may earn up to five. The five endorsements and their requirements are listed below in order by highest achievement, with NC Academic Scholars being the highest.

- I. **North Carolina Academic Scholars Endorsement:** Student has earned an unweighted grade point average of at least 3.5; completed a math sequence of Math I, II, III, and a fourth math course that meets University of North Carolina system minimum admission requirements (math course with Math III as a prerequisite); completed two units of a world language; completed three units of science, including Earth/Environmental, Biology, and either Physics or Chemistry; completed four course credits of social studies; completed four elective credits in any one content area; and completed three higher level courses taken during a student's junior or senior years.
- II. **College/UNC Endorsement:** Student has earned a weighted grade point average of at least 2.5; earned at least the benchmark reading score established by a nationally norm-referenced college admissions test; completed a math sequence of Math I, II, III, and a fourth mathematics course that meets University of North Carolina system minimum admission requirements (math course with Math III as a prerequisite); completed three units of science (at least one physical science with lab, one life science, one additional); completed U.S. History or equivalent coursework; and completed two units of a world language.
- III. **College Endorsement:** Student has earned an unweighted grade point average of at least 2.6; earned at least the benchmark reading score established by a nationally norm-referenced college admissions test; and completed a math sequence of Math I, II, III, and a fourth math course that meets University of North Carolina system minimum admission requirements (math course with Math III as a prerequisite).
- IV. **Career Endorsement:** Student has earned an unweighted grade point average of at least 2.6; earned at least the benchmark reading score established by a nationally norm-referenced college admissions test; has completed a Career Technical Education (CTE) concentration; completed a math sequence of Math I, II, III, and a fourth math course aligned with their post-secondary plans, including CTE math courses; and earned at least one industry-recognized credential.
- V. **Global Languages Endorsement:** Student has earned a combined unweighted grade point average of at least 2.5 in the four English Language Arts courses required for graduation; and established proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English by either: establishing "Intermediate Low proficiency or higher per the ACTFL proficiency scale; completing a four-course sequence of study in the same world language, earning a combined unweighted grade point average of at least 2.5 in those courses; or passing an external exam approved by NCDPI establishing "Intermediate Low" proficiency or higher per the ACTFL proficiency scale.

Cum Laude System Graduation Recognition

Lenoir County Public Schools has implemented a cum laude honor system as a more appropriate honor system for the 21st Century student. Beginning with the graduating class of 2016, students have the following opportunities for graduation recognition:

- **Summa Cum Laude:** weighted GPA of the top 2% of the graduating class – Gold Medal
- **Magna Cum Laude:** weighted GPA of the top 3-5% of the graduating class – Silver Medal
- **Cum Laude:** weighted GPA of the top 6-10% of the graduating class – Bronze Medal

Writing Your Student Resume for Recommendation Letters

Please do not ask counselors, teachers, principals, or community representatives to write a recommendation letter for you without providing them with your student resume and a copy of the completed Student Questionnaire for Recommenders. This is not a work resume, but a student resume to help the adults in your life write a strong recommendation for you. You will use your student resume for college applications, scholarship applications, and recommendation letters. Your resume should be in a format that best highlights your extracurricular activities (both in school and out of school), leadership potential, and interests. Try to keep it brief (2 pages maximum; 1 page is preferred). Make sure the font is large enough to be easily read.

Follow this student resume format:

HEADING: First & Last Name, Address, Telephone, Email, GPA (weighted & unweighted), Class Rank

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES: List all school-related activities in which you have participated with the grade level in which you participated (clubs, drama, band, NHS, etc.)

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: List all community-related activities in which you have participated with the grade level in which you participated. Include all community service/volunteer work with dates, name of places, and number of hours served. Also list all church activities, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Young Life, etc.

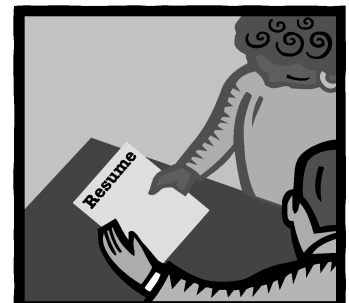
EMPLOYMENT: Paid work (include position, number of years employed, and number of hours per week)

LEADERSHIP: List all of your awards, honors, or leadership opportunities (elected office, elected representative, school nominee, sports awards, technical/computer skills certifications, other certifications (CRC, First Aid/CPR, lifeguard), Eagle Scout, etc.

OTHER INTERESTS: Cover anything not already listed (bilingual skills, work skills, special projects you have started or completed, etc.) Highlight your strengths and accomplishments. If you know what profession/career you plan to pursue, please list it.

REFERENCES: At least two non-family persons who can say great things about you, your character, and your work.

To create an online resume, go to www.majorclarity.com, click LOGIN WITH GOOGLE to get in your profile. Find RESUME BUILDER on the left. Another recommended resume building website is <https://www.livecareer.com/>.



Recommendation Letters

Whether it's for a college application or a scholarship, you may be required to have a recommendation letter completed on your behalf. 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.

TIPS to get the best recommendation possible:

- **ASK THE RIGHT TEACHER! Who should you ask for a letter of recommendation for a college application or scholarship? How do you decide who can give you the best recommendation letter?** Think about which teacher knows you best and would write a strong recommendation letter in support of you. Counselors can write recommendation letters for students, but college admissions offices as well as scholarship committees prefer recommendation letters from teachers. Teachers know what kind of student you are in the classroom. Administrators, counselors, and other staff can see your grades, but they don't work with you in the classroom on a daily basis. Unless the scholarship application specifically states that an administrator or counselor must recommend you, then you should ask for a letter of recommendation from your teachers. Consider asking the teacher of the class that you really had to work hard in - not the class that was necessarily the easiest, but the one where the teacher has seen you put forth your best effort and can convey that in a strong recommendation letter.
- **Give the recommender enough time to write a strong recommendation. What is an appropriate amount of time to give the recommender?** Determine the deadline for when the recommendations are due. Ask for letters at least 2 weeks in advance of the due date to have it completed. If possible, more than 2 weeks is always appreciated. Be courteous and polite. Remember that you are asking the person to do something extra on top of their usual workload.
- **Give the recommender the necessary information.** You should provide the recommender with the following items:
 - Completed Recommender Questionnaire (answer questions on next page)
 - A copy of your student resume (see previous page)
 - A recommendation form (if applicable)
 - When the recommendation letter/form is due, who it should be addressed to, and how they should return the recommendation (email, mail, etc.)
- **Make sure you waive your FERPA rights to view the recommendation just as you waive them on your college applications.** You want the colleges and scholarship committees to know you don't have anything to hide.



Student Questionnaire for Recommenders

Directions: Complete this and share with people you ask to be your recommenders.

- What are the first three words that come to mind describing you? If I had to quote you on one statement, what would you say?
- What are your personal strengths? Give examples that illustrate these strengths. Responses can include traits from academics, activities, athletics, hobbies, your personality, work experiences, etc.
- What points or qualities do you want stressed in a letter of recommendation about you?
- The accomplishments I am most proud of are . . . (shows personal initiative or commitment)
- I have shown leadership skills by . . .
- The out-of-school activity that has been most rewarding to me is . . . because . . .
- What community service activities have you been involved in while in high school? How many hours each? Which one did you feel you made the most impact and why?
- Right now, what are the “top priorities” in your life? At present do you have a particular “philosophy of life”? What is your intended college major? Why?
- Are there any ‘extenuating circumstances’ that should be included in your recommendation? What sacrifices or adjustments, if any, have you had to make/or will have to make in order to reach your goals? Are you the first from your immediate family to go to college?
- Name someone in your life who has influenced you. Explain how they have shaped you into the person you are today.
- What additional information should I know to write your letter of recommendation? How can I capture the “real you” on paper?



Military Services



The different branches of the military visit schools many times during the year. When military recruiters are on campus, they are set up at a table in the cafeteria during lunches. Look for them!

The **ASVAB**, Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, is an aptitude test to assess an individual’s natural abilities and skills. Each branch of the military requires the ASVAB for entrance. The ASVAB is an excellent tool to help determine your own natural abilities, which will assist you in making an informed career choice.

The ASVAB is given at each high school.

See your school’s counseling department for specific dates.

Kinston High School – November and February

North Lenoir High School – November and February

South Lenoir High School – November and February

You may also take the ASVAB by contacting your military recruiter and scheduling an appointment.

The Military Entrance Processing Service Center offers the ASVAB on a weekly basis.

Call (252) 523-1621.

For ASVAB test preparation or assistance on the ASVAB, go to www.asvabpracticetests.com.

Air Force	www.airforce.com or (919) 759-2719 www.afrotc.com
Army	www.army.com or (252) 523-1621 www.goarmy.com
Coast Guard	www.uscg.mil or (910) 791-2884 www.GoCoastGuard.com
Marines	www.marines.com or (919) 349-3544 www.parents.marines.com
Navy	www.navy.com or (919) 751-0673 www.nrotc.navy.com
Also	www.todaymilitary.com/futures

Selective Service Registration

Registering with Selective Service is now possible via the Internet. All young men in the U.S., with very few exceptions, are required to register with Selective Service within 30 days of turning 18. Registration is federal law. It is also required to remain eligible for many federal and state benefits, including student financial aid, job training, and jobs in the Executive Branch of the federal government, such as jobs with the U.S. Postal Service. Failure to register is a felony. To register, click on the “Register Online Now” Icon at the Selective Service website (www.sss.gov). Enter in some basic information and then a Selective Service number will be generated. Registration forms are also available at any U.S. Post Office.

Remember that you must register with Selective Service before you can apply for financial aid.



Career Search: What Career Is Best for You?

Prior to attending a college/university or community college, you should decide what types of careers are of interest to you. All students should complete a career interest inventory of some form to narrow their career choices and explore which colleges offer their desired programs before applying to college. For example, you may desire to become an engineer. There are a select number of schools that offer engineering programs. You don't need to waste time applying to colleges that do not have your desired major. Complete a career interest inventory and do your research!

Step 1: Complete a career interest inventory. Go to www.majorclarity.com. Click "Continue with Google." Log in with your school email and password.

Step 2: Complete the Personality Assessment (take the test) and review your personality assessment results. Click "continue" to see careers and explore the paths that might interest you based on your skills and strengths.

Step 3: Explore careers by clicking each match and completing the recommended activities. Take your time and jot down anything you want to remember. The time you spend planning now will benefit you in the future.

JOB SHADOWING: Decide if a specific career is right for you!!

- Contact Brittany Harrison (bharrison@lenoir.k12.nc.us)
- Job shadowing helps students decide if a specific career is right for them
2023-2024 LCPS Job Shadowing Dates are September 28, October 25, November 16, January 25, February 22, March 27, and April 24.
- RIME Manufacturing Day- October 11, 2023- AAMC 8:00 am-3:00 pm.

Did you know? (Most Updated Career Information Website: Google "OOH")

You can research any career in the world at www.bls.gov, which is the Occupational Outlook Handbook. At this site, click on Publications, then Occupational Outlook Handbook for a listing of all occupations in alphabetical order.

College Degrees and Average Yearly Income (2020 US Census Bureau)

- High School Dropout – persons that do not graduate from high school (\$27,155)
- Diploma/Certificate – demonstrate that you have a set of skills for a particular occupation (\$35,630)
- Associate degree – two-year degrees that provide preparation for a career or for transfer to a four-year college or university (\$42,859)
- Bachelor's Degree – four-year degrees that include general education courses and courses in a declared major (\$59,134)
- Master's Degree – an advanced degree earned in a specialized field after completion of a bachelor's degree (\$71,631)
- Professional Degree – additional license in a recognized profession (\$110,816)
- Doctoral Degree (Doctorate) – the highest degree you can earn. A doctoral degree indicates expertise in a specialized field. (\$101,147)

Standardized Test Information (SAT/ACT)

The UNC Board of Governors voted to waive the standardized testing component for **students applying for admission through fall 2024** due to the disruption in the learning environment from Covid-19. **Students have the option to submit test scores to the 16 public universities in the UNC System, but test scores will not be required for admissions decisions.** Students who do not submit SAT or ACT scores must meet the minimum weighted GPA requirement of 2.5 to be considered for undergraduate admissions. However, test scores may still be used for scholarships and other programs. For private/out-of-state colleges, please check each college's website for more information concerning test scores. **For more information, please see the memorandum below from NC DPI.**



THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA SYSTEM

DR. BETHANY MEIGHEN
VICE PRESIDENT
STUDENT AFFAIRS

910 Raleigh Road, PO Box 2688, Chapel Hill, NC 27514
Phone: 919.843.6744 | Email: bmeighen@northcarolina.edu

April 7, 2022

MEMORANDUM

TO: Sneha Shah-Coltrane
Director of Advanced Learning and Gifted Education, NC DPI

FROM: Bethany Meighen *Bethany D. Meighen*
Vice President for Student Affairs

DATE: April 7, 2022

SUBJECT: Extension to Current Waiver to Section 700.1.1 of the UNC Policy Manual

Section 700.1.1, Policy on Minimum Eligibility Requirements for Undergraduate Admission to the University of North Carolina System, establishes the minimum academic standards that a student must satisfy in order to be considered for undergraduate admission at a University of North Carolina (UNC) System institution. This includes the requirement that first-year students submit an ACT or SAT score to be eligible for admissions consideration. On April 7, 2022 the UNC Board of Governors voted to waive the standardized testing component for students applying for admission through fall 2024 due to the disruption in the learning environment from COVID-19.

Students have the option to submit test scores to the 16 public universities in the UNC System, but test scores will not be required for admissions decisions. Students who do not submit an ACT or SAT test score must meet the minimum weighted GPA requirement of 2.5 to be considered for undergraduate admissions.

Please share this information with appropriate personnel, and current and incoming students and families. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Bethany Meighen, Vice President for Student Affairs, at bmeighen@northcarolina.edu.

Standardized Test Information (SAT/ACT)

- The **SAT** measures critical reading and mathematics abilities and is a test that predicts college performance.
- The **ACT** measures educational development in English, math, reading, and science; and is a test that predicts freshman year college performance.

Most colleges/universities will accept either test (SAT or ACT) for admission. Some highly competitive colleges require **SAT Subject Tests**. The SAT Subject Tests measure performance in specific subjects and are often used by the colleges for placement purposes.

Be sure to have your scores sent to the colleges/universities and scholarship agencies to which you are planning to apply. It is free to send your scores to four colleges of your choice at the time you register; however, if you wait to do this later, there is a cost to send each set of scores. When signing up to take the SAT/ACT, you must also send your scores to the **NCAA for athletic eligibility consideration if you plan to play sports in college (Code: 9999)**.

Take time to familiarize yourself with the instructions and sample questions sent by the testing service. You may want to take one of the SAT/ACT prep courses that are offered. SAT and ACT Practice Booklets are available in your high school's counseling department. There are also many websites that offer ACT and SAT test preparation. USE THEM!!!!

* www.cfnc.org

* www.sat.collegeboard.org/practice

* www.khanacademy.org/sat

* www.kaptest.com/

* www.prepfactory.com

* www.act.org

* www.number2.com

* www.4tests.com/act

Only those students on the four-year college/university pathway who plan to attend a four-year college or university need to take the SAT or ACT. These tests are not required for students planning to enter a two-year community college (even those planning to follow the 2 + 2 plan). Students on the college/university pathway should plan to take the SAT/ACT during exam time of their junior year, preferably after passing Math III. Students should plan to take the SAT/ACT twice during their junior year and, if necessary, a third time at the beginning of their senior year.

High school students in the U.S. or U.S. territories who can't afford to pay test fees may be eligible for SAT/ACT fee waivers. Students must be in 11th or 12th grade to use a fee waiver. To be eligible, you must meet at least one of the following requirements:

- Annual family income falls within the Income Eligibility Guidelines set by the USDA Food and Nutrition Service. (See your school counselor for details.)
- Enrollment in a federal, state, or local program that aids students from low-income families (e.g. Federal TRIO programs such as Upward Bound).
- Family receives public assistance.
- Lives in federally subsidized public housing, a foster home or is homeless.
- A ward of the state or an orphan.

Some scholarships/grants request financial fee waiver certification. Students are only allowed to receive TWO fee waivers for each test. Please do not obtain a fee waiver and then decide not to use it. It cannot be replaced. LCPS students must first complete a verification form before being awarded a waiver. See your school counselor for the verification form.

SAT or ACT? Which Test Should You Take?

Frequently Asked Questions	SAT	ACT
Need more information or assistance?	The College Board 1-866-756-7346	ACT, INC (319) 337-1270
What is this test used for?	Four-year colleges/universities use the SAT/ACT to aid in admissions decisions.	
What is the test structure?	Two main sections: Evidence-Based Reading & Writing and Math	Four sections: Reading, English, Math, and Science
Is the essay optional?	Yes – Check with the colleges to which you are applying, but most no longer require the writing test for admission.	
How long is the test?	The SAT is 3 hours.	The ACT is 2 hours and 55 minutes.
What is the score range?	The score range for the SAT is 200-800 per section, 400-1600 overall.	The score range for the ACT is 1-36.
Is there a penalty for wrong answers?	No – so make an educated guess if you don't know the answer	
Which test should I take?	It is okay to take both tests as many times as you desire. Note that all students enrolled in NC public schools took the ACT during their junior year. Colleges/Universities do not prefer one test over the other.	
Are fee waivers available for SAT and/or ACT?	Yes, but only for ELIGIBLE students. Request a fee waiver eligibility form from your school counselor or college adviser.	Yes, but only for ELIGIBLE students. Request a fee waiver eligibility form from your school counselor or college adviser.
Are college application fee waivers available?	<u>Four</u> college application fee waivers are electronically sent to students who used an SAT fee waiver.	College application fee waivers are available to students who used an ACT fee waiver.
Are all scores sent to the colleges?	Yes. Scores are sent for entire test dates. You cannot send individual section scores, such as only your Math score.	
How do I send my scores to colleges?	All SAT/ACT scores are sent by students from the testing site to their chosen colleges. Visit www.collegeboard.org for SAT or www.act.org for ACT. Students must select their score recipients during test registration. If you do not select any schools, no scores will be sent. Note: Scores may be sent after the test is taken for an additional fee.	
If I take the test more than once, can my highest scores be combined from two different test dates?	Yes. Most admissions departments will combine your highest section score from each test date to create a "Super Score".	
When is the best time to register?	About four weeks before the test day – You pay a late fee for registering later. Note that fee waivers may be used to cover late fees on the SAT.	About five weeks before the test day – You pay a late fee for registering later. Note that fee waivers MAY NOT be used to cover late fees on the ACT.
Should I pay for SAT's Question & Answer Service?	For SAT, if you pay for the Question & Answer Service and test during October, March, or May, you will receive access to the test questions and answers, which is an excellent way to study for the next time you take the test.	

What's a Good SAT/ACT Score?

Average SAT/ACT/GPA of First-Time Freshmen

A "good" SAT/ACT score depends on the college/university to which you are applying. The scores vary among the 16 campuses of the UNC system. Below is a chart of the 2021 average first-time freshmen scores entering each university. Data was obtained from northcarolina.edu/unc-system-fact-sheets/ and <https://www.collegeboard.org>. Please note that the data changes with each new class.

	SAT (M+R)	ACT Composite	GPA (weighted)
Appalachian State University	1100-1270	23-28	4.06
East Carolina University	1000-1200	19-23	3.75
Elizabeth City State University	880-1050	16-20	3.38
Fayetteville State University	870-1010	17-21	3.36
NC A&T State University	960-1130	17-22	3.8
NC Central University	890-1050	16-21	3.44
NC State University	1250-1420	27-32	4.32
UNC-Asheville	1090-1270	22-29	3.89
UNC-Chapel Hill	1310-1500	29-33	4.49
UNC-Charlotte	1120-1290	21-26	4.05
UNC-Greensboro	1010-1180	21-26	3.73
UNC-Pembroke	930-1080	16-21	3.61
UNC-Wilmington	1170-1320	24-28	4.13
UNC School of the Arts	1090-1290	22-28	3.9
Western Carolina University	1060-1230	19-25	3.84
Winston-Salem State University	890-1030	15-19	3.44

COLLEGE MINIMUM ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

The 16 campuses of the University of North Carolina have minimum admissions requirements.

Students must have a **minimum 2.5** weighted high school GPA OR

a combined SAT score of 1010 or an ACT score of 19.



2023-2024 ACT Test Dates and Registration Deadlines

For more information and to register, go to www.act.org
Regular Registration Fee is \$60.00 (no writing) and Late Registration Fee is \$95.00
(Note: ACT Fee Waivers WILL NOT waive late registration fees.)

Test Date	Regular Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline *additional fee
September 9	August 4	August 18
October 28	September 22	October 6
December 9	November 3	November 17
February 10	January 5	January 19
April 13	March 8	March 22
June 8	May 3	May 17
July 13	June 7	June 21

ACT code or CEEB code:

Early College High School – 342072

Kinston High School – 342075

North Lenoir High School – 342130

South Lenoir High School – 340970

Local ACT Test Centers:

East Carolina University – all dates

Wayne Community Coll –all dates

2023-2024 SAT Test Dates and Registration Deadlines

For more information and to register, go to www.collegeboard.org

Regular Registration Fee is \$55.00 (no writing) and Late Registration Fee is \$85.00. Change Fee \$25.00

Note: Starting in March, 2024 the SAT will be administered in-person using a digital platform. You will need to bring an approved electronic device to test.

(Note: SAT Fee Waivers WILL also waive late registration fees.)

Test Date	Regular Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline *additional fee
August 26	July 28	August 15
October 7	September 7	September 26
November 4	October 5	October 24
December 2	November 2	November 21
March 9	February 23	N/A
May 4	April 19	N/A
June 1	May 17	N/A

SAT code or CEEB code:

Early College High School – 342072

Kinston High School – 342075

North Lenoir High School – 342130

South Lenoir High School – 340970

Local SAT Test Centers:

East Carolina University – all dates

Goldsboro HS – all dates

Jones HS – Oct,Nov,Dec,Mar

Kinston HS – Oct,Nov,Dec,Mar

New Bern HS – all dates

North Lenoir HS-Oct,Nov,Dec,Mar

ACT/SAT Score Comparison

Should you submit your SAT scores or your ACT scores? Submit your highest score!
If your scores fall in the same range on both tests, you should submit both tests.

ACT Composite Score	SAT Score (Reading + Math)
36	1570-1600
35	1530-1560
34	1490-1520
33	1450-1480
32	1420-1440
31	1390-1410
30	1360-1380
29	1330-1350
28	1300-1320
27	1260-1290
26	1230-1250
25	1200-1220
24	1160-1190
23	1130-1150
22	1100-1120
21	1060-1090
20	1030-1050
19	990-1020
18	960-980
17	920-950
16	880-910
15	830-870
14	780-820
13	730-770
12	690-720
11	650-680

Obtained from <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org>

Senior College Planning Calendar

September

- Review courses and graduation requirements during your “Initial Senior Conference.”
- Create or update your CFNC Account (www.cfnc.org). You will apply to NC colleges using this account. If you need your account name or password, call 1-866-866-CFNC (2362).
- Create a professional sounding personal email account to use when applying to colleges. **Do not use your LCPS/LCC email account!!!** School email should be checked regularly during your senior year, **but your LCPS/LCC email will be deactivated upon graduation (including early graduation).** You need to have an email account you can continue to use after graduation.
- If you haven’t already done so or need to do it again, complete a career interest inventory. Go to www.majorclarity.com. Click “Continue with Google.” Log in with your school email and password. Complete the Personality Assessment (take the test) and review your personality assessment results. Click “continue” to see careers and explore the paths that might interest you based on your skills and strengths. Explore careers by clicking each match and completing the recommended activities.
- Professionals recommend narrowing your list of colleges to four or five. Discuss these schools with your counselor during your “Initial Senior Conference.” Review applications and financial aid forms for your specific colleges of interest. Note important details such as essay requirements, application deadlines, and special testing requirements.
- Plan to visit the four to five college campuses as soon as possible.
- Create a master calendar of all upcoming deadlines for:
 - Test Registrations and Test Dates
 - College and Scholarship Applications
 - Financial Aid Applications (FAFSA/CSS Profile)
- Save all paperwork related to volunteer/community service hours, testing, college applications, financial aid, residency determination, and other materials you’ll need (recommendations, transcripts, etc.) in a secure file folder, box or special location. Don’t lose it!
- Sign up in the Counseling Department to participate in College Application Week in October.
- Write scholarship and college application essays early. Edit, proofread, and rewrite. Save them to your Google Drive and to another source for back-up.
- Register and take the ACT and/or the SAT in October if you still need a higher score.
- Explore ways to pay for college. Learn about financial aid by using the financial aid calculator at www.collegeboard.org or www.cfnc.org to estimate how much aid you might receive.
- Become familiar with the FAFSA website (www.studentaid.gov). Being prepared for this process is invaluable! Prepare to apply for financial aid when FAFSA opens in December.
- Check with college financial aid offices for school-specific scholarship information, costs, and additional financial aid forms required.
- Review scholarship lists. Each school’s counseling department will either email students a list or post one on their website. See page 6 for individual school counseling website addresses. Highlight scholarships for which you qualify and apply for each of them prior to their deadlines.
- Apply for the scholarships that are due in September and October now.
- Attend Senior Parent Night at your high school on Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.
- Attend LCPS College & Financial Aid Night at Kinston Community Center on Wednesday, October 25th, 2023. College Night starts at 4:30 p.m. and the Financial Aid presentation starts at 6:00 p.m. in the banquet room across the hall from the college recruiters.

September - October

- Complete your residency determination (RDS) prior to applying to college at www.cfnc.org.
- Apply to the four or five colleges on your list at www.cfnc.org. If a college uses a different application, such as the Common Application, you will be redirected to their application. If you choose to apply to a school outside of NC, you will have to visit the school's website to apply.
- If you need assistance applying to college, see your college adviser.
- Ask for teacher recommendations if you need them. Choose teachers who know you well.
- Send your high school transcript to each college where you applied.
 - If you applied on www.cfnc.org, be sure to select "Click here to send your high school transcript" on the final page to send your transcript electronically. If you missed this part, you can go back to the Application Hub on www.cfnc.org and send it. (See page 5)
 - If www.cfnc.org redirects you to the Common Application to apply at a specific school, your transcript will automatically be uploaded by your school counselor.
 - If you applied to an out-of-state school that does not use the Common Application, please request that a paper transcript be sent by your school's Counseling Office.
- If you have taken any LCC courses, you will need to have your LCC transcript sent to the colleges in which you apply. It is the student's responsibility to order their LCC transcript online. To request to have your LCC transcript sent anywhere, go to www.lenoircc.edu. Type TRANSCRIPT in the search box, click TRANSCRIPTS, and then the box REQUEST FROM NATIONAL STUDENT CLEARINGHOUSE. Type "Lenoir Community College" as the school, click SUBMIT, and then START. Make sure you send the CURRICULUM TRANSCRIPT. (See page 5)
- Student athletes should electronically send or request that their transcript be sent to the NCAA Clearinghouse for eligibility certification.

October

- College Application Week is October 18-20. Complete applications this week for any colleges waiving their application fee.
- Apply for the scholarships that are due in November.

December

- FAFSA, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid opens in December. Apply for financial aid online at www.studentaid.gov using your 2022 tax information. Submit your FAFSA as soon as possible after December 2023. The earlier you apply, the more funds you are eligible to receive. If you need help with your FAFSA, call 1-800-433-3243 or see your college adviser.

November - February

- Take the ASVAB. Any senior even considering the military or who is still unsure about job interests should take the ASVAB. The test is not just a military entrance requirement; it also serves as a career interest inventory.
- Apply for the scholarships that are due in December, January, February, and March.
- If your college wants to see first semester grades (mid-year transcript), be sure to submit them.
- Make sure you are staying on track with your current courses as accepting colleges do look at second semester senior grades.

March

- Keep active in school. If you are wait-listed, the college will want to know what you have accomplished between the time you applied and the time you learned of its decision.
- **Inform your counselor of all scholarships you are offered, even if you do not accept the award!!**
- Apply for the scholarships that are due in April.

April

- You should receive acceptance letters and financial aid offers by mid-April. If you've not yet done so, visit the colleges before making a final decision.
- Compare acceptance letters and financial aid packages. Submit your enrollment deposit to hold your spot at the college you choose. Send your deposit to only one college.
- Deny acceptance offers from schools you will not be attending.
- If you have questions about housing offers, call the college.
- If you were not accepted by your colleges of choice, submit your name to the College Redirection Pool at www.CFNC.org/redirection.
- Apply for scholarships that are due in May.
- During your "Final Senior Conference," let your school counselor know which college you will be attending. **Inform your counselor of all scholarships, grants, and awards you are offered, even if you do not plan to accept them!!**

May

- Accept or reject each offer of admission and/or financial aid by May 1. Colleges cannot require a deposit or commitment to attend before that date.
- Wait-listed by a college? If you would enroll in that institution if accepted, talk to an admissions officer about your intent and ask how to strengthen your application. Also ask what financial aid will be available if you're accepted.
- Work with an admissions or financial aid officer to resolve any remaining issues.
- One final transcript will be sent to the college of your choice. You should notify your counselor if your post-graduation plans change.
- If you have taken any LCC courses, you will need to have your final LCC transcript sent to the college which you plan to attend. See page 5 for instructions for sending your LCC transcript.
- Apply for the scholarships that are due in June or July.

What Do Admissions Offices Consider When Reviewing A College Application?

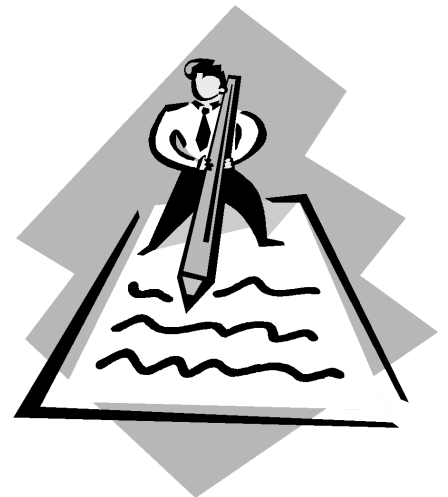
Primary Factors:

- Quality/Rigor of Academic Courses - Difficulty of course work (did you take the most challenging course load you could have at your school?)
- Academic Performance - Grades (GPA both weighted & unweighted)
- Class Rank
- Test Scores (SAT and/or ACT scores)

Secondary Factors:

- Extracurricular Activities/Community Service
- Essay(s)*
- Letter of Recommendation*
- Interview*

***Not required by all schools**



NC Private College/University Information

(Data was obtained from www.collegeboard.org, univstats.com, and prepscholar.com.)

Institution	Undergrad Enrollment	GPA	SAT (M+R)	ACT Composite	Tuition/Fees (In State)	Room & Board	Other Expenses	Total Cost
Barton	1,045	3.2	970-1150	17-23	\$33,430	\$10,970	\$4,000	\$48,400
Belmont Abbey	1,467	3.35	970-1220	19-25	\$18,500	\$10,692	\$4,000	\$33,192
Bennett	427	2.98	800-1000	14-20	\$20,150	\$8,600	\$4,000	\$32,750
Brevard	751	3.07	950-1130	18-22	\$30,250	\$12,400	\$4,000	\$46,650
Campbell	5,622	3.2	1030-1230	20-25	\$38,480	\$13,625	\$4,000	\$56,105
Catawba	1,371	3.75	950-1170	18-26	\$32,868	\$11,576	\$4,000	\$48,444
Chowan	1,100	2.7	810-1000	14-19	\$25,880	\$9,650	\$4,000	\$39,530
Davidson	1,983	Top5%	1360-1480	30-34	\$57,150	\$15,750	\$4,000	\$76,900
Duke	6,789	Top1%	1480-1570	34-35	\$60,244	\$17,564	\$4,000	\$81,808
Elon	7,117	4.04	1160-1330	25-30	\$38,725	\$16,022	\$4,000	\$58,747
Gardner-Webb	2,000	3.74	970-1180	18-24	\$32,200	\$10,770	\$4,000	\$46,970
Greensboro	944	3.35	900-1120	17-22	\$18,960	\$12,624	\$4,000	\$35,584
Guilford	1,420	3.19	930-1170	17-24	\$41,140	\$12,800	\$4,000	\$57,940
High Point	4,628	3.4	1090-1260	22-29	\$39,752	\$15,906	\$4,000	\$59,658
Johnson C. Smith	1,253	2.79	800-980	13-18	\$18,944	\$7,100	\$4,000	\$30,044
Johnson & Wales	1,391	3.2	800-980	18-22	\$36,274	\$14,408	\$4,000	\$54,682
Lees-McRae	836	3.5	960-1140	18-24	\$28,290	\$11,550	\$4,000	\$43,840
Lenoir-Rhyne	1,783	3.28	970-1170	18-24	\$41,500	\$12,800	\$4,000	\$58,300
Livingstone	845	2.32	770-930	13-16	\$18,296	\$6,794	\$4,000	\$29,090
Mars Hill	1,019	3.24	940-1130	17-23	\$35,655	\$12,211	\$4,000	\$51,866
Meredith	1,521	3.5	1000-1200	19-25	\$41,224	\$12,120	\$4,000	\$57,344
Methodist	1,426	3.28	950-1140	20-27	\$36,960	\$12,219	\$4,000	\$53,179
Mount Olive	2,350	2.85	900-1100	16-22	\$22,618	\$9,170	\$4,000	\$35,788
NC Wesleyan	1,603	3.20	860-1120	15-21	\$33,371	\$11,918	\$4,000	\$49,289
Pfeiffer	812	3.16	940-1100	18-25	\$32,480	\$12,274	\$4,000	\$48,754
Queens	1,670	3.43	1040-1240	20-27	\$38,726	\$13,262	\$4,000	\$55,988
Salem	492	3.8	910-1140	17-23	\$30,500	\$12,300	\$4,000	\$46,800
Shaw	1,152	2.2	760-930	13-16	\$16,480	\$8,514	\$4,000	\$28,994
St. Andrews	862	3.1	890-1100	16-22	\$28,630	\$11,300	\$4,000	\$43,930
Wake Forest	5,441	Top5%	1290-1490	30-33	\$59,770	\$16,044	\$4,000	\$79,814
William Peace	830	3.4	935-1135	18-23	\$32,450	\$12,040	\$4,000	\$48,490
Wingate	2,683	3.43	930-1130	18-23	\$40,170	\$10,270	\$4,000	\$54,440

NC Public College/University Attendance Cost by Institution

Based on 2021 data obtained from northcarolina.edu/unc-system-fact-sheets/ and <https://www.collegeboard.org>

	Tuition & Fees (In State)	Tuition & Fees (Out Of State)	Room & Board	*Other Expenses	Total (In State)
Appalachian State Univ.	\$7,289	\$23,293	\$9,681	\$4,000	\$20,970
East Carolina Univ.	\$7,154	\$23,431	\$10,136	\$4,000	\$21,290
Elizabeth City State Univ.	^ \$3,356	^ \$7,356	\$8,747	\$4,000	\$16,103
Fayetteville State Univ.	\$5,379	\$7,462	\$8,615	\$4,000	\$17,994
NC A&T State Univ.	\$6,611	\$20,121	\$8,290	\$4,000	\$18,901
NC Central Univ.	\$6,462	\$19,498	\$9,703	\$4,000	\$20,165
NC State Univ.	\$8,924	\$30,659	\$11,957	\$4,000	\$24,881
UNC Asheville	\$7,214	\$24,562	\$9,950	\$4,000	\$21,640
UNC-Chapel Hill	\$8,790	\$37,312	\$10,085	\$4,000	\$22,875
UNC Charlotte	\$7,023	\$21,147	\$11,260	\$4,000	\$22,283
UNC Greensboro	\$7,373	\$22,538	\$9,482	\$4,000	\$20,855
UNC Pembroke	^ \$3,494	^ \$7,494	\$10,660	\$4,000	\$18,154
UNC Wilmington	\$7,133	\$21,753	\$11,346	\$4,000	\$22,479
UNC School of the Arts	\$8,941	\$26,175	\$11,502	\$4,000	\$24,443
Western Carolina Univ.	^ \$3,977	^ \$7,977	\$9,643	\$4,000	\$17,620
Winston-Salem State Univ.	\$5,966	\$16,622	\$11,440	\$4,000	\$21,406

* **Other Expenses:** This varies depending on the campus you choose to attend. \$4,000 is an estimate.

Expenses may include books, supplies, health insurance, transportation, and miscellaneous.

^ Includes NC Promise Tuition Plan of only \$500 tuition per semester + fees.

NC Public College/University Total Enrollment & Residency by Institution

Based on 2021 data obtained from northcarolina.edu/unc-system-fact-sheets/ and <https://www.collegeboard.org>

	In State	Out Of State	Undergraduate	Graduate	Total Enrollment
Appalachian State Univ.	19,038	1,603	18,555	2,086	20,641
East Carolina Univ.	25,342	2,679	22,463	5,558	28,021
Elizabeth City State Univ.	1,586	468	1,956	98	2,054
Fayetteville State Univ.	6,286	462	5,557	1,191	6,748
NC A&T State Univ.	9,468	3,854	11,596	1,726	13,322
NC Central Univ.	6,526	1,427	5,892	2,061	7,953
NC State Univ.	30,091	6,740	26,505	10,326	36,831
UNC Asheville	2,806	427	3,233	0	3,233
UNC-Chapel Hill	22,783	8,858	19,845	11,796	31,641
UNC Charlotte	28,012	2,436	24,116	6,332	30,448
UNC Greensboro	17,449	1,589	15,178	3,860	19,038
UNC Pembroke	7,785	534	6,317	2,001	8,319
UNC Wilmington	15,919	2,111	14,488	3,542	18,030
UNC School of the Arts	665	454	938	181	1,119
Western Carolina Univ.	10,286	1,591	10,145	1,732	11,877
Winston-Salem State Univ.	6,175	949	4,726	500	5,226

Community Colleges of North Carolina

http://www.nccommunitycolleges.edu/pr/get_the_facts/

FACTS:

- There are 58 community colleges across the state of North Carolina.
- Historically, N.C. has had the lowest tuition in the Southeast Region — one of the lowest in the nation; therefore, it can be much less expensive to attend than a 4-year college/university.
- An estimated cost to attend Lenoir Community College (LCC), Pitt Community College (PCC), or Wayne Community College (WCC) per year is a total of **\$4,000**.
- Students DO NOT have to take the SAT or ACT to be accepted at a community college!
- Students DO NOT have to take a world language (Spanish/French) in high school to be accepted at a community college!
- Students who receive a high school diploma are automatically accepted into the NC Community College System but **must apply for admission**.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE OPTIONS:

- **Associate Degree (2-Year Degree)**
 - Community Colleges have many programs & opportunities. Many jobs don't need a 4-year degree. The degree earned at a community college is an associate degree.
 - There is a high demand for community college graduates to fill positions that often require a minimum of an associate's degree, such as lab technicians, teachers in early childhood programs, computer engineers, draftsmen, radiation therapists, paralegals, and machinists.
 - Average base salary with a two-year community college degree, air traffic controllers make \$90,580, radiation therapists \$73,630, web developer (computer engineering) \$60,050, nuclear technician \$60,000, medical sonographer \$58,685, dental hygienist \$60,829, mechanical engineering technician \$71,803, electrical engineering technician \$76,911, avionics technician \$51,364, radiologic technologist \$54,058, registered nurse \$66,030, automotive technician \$51,176. (payscale.com)
- **Transfer Associate Degree (2+2 Plan)**
 - Community colleges are a great first step to a four-year college/university.
 - If you do not meet the admission requirements for a four-year college/university when graduating from high school, you can go to the community college on the transfer program (aka: 2+2 Plan or Comprehensive Articulation Agreement).
 - Completion of a Transfer Associate Degree guarantees you a seat at one of the 16 NC major universities.

EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATION:

Community colleges also offer certificates and diplomas in various vocations, such as: Automotive, Welding, Cosmetology, Pharmacy Technician, HVAC Technician, Criminal Justice Technology, Business Administration, Gunsmithing, etc. For more information, please visit the community college websites or contact Carlos Cotto at (252) 527-6223 ext. 716.

College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC)

“Helping you plan, apply, and pay for college.”

www.cfnc.org

CFNC Help Line: 1-866-866-CFNC (2362)

College Foundation of North Carolina is a non-profit partnership between Pathways of North Carolina, College Foundation Inc., and the North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority.

ALL high school students should open an account in preparation for their senior year.

ALL students are encouraged to keep their account updated.

Account names and passwords can be obtained by calling 1-866-866-CFNC (2362).

When you visit this website, you will find the following tabs across the top

PLAN YOUR FUTURE

Whatever your goal, it all starts with a plan. Plan your future by planning for colleges and a career with activities relevant to your grade level.

This tab is similar to your Major Clarity dashboard. Refer to your Major Clarity dashboard.

APPLY TO COLLEGE

This is the tab where you will find information relevant to completing residency determination, college applications, and sending transcripts.

1. Apply for Residency Determination – You must complete residency determination with a parent/guardian and obtain a residency certification number (RCN) prior to applying to college.
 - **HOW DO YOU APPLY FOR RESIDENCY DETERMINATION?**
 - Click RESIDENCY DETERMINATION on the left
 - Start the Residency Determination application and follow the directions
2. Apply to College - Apply to NC college(s), track your college applications, and submit transcripts.
 - **HOW DO YOU APPLY TO COLLEGE?**
 - Click APPLICATION HUB on the right
 - Click START AN APPLICATION and follow the directions
 - **HOW DO YOU SEND YOUR TRANSCRIPT TO COLLEGES?**
 - Click APPLICATION HUB on the right
 - Click REQUEST A TRANSCRIPT (You will need your school ID #.)

PAY FOR COLLEGE

Learn about Grants, Scholarships, Loans, and other options that help pay for college. You can also access the FAFSA application by clicking on FAFSA.

SAVE FOR COLLEGE

Learn about the 529 Savings Plan. There is an option to create an NC 529 account.

NC Countdown to College & College Application Week

OCTOBER 2-6, 2023

Sign up in the Counseling Department to participate.

ALL students must have their CFNC information to participate.

To obtain your information, call 1-866-866-CFNC (2362).

OCTOBER 9-13, 2023

Prepare to apply by focusing on RDS!

Complete Residency Determination (RDS)

A list of NC colleges/universities that are waiving their application fees can be found at:

www.cfnc.org

- Click Apply to College
- Click NC Countdown to College
- Click For Students
- Click NC College Application Fees for C2C.

OCTOBER 16-20, 2023 (COLLEGE APPLICATION WEEK)

APPLY! This is your chance to apply to NC colleges at www.cfnc.org with the help of your counselors and college advisors. This is also the actual week that many (not all) NC colleges/universities waive their application fee for all NC graduating high school seniors.

OCTOBER 23-27, 2023

Follow up. Make sure everything requested has been sent to the colleges.



College Redirection Pool

(Opens April 1, 2024)

The College Redirection Pool is a service provided during the later months of the application season to connect denied applicants who have not been accepted into their school of choice or seniors that have not applied anywhere with colleges they may not have considered. The “pool” is open from April 1 - August 31. If you choose to participate, sign up at CFNC.org/redirection. Once you put in your name and academic information, two- and four-year colleges across NC with available spaces for students will contact you. If you are interested, you can ask for more details and apply for admission. Participation is voluntary and is advantageous for both denied applicants and schools.

www.cfnc.org/redirection

CFNC Help Line: 1-866-866-CFNC (2362)

College Admissions Options

1. **EARLY ACTION** is an admissions procedure to notify students of early admission to the college. **Students are not obligated to accept the college's offer of admission and may file applications at other universities.** Note: early action candidates can be denied or deferred and put in the regular applicant pool.
2. **EARLY DECISION** is a plan under which candidates may submit credentials early to one college, usually by early October of the senior year. Applicants are notified of their admissions status by December. **As part of an early decision plan, students are required to sign a statement agreeing to accept the college's offer of admission and to not apply to any other college.** If you apply under EARLY DECISION and you are accepted, then you will be enrolled as a freshman at that college/university and required to pay the tuition.
3. **REGULAR ADMISSION** is the plan under which candidates submit credentials during November to February, depending on school deadlines. Check the deadlines for each individual school.
4. **ROLLING ADMISSION** is the plan under which candidates may apply until a final deadline, usually in late spring. Students will receive a reply of acceptance or denial within four to six weeks.
5. **ONSITE ADMISSION** is an admissions option in which colleges visit students at the high school and make an admission determination during a scheduled appointment with the student.

College Admissions Keywords

1. **ACCEPTANCE** means you have been accepted to attend this college/university. Students should read their acceptance letter carefully and ensure all required materials and fees have been submitted. Students should inform the college if they choose not to attend by May 1.
2. **OFFER OF CONDITIONAL ADMITTANCE** is acceptance to a college provided candidates maintain academic performance throughout the year. A college can withdraw its offer if grades fall significantly or if a student is involved in an activity that results in disciplinary action by the school or law enforcement.
3. **WAITLISTING** occurs after the regular admissions process is complete. There is no guarantee a college will refer to the waitlist. Students on a waitlist for one college should plan to attend another college and then reconsider if offered admission at a later time.
4. **DEFERMENT** is a delay of admissions decision until a later time. Many competitive schools will defer fall applications to the spring in order to receive additional grades and other information before making a final decision. Deferred students often end up on the waitlist.
5. **DENIAL** is a final decision by the college to not offer admission. Students who are denied can apply again after completing at least one semester of college coursework.

NC Public College/University Freshmen Applications Acceptance Rate

Data below is based on the 2021 applicant pool and was obtained from northcarolina.edu/unc-system-fact-sheets/ and <https://www.collegeboard.org>. Please note that the data changes with each new class.

	# of Applications	#Accepted	#Denied	Rate
Appalachian State University	21,120	17,886	3,234	85%
East Carolina University	21,898	17,299	4,599	79%
Elizabeth City State University	3,373	2,590	783	77%
Fayetteville State University	4,135	3,393	742	82%
NC A&T State University	21,528	12,346	9,182	57%
NC Central University	8,244	6,267	1,977	76%
NC State University	32,998	15,669	17,329	48%
UNC Asheville	4,550	3,714	836	82%
UNC Chapel Hill	50,729	10,348	40,381	20%
UNC Charlotte	20,366	16,180	4,186	80%
UNC Greensboro	10,696	9,716	980	91%
UNC Pembroke	5,578	5,123	455	92%
UNC Wilmington	15,792	10,736	5,056	68%
UNC School of the Arts	1,321	393	928	30%
Western Carolina University	12,308	9,775	2,533	80%
Winston-Salem State University	5,419	4,415	1,004	82%

Did you know?

College Admissions Officers will log in to YouTube, TikTok, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, and other social networking sites to view profiles of applicants. Make sure that your profile would not negatively impact your chances of admission if it were viewed by a college admissions officer. Check your account posts and comments. Keep it clean. Limit your profile search ability. Filter your friends and pictures. College Admissions Officers can still view portions of your profile even if it's set to private. Also, make sure you use a personal/professional sounding email address. Do not use your high school email!

Athletic Eligibility/NCAA Information

www.web3.ncaa.org or 1-877-262-1492

In order to be considered for eligibility for college athletics, you must register through the NCAA Eligibility Center. Note that there is a fee to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center, but **fee waivers are only available if you have used an SAT/ACT fee waiver**. Additionally, detailed information regarding high school courses, GPA, and SAT/ACT scores is required for college athletics eligibility. Students should apply in the spring of their junior year or fall of their senior year.

When signing up to take the ACT or the SAT, not only should you send your scores to the college/universities to which you have applied, but you must also send them to the NCAA for athletic eligibility consideration (Code: 9999). The NCAA requires an official high school transcript. Please go to the counseling department to request a transcript.

Also note that for high school sports eligibility: you must be enrolled in and pass 3 subjects the previous semester. Additionally, you must meet the state guidelines for a minimum of 85% attendance in the previous semester.

College Visit Information

Perhaps the most influential factor in college selection is the campus visit. A visit allows you to get a feel for the campus and to see how you might feel living there for the next four years. It is tremendously important to visit the campus and see the students, meet professors, see the residence halls, etc. The best time to visit schools is when classes are in session. If you can't visit during this time, keep in mind that a campus is not the same in the summer or on breaks as it is when students are around. To plan a campus visit, you should call the college's Admissions Office well in advance for an appointment and complete the following steps to notify your school.

1. **Request a College Visitation Form from your school counselor one week in advance.**
2. **Take the form to all of your teachers to be signed.**
3. **Take the form home to get it signed by a parent.**
4. **Return the form to your school counselor.**
5. **Students must bring back evidence (a signed statement by college admissions personnel on official stationery) promptly upon returning from the visit. The signed statement must include the date of the visit.**

NOTE: If officially approved, two college visits will not count against your attendance. However, you are still required to make-up all missed assignments and/or tests.

The campus tour is a very important part of every campus visit. Be sure to ask questions about the academic rigor, social environment, extracurricular activities, class sizes, housing situation, etc. A quick note about dress: be neat and comfortable, but don't create an issue with your appearance. Wear comfortable shoes as you will probably be doing a lot of walking.

SUGGESTIONS FOR YOUR VISIT:

1. If possible, sit in on some classes that interest you. You will need permission.
2. Pick up a copy of the school newspaper.
3. Read the course catalog and check out the list of faculty, their degrees, and the courses they teach. Investigate your chosen academic program by meeting with the professors.
4. If you are interested in playing a sport, request a meeting with the coach. The same goes for any activity of interest.
5. Find out about the quality of the Career Services Office/Placement Services.
6. Verify admission requirements and discuss your chances for successful admission.
7. Ask about scholarships and financial aid.

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR CAMPUS TOUR GUIDE:

1. Tell me about housing. Are some residence halls better than others? Do many students live off campus?
2. What technology is required and how do I access technology support services?
3. How accessible are professors?
4. Are certain courses harder to get into? If so, which ones in particular?
5. Why did you choose this particular college? Do you still feel the same way about it?
6. What kinds of students are most happy here? Least happy?

NC Residency Determination Service (RDS)

Residency Determination Service (RDS) Help Line: 1-844-319-3640 or email rdsinfo@ncresidency.org

PURPOSE: The purpose of RDS is to streamline the process of determining residency in accordance with NC residency laws and applicable federal statutes. RDS is a centralized residency service for all students seeking admission to, and in-state tuition rate at, a NC public college or university. Students will use “one” residency determination for all NC colleges. For more information on residency for tuition purposes contact RDS at www.NCresidency.org, [844-319-3640](tel:844-319-3640) (phone), or [919-835-2427](tel:919-835-2427) (fax). You can also see your college adviser for more information.

ARE YOU A RESIDENT? A NC resident for tuition purposes (and for state financial aid consideration) is a person, or a dependent person (dependent according to IRS tax code – not the FAFSA definition of dependency), whose parent or legal guardian has established and maintained legal residence in NC for at least 12 months. Residence in NC must be legitimate and be a permanent situation rather than just for the purpose of maintaining a residence prior to enrollment at an institution of higher education. Under NC law, to qualify for in-state residency, you must show that:

- You have established your legal residence (domicile) in NC.
- You have maintained that domicile for at least twelve (12) consecutive months before the beginning of the term.
- You have a residential presence in the state.
- You intend to make NC your permanent home indefinitely (rather than being in NC solely to attend college).

Persons not meeting the 12-month legal residence requirement may be classified as NC residents for tuition purposes only if they fall within one of the limited categories authorized by the NC Legislature. All other persons are ineligible for classification as a NC “resident for tuition purposes” and will be charged out-of-state tuition and not given consideration for state financial aid.

REQUESTS FOR RESIDENT STATUS: RDS is required to submit applications to all 58 NC Community Colleges as well as North Carolina Central University. You **MUST** complete RDS on www.cfnc.org before applying to these schools. Complete RDS as soon as possible for 4-year schools as well. If you lived in another state at the time of application, still have strong ties to another state, or have lived in NC for only a short period of time, the process may be more complicated. RDS may require more in-depth information or documentation to determine whether you are a legal resident of NC. The information that you submit will be validated against federal and NC state agency databases. Please keep a copy of all application materials for your records.

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN USING RDS: Applicants should complete the RDS process before completing the admissions application. You will only have to complete the process once, no matter how many NC college or university admissions applications you complete. Your RDS status is valid for 15 months, so if you plan to transfer from a community college, you will need to complete RDS again at that time. The RDS application is simply an online interview, and you may be asked to provide documentation afterward. It is a good idea to have identifying information easily available at the time you complete the RDS application. If you do not, RDS will save any confirmed information and allow you to re-enter the application process where you left off. Required information to complete the RDS application will include identification numbers for you and your parents, such as you might provide for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Information you may need include student and

parent social security numbers, residence information, federal/state tax return information, vehicle registration, and driver's license numbers. Active-duty military families should have LES and duty station orders information. Non-citizens should have alien registration numbers, US citizenship and Immigration service, ITIN identifiers, permanent resident card, EAD with approved category code, I-485 receipt notice & approved I-130/140/360, and federal tax form to confirm dependent status. Please note that DACA students are, by law, not NC residents for tuition purposes.

RESIDENCY CERTIFICATION NUMBER (RCN): Once a student completes the RDS application, RDS discloses residency classification to the student and the student receives a Residency Certification Number (RCN). You will need to enter your RCN on every college application you complete. Residency determination and applying for admission via www.cfnc.org is a seamless process. A student's RCN is automatically entered in all college applications through CFNC if a student has already completed the RDS application. **A student's CFNC login and password information are the same for RDS. Do not create a new account to complete RDS, and parents also should not create accounts for themselves.** Students not using CFNC to apply to college have a simple link to RDS on the college admission application.

RECONSIDERATION PROCESS: If a student's status results in "non-resident", then the information entered in the RDS application could not be validated or the required documentation did not validate NC residency. A student may request reconsideration and must submit required documentation **within 25 days of the request.** RDS reconsideration is for students who . . .

- need to correct certain errors in the data submitted on the RDS application
- have had a change in personal circumstances since completing their current determination
- did not submit the required documentation within the initial consideration timelines
- are requested by a college to complete a new determination.

APPEAL PROCESS: The RDS appeal process is for students who need to provide additional information and documentation to their claim of residency. Students have **10 calendar days from the date of the determination** they are appealing, or status change due to failed validation, to submit Notification of Appeal. Some students, depending on the status of their appeal process, will have the ability for a face-to-face appeal hearing with RDS.

RDS vs. FAFSA: RDS is not the FAFSA. RDS is for residency determination for in-state vs. out-of-state tuition. FAFSA is for financial aid. All students planning to go to college in NC must complete the RDS application. Students planning to receive financial aid assistance (including scholarships and federal loans) must complete the FAFSA. **Please note: the FAFSA must be completed for each year a student will be in school. RDS must be completed before college admission, and your initial status will be used for each year you are continuously enrolled at that institution. Only re-submit RDS if you are transferring to a new institution, if your situation has changed and would result in a new determination, or if you have a gap in enrollment of 2 or more semesters.**

1. **Go to www.cfnc.org.** Log-in using your CFNC account information. Click Apply to College and then Residency Determination. Complete the remainder of the application per the instructions.
2. **RCN:** Every student will receive a residency certification number (RCN) and will need this number for every NC college application.

Financial Aid Information

Financial Aid Helpline: 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243)

The Federal government mandated the creation and use of one form (FAFSA) to apply for federal financial aid. However, individual states and colleges may also require the completion of supplemental forms. Each college will specify which forms they require. Every senior & parent should be aware that the FAFSA should be submitted at the earliest possible date after the FAFSA opens in December. Detailed information on financial aid and resources is available through the United States Department of Education. Visit www.studentaid.gov for details. The FAFSA must be completed by all students, regardless of residency, in order to qualify for aid/scholarships. You won't receive any financial aid if you don't apply!

NOTE: ALL SENIORS must complete the FAFSA application. It is required for need based federal aid, but also for many MERIT BASED SCHOLARSHIPS.

NOTE: The FAFSA will become available in December 2023. Families will be asked to report income from their [2022 tax information](#).

FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid (www.studentaid.gov): All students applying for any federal financial aid must file this form. The FAFSA is the **only** application students must complete to be considered for all federal financial aid including Pell Grants, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, Stafford Loans, Work-Study, and other federal financial aid programs. **Students will not be charged a fee when filing this form and the data can be sent to up to 10 colleges.** Make sure you list all of the colleges to which you have or will submit an application. If you wish to have the data sent to additional institutions, the instructions are listed on the Student Aid Report (SAR). Aid applicants should expect to receive the SAR within 2 to 6 weeks following application. **Many scholarships require FAFSA submission.**

● HOW DO YOU APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID?

1. First, create an **FSA ID** at <https://fsaid.ed.gov>. Every student and one parent will need to create an FSA ID (Federal Student Aid ID). The FSA ID consists of a user-created username and password to electronically access personal information on Federal Student Aid websites, including FAFSA on the web. You can use your FSA ID immediately to sign your FAFSA, but you must wait for the Social Security Administration (SSA) to verify your information before you can use the FSA ID to create a renewal FAFSA, make corrections to your FAFSA, or view your SAR (Student Aid Report). **NOTE: If a parent has ever created an FSA ID previously for themselves or a dependent, he/she DOES NOT have to create a new one. Use the same FSA ID and password. If you have questions about the FSA ID, call 1-800-433-3243.**
2. Access the FAFSA at www.studentaid.gov online or by downloading the **myStudentAid** app.

CSS Profile: In addition to the FAFSA, many colleges request additional information with their own institutional form. A commonly used form is the **CSS Profile**, which you can learn more about at www.cssprofile.collegeboard.org/. The CSS Profile is a supplemental financial aid resource. Please check to see if the colleges in which you are applying require it. The profile is also a required documentation for some scholarship programs.

Stafford Loan: There are two types of Stafford Loans – Subsidized and Unsubsidized.

- Subsidized – Need-based loan where the government pays the interest on the loan. It is awarded to students who demonstrate financial need based on their FAFSA submission. The interest is paid by the Federal Government, and students are not responsible for payments and interest until six months after they graduate from college. Example - If you accept a subsidized loan for \$2,000 your freshman year, you will owe \$2,000 for that loan when your payments begin. Interest does not begin until the 6-month grace period has passed.
- Unsubsidized – Available to students who do not demonstrate financial need. **Students must still complete the FAFSA to be eligible.** As soon as the loan is accepted, the student is responsible for the interest that accrues. Example – If you accept an unsubsidized loan for \$2,000 your freshman year, interest begins immediately, and you will owe \$2,000 plus 4 years of interest when your payments begin 6 months after graduation. Even though the government does not pay interest on unsubsidized loans, this option is still attractive to many people as the interest rate is typically lower than any third-party loans.

Pell Grants and Supplemental Educational Grants: Pell Grants and SEOG's are distributed to students based solely on need as determined by the FAFSA. The college financial aid office determines the amount received for Pell and SEOG.

Work-Study: Work-Study is a federally funded program that allows students to work on campus to help defray the costs of education. This program is organized by the school's financial aid office. In most cases you receive a regular paycheck for this work and therefore it is imperative that you save this money to put toward tuition and books as most colleges do not automatically do this for you.

Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS): Through this program, parents may borrow the entire cost of their students' education, less financial aid. Repayment of PLUS loans must begin within 60 days of disbursement. Bank approval of a PLUS loan hinges on examination of the family's credit history. The low interest rates on PLUS loans make these an attractive option for families who plan to finance educational costs. One parent applies for the loan and again, the parent must have good credit.

Calendar for Applying for Financial Aid

September

- Research specific college financial aid websites to find out if they require any other forms like the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE®.
- Check college websites to obtain financial aid contact information and office phone numbers. Call them if you need additional information.
- Attend LCPS College & Financial Aid Night at Kinston Community Center on Wednesday, October 25, 2023. College Night is from 4:30-6:30 p.m. with a Financial Aid presentation at 6:00 p.m. in the banquet room across the hall from the college recruiters.

December – FAFSA TIME

- **SUBMIT YOUR FAFSA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER IT OPENS IN DECEMBER – DON'T DELAY!!!!!!**
The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will be available at www.studentaid.gov.
- Check with your school's college adviser for FAFSA/RDS Assistance Night dates and information. These events will be held at various times throughout the school year.

November - March

- As you receive letters of acceptance, check with financial aid offices to see if additional documentation must be submitted. Some colleges may request copies of your family's income tax forms, W-2 forms, and other materials.
- Please notify your school counselor of any aid/grants/awards/scholarships offered.

April

- Compare financial aid award offers from the colleges where you are accepted. Talk to financial aid officers at the colleges or your school's college adviser if you have questions. If you don't get any financial aid (or not enough), ask whether other financing plans are available.
- Please notify your school counselor of any aid/grants/awards/scholarships offered.

May

- If you've been offered aid from your chosen college, be sure to accept the offer as instructed in your award letter. (Note: You'll need to reapply for financial aid every year.)
- If you've received aid from other schools, let them know that you will not be attending.
- Please notify your school counselor of any aid/grants/awards/scholarships offered.

Scholarship Process

There are a number of scholarship opportunities—the trick is finding out which ones are applicable to you. Check your high school’s website and your school email on a regular basis for information regarding current scholarships and deadlines. Most scholarships will be sent directly to the school to be advertised and this will go through school email.

Pay careful attention to scholarship dates and deadlines. Be sure to leave yourself plenty of time to do a professional job! Be forewarned—the application process for scholarships is often as detailed as applying for college. Keep applying for scholarships **throughout the year**. The most important thing to remember is to **never** pay for a scholarship or for scholarship information.

Individual colleges and universities also offer merit-based and need-based scholarship programs. Many institutions require students to apply by the Early Action deadline in the fall to be eligible for merit-based scholarships. It is the student’s responsibility to check with each college for specific scholarship information. Scholarship sponsors will notify you directly if you receive a scholarship award. Counselors will generally not be notified. Please notify your school counselor of any aid/grants/awards/scholarships offered.

Please remember that many scholarships require submission of the FAFSA. All students are encouraged to submit the FAFSA regardless of their family’s financial status.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Scholarship award announcement letters are usually sent to the recipients (i.e., the student). Inform your counselor of all scholarships that you are offered. Please provide them with a copy of the award letter, even if you do not accept the award. NOTE: All scholarships/awards must be turned in to your counselor at least two weeks prior to Awards Day.

Graduation Guidelines

Graduation

LCPS requires all graduates to:

- Pay a \$25 graduation fee to assist with costs associated with graduation such as diplomas and diploma covers, regardless of whether or not students participate in the ceremony.
- Purchase graduation apparel per school guidelines.
- Pay all school fees and return all textbooks, classroom or athletic equipment, iPad/charger, and library books by the end of the last semester in classes.
- Complete the Senior exit survey prior to graduation.
- Follow the school's guidelines for Awards Day and graduation ceremony practice.
- Meet North Carolina academic graduation requirements.

Early Graduation

High school seniors may request early graduation, providing the following criteria have been met:

- All required course credits must be earned. It is the responsibility of the student to arrange his/her class schedules accordingly. Students planning to graduate early will need to enroll in and successfully complete all the required courses and accumulate the required number of credits prior to early graduation.
- The student must meet with the high school counselor to discuss course credits and graduation requirements prior to approval.
- Early graduation forms must be completed and signed by the graduate and the graduate's parent or legal guardian.
- All school fees must be paid in full and all textbooks, classroom or athletic equipment, iPad/charger, and library books must be returned by the end of the last semester in classes.

The completion of graduation requirements is dependent upon the availability of necessary courses. Some colleges and universities discourage early graduation from high school. The student is responsible for contacting the college/university to where they are planning to apply in order to make an informed decision regarding early graduation. Early graduate students who want to stay informed about scholarship information and deadlines will need to contact the school periodically since they are no longer enrolled in the high school. Early graduate students will be included in the senior class rank.

After approval for early graduation and completion of first semester, the individual is no longer a high school student and:

- May not participate in any second semester high school extra-curricular activities, other than events associated with prom or graduation.
- No longer eligible for high school post-secondary courses, such as dual enrollment at the community college.