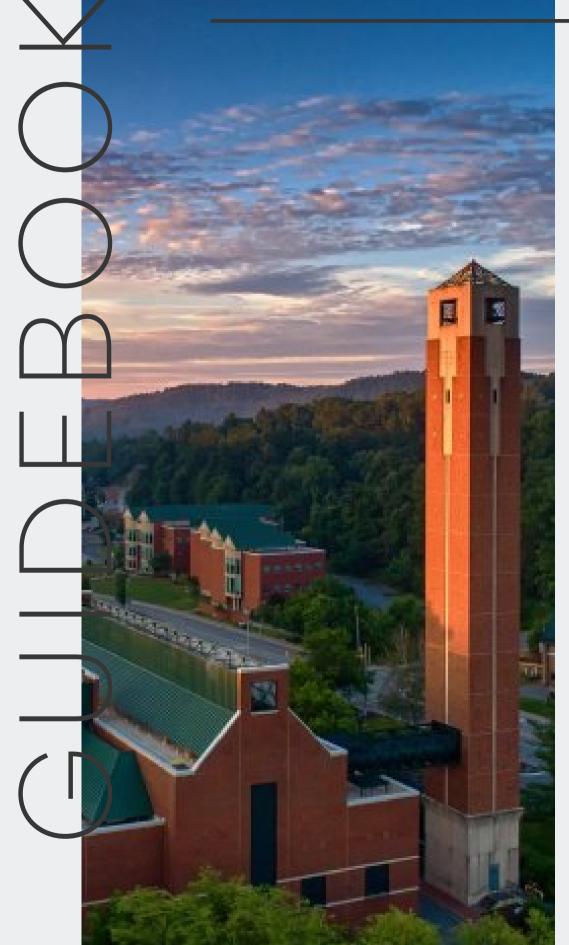
# 2021



#### WHERE WILL YOU GO AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?

The opportunities are endless. Where will you go next?

#### 2-YEAR AND 4-YEAR COLLEGES

Knowing the difference between a 2-year and a 4-year college could save you time and money.

### IS THE MILITARY THE RIGHT PATH FOR YOU?

With many branches, career and education opportunities, the military may be the right path for you.

### THE CONTACTS ARE ENDLESS

Use this extensive list of contacts to reach out to your desired college or a recruiter.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

#### COLLEGE BOUND

Know what it takes to go to college after high school. There are 2 and 4-year opportunities available.



#### MILITARY MOVES

Find out what it takes to join the military after high school-- career and education opportunities are available.

#### WORKFORCE READY

Are you ready to start your career after you graduate? Let's cover the steps you need to take to jumpstart your career.

### CONTACTS & CONNECTIONS

A brief description of what this section is about and who it is for and how it helps your readers.



# TAKING THE NEXT STEP

#### Where will you go after high school?

It's never too early to prepare for your post-high school life. Throughout this guidebook we'll go over the 4 main pathways (workforce, military, 2-year and 4-year college) you can take after you graduate high school, as well as how they can intertwine.

We will also look at the steps you need to take to achieve your goals, while giving you contacts and connections to do some research on your own.

# COLLEGE BOUND

Whether you want to attend a 2-year or a 4-year college, check out this article for information on how to get there



You can think of the college application process in three steps: RDS, application(s), FAFSA.

Going to and graduating from college is a big accomplishment-- whether that be a 2 or 4-year school. If you want to attend college right after high school, there are several steps you must take in order to get there.

It's a good idea to explore majors and career pathways before your senior year. This way, you already know the requirements and standards needed to attend the college you want.

For example, to attend a UNC system school in North Carolina, you must have completed or be on track to complete all of the high school graduation requirements set by the state. Additionally, you must have taken 2 levels of a foreign language and a fourth math. In order to apply to a UNC system school, you must also have at least a 2.5 weighted GPA or a 19 ACT score or a 1010 SAT score. Two-year school admission requirements are a little different. While most 2-year schools in North Carolina do not require you to have a fourth math or a foreign language, <u>you should make sure the program</u> <u>you want to join does not have any</u> <u>special requirements.</u>

For example, a radiology program at a community college or the 2-year Ag. Institute at NC State may require you to complete an additional level of math in order to be considered for admissions. You still must complete all of the North Carolina high school graduation requirements in order to attend. Additionally, there are 4-year private schools in our state that also may not have the same requirements as the UNC system. Again, you should research before you apply to make sure you still meet their admissions requirements.

When applying to a 2-year or 4-year school in North Carolina, in order to receive in-state tuition, you must complete the Residency Determination Service (RDS). RDS uses your and your parents'/quardians' personal information, like address, driver's license number and social security number, to conclude you live in the state. Without completing RDS, you will be required to pay out-of-state tuition, which can be thousands upon thousands of dollars more. You will complete RDS using your College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC) account information. You should complete RDS early in your senior year of high school.

Following RDS, you still have to apply to college. Most applications for 2year schools in North Carolina can be found on CFNC. If you cannot find your desired school's application on CFNC, you should visit the school's admissions website. For most 4-year schools in North Carolina, you will find their application in 1 of 3 places: CFNC, Common App or the school's website.

If you want to apply to multiple schools using the Common App, you should start working in Common App first. However, if the schools you are wanting to apply to participate in Free College Application Week, then you should use CFNC. Still, some schools may prefer to use their own application via their website.

For most 4-year schools you will need to provide test scores, essays and letters of recommendations. <u>It's</u> <u>important to view your applications</u> <u>early so you can gather the</u> <u>necessary information and materials.</u> For recommendations, you should ask for your recommender's permission at least one month in advance of the due date.

Finally, to complete the college application process, you should submit the FAFSA. The FAFSA is your gateway for free money for college. *The FAFSA opens every year on October 1 for the next school year.* You will use your parent/guardian's tax information from 2 years prior to the school year for which you are applying to complete the FAFSA. For example, if you are filling out the FAFSA for the 2021-2022 school year, then you will use your 2019 taxes.

The earlier you complete the FAFSA, the more aid you are eligible for. You should check with your desired school to see when their FAFSA deadline is. Some schools will not give out institutional aid or scholarships without having a FAFSA on file.

# QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN CONSIDERING IF A COLLEGE IS RIGHT FOR YOU...

- What makes this school special?
- How many undergraduate students attend this school?
- How diverse is this campus?
- What is the average class size?
- What major(s) does this school offer?
- When do I have to declare a major?
- Is it possible to double major?
- What opportunities do I have to study abroad?
- What type of academic support does this school offer?
- Does this school have an orientation program for incoming first-years or transfer students?
- What career services does this school offer?
- What kind of housing choices are there?
- Am I required to live on campus my first year?

- What meal plans are available?
- Can I have a car on campus?
- When is the FAFSA due each year?
- Does this school provide workstudy?
- What scholarships/grants can I apply for? OR Where can I find scholarships/grants I can apply to?

Questions to ask current students or recent graduates:

- Why did you decide to attend this school?
- What do you like most about this school?
- If you could start your college journey over again, what would you change?
- What challenges did you face at this school?
- What has helped you succeed at this school?

## IS THE MILITARY RIGHT FOR YOU?

Kick off your career with the US Military

After high school, you may decide to jump start your career by joining the military. With several branches and many jobs to choose from, the possibilities with the military are endless. In order to join the military, you need to take these necessary steps.

First, you'll need to contact and meet with recruiters. You don't have to choose one particular branch to start. You can meet with a recruiter from every branch to see which branch best fits you. Some jobs you are eligible for in the military are based on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB). You should study for and take the ASVAB while meeting with recruiters. Then you'll need to complete the Military Entrance Processing Stations (MEPS). From there you'll need to continue physically training or follow a training path set out by your recruiter. By this time you will most likely have narrowed down which branch you will join; you'll begin discussing contracts and jobs with your recruiter. This is a good time to discuss signing bonuses and education opportunities.

Once you have a contract set, you will take your oath of enlistment. The next step will be to go to basic training then complete your contract. After your contract has been completed (usually 4-6 years), then you could finish your career with the military, go to college or join the workforce.

## DO YOU WANT A FREE EDUCATION?

### By joining a Reserves program you could go to college for free

Members of the Selected Reserves may be eligible for tuition assistance depending on the branch they are a part of. As a high school student wanting to go to college, but not sure how you're going to pay for it, looking in to the Reserves program may be worth your while. You'll still need to look in to the different branches and make sure what they offer aligns with your education and career goals. You'll want to be meeting with a recruiter during these discussions. Meeting with a recruiter does not commit you to joining the Reserves. If deciding the Reserves is right for you, then you'll still be required to go to basic training, and you'll be committing to work one weekend a month and train 2 weeks out of the year to complete your Reserve duties. Although, when you're not completing your Reserve duties, you're a regular college student.

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# JOINING THE WORKFORCE



Some students decide to join the workforce right out of high school. If you're considering joining the workforce right out of high school you should research careers, training, pay and benefits before committing to that job. You should also be networking with potential employers to make sure there are positions available when you graduate high school.

Throughout your senior year, you should meet with your Career Development Coordinator and network with potential employers to make sure you understand what it takes to do this job right out of high school. You don't want to be caught at graduation without any offers, so don't wait until it's too late.

#### QUESTIONS TO ASK

When entering the workforce, employers often use interviews to get to know applicants better. Interviews are also an opportunity for you to learn more about a job position.

These are some questions you may want to ask:

- Can you tell me about the type of supervision provided for this position?
- What type of training or orientation do new employees receive?
- Are there opportunities for advancement in the workplace?
- What have past employees done to succeed in this position?
- When should I expect to hear back from you?

If pay and/or benefits are not listed with the job posting:

- What is the pay for this position?
- Are there benefits available to someone in this position?

# IN-STATE FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

#### APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY

admissions.appstate.edu E: admissions@appstate.edu P: 828-262-2120

Plan a campus or virtual visit at appstate.edu/visit.

#### EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

info.ecu.edu/future-students E: admissions@ecu.edu P: 252-328-6640

Plan a campus or virtual visit at admissions.ecu.edu/virtual-visit.

#### ELIZABETH CITY STATE UNIVERSITY

ecsu.edu/admissions/index.html E: admissions@ecsu.edu P: 252-335-3305

Plan a campus or virtual visit at vikingadmissions.ecsu.edu/tourpicker.a sp.

#### FAYETTEVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

https://www.uncfsu.edu/fsuadmissions E: admissions@uncfsu.edu P: 800-222-2594

Plan a campus or virtual visit at broncoville.uncfsu.edu/tourpicker.asp.



#### NORTH CAROLINA A&T STATE UNIVERSITY

ncat.edu/admissions/undergraduate E: uadmit@ncat.edu P: 336-334-7946 or 800-443-8964

Plan a campus or virtual visit at ncat.edu/admissions/undergraduate/vi sit-us.php.

#### NC CENTRAL UNIVERSITY

nccu.edu/admissions/undergraduateadmissions E: admissions@nccu.edu P: 919-530-6298

Plan a campus or virtual visit at eaglepromise.nccu.edu/tourpicker.asp.

#### NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

admissions.ncsu.edu E: undergrad\_admissions@ncsu.edu P: 919-515-2434

Plan a campus or virtual visit at admissions.ncsu.edu/visit/scheduleyour-visit.

#### UNC ASHEVILLE

unca.edu/admission/why-unc-asheville E: admissions@unca.edu P: 828.251.6481

Plan a campus or virtual visit at unca.edu/admission/visit.

#### THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHARLOTTE

admissions.uncc.edu E: admissions@uncc.edu P: 704-687-5507

Plan a campus or virtual visit at admissions.uncc.edu/visit.



#### THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

admissions.unc.edu E: unchelp@admissions.unc.edu P: 919-966-3621

Plan a campus or virtual visit at admissions.unc.edu/visit/scheduleyour-visit.

#### UNC GREENSBORO

admissions.uncg.edu E: admissions@uncg.edu P: 336.334.5243

Plan a campus or virtual visit at admissions.uncg.edu/visit/visit-options.

#### UNC PEMBROKE

uncp.edu/admissions E: admissions@uncp.edu P: 910.521.6262

Plan a campus or virtual visit at uncp.edu/admissions/undergraduateadmissions/visiting-campus.

#### THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

uncsa.edu/undergraduate/index.aspx E: admissions@uncsa.edu P: 336-770-3290

Plan a visit at uncsa.edu/admissions/visit-meetconnect.

#### UNC WILMINGTON

uncw.edu/admissions E: admissions@uncw.edu P: 910-962-3243

Plan a campus or virtual visit at uncw.edu/admissions/visit.

#### WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

wcu.edu/apply/undergraduateadmissions/index.aspx E: admiss@email.wcu.edu P: 877-928-4968

Plan a campus or virtual visit at wcu.edu/apply/undergraduateadmissions/visit-wcu/index.aspx.

#### WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY

wssu.edu/admissions E: admissions@wssu.edu P: 336-750-2074

Plan a campus or virtual visit at wssu.edu/about/visit.html.



#### BARTON COLLEGE

barton.edu/admissions E: enroll@barton.edu P: 252-629-5472

Plan a campus or virtual visit at barton.edu/visit.

#### BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

belmontabbeycollege.edu/admissions E: admissions@bac.edu P: 704-461-6665

Plan a campus or virtual visit at belmontabbeycollege.edu/visitadmission-events.

#### BENNETT COLLEGE

bennett.edu/admissions E: admiss@bennett.edu P: 1-800-413-5323 or 336-370-8624

Plan a campus visit at bennett.edu/about/visitingbennett/schedule-tour.

#### BREVARD COLLEGE

brevard.edu/admission-aid E: admissions@brevard.edu P: 828-641-0461

Plan a campus or virtual visit at brevard.edu/visit.

### CABARRUS COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

atriumhealth.org/education/cabarruscollege-of-health-sciences/admissions E: admissions@cabarruscollege.edu P: 704-403-1556

Plan a campus or virtual visit at atriumhealth.org/education/cabarruscollege-of-healthsciences/admissions/plan-your-visit.

#### CAMPBELL UNIVERSITY

campbell.edu/admissions E: admissions@campbell.edu P: 800-334-4111

Plan a campus or virtual visit at campbell.edu/admissions/visit-us.

#### CATAWBA COLLEGE

catawba.edu/admissions E: admissions@catawba.edu P: 704-637-4402

Plan a campus or virtual visit at catawba.edu/admissions/undergraduat e/visit.

#### CHOWAN UNIVERSITY

chowan.edu/admissions E: admissions@chowan.edu P: 1-888-424-6926

Plan a campus or virtual visit at chowan.edu/admissions/visit.

#### DAVIDSON COLLEGE

davidson.edu/admission-and-financialaid E: admission@davidson.edu P: 800-768-0380

Plan a campus or virtual visit at davidson.edu/admission-and-financialaid/virtual-visit.

#### DUKE UNIVERSITY

admissions.duke.edu E: undergrad-admissions@duke.edu P: 919-684-3214

Plan a campus ir virtual visit at admissions.duke.edu/visit.

#### ELON UNIVERSITY

elon.edu/admissions E: admissions@elon.edu P: 336-278-3566

Plan a campus or virtual tour at admissions.elon.edu/portal/campus-visit.

#### GARDNER-WEBB UNIVERSITY

gardner-webb.edu/admissionsaid/undergraduate E: admissions@gardner-webb.edu P: 800-253-6472

Plan a campus or virtual visit at gardner-webb.edu/visit.

#### GREENSBORO COLLEGE

greensboro.edu/admissions-info E: admissions@greensboro.edu P: 336-217-7211

Plan a campus or virtual visit at greensboro.edu/visit-the-campus.

#### GUILFORD COLLEGE

guilford.edu/admissions E: admission@guilford.edu P: 336-316-2000

Plan a campus or virtual visit at guilford.edu/visit.

#### HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY

highpoint.edu/admissions E: admiss@highpoint.edu P: 336-841-9216

Plan a campus or virtual visit at highpoint.edu/admissions/visits.



#### JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY

jcsu.edu/admissions E: admissions@jcsu.edu P: 704-378-1010

Plan a campus or virtual visit at jcsu.edu/admissions/future\_students/e xplore\_our\_campus.

#### LEES-MCRAE COLLEGE

Imc.edu/admissions/undergraduate/in dex.htm E: admissions@Imc.edu P: 828-898-5241

Plan a campus or virtual visit at Imc.edu/admissions/visit/index.htm.

#### LENOIR-RHYNE UNIVERSITY

Ir.edu/admission/undergraduate P: 828-328-1741

Plan a campus or virtual visit at lr.edu/about/campusmap.

#### LIVINGSTON COLLEGE

livingstone.edu/admissions E: info@livingston.edu P: 704-216-6001

Plan a campus or virtual visit by calling 704-216-6001.

#### LOUISBURG COLLEGE

louisburg.edu/admissions/index.php P: 919-496-2521

Plan a campus or virtual visit at louisburg.edu/admissions/schedule-avisit/index.php.

#### MARS HILL UNIVERSITY

mhu.edu/future-students/admissions E: admissions@mhu.edu P: 828-689-1201

Plan a visit at mhu.edu/futurestudents/traditionalundergraduate/visit-us.

#### METHODIST UNIVERSITY

methodist.edu/admissions/ E: admissions@methodist.edu P: 910-630-7027

Plan a campus or virtual visit at methodist.edu/visit-campus.

#### UNIVERSITY OF MOUNT OLIVE

umo.edu/traditional-undergraduate E: admissions@umo.edu P: 800-653-0854

Plan a campus or virtual visit at apply.umo.edu/portal/campusvisit.

#### MONTREAT COLLEGE

montreat.edu/admissions E: admissions@montreat.edu P: 828-350-2084

Plan a visit at montreat.edu/admissions/undergradua te/visit.

#### MEREDITH COLLEGE

meredith.edu/admissions E: admissions@meredith.edu P: 919-760-8581

Plan a campus or virtual visit at meredith.edu/admissions/visit.

#### NC WESLEYAN COLLEGE

ncwc.edu/admissions E: admissions@ncwc.edu P: 252-985-5200

Plan a campus or virtual visit at ncwc.edu/admissions/schedule-a-visit.



#### PFEIFFER UNIVERSITY

pfeiffer.edu/admissions/undergraduate -admissions E: admissions@pfeiffer.edu P: 704-463-3060

Plan a campus or virtual visit at pfeiffer.edu/visit-campus.

#### QUEENS UNIVERSITY OF CHARLOTTE

queens.edu/admissions-aid E: admissions@queens.edu P: 704-337-2212

Plan a campus or virtual visit at queens.edu/about/visit.

#### SAINT AUGUSTINE'S UNIVERSITY

st-aug.edu/admissions P: 919-516-4012

Plan a campus or virtual visit at outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/S AUCampusTours@staug.edu/bookings.



#### SHAW UNIVERSITY

shawu.edu/Admissions E: admissions@shawu.edu P: 800-214-6683 or 919-546-8275

Plan a campus or virtual visit at shawu.edu/campustour.

#### ST. ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE

sa.edu/admissions E: admissions@sa.edu P: 910-277-5555

Plan a campus or virtual visit at sa.edu/personalized-visit.

#### WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

admissions.wfu.edu E: admissions@wfu.edu P: 336-758-5201

Plan a campus or virtual tour at admissions.wfu.edu/visit/schedule-a-visit/.

#### WARREN WILSON COLLEGE

https://www.warrenwilson.edu/admission/ E: admit@warren-wilson.edu P: 800-934-3536

Plan a campus or virtual visit at https://www.warrenwilson.edu/admission/visit/.

#### WILLIAM PEACE UNIVERSITY

peace.edu/admissions-aid/ E: admissions@peace.edu P: 919-508-2214

Plan a campus or virtual visit at peace.edu/admissions-aid/plan-a-visit/.

#### WINGATE UNIVERSITY

wingate.edu/admissions/undergraduat e-admissions E: admit@wingate.edu P: 704-233-8200

Plan a campus or virtual visit at wingateuniversity.secure.force.com/Vis it/.

# OUT-OF-STATE FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

#### CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

clemson.edu/admissions E: apply@admission.clemson.edu P: 864-656-2287

Plan a campus or virtual visit at clemson.edu/admissions/visit/index.ht ml.

#### EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

etsu.edu/admissions E: admissions@etsu.edu P: 1-423-439-4213 or 1-800-462-3878

Plan a campus or virtual visit at etsu.edu/admissions/visit/.

#### COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

coastal.edu/admissions E: admissions@coastal.edu P: 843-349-2170

Plan a campus or virtual visit at coastal.edu/admissions/visits/.

#### KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

k-state.edu/admissions E: apply@k-state.edu P: 785-532-1521

Plan a campus or virtual visit at k-state.edu/admissions/visit.

\*There are many more out-of-state colleges you may consider.



#### THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

admissions.utk.edu E: admissions@utk.edu P: 865-974-1111

Plan a campus or virtual visit at admissions.utk.edu/visit.

#### UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

admission.virginia.edu E: undergradadmission@virginia.edu P: 336-758-5201

Plan a campus or virtual visit at virginia.edu/visit.

#### VIRGINIA TECH

vt.edu/admissions/undergraduate E: admissions@vt.edu P: 540-231-6267

Plan a campus or virtual visit at vt.edu/admissions/undergraduate/visit.

# TWO-YEAR COLLEGES AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

### CALDWELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE & TECHNICAL INSTITUTE (CCC&TI)

cccti.edu/Admissions/Default.asp#bec oming P: 828-726-2200

\*Your Transition Advisor or College Advisor can assist with the CCC&TI application process.

#### CATAWBA VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

cvcc.edu/Academic-Resources/Admissions/index.cfm E: admissions@cvcc.edu P: 828-327-7000

Take a virtual tour at photographyoptions.net/images/cataw bavalley/tour1.html.



### CENTRAL PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

cpcc.edu P: 704-330-2722

Plan a virtual tour at cpcc.edu/events/campus-tour.

#### CLEVELAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

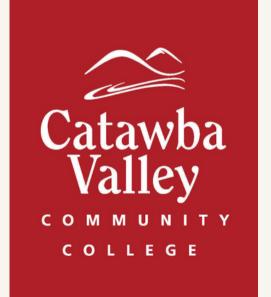
clevelandcc.edu/programs P: 704-669-6000

### FORSYTH TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

forsythtech.edu P: 336-734-7023

#### MCDOWELL TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

mcdowelltech.edu E: admissions@go.mcdowelltech.edu P: 828-652-6022 or 828-659-0444



#### AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE AT NORTH CAROLINA STATE

**UNIVERSITY** cals.ncsu.edu/agriculturalinstitute/students/admissions/ E: ag\_institute@ncsu.edu P: 919-515-3248

Plan a virutal tour at cals.ncsu.edu/agriculturalinstitute/about/spend-a-day-at-state/.

#### UNIVERSAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

uti.edu/locations/northcarolina/mooresville P: 877-201-2597

Plan a tour at uti.edu/locations/campus-tours.

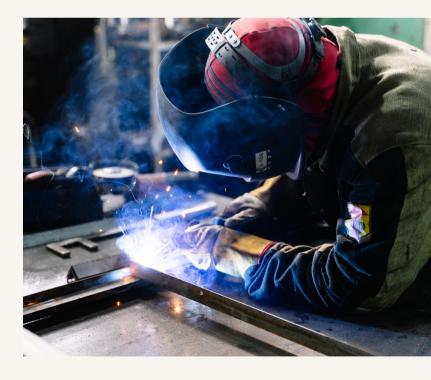
### WESTERN PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

wpcc.edu/admissions/ P: 828-448-3500

#### WILKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

wilkescc.edu/enroll P: 336-838-6137 There are many more community colleges and 2-year programs throughout North Carolina. The College Foundation of North Carolina's CFNC.org is a great resource to explore any school and find out what programs they offer. The College Advisor can also help you find other 2-year programs.







# MILITARY CONTACTS

#### NATIONAL GUARD

SSG Nic Carey 828-292-7068 (cell)

#### UNITED STATES ARMY

Mykal McLean, Staff Sargeant 828-322-1075

#### UNITED STATES MARINES

SSgt Croachie 828-962-7006

#### UNITED STATES NAVY

Petty Officer Fleenor 828-320-3749

#### UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

MSgt Richard Adcock 828-324-6781

#### UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

HQS-SMB-CGRC-ROCHARLOTTE@USCG.MIL 704-598-5696

### LOCAL CONTACTS

#### Sarah Kocher

Caldwell County 4-H Youth Development Agent sarah\_kocher@ncsu.edu 828-757-1258 Resumes, Interviews, Developing Soft Skills, Personal Finance

Education, Leadership and Community Service Opportunities

#### **College Advisors**

Hibriten High School- 828-758-7376 Caldwell Early College High School- 828-759-4636 South Caldwell High School- 828-396-2188 West Caldwell High School- 828-758-5583 2 and 4 year colleges, FAFSA, RDS

#### **Transition Advisors**

Hibriten High School- 828-758-7376 Caldwell Early College High School- 828-759-4636 South Caldwell High School- 828-396-2188 West Caldwell High School- 828-758-5583 Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute, Career & College Promise Program

#### Career Development Coordinator

Hibriten High School- 828-758-7376 South Caldwell High School- 828-396-2188 West Caldwell High School- 828-758-5583 Career & Technical Education, Career Networking



You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You're on your own. Any you know what you know. And YOU are the one who'll decide where to go... - Dr. Suess

This Guidebook was assembled in cooperation by:





