

AFHS
SENIOR YEAR
2023-2024

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS



* Students unable to achieve a higher level of Math past Math III will be considered for a Math Substitution Process. Ask your counselor for more information if you think this might be you.

Students applying directly to a 4 year college or university **MUST have taken a minimum of 2 levels of a World Language before graduating.

Curriculum	Units	Courses
English	4	English I, II, III, and IV
Math	4	Math 1, Math 2, Math 3, and 4th course beyond Math 3*
Science	3	Earth Science/ AP Environmental Science, Biology, and Physical Science/Chemistry/ Physics
Social Studies	4	World History, Civic Literacy, American History/ AP US History), and Economics & Personal Finance
Health & PE	1	Healthful Living
Requisite Electives	2	2 electives of any combination from either CTE, Arts Education, or Second Language**
Additional Electives	8	<p>► 8 elective courses from any area</p> <p>► 4 electives <i>strongly recommended</i> to concentrate in one area (CTE, Arts, or any other subject area)</p> <p>► You may select CTE courses that complete a Career Cluster</p>
Total	26	MINIMUM required to graduate

Important People to Know!

*Dean of Students - Ms. Carter

*10th-12th Grade Counselors

- A-Co - Ms. Butler
- Cr-He - Ms. Amalfitano
- Hi-Mc - Ms. Muir
- Me-R - Ms. Conley
- S-Z - Ms. Stiers**

*SAP Counselor- Ms. Burden



Other Student Services Staff:

*Registrar - Mrs. Wall

*Receptionist - Mrs. Connors

*Career Development

*Coordinator- Mrs. Guinn

*Financial Aid Advisor - Ms.
Brannan

What's Next for Your Student?

2yr Community
College

4 yr College/Univer

Military Career/Trade



Navy:

919-460-0457



U.S. ARMY

Army:

919-467-2500



Coast Guard

919-878-4303



Marine Corps:

919-460-0090

Military

- **Meet with a branch recruiter to explore opportunities and requirements for enlisting.**
- **There is a wide variety of career and educational opportunities within each branch**
- **Take the ASVAB- Students may sign up to take the ASVAB, the military entrance exam on Oct 18th**



U.S. AIR FORCE

Air Force:

919-380-7242



**United States
Space Force**

910-599-8132

Explore Careers

- Begin to consider short-term vs. long-term job opportunities
- Lifetime earning potential
- Even without a college degree, you could be eligible for a variety of full-time roles. Entry-level jobs can teach you valuable lessons in punctuality, productivity and overall work ethics. They also provide you with a steady income. This can be helpful if you want to earn money while deciding on a career path.

Contact our **Career Development Coordinator** to schedule an appointment: **Mrs. Guinn: tguinn@wcpss.net**

Two-Year College

College Transfer/Associates Degree/Certificate

- Community colleges offer various post-secondary programs including short term certificates, Associates Degrees and college transfer pathways.
- The North Carolina Community College System has an open enrollment policy-- **all high school graduates** are admitted.
- We encourage students to apply by early Spring semester to ensure they are able to enroll in their preferred courses, as well as to secure the best financial aid package.
- Explore Wake Tech's numerous degree and certificate programs here:
<https://www.waketech.edu/programs-courses>

Planning to be a college transfer student? Meet with an admissions advisor to review course and credit requirements, along with your timeline for transferring.

Bachelor Degree

(4 yr college/university)

How do you know it's for you?

- Plan ahead- does your student's future profession require a Bachelor Degree?
- Do they enjoy learning and the idea of the academic life?
- Are they torn between a few interests and the direction of their career path?
- Are they interested in gaining more networking opportunities in the field they would like to pursue?
- Are they excited to be immersed in the college traditions like football, greek life, and living on campus for example?

4-Year College

Building Your List

- How many schools should a student apply to?
 - 4-8
 - Reaches vs. Targets vs. Definites
 - Be mindful of application fees
- Do research to narrow their choices?
 - Understand the school's profile
 - Go on Campus Visits
 - Talk to admissions reps at college fairs
 - Consider what your student wants to get out of their college experience?
- Colleges and Universities visiting AFHS



Parts of the Application

- Application
- Essay
- High School Transcript
- Test Scores
- Application Fees
- Interviews and/or Auditions
- Counselor School Report/ Teacher and Counselor Letter(s) of Recommendation

College Application Help Sessions

- **Common App**- Answer any questions that a student might have.
 - *Tuesday Sept. 19th* during A & C Lunch (Cube)
 - *Thursday Sept. 21st* during A and C Lunch (Yellow Zone)
- **College Essay Tips**
 - Wednesday Sept 27th during A and C Lunch (Cube)

College Application To Do List



AFHS College Application To Do List

- ☐ **Keep your grades up!** Your GPA is a major factor considered for college admissions and scholarships
- ☐ **See the [AFHS College Application Summer To Do List](#)** for information on
 - ☐ Building a college list
 - ☐ Writing college essays
 - ☐ The ACT and SAT
 - ☐ Activity Lists/ Resumes
 - ☐ Recommendation letters
- ☐ **If you need a counselor recommendation letter** please complete the [Senior Info sheet for counselors](#). Note, not all schools require a counselor recommendation letter.
- ☐ **Establish your NC residency** [www.ncresidency.org](#)
 - ☐ Residency determines if students should have in-state or out of state tuition
 - ☐ You will need to complete and get an RCN to apply to any schools in NC
 - ☐ You will use your CFNC account login to complete this application
- ☐ **Know your CFNC log in** or create an account if you do not have one
 - ☐ [https://www.cfnc.org/](#)
 - ☐ You will can CFNC to send your official transcripts to North Carolina colleges and to apply to NC colleges and universities
 - ☐ CFNC also has a free application week in October. Select schools waive their college application fees if you apply through CFNC between October 16-20. The [list of participating schools will be available here October 1st](#).
- ☐ **Common App**
 - ☐ You can apply to [most colleges](#) using [Common App](#)
 - ☐ If you plan to use Common App, create an account
 - ☐ Keep your college list up to date in your Common App account so your recommenders can keep up with deadlines for materials.
 - ☐ [Helpful Common App resource](#)
 - ☐ Common answers for Common App Grades Questions- The approximated graduating class size is 649. Class Rank reporting is **Exact**. We are on a **4 Weighted** GPA scale
- ☐ **Sending Test Scores-** Most schools ask you to self-report test scores during the application process. After you are admitted, the school you choose to attend will ask for an official score report. If you need to send colleges your ACT or SAT scores, do so through [ACT.org](#) or [CollegeBoard.org](#).

- ☐ **Sending Official Transcripts**
 - ☐ Send NC colleges your transcripts through [CFNC.org](#)
 - ☐ For colleges outside of NC, send your transcripts through [https://wcpss.scriborder.com/](#)
 - ☐ Colleges that you apply to through Common App will receive your official transcript when counselors submit your Common App School Report (this will start to happen after rank is recalculated in late September).
- ☐ **Complete the FAFSA (*FREE Application for Federal Student Aid*)**
 - ☐ The application opens December 2023- [fafsa.gov](#)
 - ☐ You will need to [create an FSA ID](#) first
 - ☐ All students should fill out the FAFSA -[Types of Financial Aid](#)
 - ☐ Some schools (ex. Duke, UNC-CH, WFU, Elon) require a [CSS Profile](#) to complete the financial aid process
 - ☐ Contact [AFHS Financial Aid Advisor](#) (Lbrannan@wcpss.net) if you need help or see a [quick FAFSA tutorial](#)
- ☐ **Know your deadlines** for submitting all materials: [Deadlines for NC colleges and universities](#)
- ☐ **Search for scholarships**
 - ☐ **Local** -Check out the AFHS [scholarships page](#)
 - ☐ **State-based**- CFNC has a list of [state-based scholarships](#)
 - ☐ **Institutional**- visits the websites of the schools you are interested in to see what scholarships their freshmen can apply for. Sometimes, you do not have access to a school's scholarship portal until you have been accepted.
 - ☐ **National**- here are some websites for national scholarship searches:
 - [https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search](#)
 - [https://www.unigo.com/scholarships](#)
 - [https://www.fastweb.com/](#)
 - [https://www.collegegreenlight.com/](#)
 - [https://www.cappex.com/](#)
 - U.S. Department of Labor's [FREE scholarship search tool](#)
- ☐ Email or [meet with your counselor](#) when you need help 😊

NC Residency Determination Service

- What is Residency?
- RDS Policies
 - All North Carolina Students must complete this form for NC Colleges and Universities
 - Students must provide a unique identification number such as a Social Security Number, Taxpayer ID Number, Alien Registration Number, or US Citizenship and Immigration Service Number.
 - Students may also be required to submit supplemental documentation.
- 3 Ways to access the RDS Form:
 - The RDS website (<https://ncresidency.cfnc.org/residencyInfo/>)
 - CFNC.org Application Hub through student's account
 - Student Application Portal on respective colleges' websites

- **Early Decision vs. Early Action**

- Early Decision is binding- can only apply to 1
- Students may only apply to one school as Early Decision
- No restriction on the number of schools a student may apply to as Early Action



- **Out-of-State Schools - Things to Consider:**

- Financial Cost of the School + Fees
- Travel Costs
- Healthcare Costs (i.e. Insurance acceptance)
- Clothing Cost (Regional differences)
- Financial Aid (often less)

SENDING TRANSCRIPTS

- Counselors will include an official transcript in the fall and midyear on Common App applications.
- Students will be required to send their final transcript :
 - CFNC (cfnc.org) - Used for all NC schools **even** for NC colleges applied to on the Common App
 - Scriborder (<http://wcpss.scriborder.com>) - All out-of-state schools that are not on Common App
 - **FINAL** Transcripts - Students are responsible for requesting through CFNC for IN-STATE schools and Scriborder for OUT-of-STATE.

****If you need a transcript for a scholarship or for personal use, either request via Scriborder or contact our Registrar, Mrs. Wall, in Student Services.

Student's Roles & Responsibilities

- Keep up with deadlines
- Make good decisions (personally, socially, academically)
- Research college/universities and admissions requirements
- **Requesting teacher recommendations and counselor reports**
 - Includes filling out Senior Google Form for Counselors
 - Students should have requested a recommendation at least 3 weeks prior to the college deadline
 - Verifying recommenders and counselor's email address before submitting on your college recommendation.
 - Giving resume to teacher
 - Requesting test scores from College Board and ACT
 - Requesting transcripts
 - Completing applications including writing essays

NC Countdown to College Free Application Week



- Apply to select NC colleges and universities for free during the week of Oct. 16th - 20th 2023
- Must complete and submit college application via CFNC.org's Application Hub
- Application must be submitted by 5:00pm Oct. 20th to qualify for waived fee
- **List of participating schools: found on CFNC.org**

Financial Aid- FAFSA

- FAFSA Presentation....Oct 2023 date TBD
- Linda Brannan is our Financial Aid Representative for AFHS. She can help you and your family with **FAFSA** questions.
- Ms. Brannan is also available via email for brief questions: lbrannan@wcpss.net.
- Appointments can be made for an online appointment at the link below
- [Make an Financial Aid appointment](#)

Other Types of Financial Aid

- **Grants**- a financial award usually given by a company, foundation, or the government
- **Loan**- Money that is borrowed and expected to be paid back with interest
- **Work Study**- part-time employment while in school. It is allowed for students that qualify for financial aid.
- **Scholarships**-are financial aid awards designed to help students pay for an undergraduate degree. Sometimes a scholarship is a one-time check. Other school scholarships are renewable and provide money for students each semester or school year. These awards differ from student loans in that they don't have to be repaid.

Scholarships

- Always research scholarship opportunities offered through the colleges to which you plan to apply.
- Make use of online scholarship search engines: **Fastweb**, **Big Future**, **CFNC**, and many others.
- AFHS Student Services website with listing of national and local scholarship opportunities for AFHS students:
(https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LuSqVVaC3OAtd-FeZ-IXPgKCspyiBH2EoX5J63L_41o/edit)
- APPLY TO ALL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR WHICH YOU ARE ELIGIBLE.
- **Students should report all scholarship offers to Student Services even if they are not accepting them. This is important for data collection for WCPSS.**



Senior Exam Exemption Policy 2023/2024

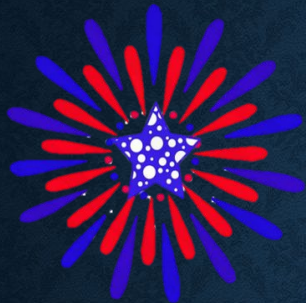
Per WCPSS, the following guidance for senior exam exemptions in
2023-2024 will be:

Students in grade 12 may be exempt from exams based on the following criteria:

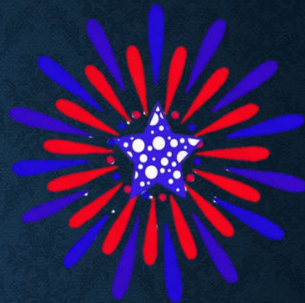
- (1) projected final grade of B or higher; and
- (2) student must have 10 or fewer absences in the course.

Please note the following:

- All absences will count toward the 10 total absences including excused, unexcused, educational, college visits, etc.
- At the end of the semester, students may apply to waive additional absences that are (1) outside of their control (such as documented medical absence/hospitalization; absence due to bus route not running, etc.); and (2) are well documented beyond the student / parent. This waiver will be extremely limited.
- Students cannot be exempt from state testing including field tests.



Graduation



MANDATORY Graduation Rehearsal:

June 4th

Families should not plan College Orientations, Vacations, or anything else that conflicts with this date!

Graduation Ceremony: Saturday, June 8th at 8:00 pm

***Students Must arrive 1 hour before Ceremony**

*****The Graduation Newsletter, with more details, will be provided in the Spring.**