



Pisgah High School Senior Newsletter

December 2015

Pisgah High School Counseling Center, 1 Black Bear Drive, Canton, NC 28716
(828) 646-3440

Find us on the web at: teacher.haywood.k12.nc.us/phs-counselingcenter/

Follow us on Twitter @ [pisgahcounselor](https://twitter.com/pisgahcounselor)

FAFSA

Don't forget! You may begin working on your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) **January 1, 2016**.

Go to www.fafsa.ed.gov for information on completing the application; you may print out a planning worksheet and go online to create an i.d. and pin number in advance! **THIS IS THE ONLY WEBSITE THAT ALLOWS YOU TO COMPLETE THE OFFICIAL FAFSA FOR FREE!** *Remember, this is the year to get your taxes completed early: It will make completing your FAFSA much easier.*

North Carolina does not have a "deadline" for completing the FAFSA, but most federal money is distributed by a "first-come, first served" basis. Most schools to which you are applying DO have a "deadline" to receive information generated by your FAFSA: Call the financial aid office or check the school's website. Most schools have a February deadline so that they can notify you of financial aid availability in March. ***A completed FAFSA is required at most schools to be considered for any need-based aid.***

If you think you may need help with your FAFSA, you can participate in "FAFSA Day" Saturday, February 20 at Haywood Community College. Please register in advance at www.CFNC.org/FAFSADay and plan to bring 2015 federal

WORK KEYS

All seniors who are CTE completers will be taking the Work Keys December 8 or 9 to earn Career Readiness Certificates which they can present to future employers (nationwide) Emphasis will be on 3 subjects:

- ◆ Reading for Information
- ◆ Applied Mathematics, and
- ◆ Locating Information.

Students who earn silver, gold, or platinum certificate levels:

- will receive two off-campus lunch passes
- will be entered in a drawing for two prom tickets,
- will be invited to a field trip in February, and
- will qualify for the "Career Endorsement" on their diploma.

In addition, students who earn gold or higher:

- will earn a season pass for all athletic events for the rest of the year
- will be entered into a drawing for a 2016 yearbook
- will earn two-for-two lunch passes

Please take advantage of this opportunity to demonstrate your mastery of skills you will use in the work place. You can learn more at

PHS COUNSELING CENTER

Dr. Allen: Last names A-G

Mrs. Lawing: Last names H-O

Mrs. Heinz: Last names P-Z

Mrs. Case: Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Inman: Lead Teacher

Mrs. Ray: Career Development

Mrs. Frazier: School Social Worker

Mrs. Clark: School Nurse

Officer Deaver: School Resource Officer

Please remember to bring in your college acceptance letters for our bulletin board.

We also ask that you bring in any scholarship offers (even if you may not attend that school) so that you may be recognized at Senior Awards Night.

Mrs. Case will make a copy and return the original to you!

Seniors:

Please check those deadlines for any applications you may be mailing in December. Remember, our office will be closed for the holidays, so if you need transcripts or any other assistance, please see us no later than

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 16!

Scholarship Information:

Community Foundation of Western North Carolina:

Information and application are available online at www.cfwncc.org/Scholarships/ProgramsandEligibility.aspx for a number of prestigious scholarships only for students in Western North Carolina! **All materials must be submitted online by the deadline, so please start NOW!**

January 15 deadline:

- **Harry W. Clark Memorial Scholarship:** \$2000 renewable for 3 more years; students planning to attend a 4-year NC school
- **William A. Hart Award:** \$1000 renewable for 1 more year; students planning to attend a 2-year school in NC
- **Captain John G. Gardner Vietnam Veterans Memorial Scholarship:** \$1000 for relatives of active duty and/or decorated Viet Nam veterans
- **WNC Regional Scholarships:** several scholarships ranging from \$1000 to \$5000 per year for up to 4 years

February 17 deadline:

- **Nathaniel Ellis Cannady, Jr. Scholarship:** \$7500 renewable for 3 more years for students planning to study engineering, construction, project management, or information technology.

March 15 deadline:

- **Asheville Wilbert Vault Service Scholarship:** \$2000 for students interested in a career in funeral service
- **John Francis Amherst Cecil Scholarship:** \$2000 for up to 8 students who are dependents of Biltmore Employees
- **Roger W. Morrison Scholarship:** \$500 for students who are children of employees of Pathologist's Medical Laboratory and Mission Hospitals Laboratories.

SCHOOL SPECIFIC SCHOLARSHIPS:

- **UNCG in 3 Opportunity:** This program has been created to give students the opportunity to graduate in 3 years (and save about \$8000), receive priority registration for courses, and have a UNCG in 3 advisor. Applicants must choose one of the 20 participating majors and should have a minimum of 12 college transfer credit hours (AP, Community College, or Early College--but there are other options including summer prior to fall semester). Information is available online at uncgin3.uncg.edu or you may call (336) 315-7044.
- **Kings College:** "Finish First" offers specialized degrees in health care, business, design and technology that can be completed in 8 to 16 months. Available scholarships include four \$5000 scholarships based on scores of the scholarship exam (administered Jan. 23, 2016) and \$1000 scholarships for students actively involved in HOSA, FBLA or DECA. Learn more at www.kingscollegecharlotte.edu or call (704) 372-0266.
- **East Tennessee State University:** (1) *Honors Scholars Program* (up to full scholarship for 4 years) for students with 3.5 GPA, ACT score of 29 or higher, who demonstrate service and leadership. Deadline **December 15**. (2) *Fine and Performing Arts Scholars* (up to full tuition for 4 years) for students with 2.75 GPA, ACT score of 22, and an interest in an art (including music, drama, digital media, etc.) minor. Deadline **March 1**. (3) *Honors-in-Discipline Scholars* (up to full tuition for 4 years) includes 22 different fields of study for students with 3.2 GPA, 25 or higher ACT. Deadline **March 1**. More information about these 3 programs is available at www.etsu.edu/honors. Learn more about requirements and application for out-of-state tuition waiver at www.etsu.edu/admissions/documents/Border_County_In-state_Tuition_Request_Form.pdf
- **Berea College** charges no tuition and admits only academically promising students, primarily from Appalachia (but more than 60 countries are typically represented!), who can document limited economic resources. Berea's cost of educating a student exceeds \$23,000/ year, but all students work at least 10 hours per week in campus and service jobs in more than 130 departments. More information is available at bereda.edu.
- **Brevard College** offers "Half-Tuition" Scholarships to students who reside in Haywood County. Learn more at www.brevard.edu/news-events/news/half-tuition-scholarship-area-high-school-graduates.

Interested in teaching?

- **UNCG Teacher Education Fellows:** \$20,000 scholarship (over 4 years) to elementary/middle school/high school/ special education major with high school GPA of 3.8 or higher with minimum SAT (verbal and math) 1100 or 24 ACT. Learn more about additional benefits of the program and apply online at oss.uncg.edu/teaching-fellows. Priority given to those who apply by **January 1**.
- **Catawba Teaching Scholars:** \$2500 / year in addition to academic scholarships awarded by Catawba as well as numerous teacher education enrichment opportunities. More information and online application at <http://catawba.edu/academics/schools/education/teacher-education/academy-teachi/teaching-scholars/>
- **Lenoir-Rhyne University:** Applicants who wish to be eligible for LR's Scholarship day must apply for admission no later than November 13. Accepted students who qualify will be invited to an event to compete for full and partial tuition scholarships. More information is available at lr.edu/admissions. Students interested in Lenoir-Rhyne's "Prospective Teacher Scholars" are encouraged to learn about \$5500 renewable Scholarship at lr.edu/teachingscholars. Application deadline in **January 10** but spaces are limited for this competitive program.

Interested in Nursing?

- **Regionally Increasing Baccalaureate Nursing Program (RIBN):** Opportunity to earn 2 degrees in 4 years with 3 years of nursing education and clinical experience at AB Tech OR Southwestern Community College and a final year at Western Carolina University. Students can take state board licensing exam and be able to work as an RN while completing their bachelors' degree. Applicants must be accepted at both the community college and WCU, have an unweighted GPA of 3.0, have an SAT reading score of at least 500, and take the TEAS exam. Interested students should contact Carol Douglas at (828)398-7534 or caroladouglas@abtech.edu at AB Tech or Linda Deeb at (828)339-4367 or l_deeb@southwesterncc.edu at Southwestern Community College soon!
- Students interested in scholarship assistance for NURSING SCHOOL are encouraged to go to three online sites: The Tylenol Future

Scholarship Information (continued):

NON-SCHOOL SPECIFIC SCHOLARSHIPS:

- **NC Hispanic College Fund:** Students of Hispanic background with a 2.5 or better GPA, planning to attend a 2-year or 4-year school, should learn more at thencshp.org. Applications must be received by **January 15**.
- Any student who has been in foster care as a teenager is eligible to participate in a CARS Agreement, that will provide assistance while they begin college. Contact the LINKS coordinator, Rachel Young at ryoung@haywoodnc.net or (828) 452-6620 for more information.
- **NFIB Young Entrepreneur Foundation:** Graduating high school seniors who operate their own small business are encouraged to learn more at www.NFIB.com/YEA by December 18.
- **Profile in Courage Essay Contest:** Students (grades 9-12) may write an original essay (1000 words or less) about political courage in an elected official after 1956 using at least 5 sources. Seven students will be awarded prizes (first place is \$5000). All students must register and submit essay online at www.jfklibrary.org by **January 6, 2016**.
- **Ronald McDonald House Charities Scholarships:** FOUR scholarship applications (one for students with at least one Asian-Pacific parent, one for students with at least one African-American parent, one for students with at least one Hispanic-Latino parent, and one open to all students) are available at aim.applyists.net/RMHC. Deadline **January 20, 2016**.
- **GE-Reagan Foundation:** Students who can demonstrate leadership, integrity, achievement (minimum 3.0 GPA), and citizenship are encouraged to apply for \$10,000 (renewable for up to 4 years) scholarship at www.reaganfoundation.org/GE-RFScholarships.aspx. Deadline **January 7, 2016**.
- **AXA Achievement Scholarships:** Students who can demonstrate ambition and self-drive are encouraged to apply online at www.axa.com for scholarships ranging from \$10,000 to \$25,000 no later than **December 15, 2015**.
- **NC Motherless Daughters Scholarship:** The Ruby and Kendrel Scholarship Fund provides two scholarships of \$2000/semester (renewable) to young women whose mother is deceased. Learn more at www.sheroinc.org/scholarships. Apply by Feb. 16.
- **Washington Crossing Foundation:** Students planning a career in public service in local, state, or federal government are invited to apply for a number of scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$5,000. Information is available online at www.gwcf.org. Deadline is **January 15, 2016**.
- **French Broad Mensa Education and Research Foundation Scholarships:** Students are asked to submit a 550 word essay describing career, vocational, or academic goals online at www.mensafoundation.org/what-we-do/scholarships by **January 15, 2016**. Awards range from \$300 to \$1000.
- **SportQuest Playing with Purpose Scholarship Program:** Varsity level athlete committed to the Christian faith with a minimum "C" grade average or higher can learn more about a \$2000 scholarship, an opportunity to apply for other scholarships, and summer ministry opportunities. Learn more at www.playingwithpurpose.org. Deadline **February 1**.
- **The Christian Connector** provides free Christian college information as well as a \$2500 Christian college scholarship drawing. Go to www.ChristianConnector.com for more information.
- **Create-a-Greeting Card Contest:** Students (grades 9-12) must submit a unique photo, piece of artwork, or computer graphic for front of a greeting card. Information is available online at www.gallerycollection.com/greeting-cards-scholarship.htm about this opportunity to win \$10,000. Deadline for submission is **January 25, 2016**.
- **T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Associate Degree (AAS) Scholars Program:** Multiple scholarships for 2-year, 4-year and Master's programs. Application and information are available at www.childcareservices.org/ps/teach-nc/. Call (919) 967-3272 to find out which scholarship is best for you.
- **ROTC Scholarships** are available to students interested in participating in college ROTC and committing to serving in the military (active and/ or reserve) for a specified time after college graduation. Each branch has specific requirements and application process/deadlines. Go online for more information at www.goarmy.com/rotc/scholarships.html and www.afrotc.com/scholarship and <http://www.nrotc.navy.mil/about.aspx>
- **Suntrust Off to College Scholarship Sweepstakes:** High school seniors and current undergraduate college students can win a \$500 scholarship for their education at a college or university. One winner will be chosen every two weeks from October 30 through May 13, 2014. Students can register online at www.suntrusteducation.com/scholarshipsweepstakes/
- **Children of Disabled, Deceased, Combat, or POW/MIA War Veterans:** You may be eligible for a scholarship from the state of North Carolina to attend one of the universities, community colleges, or technical institutes of North Carolina. Call the Haywood County Veterans Service at 646-6937 for more information.
- **Gates Millennium Scholars Program:** Students who are African-American, American Indian, Alaska Native, Asian American, Pacific Islander, or Hispanic American who are US citizens or legal residents with a 3.3 GPA who can demonstrate leadership potential, should learn more at www.gmsp.org. Deadline is **Jan. 13, 2016**.
- **Ione M. Allen Music Scholarship:** Applicants must demonstrate academic achievement and financial need, possess high personal character and leadership, be planning to major in music and demonstrate musical aptitude. Apply online at www.csascholars.org by **January 11**. More information is available in the counseling center.

Scholarship Information (continued):

Learn more at CFNC.org about the following opportunities:

- **Forgiveable Education Loans for Service (FELS):** Provides financial assistance to qualified students enrolled in approved education programs and committed to working in **critical employment shortage professions** in North Carolina. Awards ranges from \$3000 to \$7000 and serve students attending 2-year schools, 4-year schools, or graduate programs.
- **Jagannathan Scholarship:** \$2000 scholarship awarded to a student planning to attend a UNC system institution who demonstrates academic achievement, financial need, and evidence of leaderships.
- **Golden Leaf Scholarship:** The Golden Leaf Foundation provides funding for 215 scholarships each year to help students who demonstrate need, reside in one of 78 rural NC counties (including Haywood!) and enroll in a qualifying 2-year or 4-year school.

PLEASE SEE YOUR COUNSELOR IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS!

CONTACT BY PHONE /E-MAIL / WEBSITE ANY SCHOOLS OF INTEREST TO INQUIRE ABOUT SCHOLARSHIPS FOR WHICH YOU MIGHT BE ELIGIBLE OR TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THEIR FINANCIAL AID PROCESS.

THANKS SO MUCH to everyone who participated in College Application Week 2015!

Students (grades 9-12) were able to meet representatives from Haywood Community College, AB Tech, South-western Community College, Western Carolina University, Appalachian State University, East Tennessee State University, Mars Hill University, Montreat College, Warren Wilson College, and Brevard College during lunches November 2-6. Hopefully our students learned something new about programs at two-year and four-year colleges and how public and private schools differ.

On Wednesday, November 4, **over 90** seniors completed AND submitted **over 170** applications to colleges. Since many North Carolina private universities were waiving application fees last week only, our students were able to save over **\$1000** in application fees! An additional bonus was that students applying to HCC had admissions counselors available to answer specific questions.

Any senior who still needs help applying to a college is welcome to see his/her counselor for assistance! We have computers in our office for student use.

Haywood Community College is currently offering **NURSE AIDE CLASSES!**

Haywood Community College is currently offering Nurse Aide Classes! Evening and weekend classes are being scheduled for students interested in becoming a certified Nursing Assistant. More information is available in the counseling center. If you wish to get on the waiting list or want more information, contact

Sandy Fischer at
sfischer@haywood.edu or

Interested in a Career?

The National Guard currently has some part-time positions in carpentry, masonry, diesel mechanic and electrical. Paid on-the-job training and tuition assistance for those who wish to further their education will be provided. See your counselor for more information!

Saturday School

December 19 and January 9
Cost \$10.

Appeal packets for students who have missed 10 or more days are available in the main office.

See Mrs. Weeks immediately if you

JOB CORPS

Looking for a no-cost alternative to "college"?

- Hands-on career technical training with real employers to make sure you have the skills you need
- Education that applies to real world business (self-paced program where you learn at a speed that matches your ability)
- MONEY for each month you are in the program
- HOUSING
- Personalized career development plan
- Help finding a job (interview skills, resume assistance, help locating a job that matches your skills training)
- Support services (on campus health clinic, drivers education courses, weekend trips/activities)
- Programs such as automotive and machine repair, construction, finance and business, health care, homeland security, hospitality, information technology, renewable resources / energy, retail sales and services, transportation...100 career areas!

For more information, see you counselor, go online to

Scholarship "Scam" Warning Signs:

- ⇒ You have to pay a fee or "taxes."
- ⇒ Money-back offers or guarantees.
- ⇒ Credit card or bank account information required.
- ⇒ Provides "exclusive" information.
- NEVER GIVE OUT SOCIAL SECURITY, CREDIT CARD, OR BANK ACCOUNT NUMBERS TO UNSOLICITED E-MAILS OR CALLS.
- BE CAREFUL TO WHOM YOU GIVE OUT YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION OR EMAIL ADDRESS.
- BEWARE OF SCAMS! (IF YOU HAVE TO PAY MONEY TO GET MONEY, IT'S PROBABLY A SCAM.)

Put **Fastweb** to work for you:

1. Go to www.fastweb.com
2. Fill out your profile completely. For best results, don't skip the non-mandatory questions: fill them out and you will be matched to more scholarships.
3. Keep an eye on your inbox for scholarship and internship match notifications.
4. Apply to those you've been matched to.
5. Check back with **Fastweb** for up-to-date news on scholarships and

Things you need to know about Merit Aid Scholarships

- \$11 billion in merit aid scholarships is available from colleges.
- Both private and state colleges across the country offer merit aid.
- On average, 1 in 4 undergraduates receives merit aid scholarships.
- Students with a variety of GPAs may qualify. Many awards emphasize leadership or school involvement.
- Many awards can be renewed year after year.
- Schools you may have thought were too expensive can be affordable with merit-based scholarships.

Visit www.MeritAid.com—a comprehensive directory of merit-based scholarships (powered by **Cappex.com, LLC**) with awards from thousands of colleges.