Applying To & Paying For College

FINDING YOUR FIT

➔ [College Comparison Chart](#) – I will update and add more institutions in the Fall.
➔ The following websites allow you to filter colleges by various characteristics to identify matches: [CFNC](#) (NC), [Common App](#) (US and international member institutions), [College Board's Big Future](#) (US) and the [US Dept of Ed's College Scorecard](#) (US).
➔ Compare your transcript with the profile of your potential colleges' admitted freshmen. For example, NC State's weighted high school GPA for the middle 50% is 4.15-4.47.
➔ The UNC-system admission offices are unable to provide on-campus tours during COVID-19, but you can [see them in virtual reality](#).
➔ While on the UNC colleges' websites, search Early College or CIHS (Cooperative Innovative High School) for information specific to you.
➔ Get to know the colleges' culture by following them on social media.
➔ Attend Haywood County's annual College Fair in September (online beginning 9/14).

TRANSFERABLE CREDITS

➔ NC's community colleges have an 'articulation' agreement with the UNC-system to accept credits earned with a "C" or higher. To view your unofficial HCC transcript, log in to WebAdvisor, and navigate to Academic Profile.
➔ We try to give you a head-start by aligning your HCC classes with bachelor degree plans during every semester's individual advising appointment.
➔ If outside of the UNC-system, each college's website will outline its policy/process.

Applying To & Paying For College
continued...

APPLYING: Admission applications generally open early to mid-August. If you choose to start them before our HEC Senior Family Night, please consider the following:

➔ If applying to NC colleges (public and private), complete [Residency Determination](#) first (for in-state status); use your CFNC username and password to log in. Wait until August as it is valid for one year and must be in effect at enrollment.
➔ Most of you will apply First-year (versus Transfer).
➔ Applying Early 'Decision' is binding, which means you will enroll if admitted.
➔ A complete application includes the online application (on college's website or through CFNC, Common App or Coalition), fee, high school and college transcripts and college entrance test scores.
➔ Edit for correct spelling/punctuation.
➔ Use a personal (professional) email address for all college/scholarship correspondence. Your HCS and HCC accounts will close after you graduate.
➔ My email address is hallen@haywood.k12.nc.us for electronic transcripts, school reports, etc. Please wait to request *printed* transcripts and ACT/SAT score reports until I can explain the process.
➔ If eligible for free/reduced-price school meals, ask Dr. Allen about fee waivers.
➔ NC's College Application Week will be October 19-23. [These schools waived their application fees during this week in 2019](#).

Applying To & Paying For College
continued...

PAYING

➔ We will discuss financial aid in August since there is little to do now.

➔ You can skim this year's Scholarship/Opportunity Database on HEC's website under Counseling Center to identify scholarships for which you qualify, how to apply and deadlines.

➔ The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) opens October 1st and is based on your family's 2019 tax returns. This application begins the process for need-based aid and is required for some scholarships. If COVID-19 or other events have impacted your family's income in 2020, you can request additional consideration from individual colleges later.

➔ Attend Haywood County's annual Financial Aid Night mid-Fall (TBD).