

# CATAWBA VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

2550 Hwy 70 SE • Hickory, North Carolina 28602

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Main Campus Telephone Number: 828-327-7000 • College Website: [www.cvcc.edu](http://www.cvcc.edu)

Catawba Valley Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award Certificates, Diplomas, and Associate Degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Catawba Valley Community College.

The Emergency Medical Science Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs, ([www.caahep.org](http://www.caahep.org)) upon the recommendation of the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP)

The Surgical Technology Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs in collaboration with the Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology, and Surgical Assisting (ARC-STSA).

The Health Information Technology Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education

The Polysomnography Program is Accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs in collaboration with the Committee on Accreditation for Polysomnography

The Respiratory Therapy Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care ([www.coarc.com](http://www.coarc.com)). Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care, 1248 Harwood Road, Bedford, Texas 76021-4244, 817-283-2835

The Dental Hygiene Program is Accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation for Dental Hygiene

The Automotive Systems Technology Program is accredited by the National Automotive Technician Education Foundation (NATEF)

The Computer-Integrated Machining Program is a Member of the Haas Technical Education Center Network

The Cosmetology Program is accredited by the NC State Board of Cosmetic Arts

The Associate Degree Nursing Program is Accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc.: Associate Degree Nursing Program [Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc., 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850, Atlanta, GA, 30326, 404-975-5000, [www.acenursing.org](http://www.acenursing.org)] and Approved by North Carolina State Board of Nursing

The Radiography Program is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology  
20 North Wacker Drive, Suite 2850 Chicago, IL 60606-3182, 312-704-5300, e-mail: [mail@jrcert.org](mailto:mail@jrcert.org)

The Electroneurodiagnostic Program is Accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs in collaboration with the Committee on Accreditation for Electroneurodiagnostic Technology

The Welding Technology Program is an Educational Institution Member designated by the American Welding Society

The Learning Assistance Center Peer Tutoring Program certified Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 Advanced Certified Tutor by the College Reading and Learning Association International Tutor Program

The Fire Protection Technology Program is accredited by the International Fire Accrediation Congress (IFSAC). 1812 Tyler Avenue, Stillwater, OK, 74078, (405) 744-8303, [www.ifsac.org](http://www.ifsac.org), and recognized as a Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education (FESHE) Associate degree program by the National Fire Academy.

The Early Childhood Education Program is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children

Approved for Veteran Enrollment by North Carolina State Approving Agency for Veterans' Education

Member of

North Carolina Community College System • American Association of Community Colleges •  
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges • Charlotte Area Educational Consortium • League for Innovation •  
North Carolina Citizens for Business and Industry • Charlotte Regional Workforce Development Partnership

Catawba Valley Community College publishes this catalog for the purpose of providing students and other interested persons with information about the College and its programs. The provisions of the catalog are not to be regarded as an irrevocable contract between students and Catawba Valley Community College. The College reserves the right to change any provisions, policies, requirements, or schedules at any time or to add or withdraw course or program offerings. Every effort will be made to minimize the inconvenience such changes might create for students. Revisions are available on the CVCC website at [www.cvcc.edu](http://www.cvcc.edu).

Since opening its doors to students in 1960, Catawba Valley Community College has existed as an "open-door" institution to persons of both sexes and all racial and ethnic groups. This admissions policy has been followed in all other spheres of student life ranging from activities to placement. Similarly, Catawba Valley Community College has made all personnel decisions including hiring, compensation, benefits and promotion on a nondiscriminatory basis.

The Board of Trustees of Catawba Valley Community College does hereby reaffirm this past stance by making a formal commitment to provide equal opportunity for employees and students. Catawba Valley Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex/gender identity, religion, creed, age, disability, veteran or active military status, genetic characteristics, or any other category protected by law under Title VII and/or Title IX. We recognize this obligation to be a moral as well as legal responsibility because of its intrinsic worth in a country in which all should have an equal chance to let their ability guide their life choices.

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution





### ***Message From The President***

We began serving the Catawba Valley in 1960 as the Catawba County Industrial Education Center. Today, Catawba Valley Community College continues to evolve with campus expansion and off-campus centers such as the Alexander Center for Education, Manufacturing Solutions Center, and the Corporate Development Center.

The one core value on our campuses that remains consistent in today's global economy is our passion and commitment to improve the lives of the people we serve.

Our college graduates are prepared for the workforce, and our college transfer students are ready for their next step to a four-year college or university. Students here are invited to join clubs, be involved in student or sport activities, and while in the classroom learn critical thinking skills, medical procedures, or study a foreign language.

CVCC graduates approximately 1100 students each year in curriculum degrees and general education development diplomas. Our efforts to provide the best educational experience for our students is evident in the college's 95% student satisfaction rating.

Our students set the bar each year, winning local, state, and national competitions every year. Those who transfer have very high success rates at four-year institutions and are valued by employers in the unifour region, the state, and the country.

All of this is made possible by our employees through their dedication to the classroom, and our students. Each person here contributes to the success of CVCC!

It is an honor to serve as President of Catawba Valley Community College. We welcome you to our college and the opportunity to assist you in achieving your goals and dreams the "Valley Way."

***Dr. Garrett D. Hinshaw, President***

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## 2015-2016 Institutional Calendar

### FALL SEMESTER 2015

Faculty/Staff Professional Development Activities (No Curriculum Classes) .....	August 12
Curriculum Instructional Work Days .....	August 13-14
*Fall Curriculum Semester Begins .....	August 17
Institutional Holiday .....	September 7
Fall Fling/Student Appreciation Day .....	September 16
Constitution Day Activities .....	September 17
Mid-Semester Break for Curriculum Students .....	October 12-14
Last Day to Withdraw from Curriculum Classes without Academic Penalty .....	50% Date of Class
Break for Curriculum Students (No Curriculum Classes).....	November 11
Institutional Holiday .....	November 11
Break for Curriculum Students .....	November 25-28
Institutional Holidays .....	November 26-27
Spring Registration .....	November/December
*Fall Curriculum Semester Ends .....	December 16
*Snow Make Up Days (If Necessary Due to Inclement Weather) .....	December 17, 18, 19
Institutional Holidays .....	December 24-31

\* While many classes begin during the first week of the semester, there are also classes which begin later in the semester. Also, some classes do end before the last week of the semester. Please refer to the fall semester curriculum class schedule for specific class start and end dates.

### SPRING SEMESTER 2016

Institutional Holiday .....	January 1
CVCC Open .....	January 4
Faculty/Staff Professional Development Activities (No Curriculum Classes).....	January 6
Curriculum Instructional Work Days .....	January 7-8
*Spring Curriculum Semester Begins .....	January 11
Institutional Holiday .....	January 18
Last Day to Withdraw from Curriculum Classes without Academic Penalty .....	50% Date of Class
Institutional Holiday .....	March 25
Mid-Semester Break for Curriculum Students .....	March 26, 28, 29, 30
* Snow Makeup Days (If Necessary Due to Inclement Weather).....	March 29, 30
Summer Registration Activities.....	April
Spring Fling/Student Appreciation Day .....	April 6
Awards Day .....	April 28
*Spring Curriculum Semester Ends .....	May 7
Commencement Activities.....	May 6, 7

\* While many classes begin during the first week of the semester, there are also classes which begin later in the semester. Also, some classes do end before the last week of the semester. Please refer to the spring semester curriculum class schedule for specific class start and end dates.

### SUMMER SEMESTER 2016

*Summer Curriculum Semester Begins .....	May 23
Institutional Holiday .....	May 30
Last Day to Withdraw from Curriculum Classes without Academic Penalty .....	50% Date of Class
Adult Secondary Credentials Recognition Ceremony.....	June 2
Break for Curriculum Students .....	July 4
Institutional Holiday .....	July 4
Fall Registration Activities .....	July/August
*Summer Curriculum Semester Ends .....	August 2

\*While many classes begin during the first week of the semester, there are also classes which begin later in the semester. Also, some classes do end before the last week of the semester.  
Please refer to the summer semester curriculum class schedule for specific class start and end dates

**Note: Please check the CVCC website ([www.cvcc.edu](http://www.cvcc.edu)) for calendar and registration updates.**

## 2016-2017 Institutional Calendar

### FALL SEMESTER 2016

Faculty/Staff Professional Development Activities (No Curriculum Classes)	August 10
Curriculum Instructional Work Day	August 11-12
* Fall Curriculum Semester Begins	August 15
Institutional Holiday	September 5
Break for Curriculum Students	September 5
Fall Fling	September 14
Constitution Day Activities	September 14
Mid-Semester Break for Curriculum Students	October 10, 11, 12
Last Day to Withdraw from Curriculum Classes without Academic Penalty	50% Date of Class
Spring Semester Curriculum Registration Activities Begin	November
Break for Curriculum Students	November 11
Institutional Holidays	November 11
Curriculum Flip Day (curriculum classes follow a Friday schedule)	November 22
Break for Curriculum Students	November 23-26
Institutional Holidays	November 24-25
Fall Curriculum Semester Ends	December 14
Curriculum Snow Makeup Days (if needed)	December 15-16**
Institutional Holidays	December 22-30

\* While many classes begin during the first week of the semester, there are also classes which begin later in the semester.

Also, some classes do end before the last week of the semester. Please refer to the fall semester curriculum class schedule for specific class start and end dates.

\*\* Semester end date may be extended if snow make up days are needed.

### SPRING SEMESTER 2017

College Reopens	January 2
No Curriculum Classes	January 2-6
Faculty/Staff Professional Development Activities (No Curriculum Classes)	January 4
Curriculum Instructional Work Day	January 5-6
* Spring Curriculum Semester Begins	January 9
Institutional Holiday	January 16
Curriculum Flip Day (curriculum classes follow a Friday schedule)	March 7
Mid-Semester Break for Curriculum Students	March 8-10
Curriculum Snow Makeup Days (if needed)	March 8-10**
Institutional Holiday	April 14
Break for Curriculum Students	April 14, 15, 17, 18, 19
Last Day to Withdraw from Curriculum Classes without Academic Penalty	50% Date of Class
Summer Semester Curriculum Registration Activities	April
Spring Fling	April 5
Awards Day	May 4
* Spring Curriculum Semester Ends	May 10
Commencement	May 12-13

\* While many classes begin during the first week of the semester, there are also classes which begin later in the semester.

Also, some classes do end before the last week of the semester. Please refer to the spring semester curriculum class schedule for specific class start and end dates.

### SUMMER SEMESTER 2017

* Summer Curriculum Semester Begins	May 22
Institutional Holiday	May 29
Last Day to Withdraw from Curriculum Classes without Academic Penalty	50% Date of Class
Adult Secondary Credentials Recognition Ceremony	June 15
Break for Curriculum Students	June 30 - July 4
Institutional Holiday	July 3-4
Fall Semester Curriculum Registration Activities Begin	July
Curriculum Flip Day (curriculum classes follow a Monday schedule)	July 19
* Summer Curriculum Semester Ends	August 2

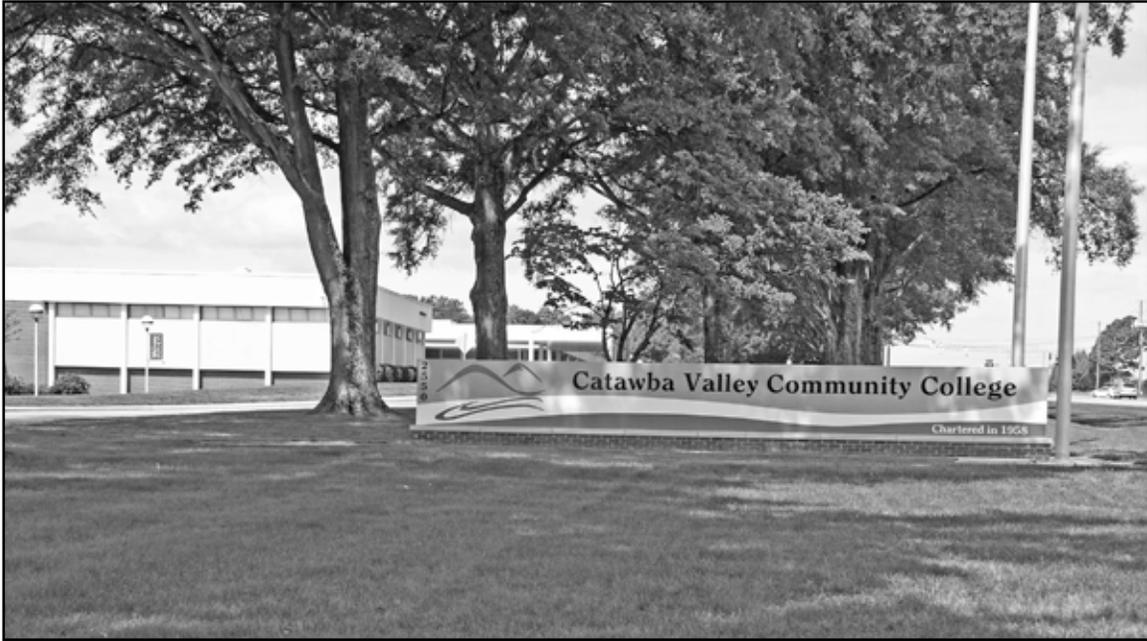
\* While many classes begin during the first week of the semester, there are also classes which begin later in the semester.

Also, some classes do end before the last week of the semester.

Please refer to the summer semester curriculum class schedule for specific class start and end dates.

**Note: Please check the CVCC website ([www.cvcc.edu](http://www.cvcc.edu)) for calendar and registration updates.**

# General Information



CVCC Main Campus



CVCC Alexander Center for Education



CVCC Newton Center



CVCC East Campus

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## MISSION STATEMENT

Catawba Valley Community College is an innovative, comprehensive community college that fosters and promotes a multitude of learning experiences, enabling and empowering its students, faculty, staff, and stakeholders to identify and to serve higher purposes in their lives and in their communities.

## COLLEGE CORE VALUES

1. Student Success
2. Excellence in Teaching and Lifelong Learning
3. Economic and Workforce Development
4. Quality Stakeholder Engagement
5. Global Perspectives
6. Embracing Diversity
7. Integrity and Ethics

## VISION STATEMENT

The vision of Catawba Valley Community College is to be validated and recognized in the achievement of its mission as the statewide, regional, and national standard of excellence for programs, services, and facilities.

## HISTORY

Through the concerted efforts of concerned and united Catawba County citizens and North Carolina educational leaders, on April 3, 1958, Catawba Valley Community College was established by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction as the ninth school of its kind in the state.

Construction of the original facilities began in 1959. The 40,000 square foot building costing approximately \$500,000 was completed in August 1960. An initial enrollment of seventy-seven (77) students began classes in September of the same year. From 1960 to 1963, the College operated under the jurisdiction of the Catawba County Board of Education. During this time the College was known as the Catawba County Industrial Education Center.

In July 1963, the General Assembly of North Carolina enacted into law G.S. 115A which provided for the establishment of the present North Carolina System of Community Colleges. On January 9, 1964, Catawba Valley Technical Institute was among the original seven institutes chartered by the Department. At that time, CVTI established its own Board of Trustees and began operation as a member of the Department of Community Colleges. Thus, it was in August 1964, that the College awarded its first Associate Degree in Applied Science.

It was during the transition from an Industrial Education Center to Technical Institute that great strides began in expanding educational programs, increasing student enrollment, developing quality instruction, adding facilities, and increasing community acceptance and service.

On September 1, 1979, the name of the institution was changed to Catawba Valley Technical College by the Trustees and commissioners of Catawba County. On December 1, 1987, the State Board of Community Colleges officially approved CVTC to become Catawba Valley Community College and the College Transfer program was approved. The College continues as a publicly supported coeducational institution.

## LOCATION

Catawba Valley Community College is located in Hickory on Highways 70 and 321-B, in Catawba County, North Carolina. Situated in the heart of the Piedmont some 1,175 feet above sea level, CVCC is easily accessible over Interstate 40, Highways 321, 70, 16 and 127. It is within seven miles of a commercial airport and approximately 50 miles from metropolitan Charlotte.

The campus covers approximately 162 acres and includes 17 buildings for an approximate total of 600,000 square feet of floor space. In addition, there is the CVCC East Campus, the Corporate Development Center, the Manufacturing Solutions Center, and the Cosmetology Center at the CVCC Newton Center in downtown Newton. The Alexander Center for Education, a 15,000 square foot building situated on 4.72 acres at 345

Industrial Boulevard in Taylorsville, was purchased by Alexander County in 2000 as an off-site center, which opened for classes March 28, 2003. The facilities consist of modern brick buildings. Included is a 30,000 volume library for the use of both students and public, a student center and food service area for leisure relaxation and entertainment, and numerous classrooms and laboratories.

## CVCC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

CVCC policies and procedures regarding students are available for reference on the CVCC website ([www.cvcc.edu](http://www.cvcc.edu)) under the About Us Link. Following are the direct links, CVCC Policies - [http://www.cvcc.edu/About\\_Us/Policies/](http://www.cvcc.edu/About_Us/Policies/) and CVCC Procedures - [http://www.cvcc.edu/About\\_Us/Procedures/](http://www.cvcc.edu/About_Us/Procedures/). These web pages include, but are not limited to, information regarding admissions, course grading, student conduct, student due process, privacy of students, visitors on campus, sexual offense/assault protocol, campus safety and security, and reporting a crime. Printed copies of a policy/policies, or procedure/procedures are available upon request to Student Services.

## TRANSFER OF CVCC CREDITS TO OTHER COLLEGES

Technical, vocational, and certificate programs of study at Catawba Valley Community College have been established primarily to prepare individuals for employment upon completion of studies. The College Transfer program has been developed at CVCC to provide opportunities for students to transfer two years of academic credit to senior colleges and universities. Numerous differences exist in the transfer policies of senior institutions. Therefore, details regarding a specific institution should be obtained from the senior institution to which transfer is being considered.

## EDUCATIONAL CONSORTIUM

Catawba Valley Community College is a member of the Charlotte Area Educational Consortium (CAEC). This organization is composed of 24 colleges and universities working toward attaining the highest level of collegiate and university education for the Charlotte Metrolina region. Consortium members encourage the sharing of resources and energies among institutions and seek to generate creative ideas for the most effective use of human and other resources available among institutions. Foremost among the goals of the Consortium is to afford students access to broader educational experiences, both curricular and extra-curricular. Full-time students at regular member colleges and universities are eligible to participate in the inter-institutional student exchange program of the Consortium. This enables them under certain circumstances to enroll in some courses at other CAEC schools without paying additional fees. For additional information on the CAEC and member institutions, please contact the Director of Student Records.

## AIR FORCE ROTC PROGRAM

To prepare themselves to serve as commissioned officers in the Air Force, students in college transfer programs to pursue a bachelor's degree may participate in the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) offered by the UNC-Charlotte Department of Aerospace Studies. Information is available in Student Services or on the UNCC webpage at the following address: [www.coas.uncc.edu/afrotc/](http://www.coas.uncc.edu/afrotc/).

## APPALACHIAN CENTER AT HICKORY

The Appalachian Center in Hickory is an educational consortium of colleges and universities that offer community college students and other adults opportunities to finish their bachelors degrees from one of the participating colleges and universities. Graduate degrees are also available. A wide variety of degree programs are offered with flexible part-time and full-time schedules and face-to-face and on-line formats to meet the needs of adult learners with busy schedules, families, and work commitments. For more information on degree programs available through the Appalachian State University Center in Hickory, call 828-327-7000, ext. 4424.

## CHALLENGER EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

Challenger Early College High School is a Cooperative Innovative High School approved under Part 9 of Article 16 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes, and is an application-based, selected enrollment high school and joint oversight project of the Catawba Valley Education Consortium. It is not a traditional, comprehensive high school. Enrollment is limited to no more than 400 students who must enter as high school freshmen only. Note: there are minors enrolled at CECH on CVCC's campus. Challenger students

graduate with a university prep curriculum high school diploma and college credit up to an Associates degree from CVCC. Supported by the NC Dept of Public Instruction, NC Community College System, and NC New Schools Project, the early college is a national school reform model designed through research from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Stanford University, Harvard University, and Jobs for the Future.

## ACCREDITATION

Catawba Valley Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award certificates, diplomas, and associate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Catawba Valley Community College.

Most curriculum programs offered have been approved by the North Carolina State Approving Agency for Veteran's Education; however, students should contact the VA certifying official in Student Services for verification.

- The College is also a member of the American Association of Community Colleges.
- The Associate Degree Nursing Program is approved by the North Carolina State Board of Nursing and accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc., 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850, Atlanta, GA, 30326, 404-975-5000.
- The Dental Hygiene Program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and has been granted the accreditation status of "approval without reporting requirements." The Commission is a specialized accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education. The Commission on Dental Accreditation can be contacted at 312-440-4653 or at 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611.
- The Emergency Medical Science Program is Accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs, ([www.caahep.org](http://www.caahep.org)) upon the recommendation of the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP) Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs, 1361 Park Street, Clearwater, FL, 33756, 727-210-2350, [www.caahep.org](http://www.caahep.org). To contact CoAEMSP: 8301 Lakeview Parkway Suite 111-312, Rowlett, TX 75088; 214-703-8992, fax 214-703-8992, [www.coaemsp.org](http://www.coaemsp.org).
- The Health Information Technology Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education.
- The Polysomnography Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs in collaboration with the Committee on Accreditation for Polysomnography.
- The Radiography Program is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology 20 North Wacker Drive, Suite 2850 Chicago, IL 60606-3182, 312-704-5300, e-mail: [mail@jrcert.org](mailto:mail@jrcert.org).
- The Respiratory Therapy Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care ([www.coarc.com](http://www.coarc.com)). Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care, 1248 Harwood Road, Bedford, Texas 76021-4244, 817-283-2835.
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- The Automotive Systems Technology Program is accredited by the National Automotive Technician Education Foundation (NATEF).
- The Learning Assistance Center Peer Tutoring Program is Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 Tutor Certified by the College Reading and Learning Association International Tutor Program.
- The Electroneurodiagnostic Technology Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs in collaboration with the Committee on Accreditation for Electroneurodiagnostic Technology
- The Welding Technology Program is an Educational Institution Member designated by the American Welding Society

- The Fire Protection Technology Program is accredited by the International Fire Accreditation Congress (IFSAC). 1812 Tyler Avenue, Stillwater, OK, 74078, (405) 744-8303, [www.ifsac.org](http://www.ifsac.org), and recognized as a Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education (FESHE) Associate degree program by the National Fire Academy.

- The Early Childhood Education Program is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children
- CVCC is also a member of North Carolina Community College System; American Association of Community Colleges; Charlotte Area Educational Consortium; League for Innovation; North Carolina Citizens for Business and Industry; Charlotte Regional Workforce Development Partnership.

## CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

In 1993, the State Board of Community Colleges began monitoring performance data on specific measures to ensure public accountability for programs and services. In 1998, the General Assembly directed the State Board to review past performance measures and define standards to ensure programs and services offered by community colleges in North Carolina were of sufficient quality. (North Carolina Community College System, 2012 Critical Success Factors Report, July 2012).

Through the 2012 reporting year, the annual NCCCS Critical Success Factors Report was the means by which the community college system reported on performance measures referred to as Critical Success Factors. In February 1999, the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges originally adopted twelve (12) performance measures to ensure that programs and services offered by community colleges were of sufficient quality. During the 2010-2011 reporting year, the number of measures was dropped to seven (7). These performance standards focused primarily on student success and served as the System's major public accountability tool.

Beginning in 2013, the North Carolina Community College system adopted the *Performance Measures for Student Success*. The measures include basic skills progress, GED pass rates, developmental English students' performance in subsequent curricular courses, developmental mathematics students' performance in subsequent curricular courses, one-year progress, curricular completion rates, licensure pass rates, and transfer student performance. Performance funding is based on these measures.

## NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Catawba Valley Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex/gender identity, religion, creed, age, disability, veteran or active military status, genetic characteristics, or any other category protected by law under Title VII and/or Title IX.

Dean of the School of Student Access, Development, and Success  
2550 Highway 70 SE  
Hickory, NC 28602-8302  
Telephone – 828-327-7000

Director of Human Resources  
2550 Highway 70 SE  
Hickory, NC 28602-8302  
Telephone – 828-327-7000

**Catawba Valley Community College • Performance Measures For Student Success  
(North Carolina Community College System)**

<b>2015 NCCCS Performance Measure for Student Success</b>	<b>2015 NCCCS Goal and Baseline</b>	<b>2015 System Institutional Average</b>	<b>2015 CVCC Measure</b>
Basic Skills Progress	Goal = 51.2% Baseline = 20.6%	45.1%	46.0%
GED Pass Rate	Goal = 82% Baseline = 49.3%	79.4%	86.0%
Developmental English Subsequent Success	Goal = 74.9% Base = 45.2%	62.4%	82.8%
Developmental Mathematics Subsequent Success	Goal = 75.4% Baseline = 47.5%	63.6%	76.9%
Year One Progress	Goal = 74.6% Baseline = 53.2%	67.1%	76.3%
Curriculum Completion Rate	Goal = 45.6% Baseline = 28.6%	43.4%	40.0%
Licensure Pass Rate	Goal = 91.7% Baseline = 71.0%	83.3%	81.8%
Transfer Performance	Goal = 93.8% Baseline = 71.2%	87.7%	91.3%

**For further explanation and information, please visit the  
NC Community College Colleges: Creating Success: 2015 Performance Measure for Student Success  
webpage at [http://www.nccommunitycolleges.edu/sites/default/files/data-warehouse/2015\\_performance\\_report\\_6-23-15.pdf](http://www.nccommunitycolleges.edu/sites/default/files/data-warehouse/2015_performance_report_6-23-15.pdf)**

# ADMISSIONS

## GENERAL ADMISSION TO CVCC

CVCC follows “open door” admissions policies as established by the North Carolina Community College System. Admission is open to persons who are legal residents of the United States and who are either high school graduates; High School Equivalency graduates such as GED; or Adult High School Diploma Program graduates; or who are at least 18 years of age. Minors are admitted under provisions and rules established by the State Board of Community Colleges.

A person is classified as a student when admission requirements are met and registration for classes has occurred that cause

- (1) tuition and fees to be paid (or encumbered by waiver, financial aid, third party payment, etc.) and
- (2) the person enters and attends the class(es).

A person continues to be a student by attending class and making progress toward completion of the course objectives.

A person is no longer a student in a particular class when s/he has exceeded the number of absences allowed in the class or is graded with a WP or a WF. If this occurs in all classes during a particular semester, the person is no longer a student for that semester at the point in time when the last transaction has occurred.

A person is a visitor when not a student. Students are entitled to due process. Visitors are not afforded due process.

## TRANSFER STUDENTS

Transfer students may be admitted provided they meet all admission requirements. Catawba Valley Community College will accept credits from college/universities accredited by any one of the following eight regional accrediting bodies authorized by the United States Department of Education:

- Middle States Commission on Higher Education
- Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools
- New England Association of Schools and Colleges
- North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
- Higher Learning Commission
- Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities
- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
- Western Association of Schools and Colleges
- WASC Senior College and University Commission

Courses with grades of “C-” or better will be accepted provided such courses parallel the content of CVCC courses and are relevant to the student’s program of study. CVCC only allows the use of quarter credits earned at Catawba Valley Community College or at another regionally accredited institution currently using the quarter system to count forward current programs of study and graduation requirements. Transfer students are notified about transfer credit to CVCC from other institutions via student e-mail. Transfer credit is awarded only for those courses that apply to the student’s program of study.

Grades for transferred courses are not included in a student’s GPA at CVCC, although the credit hours are applied toward graduation. See also Residency Requirements for graduation.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

CVCC is authorized by the U.S. Department of Naturalization and Immigration to admit international students with a valid F-1 Visa or valid Permanent Resident Card. Work authorization cards **are not** permanent resident cards. The following items are required for admission and must be submitted as a complete package by the published deadline on the CVCC website ([www.cvcc.edu](http://www.cvcc.edu)):

1. a completed Application for Admission, 2. all financial statements as outlined on the CVCC website, 3. official transcripts from high school and secondary schools translated and evaluated by any agency associated with NACES, 4. a photograph, 5. verification of home country address, 6. an official TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) test score less than five (5) years old, and 7. a VISA clearance form if student is transferring from another United States institution of higher learning. Upon receipt of and verification of ALL application materials, a Certificate of Eligibility (I-20) may be prepared and issued to the student. International students may need to take placement tests administered at the CVCC Testing Center and are charged the applicable out of state tuition rates. Students are required to obey federal, state, and local laws. Commission or conviction of certain crimes may impact the student’s ability to maintain F-1 status.

## HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

### CAREER AND COLLEGE PROMISE

Session Law 2011-145, the Appropriations Act of 2011, authorized the State Board of Education and the State Board of Community Colleges to establish the Career and College Promise program, effective January 1, 2012. Career and College Promise provides seamless dual enrollment educational opportunities for eligible North Carolina high school students in order to accelerate completion of college certificates, diplomas, and associate degrees that lead to college transfer or provide entry-level job skills. North Carolina community colleges may offer the following Career and College Promise pathways aligned with the K-12 curriculum and career and college ready standards adopted by the State Board of Education:

1. A College Transfer Pathway (CTP) leading to a minimum of 30 hours of college transfer credit;
2. A Career and Technical Education Pathway (CTE) leading to a certificate, diploma or degree;
3. A Cooperative Innovative High School Pathway approved under Part 9 of Article 16 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes.

### CHALLENGER EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

Challenger Early College High School is a Cooperative Innovative High School approved under Part 9 of Article 16 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes, and is an application-based, selected enrollment high school and joint oversight project of the Catawba Valley Education Consortium. It is not a traditional, comprehensive high school. Enrollment is limited to no more than 400 students who must enter as high school freshmen only. Note: there are minors enrolled at CECH on CVCC’s campus. Challenger students graduate with a university prep curriculum high school diploma and college credit up to an Associates degree from CVCC. Supported by the NC Dept of Public Instruction, NC Community College System, and NC New Schools Project, the early college is a national school reform model designed through research from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Stanford University, Harvard University, and Jobs for the Future.

### UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS

CVCC may admit undocumented immigrant applicants consistent with provisions of federal and state laws and regulations in the State Board of Community Colleges code 1DSBCCC400.2 (b). Under current state code, undocumented immigrant applicants do not qualify for federal or state financial aid or for in-state residency for tuition. Undocumented immigrants shall be charged at the out-of-state rate for curriculum programs. Students lawfully present in the United States shall have priority over any undocumented immigrant in any class or program of study when capacity limitations exist.

### SAFETY EXCEPTION

CVCC may refuse admission to any applicant in accordance with the following conditions as specified in State Board of Community Colleges Code 1DSBCCC400.2 (e) and (f) entitled “Admission to Colleges,” 23 NCAC 02C.0301 A. CVCC may refuse admission to an applicant when there is an articulable, imminent, and significant safety threat to the applicant or other individuals.

### ADMISSION TO CURRICULUM PROGRAMS

Admission to the College does not guarantee admission to the curriculum or program desired by the applicant. A student must satisfy the admissions requirements for his/her program of study. Applicants will be admitted to programs as admissions requirements are completed except for programs with limited enrollment (discussed further below). Applicants may be admitted to certain programs on a provisional basis until all admissions requirements are completed.

Documentation/program requirements for specific healthcare programs in the School of Health and Public Services are published on the CVCC website. Due to the nature of healthcare accreditations, this information is subject to change without notice.

Enrollment to certain programs is limited, and admission to these programs is highly competitive. The most highly qualified applicants are selected each year based upon completion of minimum admission requirements. Applicants to healthcare programs must complete program requirements as established by the program director to be considered for selection. These admissions requirements may include, but are not necessarily limited to, attendance at specialized Information Sessions, completion of standardized aptitude tests, submission of letters of recommendations, vaccinations, and/or health examination.

Graduation from a public high school, private high school - including home schools, High School Equivalency graduates such as GED, Adult High School Diploma graduates, or a correspondence school is required for admission to all associate degree programs and certain diploma and certificate programs. If graduation from high school or equivalent is a requirement for the intended program, applicants must provide official transcripts (from high school, state GED Office/GED Administrator, or Adult High School) evidencing graduation. The high school transcript requirement is waived for associate degree program applicants who have graduated from a regionally accredited two-year or four-year college, except for applicants to certain programs in the School of Health and Public Services, students receiving VA education benefits, and students who are applying for federal/state financial aid.

Applicants to curriculum programs of study must provide official transcripts from all regionally accredited colleges/universities previously attended. To fulfill the college's general admission requirements, students who have attended foreign schools at the secondary level (high school) and/or post-secondary level (college/university) must submit transcripts according to the following two steps:

**Step 1:** The foreign transcript must be written in or translated into the English language. Translated transcripts must be literal (word for word) and the translator must sign the translated copy and include contact information. The name the student is currently using and the date of birth should appear on the transcript.

**Step 2:** If the translator in Step 1 is not a current member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) ([www.naces.org](http://www.naces.org)) that also provides evaluation services, then the translated transcript must be evaluated by a member of NACES. Foreign secondary level transcripts must indicate US high school equivalency. Foreign post-secondary transcripts must indicate potential transfer credit.

Please note that the student will likely incur a fee for translation and/or evaluation services with NACES members. The amount of time it takes to translate and/or evaluate transcripts varies by NACES member.

**Note:** The evaluating agency for post-secondary transcripts (college/university) or translator for secondary transcripts (high school) must send the evaluation report directly to Catawba Valley Community College's Student Records Office. Student copies of evaluations will not be accepted.

No veteran may be certified for Veterans Educational Assistance Benefits (G.I. Bill) until all admissions requirements have been met and an unconditional acceptance has been granted.

## ADMISSION PROCEDURES

The application and enrollment process at CVCC may take 1-3 weeks, depending on the applicant's program of study. Many programs require that students be a high school graduate, have a High School Equivalency such as GED, or an Adult High School Diploma before enrollment. Some programs of study are LIMITED ENROLLMENT; some have additional admissions requirements that must be completed earlier in the academic year(s).

Following are the general procedures to apply for admission to a curriculum program of study:

1. Individuals who have never attended college or former CVCC students who have not been enrolled for one year should attend a "Starting Points" Information Session. This 45 minute session is an opportunity to aid future students in understanding the admission, placement test and financial aid processes. Sessions are offered on various days at various times; schedules are posted on the CVCC homepage.

2. Determine a Program of Study. Contact the Career Center for guidance, at 828-327-7000, ext. 4690.

3. Send official high school, Adult High School, or High School Equivalency (such as GED) transcripts to CVCC. In addition, send official college transcripts from every institution applicant has attended, SAT scores, ACT scores or placement test scores from another institution. Contact the College Registrar or College Records of all previous schools/colleges to request official transcripts. There may be fees for transcripts. Send all official documents to CVCC Student Records, 2550 Highway 70 SE, Hickory, NC 28602. Applicants for health care programs of study must secure all official transcripts and bring them to the college when activating an application. High school and college transcripts must be presented along with the application already on file in the Student Records Office before an application can be processed.

4. Complete online Application for Admission to the College. **ALL applicants must bring a photo ID and meet with admissions staff to activate the application.**

5. Prepare for and take any necessary placement tests as determined by Admissions Staff. There is no fee for placement testing, but it is offered by appointment only. Admissions Staff will assist applicants with an appointment day and time. (A valid photo ID is required).

6. Apply for financial aid by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Complete the online version of the FAFSA at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov); there are semester deadlines for filing the FAFSA. The FAFSA code for CVCC is 005318. Students cannot become eligible for Financial Aid until they successfully complete the FAFSA online. **Financial Aid is not final until a student has received an award letter via their CVCC e-mail from the CVCC Financial Aid Office.** If a student is going to use Veteran's Administration benefits, visit their website at [http://www.gibill.va.gov/GI\\_BILL\\_Info/education\\_forms.htm](http://www.gibill.va.gov/GI_BILL_Info/education_forms.htm). If a student is using TAA or WIA benefits, complete the FAFSA. Not all educational programs at CVCC are eligible for TAA/WIA benefit coverage.

## SPECIAL ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS FOR HEALTH PROGRAMS

In addition to the general procedures to apply for admission to a curriculum program of study, applicants for the health programs must complete other procedures.

Applicants for health care programs of study must secure all official transcripts and bring them to the college when activating an application. High school and college transcripts must be presented along with the application or already on file in the Student Records Office before an application can be processed.

All applicants for health programs must attain the established minimum placement test scores determined by their department of interest. All placement test scores, depending upon the testing agency, must be less than three, or five years old. See Testing Services on page 19.

Certain health programs require completion of educational experiences in clinical/lab facilities. These clinical/lab facilities may require students to **undergo criminal background checks and/or drug testing**. If a student is excluded from clinical/lab facilities as a result of a background check and/or drug testing, the student may be asked to withdraw from the program. Some facilities may also require additional vaccinations and/or health examinations.

Admission into any health program will be contingent upon receipt of a CVCC medical form documenting that the applicant possesses satisfactory physical and mental health. Facilities for providing health care services are not available on campus. In accordance with the State Board of Community Colleges code 1DSBCCC400.2 (b), students lawfully present in the United States shall have priority over any undocumented immigrant in any class or program of study when capacity limitations exist.

Effective for fall 2015, students may apply to no more than ONE health care program within the School of Health and Public Services.

## SPECIAL ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS

In addition to the general procedures to apply for admission to a curriculum program of study, applicants for the Early Childhood Education program must complete other procedures.

CVCC's Early Childhood Education program requires completion of educational experiences in childcare facilities and/or public school settings. These settings require students to undergo criminal background checks and/or health assessments. If a student is excluded from an educational setting as a result of one of these requirements, the student may be asked to withdraw from the program. Some settings may also require additional vaccinations and/or health examinations.

Completion of CVCC's Early Childhood Education program may be contingent upon receipt of a CVCC medical form documenting that the applicant possesses satisfactory physical and mental health. Facilities for providing health care services are not available on campus.

## SPECIAL CREDIT STUDENTS

Individuals may enroll in classes without pursuing a certificate, diploma, or degree. Persons enrolling under these circumstances are considered SPECIAL CREDIT STUDENTS. Placement tests may be required depending upon the student's educational background and the prerequisites/corequisites of the courses in which the student wishes to register. Special Credit Students are not eligible to receive federal/state financial aid and must meet all course prerequisites.

A military veteran cannot receive Veterans Educational Assistance Benefits (G.I. Bill) as a special credit student.

# FEES, FINANCIAL AID, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

CVCC charges tuition in accordance with policies established by the North Carolina Community College System. Tuition rates are subject to change. Certain fees have been established in accordance with guidelines and ranges established by the North Carolina Community College System. Fees are subject to change. Due dates for tuition and fees are established by the Chief Financial Officer or designee. Students will forfeit their seat in a class if they fail to pay the applicable tuition/fees by the established due date.

## TUITION (Subject to change depending on action of General Assembly.)

Tuition Per Semester:

North Carolina Residents	
16 hrs. or more .....	\$1,216.00
15 hrs. or less (per semester hr.) .....	\$76.00
Out-of-State Residents	
16 hrs. or more .....	\$4,288.00
15 hrs. or less (per semester hr.) .....	\$268.00

Determinations of **North Carolina Residency** for tuition purposes are made by the Director of Admissions or designee in accordance with laws and regulations established by the North Carolina General Assembly. North Carolina residency is not a factor in the tuition charged for non-credit courses. A student initially classified as an out-of-state resident for tuition purposes may request a change of residency classification upon meeting the "resident for tuition purposes" requirements. Detailed information regarding residency requirements and procedures for requesting a change in residency classification is available in Student Services.

It is the student's responsibility, whether classified as a resident or non-resident, to report any information to Student Services which may indicate a need for reclassification.

Tuition for students enrolling in Occupational Extension courses vary per course. However, fees may be established for self-supporting seminars and courses according to the schedule below in which more than normal expenses to the College are incurred. Such charges may cover the cost of instructional materials and/or textbooks required in such classes.

Continuing Education Occupational Extension (per course)

0-24 hours .....	\$70.00
25-50 hours .....	\$125.00
50+ hours.....	\$180.00

## FEES AND INSURANCE

Student Activity Fee.....	\$35.00
Student Accident Insurance (per semester).....	\$1.25
Computer Use and Technology Fee (Curriculum Students per semester).....	\$25.00
Computer Use and Technology Fee (Continuing Education Students per designated technology-related course).....	\$5.00
Diploma Fee .....	\$25.00
Certificate Fee .....	\$10.00
Liability/Malpractice (ADN, Surgical Technology, Respiratory Therapy, EMS, Dental Hygiene, Polysomnography, and Electroneurodiagnostic Students) .....	\$27.50
Liability/Malpractice (CNA and Phlebotomy Students).....	\$14.50
Service Charge for Returned Checks .....	\$25.00
Lab Fees .....	TBA
Replacement Fee for Library/ID Card .....	\$10.00
Transcript Fee .....	\$5.00

• To view a copy of CVCC's *Student Accident Insurance Brochure* visit ([http://www.cvcc.edu/Student\\_Services/Business\\_Office/Tuition\\_Fees.cfm](http://www.cvcc.edu/Student_Services/Business_Office/Tuition_Fees.cfm))

Accident insurance must be purchased by students registering for curriculum classes. The premium must be paid at the time of registration at the beginning of each semester.

Students enrolled in certain health programs/courses are required to purchase liability/malpractice insurance. The premium for this insurance is paid once annually through the business office.

Certain fees have been approved for testing services. These include fees for TEAS test, NCDAP retest, test proctoring, or other special circumstances.

**SEE WAIVERS.** In compliance with North Carolina Statutes and regulations of the North Carolina Community College System, tuition and fees may be waived under the following circumstances: (1) no extension registration fee shall be charged of individuals enrolling in special extension training programs for emergency telecommunication personnel, fire department personnel, volunteer rescue and life saving personnel, local law enforcement officers, or members of auxiliaries of such groups, providing the individual is a member of the group for which training is being provided; and (2) no extension registration fee will be charged to patients of state alcoholic rehabilitation centers.

High School students taking college credit classes through the Career and College Promise program are exempt from applicable tuition for fall and spring semesters. Applicable fees will be charged.

**OTHER EXPENSES.** The cost of books, supplies, and equipment varies from one program of study to another.

**COLLECTION NOTICE.** The College reserves the right to use all means necessary to collect any outstanding balances. This may include but is not limited to the use of NC Set-off Debt.

**OTHER ACTIONS REGARDING PAST DUE ACCOUNTS.** All previously incurred expenses and accounts, including library and payments made to Nelnet (a third party company) for tuition, generally must be fully paid before a student may re-enter at the beginning of any semester and before transcript, diploma, or certificate will be furnished.

## REFUNDS

**CURRICULUM CLASSES.** The College follows the refund policies established by the North Carolina Community College System. A copy of the current refund policies may be obtained from the Business Office. Specific guidelines and processes to ensure compliance with these policies shall be established by the Chief Financial Officer or designee. The following are specific guidelines which have been established in accordance with these policies. Refunds for less than \$5.00 will not be made.

A full (100 %) tuition refund shall be made if the student officially withdraws **prior** to the start date of the class. Example – If the start date of the class as indicated on the student's schedule is September 1, the student must withdraw from that class on or before August 31 to receive a full (100%) tuition refund.

A 75% tuition refund shall be made if the student withdraws on or before the census date of the class. The census date for a class is the 10% point of the class.

No tuition refund shall be made if the student withdraws from a class after the census date of that class. The census date for a class is the 10% point of the class.

The student fees, accident insurance premium, and some program specific fees (i.e., mal-practice insurance fees, processing fees, etc.) are not refundable unless the student officially withdraws prior to the start of his/her classes, a student's class is cancelled, or the College determines an institutional error has occurred.

**CONTINUING EDUCATION CLASSES.** This policy includes occupational extension classes. A full refund will be given if the student officially withdraws from class **prior** to the first class meeting. Allow a minimum of two (2) weeks for processing of refund requests. Refunds for less than \$5.00 will not be made. After the class begins, a 75% refund of registration only will be made if the student officially withdraws from the class prior to or on the 10% point of scheduled hours. The student fees, accident insurance premium, and some program specific fees (i.e., mal-practice insurance fees, processing fees, etc.) are not refundable unless the student officially withdraws prior to the start of his/her classes, a student's class is cancelled, or the College determines an institutional error has occurred.

## FINANCIAL AID

Students who enroll are encouraged to submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) available at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). Students are encouraged to apply by the deadline dates located on the CVCC website. The student's financial need is determined through an analysis of FAFSA application and is granted on an annual basis. Financial assistance for educational expenses may be available in the form of grants, scholarships, loans, or work programs.

Student financial aid programs require that the student: (a) demonstrate financial need, except for some loan programs, (b) provide an official high school transcript or High School Equivalency diploma (such as GED), (c) be enrolled as a regular student working toward a degree, diploma, or certificate in an eligible program, (d) be a U.S. Citizen or eligible noncitizen, (e) have a valid Social Security Number, (f) make satisfactory academic progress, and (g) register with the Selective Service, if required.

### I. FEDERAL AID PROGRAMS

**FEDERAL PELL GRANT.** This grant is a source of federal student aid which provides eligible students with financial assistance to help defray the cost of postsecondary education. Student eligibility is primarily based on financial need.

**FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GRANT.** This is a federal grant which is a "supplement" to the Pell Grant for students demonstrating the greatest financial need.

**FEDERAL WORK STUDY.** This federal program provides jobs at the College for students who have financial need.

**VA EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS.** Students desiring to use VA Educational benefits should contact Student Services for CVCC program information and admissions requirements. Students must be accepted in a VA approved program of study and meet all institutional and VA requirements before certification can be made to the Veterans Administration. For additional information regarding benefits, eligibility, policies, and procedures, please refer to the Veterans Affairs section. (See Veterans Affairs page 19.)

### DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM

**A. SUBSIDIZED LOAN.** This type of loan is awarded on the basis of financial need. The federal government pays the interest on the loan ("subsidizes" the loan) until repayment begins and during authorized periods of deferment.

**B. UNSUBSIDIZED LOAN.** This type of loan is not awarded on the basis of need. Interest will be charged from the time the loan is disbursed until it is paid in full.

**C. PLUS LOAN.** This type of loan is for the parent of a student who qualifies as a dependent student. The parent does not have to demonstrate "need" but must not have an adverse credit history.

## II. STATE SUPPORTED AID PROGRAMS

**NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE GRANT.** This is a need based grant established by the NC Legislature to provide funds to help meet the educational costs of NC residents attending community colleges. To apply, the student must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Eligibility is based on the student being a NC resident, enrolled at least half time in an eligible curriculum program, maintaining satisfactory progress, meeting the Pell Grant eligibility requirements, and demonstrating financial need. Possible recipients are selected by the College Foundation of North Carolina, with each community college certifying that the student meets all eligibility requirements.

### NORTH CAROLINA EDUCATION LOTTERY SCHOLARSHIP.

The Education Lottery Scholarship was created by the 2005 General Assembly to provide financial assistance to needy North Carolina residents. To apply, the student must complete the FAFSA. Eligibility is based on the student being a NC resident, enrolled at least half time in an eligible curriculum program, maintaining satisfactory progress, meeting the Federal Pell Grant requirements, and demonstrating financial need. Possible recipients are selected by College Foundation of North Carolina, with each community college certifying that the student meets all eligibility requirements.

**STATE EMPLOYEE CREDIT UNION FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP.** The SECU Foundation established this two year scholarship program to assist North Carolina Community College students achieve academic success. Preference will be given to students whose parents or guardians and family members are public sector employees who live and work in North Carolina. To apply, students must have completed the FAFSA. In addition, the student must be full time, a U.S. citizen, have demonstrated leadership and excellence of character, and maintain a 2.5 or higher GPA. Scholarship amounts are \$2,500 per year. Recipients are selected by the Financial Aid Office. Information for the scholarship is available through the CVCC Financial Aid Office.

**VETERANS' CHILDREN SCHOLARSHIP.** Children of certain veterans who were either killed in action, disabled while in the armed forces, a prisoner of war or missing in action for a certain period of time may be entitled to financial aid from the North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs to attend CVCC. Students may apply through the local N.C. Division of Veterans Affairs Office.

**VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AID.** By action of the United States Congress, any physically, mentally, or emotionally disabled student may be eligible for financial aid and for scholarship assistance. If a prospective student has any of these limitations, the nearest office of the North Carolina Department of Vocational Rehabilitation should be contacted. If the student prefers, the CVCC Financial Aid Office may be contacted.

**WELLS FARGO TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIP.** Through a grant to the North Carolina Department of Community Colleges by Wells Fargo Bank, one scholarship is available annually to students in the second year of a two-year technical program. Selection is based upon need and scholastic performance during the first year of studies.

**OTHER AID.** In addition to the above programs, various companies and civic organizations provide scholarships to deserving students.

### III. SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS STANDARDS FOR FINANCIAL AID

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) is a set of standards for financial aid progress to insure that all students receiving federal (Title IV) or state aid are making progress toward completion of a degree. The policy requires the measurement of satisfactory academic progress to include all periods of enrollment at the institution, including those periods for which the student did not receive any financial aid.

New federal regulations effective July 1, 2011, affect Satisfactory Academic Progress policies and procedures. The rules limit the length of time that students not making progress can continue to receive Title IV aid and require a more structured, comprehensive, and consistent approach to the development and implementation of institutional financial aid satisfactory academic progress policies.

#### PURPOSE, PROCEDURES, MONITORING, WARNING & SUSPENSION, APPEALS

##### PURPOSE

Institutions of higher education are required by federal regulations to establish minimum standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) for students receiving financial aid. It is the expectation that students are to achieve minimum levels of progress toward completion of a degree. The progress is measured both qualitatively and quantitatively. The maximum timeframe for an academic program is divided into increments to ensure that the student is making sufficient progress toward completion of the degree. The institution will determine at the end of each increment (semester) if the student has completed a minimum of percentage of work toward completion of the degree. All semesters and credit hours attempted at the institution will calculate in this determination, regardless of whether or not the student has received financial aid in the past. The SAP Policy will apply to all students applying for or receiving federal or state aid.

The student is responsible for understanding the SAP Policy and for being in compliance. The student is also responsible for understanding the consequences for noncompliance. All financial aid recipients are required to meet the SAP guidelines established by Catawba Valley Community College (CVCC) and financial aid standards of progress, pursuant to Federal regulations.

##### PROCEDURES

**To be eligible for financial aid, students must meet the following minimum guidelines:**

**QUALITATIVE STANDARD** - Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 each semester as computed by Financial Aid's standards – this may be different than your transcript GPA. Developmental courses are not included in the semester GPA or cumulative GPA.

**QUANTITATIVE STANDARD** – Complete 67% of all credit hours attempted from the beginning date of enrollment at the college. Developmental course hours are included in this measurement. Cumulative credit hours attempted will include all hours for which the student was enrolled as of the census date of the class (10% point of the class). Credit hours otherwise marked as forgiven under the previous Academic Forgiveness Policy are included in hours attempted and hours completed if appropriate based on the grades received. Transfer credit hours that are accepted toward the student's educational program will count as both attempted and completed hours.

**MAXIMUM TIME FRAME** – Complete the program of study within the maximum timeframe. Federal regulations specify that the timeframe may not exceed 150% of the published length of the program as measured in credit hours. (If the academic program length is 60 hours the maximum timeframe for the program cannot exceed 90 credit hours attempted). Credit hours for developmental courses required by placement testing will be excluded (up to 30 credit hours) from the 150% calculation of hours. Transfer credits accepted from other schools that apply toward the student's program of study are included in the maximum timeframe.

##### MONITORING

The Financial Aid Office will monitor satisfactory academic progress for all students receiving or applying for federal or state aid to ensure that they are making progress toward program completion. The progress for all students receiving federal or state aid will be reviewed at the end of each semester. Students will be notified by email regarding the status. Failure to receive notification will not change the student's status. Not enrolling for one or more terms does not change the student's status.

**CUMULATIVE CREDIT HOURS ATTEMPTED** – Cumulative credit hours attempted are defined as all credit hours attempted at CVCC, and all credit hours transferred from other institutions. Attempted credits include courses with grades of A, B, C, D, F, or P (pass), WP (withdraw passing), WF (withdraw failing), I (incomplete), or R (repeat).

**REPEATED COURSES** – will be counted as hours attempted, hours completed, and also toward maximum credits allowable for each type of program for financial aid. Only one repetition of a previously passed course may be counted in the enrollment status. A course that has not been passed may count in the enrollment status until the course has been successfully completed.

**CUMULATIVE CREDIT HOURS COMPLETED** – Credit hours successfully completed are defined as grades of A, B, C, D or P. Credit hours with a grade of F, WP, WF, I, or R do not count as successfully completed credit hours.

**AUDITED COURSES** – Credit hours taken for a grade of "audit" do not apply toward a degree program. The grade of "audit" is not included in determining status for financial aid and does not count in the calculation of satisfactory academic progress.

**INCOMPLETE GRADES** – Courses with grades of "I" (Incomplete) will be considered as credit hours attempted and not completed. Students who have made arrangements with the instructor to complete required course work are not required to re-register for the same class during a subsequent semester to complete the work. If the "incomplete" grade resulted in a student being placed on financial aid probation or suspension, once completed, the student must notify the Financial Aid Office to have progress reevaluated.

**CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE** – The minimum cumulative GPA for graduation at CVCC is 2.00. The student receiving financial aid must meet the minimum standard of the school.

**COURSE WITHDRAWALS** – Any student who withdraws from a class, either officially or unofficially should know how the withdrawal could affect the eligibility for financial aid as determined by the SAP Policy. A withdrawal will count as attempted, but not completed credit hours. A grade of WP will affect the quantitative measure, but not the qualitative measure, as it will not count in the GPA calculation. A grade of WF will affect both the quantitative and qualitative measure, as it will count in the GPA. Financial Aid recipients should discuss the consequences of withdrawing from a class with the Financial Aid Office before doing so.

**DEVELOPMENTAL COURSES** – Federal regulations allow financial aid recipients to take a maximum of 30 credit hours of developmental coursework. Developmental courses are included in the calculation in the quantitative measure (hours attempted versus completed). The grade received for the developmental class, however, is not included in the GPA. To remain in good standing, students enrolled in developmental courses must receive grades of P.

**TRANSFER STUDENTS** – All transfer credit hours granted to the student will be included in the measurement of maximum timeframe. Transfer credit hours that are accepted toward the student's educational program will count as both attempted and completed hours.

**PROGRAM OF STUDY** – Students who change their program of study without graduating from a program will assume the timeframe of the new program of study and all hours previously attempted will count toward the maximum timeframe of the new program of study. Frequent changing of programs without graduating could result in the loss of federal or state eligibility. If a student graduates from a program of study and desires to pursue another program, the student will assume the maximum timeframe of the new program less any attempted hours related to courses not required

in the program previously completed. It is always in the best interest of the student to contact the Financial Aid Office before changing programs of study. A student is allowed to receive financial aid for the completion of only two academic programs.

**TWO PROGRAMS OF STUDY** – Students who choose two programs of study (pursue multiple programs at the same time) will assume the maximum timeframe of only one academic program.

**SUMMER SESSION** – Credit hours attempted and earned during the summer session are included in the calculation of Satisfactory Academic Progress. Full-time status is the same for summer session as it is for the fall and spring semesters (12 credit hours).

**ENROLLMENT STATUS** – Full time (12 credit hours or more), 3/4 time (9-11 credit hours), 1/2 time (6-8 credit hours), less than 1/2 time (less than 6 credit hours)

## **WARNING AND SUSPENSION**

**Warning** – If a student does not have a 2.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA) AND pass at least 67% of the credit hours on a cumulative basis, the student is placed on WARNING for the next term attended. A student will be granted only one term to regain satisfactory academic progress. Financial aid may be received during this WARNING term.

For students in clock hour programs, the review of progress will be done at the point the scheduled clock hours for that payment period are successfully completed. In order for the student to be eligible for the next payment period, the student must have successfully completed both the clock hours and the weeks of instructional time for the required period.

**Suspension** - At the end of the WARNING period, students whose term completion rate and GPA do not meet SAP requirements (67% completion of all hours attempted and a 2.0 cumulative GPA) will be on SUSPENSION. Students who are suspended will no longer be eligible to receive financial aid. At this time, the student must pay for college expenses each semester until the SAP requirements are met or submit an Appeal if documentation can be provided to indicate extenuating circumstances that impacted academic performance.

**Maximum Time Frame**—If a student begins his/her academic career in a longer program (i.e. an associate or diploma program) and then changes to a shorter program (i.e. certificate program), he/she may automatically be put on MAXIMUM TIME FRAME. For example, a student completes 35 credit hours under an associate's program that requires 60 credit hours to complete. The student changes to an 18 credit hour certificate program. Under the associate program, 150% is 90 credit hours, but 150% for an 18 hour certificate is 27 credit hours (18 x 150%). Because the student has already completed 35 credit hours and the maximum time frame for the certificate program is only 27, the student has exceeded the 150% time frame. Once a student reaches the 150% limit, his/her SAP status will update to MAXIMUM TIME FRAME and the student will no longer be eligible for state or federal financial aid.

**Probation on Appeal**—When a student has been reinstated by an approved appeal by the SAP Committee, the student will be placed on PROBATION ON APPEAL and assigned an Academic Plan. The student can receive financial aid for the term he/she is on probation. If the student does not meet the probationary requirements, he/she will be placed on SUSPENSION for the next enrolled semester.

## **APPEALS**

A student may appeal the Suspension of financial aid by obtaining a Satisfactory Progress Appeal Form online at [www.cvcc.edu](http://www.cvcc.edu). Students must submit in writing along with supporting documentation, a) why he/she failed to make satisfactory progress and b) what has changed his/her situation that will allow him/her to make satisfactory progress at the next evaluation. Federal regulations give some examples where allowances might be made for mitigating circumstances. **ONLY ONE APPEAL PER ACADEMIC YEAR WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Federal regulations give some examples where allowances might be made for mitigating circumstances. Mitigating circumstances are defined as (1) death of a relative of the student, (2) an injury or extended

illness or hospitalization of the student or immediate family member, (3) other special circumstances such as unanticipated, serious medical or psychological difficulty causing undue hardship to the student and beyond reasonable control of the student. Circumstances related to the typical adjustment to college life, such as working while attending school, financial issues related to paying bills, childcare issues and car maintenance/travel to and from campus are not considered extenuating circumstances. Chronic conditions such as (but not limited to) diabetes, migraines, asthma, hypertension and other similar conditions are expected to be managed by the student appropriately for him/her to meet SAP requirements. An Appeal cannot be based on the student's lack of knowledge regarding the SAP Policy or simply the need for financial aid. A student may not submit an appeal because he/she does not agree with the final decision of the SAP Committee. An Appeal based solely on financial and/or emotional needs without sufficient explanation and documentation will not be approved. Appeals submitted without proper documentation will be DENIED and incomplete forms will not be reviewed. Other than when an appeal is granted for unusual or mitigating circumstances, a student can reestablish eligibility only by taking action that brings the student into compliance with the qualitative and quantitative components of the SAP requirements including the maximum timeframe. Students who wish to appeal the 150% timeframe rule are required to complete the Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal Form and have an academic advisor complete the Satisfactory Academic Progress Academic Plan Form to determine how many courses remain toward graduation. The advisor must provide the student with an educational plan that will allow the student to complete the degree. The student must successfully complete 100% of everything attempted from that point forward to complete the degree (no withdrawals, no incompletes, and no grades lower than a C) and must earn a minimum term-based GPA of 2.50. If the student fails in these requirements, the aid will be permanently suspended.

The Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal and Academic Plan Forms, along with all supporting documentation, **MUST** be submitted to the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid **BEFORE** the **FIRST DAY OF CLASS** for the enrolled semester. The SAP Committee will review submitted appeals and will determine if justifiable evidence or extenuating circumstances exist and if the student may receive financial aid for a specified probationary term. The SAP Committee may have up to 14 days to make a determination and the decision will be final. The student will be notified by email of the decision.

Students on financial aid SUSPENSION who are seeking to regain eligibility for financial aid through the Appeal process will remain ineligible for assistance until the Appeal process is completed and a decision has been made. Students on SUSPENSION **CANNOT** depend on financial aid to pay for costs of tuition, books, and other fees, and should be prepared to pay from their own resources pending the outcome of their financial aid Appeal.

If an Appeal is approved, the student will be placed on PROBATION ON APPEAL. This status will hold the student to a higher term-based standard for SAP evaluation. PROBATION ON APPEAL students **MUST** earn a minimum term-based GPA of 2.50 (or equivalent if course is repeated) AND complete 100% of hours attempted for the term. Those meeting the standard will continue in this status until they regain full satisfactory SAP status (67% completion and 2.0 cumulative GPA). Failure to meet the PROBATION ON APPEAL conditions will result in SUSPENSION of aid.

If your Appeal is denied, you will be asked to attend at your own expense and earn the deficiency either in hours, GPA or both (you cannot make up a deficiency if your appeal was due to exceeding the maximum time frame to earn a degree). If you did not maintain SAP due to a deficiency in credit hours, you may take the credit hours at another institution as long as CVCC accepts the transfer hours. After you complete this semester (or semesters), you must submit an appeal form to the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid so your progress can be reevaluated.

Each student will be notified by email when placed on probation or suspension. If the student takes the necessary action that brings the student into compliance with the qualitative and quantitative components of the SAP requirements, the Federal Pell Grant and other types of financial assistance (depending on availability of funds) are reinstated at the beginning of the next term of attendance, if otherwise eligible. Whether approved by the SAP Committee or approved after one semester of satisfactory progress, the student's status upon reinstatement will be satisfactory.

## IV. LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID

### A. CVCC FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

The Catawba Valley Community College Foundation, Inc., is a nonprofit organization that provides the community a vehicle through which investments may be made in the education of CVCC students through scholarship funds. These scholarship funds provide an opportunity for each student to compete for funds to pay for his/her education. Scholarships are provided through tax-deductible gifts from individuals, businesses, community organizations, and CVCC alumni. All CVCC students are invited to submit a scholarship application. One scholarship application initiates the application/eligibility process for all Foundation scholarships. When the CVCC student application is activated, an invitation to apply for a CVCC Foundation Scholarship is sent via the email address or home address found on the application. The CVCC Foundation Scholarship selection is a continuous process. Each student is encouraged to return the scholarship application as soon as possible for access to the scholarship process.

## STUDENT LIFE

### STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

Student Services provides entry, support, and transition services to curriculum students. A definitive program of services is offered to assist a student in satisfactorily selecting, entering, progressing within, and completing a program of study. In addition, a student is provided with numerous opportunities for personal development and social growth through a variety of planned activities.

**ACADEMIC ADVISING.** Each curriculum student enrolled in a degree, diploma or certificate program will have access to academic advising through an assigned advisor or through the Advising Center. This determination is made during the Admissions interview and will be communicated to the student as appropriate for the program of study. The purpose of academic advising is to assist the student with planning a course schedule, registration, program sequence and completion, academic probation, graduation review, and general academic advising.

**ADVISING CENTER.** The Center is currently located in the lower level of the Student Services Building. Hours are posted at the Center. The phone number is 828-327-7000, ext. 4687.

**CAREER CENTER.** 828-327-7000, ext. 4690.

**CAREER COUNSELING.** Individual career counseling is available to all students who are interested in discussing their career interests, choice of program, and career goals. Career assessments and career reference information are used to assist students in examining their interests, values, and skills to explore career options. Assessments available include: Self Directed Search, Myers-Briggs Personality Type Indicator, Focus 2, and CFNC Planning Tools.

**JOB PLACEMENT.** Students have access to jobs listed by employers who call the Career Center for assistance. The office has listings for full-time, part-time and temporary jobs. Current students, former students, and graduates of curriculum programs are eligible for placement services. Services include job preparation (job search, resume writing, applications, interviewing, etc.) job fairs, workshops, and on-campus interviews.

**WORK BASED LEARNING (WBL).** WBL is a curriculum (credit) course that can provide on-the-job work experience for students enrolled in eligible programs. Students work in jobs related to their program of study and receive course credit for the learning that takes place on the job. Not all programs

have WBL as an option and there are requirements that students must meet prior to enrolling in a WBL course. WBL options for eligible programs are listed in each program of study. Interested students may contact the Career Center at 828-327-7000, ext. 4812, or their advisor.

**COUNSELING.** CVCC does not offer mental health/personal counseling services. Admission staff members are available to assist students with academic or vocational issues. Also, the CVCC Career Center may offer career/vocational assistance to students. If at any point an admissions representative determines a student's ability to benefit from campus services is limited, the staff member will recommend appropriate resources and suggest alternatives to the student.

**E-MAIL ACCOUNTS.** CVCC creates a college e-mail address for students within five business days of the application processing visit in the Student Services office. **Students are expected to read the CVCC email daily.** The College shares critical information regarding financial aid, academic issues, grades, registration, campus safety alerts, and general news through e-mail. It is the preferred method of communication with students to ensure timeliness of information, safety, and security. It is the student's responsibility to learn how to login and read CVCC e-mail and follow specialized requests from various campus departments.

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES.** Consistent with the open door admissions policy, it is the intent of the college administration that no person be denied the opportunity to pursue financial assistance. Therefore, scholarship and financial assistance information is available during the admissions counseling process. The Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid is available to assist students and potential students in planning for the financial support of their education.

**HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY TESTING.** The Adult Secondary Credentials (ASC) tests, (such as GED) are administered on a regularly scheduled basis. Contact the Testing Center at 828-327-7000 ext. 4260 for the GED testing schedule.

**HEALTH SERVICES/INFORMATION.** There is no formal health care program/clinic available for students. The Student Government Association shall include various health related activities/information in its general college programming. These may include presentations by college personnel or outside health care agencies on substance abuse, HIV, wellness, nutrition, and/or other vital health care topics. Any student, faculty or staff health related emergencies are referred to area health care providers/agencies. CVCC has a policy designed to protect all employees and students in the workplace from exposure to bloodborne pathogens. A copy of the policy is on file in the office of the Dean, School of Access, Development, & Success, located in Student Services.

**HOUSING.** Catawba Valley Community College primarily serves students within commuting distance of the campus. CVCC has no dormitory or housing facilities.

**ORIENTATION.** **New Student Orientation** is required of all new students. Upon completion, individuals will be allowed to register for courses. New Student Orientation is offered in an online format. This orientation introduces individuals to information about how to navigate on campus, explore career options, and register for upcoming courses. Participants will also be instructed on how to access online classes, student accounts, grade information, and payment options through CVCC's student software.

**PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.** A program of services is provided for students with disabilities. Individuals with disabilities (as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and the ADA Amended Act 2008) wishing to make a request for reasonable accommodation or wishing to file a complaint of alleged discrimination on the basis of disability should contact the Counselor for the Program for Students with Disabilities by phone at 828-327-7000, extension 4222 or by mail at 2550 Highway 70 SE, Hickory, NC 28602. It is the student's responsibility to request these services. Current documentation of the disability by an appropriate professional may be required. All information is kept confidential. Students will be required to sign a release of information form before any special contact is made to arrange accommodations. Requests for reasonable accommodation should be made several weeks in advance to allow sufficient time for accommodations to be arranged.

**SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT (SPOC)  
FOR HOMELESS AND UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH.**

In accordance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, services are provided to help smooth the transition to college for unaccompanied students who are experiencing homelessness. The Single Point of Contact (SPOC) helps to create an awareness on campus of homeless students, expedite the process of determining eligibility for independent student status for the FAFSA, and supports school access and success by facilitating campus discussions to develop a system of support for homeless and unaccompanied youth, and linking youth with campus resources and community assistance. The CVCC SPOC can be reached at 828-327-7000 ext. 4408 or by mail at 2550 Hwy. 70 SE, Hickory, NC 28602.

#### **STUDENT RESOURCE GUIDE 2016/2017.**

College policies and procedures are applicable to all students enrolled at CVCC, whether full-time, part-time, auditing, special credit, non-credit, or Career & College Promise. Information contained in this document is subject to change without notice. CVCC is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution. These policies and procedures are outlined on our web site at [http://www.cvcc.edu/About\\_Us/Policies/](http://www.cvcc.edu/About_Us/Policies/) and [http://www.cvcc.edu/About\\_Us/Procedures/](http://www.cvcc.edu/About_Us/Procedures/).

**SPECIAL PROGRAMS.** Students needing assistance with childcare funding or other supportive services such as temporary funding of tuition, books, supplies or transportation should contact the Director for Special Programs in the Learning Assistance Center (LAC). Each year special grant applications are made, and there may be funds for financial assistance. Applications are available in the Learning Assistance Center (LAC) and Student Services and are distributed to the “most in need” as long as funds last. “Most in need” is determined by information submitted on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

**TESTING SERVICES.** Students applying for degree, diploma, and certificate programs may be required to complete placement testing to provide evidence of appropriate skills so that courses may be selected to maximize the students’ opportunity for success. Placement testing is not required for admission to the College, but may be required to satisfy certain program of study requirements. Appropriate skills may be evidenced by one of the following:

- Sufficient scores on the NCDAP and/or OPAC tests taken at a North Carolina Community College within 5 years of entry to CVCC;
- Sufficient scores on the ACT or SAT tests taken within 5 years of entry to CVCC;
- Meeting the requirements for Multiple Measures for Placement for those students who graduate from a North Carolina high school in the year 2016 or later.

NCDAP and OPAC testing is available by appointment in the CVCC Testing Center. Appointments can be made when the student activates his/her application in Admissions. There is no fee for this first-time placement testing. NCDAP and OPAC scores are valid for 5 years. More specific information can be found at [www.cvcc.edu/Student\\_Services/Testing\\_Center/](http://www.cvcc.edu/Student_Services/Testing_Center/).

**RE-TESTING PROCEDURE.** CVCC uses the NCDAP placement test battery and every student is provided the opportunity to complete placement testing as one of the requirements to be admitted to CVCC. There is no fee for this first-time placement testing. Placement test scores using NCDAP are valid for 5 years. Generally, re-testing on NCDAP is not considered to be productive. However, re-testing may occur if one of the following conditions is met:

1. NCDAP scores are older than 5 years and have expired. There is no fee to re-test if test scores have expired.
2. The original test score is believed to be invalid due to illness, interruption, or other problems during test administration as determined by the Testing Center staff. Should any of these issues occur, the student must alert the Testing Center staff about the issue upon completion of the placement test and before exiting from the Testing Center. Testing Center staff will discuss the issue with the student and assist the student to schedule a re-test if appropriate. Testing Center staff will determine whether the student must pay a re-testing fee.
3. The student completes an intervention/remediation to provide appropriate skill development for the student. The student must discuss this option with the appropriate Department Head (Mathematics or English/Developmental Studies) and re-testing will be approved by the Department Head if appropriate. The student will be charged a \$10.00 fee to re-test in Mathematics and a \$10.00 fee to re-test in Reading/English.

4. The Department Head for Mathematics or English/Developmental Studies determines that the student may benefit from a re-test. The Department Head will discuss options with the student to determine the best course of action. The student will be charged a \$10.00 fee to re-test in Mathematics and a \$10.00 fee to re-test in Reading/English.
5. Testing Center staff are not authorized to grant re-testing except in the case of #2 listed above.

Students who are approved to re-test will receive a form from the appropriate Department Head that indicates the specific NCDAP re-test. The student will take this form to the Business Office and pay the required fee(s). The Business Office will give the student a receipt. The student will take both the Re-test Form and the receipt to the Testing Center to schedule a re-test appointment.

**VETERANS AFFAIRS.** Special needs and information about policies and procedures for veteran students and dependents using VA benefits are provided by the Veteran Certifying Official in Student Services, and the local county VA offices. Students desiring to use VA Educational benefits should come to Student Services for CVCC program information and admissions requirements. Students must be accepted in a VA approved program of study and meet all institutional and VA requirements before certification can be made to the Veterans Administration. The specific application for benefits can be made on line at [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov). Additional information regarding benefits, eligibility, policies, and procedures may be obtained from these offices.

**VA students are responsible for the payment of all tuition, fees, and books at registration.** VA payments are made directly to the student after classes have begun, and may take sixty days or more for initial enrollment.

V.A. benefits will reimburse only for courses required in one specific program of study.

The Veteran Certifying Officials in Student Services are responsible for (1) maintaining the appropriate records regarding veteran enrollment and progress within an educational program, and (2) notifying the Veterans Administration of any change affecting the recipients enrollment status. Students receiving VA benefits must immediately notify the VA representative in Student Services of any change in their status to include dropping or adding classes, program changes, or new names and addresses. CVCC Student Services representatives are **not** employees of the Veterans Administration and are not responsible for VA policies, rules, or public laws which determine eligibility or payments. This includes, but is not limited to, the requirement that only required classes which specifically meet a graduation requirement for the approved program can be certified to the VA for the payment of benefits. Failure to comply with requests for documentation from the VA Certifying official(s) at CVCC may result in processing delays for benefits. Students using VA benefits must comply with all college satisfactory academic process guidelines and remain in good academic standing to continue receiving benefits. For additional information see the VA web page at: [http://www.cvcc.edu/stud\\_serv/FinancialAid/va.htm](http://www.cvcc.edu/stud_serv/FinancialAid/va.htm).

## **HOURS OF CLASSES**

Students may attend Catawba Valley Community College on either a full-time or part-time basis. Day classes are normally scheduled between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Evening classes are normally scheduled between 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Some classes are also scheduled on weekends, Friday evening and Saturday daytime.

The CVCC Normal Business Hours of Operation are 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Monday – Friday and closed Saturday and Sunday. The CVCC campus buildings are open to students 7:00 AM Monday – Friday except for scheduled events. The CVCC Campus is closed 10:30 PM – 6:00 AM Monday – Thursday and closes at 5:00 PM on Friday. The Campus will close on Institutional Holidays.

## **LEARNING ASSISTANCE CENTER (LAC)**

The Learning Assistance Center is an academic support center offering walk-in tutorial assistance to Catawba Valley Community College students who are experiencing academic difficulties or wanting to improve their academic performance. Individual assistance is available in all levels of mathematics, writing, and study skills. Computer-assisted instruction, video instruction and Internet access are also available.

In addition, students who are making grades of 80 or below or who are retaking a class are eligible for free tutorial help. Students interested in either using the Learning Assistance Center or receiving a tutor should contact the Learning Assistance Center for additional information.

Also available is the Peer Mentoring Program. The program is designed for new students who are nervous about going to college, need to learn or improve study skills, and/or need extra help and guidance. The Program provides academic and personal support to new students experiencing the challenges associated with the first semester college experience.

## LIBRARY

The Library is located on the second floor of the Cuyler A. Dunbar Building. Its primary function is to support instruction and provide necessary resources to the students in each of the curricula areas. Library patrons consist of both students and the public. The Library has a capacity of 201 students with a collection of 30,000 volumes. Eight individual study rooms and two group study rooms are available for use.

## OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS

The Office of Multicultural Affairs is located on the first floor of the Cuyler A. Dunbar building. Its function is for all students, staff, and faculty to embrace and value diversity. This office promotes a creative climate offering a series of Multicultural Days on CVCC's campuses for a positive educational experience for all students.

## STUDENT CENTER

The Student Center, a place to meet and eat, is one of the focal points of campus social life. A cafeteria-style snack bar, dining area, outdoor patio, and television help fill leisure moments and relieve study pressures. The Student Center is also available to provide a relatively quiet but relaxed atmosphere in which students may constructively use time for academic preparation.

### Behavior Expectations for the Student Center as Approved by Student Government Association (SGA)

1. Respect the rights of others to study and learn.
2. Vulgar language, shouting across the room, horseplay, loud music or engaging other users in unwanted interactions are examples of disruptive behaviors that will not be tolerated in the Student Center. Students come to school for an education. No one has the right to interfere with the education of others.
3. Use courteous and polite behavior at all times.
4. Respect the authority of all faculty and staff to enforce these guidelines.
5. Pick up your trash when you leave the Student Center.
6. Sagging or unbelted pants are prohibited.
7. Students may not rearrange the furniture. Leave the tables, chairs and couches as they are.

## COLLEGE BOOKSTORE

The College operates a well-stocked, walk-in, self-service college store, where most required books, supplies, and tools are available. In addition, other items of student interest may be purchased. While operating primarily for the students, the College Store is open to the general public and is located in the Student Center.

## WRITING CENTER

Learning Skills Specialists are available in the Writing Center located in the Cuyler A. Dunbar Building, Room 234, to assist students with sentence structure, paragraph development, grammar problems, and organization. Computers are available for student use for composing or revising papers. The resources for research are conveniently located nearby in the library. Also, the Writing Center offers an online writing assistance program called E-Help for distance learners. This service provides students the opportunity to submit written assignments for review by an online tutor Monday through Friday.

## STUDENT ACTIVITIES

CVCC encourages student co-curricular activities and student organizations that promote student growth. Organizations and activities shall be open to all students regardless of race, color, national origin, sex/gender identity, religion, creed, age, disability, veteran or active military status, genetic characteristics, or any other category protected by law under Title VII and/or Title IX, of race, color, national origin, sex/gender, religion, creed, age, or disability.

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT.** Each curriculum student enrolled at CVCC is automatically a member of the Student Government Association

(SGA). SGA is intended to be a vehicle through which students have input into CVCC decisions and into the general welfare of students. The goals of this organization are to encourage student-faculty cooperation; provide democratic action in school activities; coordinate student activities; and maintain high standards for the school by upholding high personal standards of conduct. The SGA President is a nonvoting member of the Board of Trustees.

All on and off campus fund-raising activities and other on-campus solicitation activities by students and/or student groups must be approved in advance in accordance with guidelines established by the President's Executive Council. Procedures for organizing student activities and for establishing student organizations shall be established by the Executive Chief Student Services Officer or designee. CVCC does not support campus organizations typically known as social fraternities and sororities.

**Accounting Club** designed to assist students in becoming better informed about the accounting profession and introduce them to the opportunities available in the private and public sectors. Advisor: Christy Land, cland@cvcc.edu, 327-7000 ext. 4308.

**Ambassadors for Christ** provide regular chances to study and discuss the Bible, worship and pray in a group setting. Advisor: Kenneth Mann, kmann@cvcc.edu, 327-7000 ext. 4495.

**American Chemical Society's Student Affiliate Society** of CVCC gives chemical science students practice in professional areas, including preparing and presenting technical material before chemical professionals. Advisor: Kim Browning, kbrowning@cvcc.edu, 327-7000 ext. 4536.

**Association of Respiratory Therapy Students** promotes professionalism in respiratory care students. Members are involved in promoting healthy lifestyles and providing assistance at an asthma camp for children. Advisor: Cathy Bitsche, cbitsche@cvcc.edu, 327-7000 ext. 4391 and Advisor: Jason Elder, jelder@cvcc.edu, ext. 4083.

**Automotive Systems Technology Club** includes all automotive systems technology students. Members tour assembly plants, go to races, and volunteer with many campus events. Advisor: James Roane, jroane@cvcc.edu, 327-7000 ext. 4234, and James Farnsworth.

**Biology Club** members promote community service, service learning, and outdoor recreation. Activities include wetlands restoration, biodiversity surveys, and waterfall hikes. Advisor: Emily Whiteley, ewhiteley@cvcc.edu, 327-7000 ext. 4361.

**Business Leaders of Tomorrow** provides out-of-the-classroom learning and experience to office administration, business, accounting and entrepreneurship students. Opportunities abound to build business and community relationships. Members are often able to attend conferences, seminars, and participate in educational trips. Advisors: Brenda DeLee, bdelee@cvcc.edu, 327-7000 ext. 4673; Selena Maxie, smaxie@cvcc.edu, ext. 4307.

**Chess Club** members get together to enjoy playing chess. Advisor: Kenneth Mann, kmann@cvcc.edu, 327-7000 ext. 4495.

**CKI (Circle K, affiliated with Kiwanis International)** is the largest collegiate community service, leadership development, and friendship organization in the world. Members work on campus and community service projects throughout the year. Advisor: Annis Shields, ashields@cvcc.edu, 327-7000 ext. 4458.

**Collegiate Music Educators Club** helps students become aware of employment in music education and performance. Members are exposed to professional learning opportunities in music and receive material about continuing music education at four-year institutions. Advisor: Amalie Hinson, ahinson@cvcc.edu, 327-7000 ext. 4418.

**Computer Information Systems Security Club** keeps members current on the latest security issues and fixes, promotes the CVCC information security program to high schools and in the community, and provides a scholarship for a student in the curriculum program. Advisor: Rick Barnes, rbarnes@cvcc.edu, 327-7000 ext. 4312.

**Cosmetology Club (The Cutting Edge)** fosters the development of skills necessary to become successful cosmetologists. Members have a variety of activities and field trips. Advisor: Tammy Muller, tmuller@cvcc.edu, 327-7000 ext. 4108.

**Criminal Justice Club** designed to give students in the the Criminal Justice and Latent Evidence program the opportunity for open exchange of ideas and knowledge pertaining to issues in the criminal justice field. Advisor: Sherry Herman, sherman@cvcc.edu, 327-7000 ext. 4050

**CVANS** gives nursing students an opportunity to complete service projects in the community. Advisor: Robin Caldwell, rcaldwell@cvcc.edu, 327-7000 ext. 4299; Pam Pinkerton, ppinkerton@cvcc.edu, ext. 4825.

**CVCC Campus Crusade for Christ (CRU)** is an international organization that seeks to develop tomorrow's leaders by embracing the purpose, love and forgiveness that God offers them in a relationship with Jesus Christ. Advisor: Ari Sigal, [asigal@cvcc.edu](mailto:asigal@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4355.

**CVCC HMT/MOA** works to networks with local practice administrators and business managers. They also tour and learn about career opportunities and participate in healthcare service events. Club members will be active on campus and host a variety of speaker forums. Advisors: Kim Ford, [kford@cvcc.edu](mailto:kford@cvcc.edu), 327-7000, ext. 4267, and Laura Richard, [lrichard@cvcc.edu](mailto:lrichard@cvcc.edu), ext. 4523

**CVCC Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgender (LGBT)** and Allies Club is open to all students. The purpose is to create a "safe zone" where all students can find help and support while promoting school spirit and equality. Advisor: Brian Bergman, [bbergman@cvcc.edu](mailto:bbergman@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4720.

**Debate Club** promotes a higher level of understanding and insight on issues through debate. Advisor: Kenneth Mann, [kmann@cvcc.edu](mailto:kmann@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4495

**Dr. Who Club** exists to socialize and learn about cultural topics related to the Dr. Who show and to participate in community service. Advisor: Polly Waston, [pwaston@cvcc.edu](mailto:pwaston@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4495.

**Early Childhood Club** encourages students working in or seeking careers in the Early Childhood field. Advisor: Aden Cranford, [acranford@cvcc.edu](mailto:acranford@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4575.

**Electroneurodiagnostic Club** members help market the END professions. Fundraising activities throughout the year mean club members can attend statewide seminars and workshops. Advisor: Sarah Hoffman Shelton, [shoffman@cvcc.edu](mailto:shoffman@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4517.

**Emerging Entrepreneur Club** fosters the use of entrepreneurial thinking and helps develop the skills necessary to become successful business owners or managers. Members have a variety of activities during the school year, including speakers' forums, field trips and special projects. Advisor: Gary Muller, [gmuller@cvcc.edu](mailto:gmuller@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4672.

**Engineering and Technology Club** provides experiential learning opportunities for students and encourages collaboration among students from various engineering and technical disciplines. Advisor: Jim Thomas, [jdthomas@cvcc.edu](mailto:jdthomas@cvcc.edu), 327-7000, ext. 4202.

**Epsilon Sigma Pi-EMS Club** encourages awareness, concern, and interest in the emergency medical care profession. The society shall promote services and fellowship through community improvement and awareness. Advisor: Tonja Poole, [tpoole@cvcc.edu](mailto:tpoole@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4167; Kevin Lyford, [klyford@cvcc.edu](mailto:klyford@cvcc.edu), ext. 4347.

**Geology Club** provides students with access to field trips and research opportunities in geology and environmental science. Volunteering, community service and stewardship are all practiced by the club. Advisor: Ron Teseneer, [rteseneer@cvcc.edu](mailto:rteseneer@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4534.

**Health Information Technology Club** encourages HIT students to network with area Health Information Management professionals, mentor HIT students and provide a forum for student questions and concerns. Advisor: Debbie Cook, [dcook@cvcc.edu](mailto:dcook@cvcc.edu), ext. 327-7000 ext. 4342.

**HOSA** Health Occupation Student Association is designed to generate awareness of health care professions and the delivery of quality health care. Advisor: Tanya Clanton, [tclanton@cvcc.edu](mailto:tclanton@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4347.

**Minority Males on the Move** encourages minority males to attend and graduate from CVCC. Members explore employment opportunities and seek to prepare minority males with the right college courses. Advisor: Steve Hunt, [shunt@cvcc.edu](mailto:shunt@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4570.

**Phi Theta Kappa** is an international honor society that recognizes and encourages scholarship, leadership, service and fellowship. Membership invitations are extended to students who excel academically and in their service. Members participate in campus and community projects. Advisor: Krysten Buchanan, [kbuchanan@cvcc.edu](mailto:kbuchanan@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4691.

**Polysomnography Club** members are often found participating in community events promoting improved health care and good sleep hygiene. They actively promote the "Polysom" program throughout the area to ensure a continued pipeline of quality applicants. Advisor: Sarah Hoffman Shelton, [shoffman@cvcc.edu](mailto:shoffman@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4517.

**Radiography Club** promotes communication among radiography students. Members attend a conference each year where they network with radiography professionals. Advisor: Robin Cornett, [rcornett@cvcc.edu](mailto:rcornett@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4074.

**Rotaract (affiliated with Rotary International)** is a service club that gives members an opportunity to work on campus and community

projects. Advisors: Teresa Biggs, [tbiggs@cvcc.edu](mailto:tbiggs@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4288; Steve Hunt, [shunt@cvcc.edu](mailto:shunt@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4570; Mary Beth Sjaardema, [msjaardema@cvcc.edu](mailto:msjaardema@cvcc.edu), ext. 4282.

**Skills USA** unites students in industrial, technical, health occupations and vocational trades. Club members acquire leadership skills, learn about and promote high professional standards and share in establishing career goals. Advisor: Gary Muller, [gmuller@cvcc.edu](mailto:gmuller@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4672.

**Student American Dental Hygiene Association** gives dental hygiene students a chance to volunteer for and participate in community events. Guest speakers regularly present lively topics. Club members attend statewide scientific meetings. Advisors: Debbie LeFevers, [dlefever@cvcc.edu](mailto:dlefever@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4157; Connie Preiser, [cpreiser@cvcc.edu](mailto:cpreiser@cvcc.edu), ext. 4440.

**Student Government Association (SGA)** sponsors activities open to all currently enrolled curriculum students. SGA activities promote cultural, social, physical, and academic growth. Programs sponsored include Fall and Spring Fling, N4C SGA conferences, co-curricular activities, and much more! Advisors: Bo Glenn, [bglenn@cvcc.edu](mailto:bglenn@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4388; Debra Cook, [dcook@cvcc.edu](mailto:dcook@cvcc.edu), ext. 4342.

**Student Photographic Society** is a chapter of the national group sponsored by Professional Photographers of America. The club is involved in loads of campus and community events photographing and displaying their works. Advisor: Clayton Joe Young, [jyoung@cvcc.edu](mailto:jyoung@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4467.

**Students Striving for Success Club** works to support the educational and vocational efforts of all students attending CVCC. They support academic advising and encourage all students to graduate. Service learning and college transfer initiatives are promoted. Advisor: Steve Hunt, [shunt@cvcc.edu](mailto:shunt@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4573, Ron Carson, ext. 4571.

**Student Veteran's Organization** fosters support of Veterans and their dependants as well as current service members attending CVCC. Advisor: Ellen Gibbs, [egibbs@cvcc.edu](mailto:egibbs@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4205.

**Surgical Technology Club** members participate in campus blood drives, walk-in community walk-a-thons, and raise funds for surg tech "extras," like a very special pinning ceremony. Advisor: Kimberly Poteet, [kpoteet@cvcc.edu](mailto:kpoteet@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4332.

**Theater Arts Club** gives all students a chance to be involved in theatrical events like dramatic readings, one-act plays, and storytelling. Follow on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/cvcctheatreartsclub>. Advisor: Kim Stinson, [kstinson@cvcc.edu](mailto:kstinson@cvcc.edu), 327-7000 ext. 4406.

## CVCC FOUNDATION

The Catawba Valley Community College Foundation, Inc., is a non-profit organization with the mission to foster and promote growth, progress, and the general welfare of Catawba Valley Community College. It is the vehicle through which the community may invest in education.

## CVCC ALUMNI AFFAIRS

The CVCC Alumni Association was founded in 2014 to connect, enrich, and serve a growing body of alumni. The association celebrates the achievements of CVCC alumni and the opportunities that community college education provides. It also seeks to give alumni opportunities to give back to students, the college, and the community it serves. Individuals who finished a degree, certificate, diploma, or earned job skills through CVCC are invited to join. For more information, visit [www.cvcc.edu/alumni](http://www.cvcc.edu/alumni), or contact Mary Reynolds, Alumni Affairs Director, [alumni@cvcc.edu](mailto:alumni@cvcc.edu).

## VISITORS ON CAMPUS

### VISITORS/CHILDREN ON CAMPUS/SOLICITORS/FREE SPEECH, PUBLIC ASSEMBLY, AND DISTRIBUTION/PETITIONING

Visitors are defined as anyone other than CVCC personnel, officially enrolled students, members of the Board of Trustees, and members of the CVCC Foundation Board.

Visitors are permitted (and welcomed) on CVCC property for participation in or attendance at CVCC sponsored or approved activities/events and for use of the CVCC library facility.

Employers wishing to recruit on campus must coordinate their visit with the Director of Career Services or the Director of the Alexander Center for Education.

Media representatives are encouraged to inquire with the Public Information Officer prior to interviewing, photographing or videotaping employees or students on the various CVCC campuses. See also CVCC policy 4.2 (Authorized Spokesperson).

Visitors must comply with all other CVCC policies including the CVCC policy on free speech, public assembly, distribution/petitioning, and the CVCC policy on solicitation.

Visitors may be required to provide personal identification to CVCC officials or campus security. Visitors who do not comply with requests for identification, or who interfere with the normal operations, functions, or learning environment of CVCC, will be asked to leave. Individuals who refuse to leave will be considered trespassing and will be subject to arrest. CVCC shall not be held responsible for accidents or injuries to visitors who are in violation of CVCC policies.

### **CHILDREN ON CAMPUS**

For the purposes of this policy, a child is defined as any youth under the age of 16 who is not officially registered in a CVCC class or Challenger High School class.

Children accompanying employees, students, or visitors of CVCC must be under the constant supervision of a responsible adult while on CVCC property, or on the site of any approved off-campus class or other CVCC event. Employees of CVCC have assigned duties and cannot take supervisory responsibility for any unattended children of employees, students, or visitors. Children should not be unattended in any CVCC facility at any time.

CVCC assumes no responsibility or liability for children, or for any accidents or injuries to children.

Students, faculty, and staff are expected to arrange for their personal childcare away from the work site. An employee must have the approval of his/her supervisor to bring a child to the workplace during working hours due to an emergency situation at home. Sick children should not be brought to campus.

Children accompanying employees, students, or visitors are not permitted in classes, labs, or other learning environments.

Persons receiving CVCC services may be refused service if accompanied by a child who will be unattended during the time the patron is receiving services, or if accompanied by a child who is disruptive to CVCC operations. CVCC personnel are not expected to provide supervision of such children.

If children are left unattended, CVCC may notify law enforcement personnel and/or the Department of Social Services.

### **SOLICITATION**

For purposes of this policy, solicitation is an oral or written request/notice for, or effort to achieve, a contribution, a donation, or a sale/purchase of goods or services on any property owned, leased, or under the jurisdiction of CVCC.

Solicitation for commercial (for profit) purposes that is not a routine and necessary part of CVCC's normal operations, activities, or functions is restricted as to time, place, and manner and must be approved in accordance with procedures established by the President (or designee). Such solicitation may not utilize state property. Such solicitation must not interfere or disrupt the normal operating and learning environment at CVCC. Fees for use of building or grounds space may be assessed. Specifically prohibited is the distribution of printed solicitation material on parked vehicles and on CVCC bulletin boards.

CVCC students and employees may utilize certain bulletin boards designated by the President (or designee) to advertise the sale of used personal items. The President (or designee) shall establish procedures and guidelines for such usage.

Solicitation for charitable, community service, not-for-profit, or civic purposes must be approved in accordance with procedures and guidelines established by the President (or designee). Such solicitation must not interfere or disrupt the normal operating and learning environment at CVCC.

### **FREE SPEECH, PUBLIC ASSEMBLY, AND DISTRIBUTION/PETITIONING**

Consistent with its educational mission, CVCC encourages the free exchange of ideas on campus, while assuring that other important CVCC interests and activities are not infringed upon or disrupted. CVCC recognizes the value of providing students, faculty, staff and others the opportunity to assemble and communicate with one another, as well as to distribute informative printed material to members of the CVCC community. CVCC is committed to protecting First Amendment rights of individuals and supports reasonable opportunity for people to distribute printed materials and to engage in other forms of expression and assembly on campus (collectively termed "expression activities" for purposes

of this policy). Except with respect to commercial expression, and expression (e.g., obscenity, defamation, fighting words, harassment) which the Supreme Court has held constitutes content which can be proscribed, CVCC will not make decisions or take actions based on the content of expressive activities on campus. However, the President shall establish restrictions, unrelated to the content of noncommercial expression, on the time, place and manner of use of CVCC facilities for expression activities so that other important CVCC interests and activities are not infringed upon or disrupted. Such restrictions shall be published as part of the procedures for obtaining authorization to use CVCC facilities for expression activities. All persons engaging in expression activities must observe such restrictions. Failure to comply with established restrictions may result in sanctions including, but not limited to, charges of trespass and forfeit of the right to use CVCC facilities for further expression activities.

Unlawful conduct is not permitted. Unlawful conduct is conduct that is prohibited by Federal, State, or local law or regulation, or that violates one or more rights of a person or entity under the common law of North Carolina.

In order to provide opportunity for access to multiple and diverse persons/groups, the President (or designee) may establish procedures and/or guidelines to regulate use by a single person/group.

Individuals have the right to dissent to the expression activities of another. However, such right to dissent shall not interfere with the authorized expression activities of another and need not occupy the same forum at the same time.

Use of public address systems or amplified sound is not permitted.

Duly authorized persons/groups may distribute printed materials by hand within designated areas on the condition that such material is for informational (not commercial) purposes. Such persons/groups shall be responsible for any clean-up costs associated with the distribution of such materials. Printed materials may not be distributed through CVCC's internal mail system.

Persons/groups utilizing CVCC facilities must comply with CVCC Policy 6.2 (Use of CVCC Facilities, Approval, Fees, Appropriate Use).

CVCC reserves the right to immediately terminate any expression activities otherwise permitted by this policy if in the judgment of CVCC officials, continuation of such activities will result in: (a) danger to participants or others; (b) unlawful conduct by participants or others; or (c) interference with disruption or disturbance of the CVCC's educational mission, operations, business, or functions.

## **STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY**

### **Policy 3.18: Student Code of Conduct**

Policy 3.18: Student Code of Conduct applies to all student behavior issues other than issues covered by Policy 3.18.2: Title IX Violations: Sexual Violence, Sexual or Gender-based Harassment, and Other Sexual Misconduct.

Catawba Valley Community College (CVCC) students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the values of the Valley Way:

- Student Success
- Accountability
- Inclusivity
- Lifelong Learning
- Respect
- Integrity
- Teamwork

At CVCC, these values inform accepted standards of scholarship and conduct. All CVCC students and staff, regardless of the location or delivery method of their services and classes, have the right to a safe, peaceful, and honest educational environment. Therefore, when in the judgment of CVCC college personnel, a student's conduct disrupts or threatens to disrupt the College community, appropriate disciplinary action will be taken to restore and protect the safety, peace, and integrity of the community.

The purpose of the Student Code of Conduct is not to restrict student freedom, but to protect the rights of all students in their academic pursuits. All College employees have the authority to take immediate actions and begin disciplinary proceedings for violations of the Student Code of Conduct.

As stated in Policy 1.1: Compliance with CVCC Policies, CVCC students are expected to comply with all CVCC policies. Failure to comply

may result in disciplinary action. Students are prohibited from engaging in any conduct which materially and adversely affects the educational process, including, but not limited to, the following:

**1.** Interruption or in any manner interfering with normal CVCC operations. Examples of violations to normal CVCC operations include, but are not limited to, the following:

**a.** Disruption or obstruction of teaching, research, administration, disciplinary proceedings, or other on- or off-campus college-authorized activities;

**b.** Mental or physical abuse of any person on College premises or at College-sponsored or College-supervised functions, including verbal or physical actions which threaten or endanger the health or safety of any such persons or which promote hatred or racial prejudice;

**c.** Participating in conduct that disturbs peace and order of the College. This includes, but is not limited to, yelling, screaming, or talking in an unnecessary or unreasonably loud voice, or using any device which produces loud and/or disruptive noises.

**d.** The use of defamatory speech or like expressive behavior; or the use of any speech or behavior implying a physical threat or likely to provoke violence or retaliation in person or via electronic means;

**e.** Violation of state or College regulations regarding the operation and parking of motor vehicles. See Policy 4.9: Parking Policy;

**f.** Fiscal irresponsibility, such as failure to pay College charges, fees, defaulted payments, levied fines, failure to repay college-funded loans, or fraudulent financial transactions with the College;

**g.** Forgery, altering, or misusing College documents, records, or instruments of identification with intent to deceive;

**h.** Tampering with a fire alarm or other safety equipment belonging to the College, except with reasonable belief in the need for such alarm or equipment;

**i.** Gambling on the College campus or at College-sponsored functions off-campus;

**j.** Participation in gatherings or demonstrations that interfere with another's ability to freely access College facilities or property. Students shall not disrupt or interfere with the College's educational processes or College functions. Students shall comply with any instruction of a College employee to leave the scene of a disruptive gathering or demonstration;

**k.** Violating the terms of any disciplinary sanction or any College regulation during the period of disciplinary sanction;

**l.** Trespassing, including unauthorized entry or presence on the property of the College or in a College facility or any portion thereof to which entry or presence has been restricted; unauthorized presence in a College facility during closed hours;

**m.** Violation of any College policy, prohibited behavior, local, state, or federal criminal law on College premises adversely affecting the College community's pursuit of its proper educational purposes.

**n.** Failure to comply with instructions of College officials acting in performance of their duties.

**2.** Destruction, damage, or misuse of CVCC equipment, facilities, or property. This includes, but is not limited to, the acceptable use of technology. See Policy 4.18: Technology Resources (Acceptable Use).

**3.** Physical abuse of another person in the CVCC community;

**4.** Attempted or actual theft of, misuse of, or intentional damage to College property; or theft of or damage to property of a member of the College community or a campus visitor on college premises or at college functions;

**5.** Participation in hazing-defined as an act which endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student, or which destroys or removes public or private property, for the purpose of initiation, admission into, affiliation with or as a condition for continued membership in a group or organization. The express implied consent of the victim in not a defense. Apathy or acquiescence in the presence of hazing are not neutral acts; they are a violation of this rule.

**6.** Plagiarism and other forms of academic cheating. See Policy 2.16: Academic Honesty.

**7.** Discriminatory harassment in the educational context refers to verbal or physical conduct of a similar nature directed at a student, which has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with one's freedom by creating an intimidating, hostile, humiliating, or sexually (see Policy 3.18.2) offensive academic environment.

The following is a partial list of unwelcome, unwanted behavior, which

when based upon one's race, color, religion, national origin or ethnicity, sex/gender identity (see Policy 3.18.2), religion, creed, age, disability (see Policy 3.7), veteran or active military status, genetic characteristics, or any other category protected by law under Title VII and/or Title IX may be considered discriminatory harassment:

- Verbal or physical conduct that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual or group;

- Epithets, slurs, negative stereotyping, or threatening, intimidating, or hostile acts;

- Written or graphic material that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual or group, including the display of objects, pictures, posters, cartoons, websites, and any form of electronic communication.

**8.** Violation of CVCC policies including those regarding the use and/or possession of

a. firearms or other weapons as described in Policy 4.10: Firearms/Weapons Possession;

b. alcoholic beverages as described in Policy 4.11: Alcoholic Beverages;

c. illegal drugs or controlled substances as described in Policy 4.12: Illegal Drugs/Controlled Substances;

d. and/or tobacco products as described in Policy 4.13: Tobacco Products;

**9.** Making a threat to the safety of the CVCC community; or

**10.** Commission of any other action which, in the opinion of the administration or faculty, may be contrary to the best interest of the CVCC community.

Policy 3.18.2: Student Behavior Sanctions Policy outlines the sanctions that may be imposed on a student who violates Policy 3.18: Student Code of Conduct.

### Policy 3.18.1: Student Behavior Sanctions

Policy 3.18.1 applies to student behavior sanctions that may be imposed for violations of Policy 3.18: Student Code of Conduct. Violations of Policy 3.18.2: Title IX Violations: Sexual Violence, Sexual Harassment, and Other Sexual Misconduct are governed by that policy and handled under Procedure 3.18.2: Reporting and Response to Title IX Violations: Sexual Violence, Sexual or Gender-based Harassment, and Other Sexual Misconduct.

Student behavior sanctions are designed to educate students, guide future decision-making and deter further inappropriate behavior. Students found in violation of the Student Code of Conduct will be challenged to evaluate their behavior and reflect on their actions and the effects on the campus community. The following behavior sanctions are examples of those that may be imposed for violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Any faculty or staff may use his/her discretion to give a sanction of Warning, General Probation, or Interim (Emergency) Suspension to any student in violation of the Student Code of Conduct and who is disrupting the educational process.

**1.** Warning: A written communication which gives official notice to the student that a violation of the Student Code of Conduct has occurred and that any subsequent violation of the Student Code of Conduct will carry heavier penalties because of this prior infraction.

**2.** General Probation: An individual may be placed on General Probation when involved in a minor disciplinary offense. General Probation has two (2) important implications: the individual is given a chance to show capability and willingness to observe the Student Code of Conduct without further penalty, and if the student errs again, further action will be taken.

**3.** Interim (Emergency) Suspension: Exclusion from class and/or other privileges or activities for conduct that poses a threat to the health or well-being of any member of the academic community or activities of the College as set forth in the notice, until a final decision has been made concerning the alleged violation.

Faculty will submit the "Warning, General Probation, Interim (Emergency) Suspension Form" to their immediate supervisor to document this behavior sanction. This Form is found online or in the Office of the Dean of Access, Development, and Success.

Faculty have the authority to impose the Loss of Academic Credit or Grade Sanction in accordance with Policy 2.16: Academic Honesty Policy.

**4.** Loss of Academic Credit or Grade: Imposed as a result of violating Policy 2.16: Academic Honesty. Sanctions may include the requirement to redo the assignment, loss of credit for the assignment, or loss of credit for the class.

The President, Vice Presidents, and the Dean of the School of Access,

Development, and Success (ADS) have the authority to impose the following sanctions.

**5. Restrictive Probation:** Restrictive Probation results in loss of good standing and becomes a matter of record. Restrictive conditions may limit activity in the College community. Generally the student will not be eligible for initiation into any local or national organization, and may not receive any College award or other honorary recognition. The student may not occupy a position of leadership or responsibility with any College or student organization, publications, or activity.

**6. Suspension:** Exclusion from class(es), and/or all privileges or activities of the College for a specific period of time. This sanction is reserved for those offenses warranting discipline more severe than probation, or for repeated misconduct. Students who receive this sanction must get specific written permission from the Dean of ADS before returning to campus. This sanction shall be recorded on the student transcript in accordance with the State Board of Community Colleges Code 1D SBCCC 400.2 (d).

**7. Restitution:** Paying for damaging, misusing, destroying, or losing property belonging to the College, College personnel, or students.

**8. Withholding transcript, diploma, or right to register or participate in commencement ceremonies:** Imposed when financial obligations are not met. (Student will not be allowed to register until all financial obligations are met.)

**9. Campus Service:** Assigning a specific campus service project and number of contact work hours to be completed for a designated department on the College campus.

**10. Group Probation:** This is given to a College club or other organized group for a specific period of time. If group violations are repeated during the term of the sanction, the charter may be revoked or activities restricted.

**11. Group Restriction:** Removing College recognition during the semester in which the violation occurred or for a longer period (usually not more than one additional semester). While under restriction, the group may not seek or add members, hold or sponsor events in the College community, or engage in other activities as specified.

**12. Group Charter Revocation:** Removal of College recognition for a group, club, society, or other organizations for a minimum of two years. Re-charter after that time must be approved by the College President.

Permanent expulsion of a student from CVCC must be authorized by the President.

**13. Expulsion:** Permanently dismissing a student from campus. Expulsion is the most severe disciplinary sanction and must be authorized by the College President. The student loses his/her student status and may not return to campus unless authorized by the College President. Expelled students are liable for all tuition and fees. This sanction shall be recorded on the student transcript in accordance with the State Board of Community Colleges Code 1D SBCCC 400.2 (d).

Suspensions and expulsions for disciplinary reasons shall be recorded in the student's permanent record and on the transcript in accordance with the State Board of Community Colleges Code 1D SBCCC 400.2 (d). Students are entitled to appeal any disciplinary action in accordance with CVCC's Policy 3.19: Student Due Process.

### **Procedure 3.18.1: Student Behavior Sanctions**

Students who violate Policy 3.18: Student Code of Conduct at Catawba Valley Community College (CVCC) are subject to the disciplinary sanctions of the College. If the student's behavior violates both the law and College regulations, the College may take disciplinary action independent of that taken by legal authorities. Any student, faculty, or staff may file charges against any student or student organization for violations of Policy 3.18: Student Code of Conduct.

#### **1. Charges/Notification**

**a.** Complete the Student Conduct Violation Report, or a printed form may be obtained in the Office of the Dean of the School of Access, Development, and Success (ADS) in the Student Services Building.

**b.** Submit the completed Student Conduct Violation Report to the Office of the Dean of the School of ADS within two (2) working days of the incident. This report shall contain the following information:

1. Name of the student(s) being charged
2. The alleged specific violation(s) of the Code of Conduct

3. The time, place, and date of the violation

4. Names of any person(s) directly involved and/or witness(es) to the alleged violation

5. Any action taken that relates to the alleged violation

6. Desired solutions to the violation

**c.** The Dean of the School of ADS will notify the student(s) of the charge(s) in writing within two (2) working days of receipt of the Student Conduct Violation Report. Notification will be via CVCC student email, certified mail to the address in the student database, or in person.

Notification will include the following:

1. Name of the student(s) being charged

2. The alleged specific violation(s) of the Code of Conduct

3. The time, place, and date of the violation

4. Names of any person(s) directly involved and/or witness(es) to the alleged violation

5. Any action taken that relates to the alleged violation

**d.** The student(s) may meet with the Dean of the School of ADS and/or provide a written statement regarding the alleged violation within two (2) working days after receiving notification of the charge(s). If no communication is made with the Dean of the School of ADS within the time limit, the sanction decision will be based on information available.

Any request for a reasonable extension must be made to the Dean of the School of ADS in writing. If an extension is granted, the time frame for the Investigation/Decision will be adjusted accordingly.

#### **2. Investigation and Decision**

Within five (5) working days after the notification to the student(s) about the alleged violation, the Dean of the School of ADS will complete an investigation of the charge(s). The investigation may include interviewing witnesses, reviewing written statements, consulting other College officials, and other appropriate methods to make an informed decision. The decision may be to:

1. Drop the charge(s)

2. Impose a disciplinary sanction consistent with those listed in Policy 3.18.1: Student Behavior Sanctions

3. Refer the student to a College office or community agency for services

#### **3. Sanction**

Within two (2) working days after the decision has been made, the Dean of the School of ADS will notify the student(s) with the decision about the behavior sanction along with instructions to appeal the decision (Procedure 3.19: Student Due Process) in writing. Notification will be via CVCC student email, certified mail to the address in the student database, or in person.

#### **4. Appeals**

Any student who disagrees with the decision of the disciplinary sanction may appeal this decision according to Policy 3.19: Student Due Process.

Student Advocate: Upon the student's request, the Director of Admission or designee will assist the student with the steps required to follow the process, including providing the CVCC Student Grievance Form and the Student Grievance Committee Review Form.

### **Policy 3.18.2: Title IX Violations: Sexual Violence, Sexual or Gender-based Harassment, and Other Sexual Misconduct**

"Title IX Violations" is the term that will be used to include "sexual violence, sexual or gender-based harassment, and other sexual misconduct" throughout Policy 3.18.2.

Policy 3.18.2 applies exclusively to Title IX Violations allegations.

All other forms of harassment and/or discrimination are handled under Policy 3.18: Student Code of Conduct.

Catawba Valley Community College (CVCC) is committed to the maintenance of an environment that is supportive of its primary educational mission and free from Title IX Violations. CVCC intends to comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq., and its implementing regulations, 32 C.F.R. Part 106. CVCC will not tolerate acts of Title IX Harassment in any of its forms, including, but not limited to, sexual or gender-based harassment, rape, sexual assault,

other forcible and non-forcible sex offenses, domestic or dating violence, or stalking, and supports this policy for students, faculty, and staff. All actions taken to investigate and resolve complaints through this process will be conducted in a manner that preserves confidentiality to the greatest extent possible under the circumstances, without compromising the thoroughness of the investigation. Further, CVCC sponsors prevention, intervention and education programs specifically addressing Title IX Violations offenses in compliance with Title IX legislation. CVCC does not intend for this policy to infringe upon any First Amendment or academic freedom protections available to members of the CVCC community.

Information and awareness programs are offered at various times through a variety of events throughout the year. CVCC recognizes the importance of assisting individuals who are victims of Title IX Violations and helping them to regain a sense of personal control over their lives and decisions.

Procedure 3.18.2 Reporting and Response to Title IX Violations: Sexual Violence, Sexual or Gender-based Harassment, and Other Sexual Misconduct is the procedure to be used for reporting of and responding to Title IX Violations and is available on the CVCC website, in Student Services, and in the Human Resources Office.

Inquiries concerning Title IX compliance should be referred to the Title IX Coordinator, who is charged with the oversight of all Title IX claims. The CVCC President has the authority to designate the Title IX Coordinator and Deputy Title IX Coordinators, and to change them as needed. Their specific identities and contact information are posted prominently on the CVCC website.

### Definition of Sexual or Gender-based Harassment

Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination and refers to direct or implied requests for sexual favors by one who has the power or authority to influence a student's academic record or to compromise one's full and unfettered participation in the CVCC community, academically, and otherwise. Gender-based harassment may involve acts of verbal, non-verbal, or physical aggression, intimidation, or hostility based on sex or sex-stereotyping, even if those acts do not involve conduct of a sexual nature and includes any other conduct that has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with one's freedom by creating an intimidating, hostile, humiliating, or sexually offensive academic environment.

While in some cases individuals may make sexual comments or jokes or personal advances without intending harm, such actions can be unwanted, threatening, and perceived as harassment. Stopping sexual or gender-based harassment in its many forms requires an increased awareness by everyone at the College of the impact that such actions may have on others. The following is a partial list of unwelcome, unwanted behavior, which may be considered sexual or gender-based harassment:

- Unwelcome sexual advances or propositions – whether they involve physical touching or not;
- Written or verbal sexual epithets, jokes, or references to sexual conduct, gossip regarding one's sex life;
- Written or verbal abuse of a sexual nature, use of sexually degrading, or vulgar words to describe an individual;
- Leering, whistling, brushing against another's body, sexual gestures;
- The display of sexually suggestive objects, pictures, posters, cartoons, websites, and any form of electronic communication;
- Comments about an individual's body or appearance, or regarding one's sex life, experience, sexual prowess, or sexual deficiencies;
- Asking questions about sexual conduct or probing into one's sex life or relationships; and
- Harassment consistently targeted at only one sex, even if the content of the verbal abuse is not of a sexual nature.

### Definitions of Sexual Violence and Other Sexual Misconduct

- Intimate Partner Violence (IPV): the overarching term used to address any form of domestic or dating violence.
- Stalking: engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to: (a) fear for his or her safety or the safety of others; or (b) suffer substantial emotional distress.
- Sexual Violence: any non-consensual sexual contact including penetration.
- Victim/Survivor: the person who has experienced IPV, stalking, and/or sexual violence
- Alleged Perpetrator: an individual who the victim/survivor identifies as

having perpetrated IPV, stalking, or sexual violence.

- Reporting Party: a victim/survivor who has notified CVCC that sexual misconduct/violence has occurred.
- Responding Party: the individual who the reporting party identifies as having perpetrated sexual misconduct/violence
- Consent: explicit approval to engage in sexual activity demonstrated by clear actions or words. This decision must be made freely and actively by all participants. Non-verbal communication, silence, passivity, or lack of active resistance does not imply consent. In addition, previous participation in sexual activity does not indicate current consent to participate and consent to one form of sexual activity does not imply consent to other forms of sexual activity.
- Dating Violence: violence committed by a person (a) who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and (b) where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on: (i) the length of the relationship; (ii) the type of relationship; and (iii) the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.
- Domestic Violence: felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction or by any other person against an adult or youth who is protected from the person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction.
- Forcible Sex Offenses: any sexual act directed against another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent.
- Forcible Rape: the carnal knowledge of a person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity (or because of youth).
- Forcible Sodomy: oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of youth or because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.
- Sexual Assault With An Object: the use of an object or instrument to unlawfully penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of youth or because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.
- Forcible Fondling: the touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of youth or because of temporary or permanent mental incapacity.
- Non-Forcible Sex Offenses: unlawful, non-forcible sexual intercourse.
- Incest: non-forcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.
- Statutory Rape: non-forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

### Unprofessional Relationships; Consensual Relationships

It is a serious breach of professional ethics for faculty or other employees to initiate or acquiesce in a sexual relationship with a student who is under the personal supervision of the faculty or other employee. Therefore, CVCC prohibits consensual sexual relationships between faculty or other employees and a student enrolled in a course taught by the faculty or whose work, academic or otherwise, is supervised by the faculty or employee. This applies even when both parties appear to have consented to the relationship.

A faculty member or employee who currently has, or has previously had, a consensual sexual relationship with a student should not enter into, or should immediately disengage from, a supervisory relationship with that person. The burden to disengage from the supervisory relationship falls equally on both parties; however CVCC will take all reasonable available measures, based on the circumstances, to arrange for alternate methods of instruction or supervision for the student. In most cases, this will be accomplished by having the faculty or employee disclose to the immediate supervisor the nature of the relationship.

In accordance with NC General Statutes § 14-27.7(b), criminal charges can result when faculty or other employees engage in sexual relationships with minors.

### **Victim/Survivor/Reporting Party Rights**

- To have all incidents and medical records kept confidential;
- To be treated without prejudice based upon race, color, religion, national origin or ethnicity, sex/gender identity, religion, creed, age, disability, veteran or active military status, genetic characteristics, or any other category protected by law under Title VII and/or Title IX;
- To receive private and confidential examination/treatment for personal injuries, sexually transmittable disease, and pregnancy;
- To be considered as credible as a person reporting any other crime;
- To be made aware of the options available through the College and the judicial system;
- To receive emotional and psychological support and advocacy;
- To, or not to, notify and seek assistance from law enforcement and campus authorities;
- To prosecute or not to prosecute;
- To receive current information on community and campus resources;
- To answer only those questions relevant to the crime;
- To freedom from harassment;
- To have judicial no-contact, restraining, and protective orders complied with in accordance with court directives.

Accommodations may include but are not limited to the following:

1. Feasible class schedule adjustment (without academic or financial penalty) as necessary to minimize the potential for contact with the alleged perpetrator or those associated with the alleged perpetrator;
2. Arranging for the Reporting Party to have extra time to complete or re-take a class or withdraw from a class without an academic or financial penalty;
3. Academic Support Services.

### **Standards for Investigation**

In addition to the due process procedures outlined in Procedure 3.18.2: Reporting and Response to Title IX Violations: Sexual Violence, Sexual or Gender-based Harassment, and Other Sexual Misconduct, the following “Standards for Investigation” shall be followed in regards to Title IX Violations.

1. The complaint will be decided using a preponderance of evidence standard, i.e., it’s more likely than not that Title IX Violations occurred.
2. The reporting party and responding party will be entitled to the same opportunities to have others present during an institutional disciplinary proceeding, including the opportunity to be accompanied to any related meeting or proceeding by an advisor of their choice.
3. The reporting party and responding party will be notified in writing of the outcome of the complaint simultaneously.

### **Confidentiality**

Adhering to confidentiality is extremely important at CVCC. CVCC will take all necessary steps to protect the identity of the reporting party. There may be some incidents or information that cannot be kept confidential. The staff of CVCC will notify the reporting party when information cannot be kept confidential.

If the reporting party requests confidentiality and decides not to file charges in a Title IX Violations case, an anonymous report of the incident must be made in order to comply with the Clery Act (campus crime reporting).

Counselors are available via third party community agencies to talk to the Reporting Party in confidence.

### **Protection against Retaliation**

Retaliation is a very serious violation of Policy 3.18.2: Title IX Violations: Sexual Violence, Sexual or Gender-based Harassment, and Other Sexual Misconduct and should be reported immediately to the Title IX Coordinator. Retaliation, whether by the alleged wrongdoer or other individuals, can take any of many forms. Retaliation is defined as any materially adverse action that might well have dissuaded a reasonable person from making or supporting a complaint of Title IX Violations. A complaint’s actual or perceived lack of merit does not excuse retaliatory conduct.

Retaliation against any individual for reporting Title IX Violations or against one who participates in an investigation will not be tolerated. In responding

to reports of retaliation, the College will conduct a prompt, thorough and impartial investigation and will take appropriate remedial measures.

### **False Accusation**

CVCC recognizes that the question of whether a particular course of conduct constitutes Title IX Violations requires a factual determination. The College also recognizes that false accusations can have serious effects on innocent persons. If, after investigation, it is clear that a person who has accused another of Title IX Violations maliciously or recklessly made a false accusation, the accuser will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion. In such an event, the College will also take appropriate action to restore the reputation of the accused. See Procedure 3.18.2: Reporting and Response to Title IX Violations: Sexual Violence, Sexual or Gender-based Harassment, and Other Sexual Misconduct to report an act of Title IX Violations.

### **Procedure 3.18.2: Title IX Violations: Reporting and Response to Sexual Violence, Sexual or Gender-based Harassment, and Other Sexual Misconduct**

“Title IX Violations” Is the term that will be used to include “sexual violence, sexual or gender-based harassment, and other sexual misconduct” throughout Procedure 3.18.2.

Procedure 3.18.2 applies exclusively to Title IX Violations allegations. All other forms of harassment and/or discrimination are handled under Procedure 3.18: Student Code of Conduct.

Students and/or employees are encouraged to report Title IX Violations in any of its forms, including, but not limited to, sexual or gender-based harassment, rape, sexual assault, other forcible and non-forcible sex offenses, domestic or dating violence, or stalking, and CVCC supports this procedure for students and employees in compliance with Title IX legislation.

### **Definitions:**

- Victim/Survivor: the person who has experienced Title IX Violations
- Alleged Perpetrator: an individual who the victim/survivor identifies as having perpetrated Title IX Violations
- Reporting Party: a victim/survivor who has notified CVCC that Title IX Violations have occurred.
- Responding Party: the individual who the reporting party identifies as having perpetrated Title IX Violations

### **Guidelines for Students:**

Students who believe they have been victims of Title IX Violations that involve sexual assault should do the following as soon as possible in order to ensure the preservation of evidence:

- Go to a safe place.
- Do not shower or bathe.
- Do not urinate, if possible.
- Do not eat, drink, smoke or brush your teeth if oral contact took place.
- Do not destroy or wash the clothes you were wearing. If you change, place your clothes in a paper bag.
- Contact Campus Security, local law enforcement (Catawba County Sheriff’s Department, Catawba Police Department, Claremont Police Department, Hickory Police Department, Maiden Police Department, Longview Police Department, Newton Police Department, Alexander County Sheriff’s Department, or Taylorsville Police Department) or the Title IX Coordinator. The filing of a report does not obligate the victim/Reporting Party to pursue charges, but does make filing of charges easier at a later date.
- Seek medical treatment immediately (preferably within 72 hours).

### **Guidelines for Faculty/Staff:**

College employees will observe the following guidelines when responding to a report of Title IX Violations:

- Assess the Reporting Party’s well-being, render aid, and express concern and assurance.
- Notify the Title IX Coordinator and/or the Director of Campus Safety and Security.
- Do not question the Reporting Party about the details of the incident; other trained personnel will do this.
- Make sure the Reporting Party is in a secure place.

Be aware of the following:

- Do not touch, move or collect any evidence unless that evidence may be lost if you do not. If you have to collect evidence, record the following information:

1. Item seized,
2. Time seized, and
3. Location seized.

- If evidence is given to you, record the following information:

1. The person's name, address, telephone number and date of birth,
2. The item given to you,
3. The time and location where the person seized the item,
4. The time you received the item, and
5. Document chain of custody of the evidence.

- Encourage the Reporting Party to seek medical treatment (preferably within 72 hrs.)

- Assist law enforcement or medical personnel responding to the incident as needed.

### **Reporting Title IX Violations:**

1. Victims/Reporting Party(ies) of Title IX Violations are encouraged to file a report with campus security and/or local law enforcement. The filing of a report does not obligate the Reporting Party to pursue charges, but does make the filing of charges easier at a later date.

2. Any person who believes that he or she is being, or has been subjected to, Title IX Violations is encouraged to file a report of the alleged Title IX Violations promptly with the Title IX Coordinator, a Deputy Title IX Coordinator, a Responsible Employee, or any CVCC employee.

The Title IX Coordinator is designated by the CVCC President to be the Dean of the School of Access, Development, and Success (ADS).

CVCC has designated Responsible Employees to be the Vice-presidents, Deans, Department Heads, and Directors. All employees have the duty to report incidents of Title IX Violations to the Title IX Coordinator.

The CVCC President has the authority to designate the Title IX Coordinator and Deputy Title IX Coordinators, and to change them as needed. Their specific identities and contact information are posted prominently on the CVCC website.

3. If the Reporting Party does not wish to pursue action with the College or the judicial system, the Reporting Party may make an anonymous report. With the Reporting Party's permission, the College can file a report on the details of the incident without revealing the Reporting Party's identity. This type of anonymous report helps to ensure the future safety of the Reporting Party and others. With such information, the College can keep accurate records about the number of incidents involving students, determine where there is a pattern of assaults with regard to a particular location, method, or assailant, and alert the campus community to potential danger.

### **Investigation Procedures:**

The College's complaint procedure provides for an immediate, thorough and objective investigation of the sexual misconduct/violence.

### **Standards for Investigation**

The following "Standards for Investigation" shall be followed in regards to allegations of Title IX Violations.

1. The complaint will be decided using a preponderance of evidence standard, i.e., it's more likely than not that Title IX Violations occurred.
2. The Reporting Party and the Responding Party will be entitled to the same opportunities to have others present during an institutional disciplinary hearing, including the opportunity to be accompanied to any related meeting or proceeding by an advisor of their choice.
3. The Reporting Party and the Responding Party will be notified in writing of the outcome of the complaint simultaneously.
4. Every effort will be made to resolve the complaint in no more than 60 days. This timeline may be adjusted due to factors beyond the control of the college or at the mutual consent of the Reporting Party and the Responding Party.

1. **Complaint:** When making a complaint of Title IX Violations, the Reporting Party should be prepared to provide the following information to the Title IX Coordinator:

- Name of the student who is (was) being victimized,
- The name of the person(s) committing the Title IX Violations,
- The specific nature of the Title IX Violations and/or
- Whether the Reporting Party has previously reported such Title IX Violations, and if so, when and to whom.

### **2. Charges/Notification**

The Title IX Coordinator will notify the alleged perpetrator (Responding Party) of the charge(s) via CVCC student email, certified mail to the address in the student database, or in person.

Notification will include the following:

1. Name of the student(s) being charged-the Responding Party,
2. The alleged specific Title IX Violations occurrence,
3. The time, place, and date of the occurrence, and
4. The nature of the investigation to be performed.

The Reporting Party will be provided with copies of all notices sent to the Responding Party and the Responding Party will be provided with copies of all notices sent to the Reporting Party.

### **3. Investigation/Decision**

As part of the investigation and in compliance with Title IX the College will determine:

- (1) whether or not the Title IX Violations occurred; and
- (2) if the Title IX Harassment conduct occurred, what actions the school will take to end the Title IX Violations.

Four things must occur during the campus investigation:

- (1) The Title IX Violations must stop immediately.
- (2) The hostile environment must be eliminated.
- (3) Recurrence must be prevented.
- (4) Remedies must be provided.

The investigation may include

- Interviewing the Reporting Party: The Reporting Party might be interviewed once or more than once depending on the need to ask follow-up questions after collecting additional evidence.
- Interviewing the Responding Party (Parties) who is (are) perceived to have committed the alleged Title IX Violations.
- Interviewing witnesses identified by either the Reporting or Responding Party.
- Collecting and reviewing evidence which might corroborate either the Reporting or Responding Party's recollection of the incident. This might include, but is not limited to, written statements, text messages, emails, social media posts, phone records, letters, voicemails, pictures, medical records, court records, 911 calls, and off-campus law enforcement records.
- Consulting other College officials.
- Other appropriate methods to facilitate making an informed decision about the complaint.

All actions taken to investigate and resolve complaints through this process will be conducted in a manner that preserves confidentiality to the greatest extent possible under the circumstances, without compromising the thoroughness of the investigation.

The investigation will be completed and a determination made to either dismiss the charges, attempt an informal resolution, or to initiate a disciplinary hearing. Both the Reporting Party and the Responding Party will be notified in writing simultaneously about the outcome of the investigation.

### **4. Disciplinary Hearing/Sanctions**

- The President shall appoint one of the Vice-presidents of the College to serve as the Chair of the Disciplinary Hearing.
- The three (3) members of the Disciplinary Hearing Committee shall be selected from the Responsible Employees of the College (excluding the Vice-presidents) and shall not have any previous involvement with the investigation. The Title IX Coordinator shall be in attendance to provide information about the evidence from the investigation.

### Procedural Responsibilities for the Disciplinary Hearing Chair

The Disciplinary Hearing Chair shall schedule a Disciplinary Hearing by the Committee within five (5) working days following the written notification to the Reporting Party and the Responding Party. The Chair shall inform both Parties with the following information:

- Restatement of the Title IX Violations charge(s)
- Notice of the day, time, and location of the meeting
- Statement of the Reporting Party's and the Responding Party's basic procedural rights

Procedural Rights for the Reporting Party and the Responding Party include the following:

- The right to counsel. The role of the person acting as counsel is solely to advise the student. The counsel shall not address the Committee nor examine or cross-examine any persons. If the counsel is an attorney, the Committee Chair must be informed to allow the College attorney to be present.
- The right to produce witnesses on one's behalf.
- The right to present evidence.

Procedural Conduct of the Disciplinary Hearing:

- The Disciplinary Hearing shall be confidential and shall be closed to all persons except the following:
  - The Reporting Party and the Responding Party, who shall be interviewed separately;
  - Counsel (if any); and/or
  - Witnesses who shall
- Give testimony singularly and in the absence of other witnesses.
- Leave the Disciplinary Hearing room immediately upon the completion of the testimony.
- The Disciplinary Hearing will be recorded by the College in an audio format.
- Recordings will become the property of the College, and access to them will be determined by the Committee Chair. All recordings will be filed in the Office of the President.
- Upon completion of a Disciplinary Hearing, the Committee shall meet in executive session to make a finding based on the preponderance of the evidence (i.e., more likely than not) as to whether the Responding Party is responsible for violating Policy 3.18.2 Title IX Violations: Sexual Violence, Sexual or Gender-based Harassment, and Other Sexual Misconduct to decide the appropriate discipline for the Responding Party. Committee decisions shall be determined by a majority vote of the Committee members. The Committee may use any of the behavior sanctions available in Policy 3.18.1: Student Behavior Sanctions.
- Decisions made by the Committee shall be provided simultaneously in writing to the Reporting Party and to the Responding Party by the Committee Chair within two (2) working days following the completion of the Disciplinary Hearing. The notice shall include:
  - The outcome of the Disciplinary Hearing which includes the alleged violation(s) of Policy 3.18.2 Title IX Violations: Sexual Violence, Sexual or Gender-based Harassment, and Other Sexual Misconduct, the findings, the sanctions, and the rationale for the action,
  - The procedure and grounds for either Party to appeal the results of the Disciplinary Hearing,
  - The date when the results of the Disciplinary Hearing become final, and
  - Any changes to the results of the Disciplinary Hearing that occur prior to the time that such results become final.
- Appeals may only be based on allegations that either the Reporting Party or the Responding Party was denied some guaranteed substantive or procedural right or due to new evidence. Parties may not appeal a Disciplinary Hearing proceeding result simply because they do not agree with the outcome. All appeals must be filed within 5 days of receiving the written notification from the Chair of the Disciplinary Hearing with the Office of the CVCC President or his designee.
- Copies of the written decision shall be provided to the Dean of the School of ADS and to the Office of the President.

Student Advocate: Upon the student's request, the Director of Admission or designee will assist the student with the steps required to follow Procedure 3.18.2.

### Resources for Victims of Title IX Violations: Sexual Violence, Sexual or Gender-based Harassment, and Other Sexual Misconduct

Emergency .....	911
CVCC Campus Emergency .....	711
Campus Security .....	828-327-7000 ext. 4610
Dean of Student Services .....	828-327-7000 ext. 4143
Student Services.....	828-327-7000 ext. 4216

#### Rape Crisis Center

- Catawba County ..... 828-322-6011  
www.rapecrisiscenter.com
- Alexander County..... 828-635-8881

Catawba County Sheriff's Department.....	828-465-8301
Catawba Police Department.....	828-241-4888
Claremont Police Department.....	828-466-7265
Hickory Police Department.....	828-328-5551
Hickory Police Department, Victim's Services.....	828-261-2642
Longview Police Department .....	828-327-2343
Maiden Police Department .....	828-428-5005
Newton Police Department .....	828-465-7430
Alexander County Sheriff's Department .....	828-632-4658
Taylorsville Police Department.....	828-632-2218
Catawba Valley Medical Center Emergency .....	828-326-3850
Frye Regional Medical Center Emergency.....	828-345-5625
Victim's Compensation Fund.....	1-800-826-6200
NC SAVAN (Statewide Automated Victim Assistance & Notification).....	1-877-627-2826 www.ncsavan.org
RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network)....	1-800-656-HOPE www.rainn.org

NC Coalition Against Sexual Assault ..... 1-919-871-1015  
www.nccasa.net

NC Coalition Against Domestic Violence ..... 1-800-232-9124  
www.nccadv.org

Because of the traumatic nature of sexual misconduct/violence, Reporting Parties are encouraged to seek immediate counseling. The Rape Crisis Center provides counseling and group services free of charge. Student Services will assist victims with any academic concerns or change in class schedule requests that are feasible.

### Policy 3.19: Student Due Process

Each person is afforded an opportunity to appeal what is perceived to be unfair treatment when classified as a student (See 3: Student Services-Student Definition) at Catawba Valley Community College (CVCC). The intent of the Due Process Policy is to ensure a fair and just resolution of any issue at the lowest possible level. Violations of Policy 3.18: Student Code of Conduct will be heard through Due Process procedures.

Student Advocate: Upon the student's request, the Director of Admission or designee will assist the student with the steps required to follow the process, including providing the CVCC Student Grievance Form and the Student Grievance Committee Review Form.

#### Procedure 3.19: Student Due Process

Students who have a grievance with Catawba Valley Community College (CVCC) may have their grievance reviewed in accordance with Policy 3.19: Student Due Process. A grievance for purposes of this policy is

- a grievance regarding a final course grade received;
- a grievance regarding a disciplinary action imposed; or
- a grievance of other unjust treatment.

Grievances concerning Policy 3.18.2: Title IX Harassment: Sexual Violence, Sexual or Gender-based Harassment, and Other Sexual Misconduct are addressed by using Procedure 3.18.2: Reporting and Resolving Title IX Harassment: Sexual Violence, Sexual or Gender-based Harassment, and Other Sexual Misconduct.

The “event date” for purposes of this policy is as follows:

- for a grievance regarding a final course grade received, the date on which the grade was mailed to the student, made available to the student through an online portal or other electronic means, or otherwise made available to the student;
- for a grievance regarding disciplinary action imposed, the date on which written notice of the disciplinary action was mailed or otherwise provided to the student; or
- for a grievance of other unjust treatment, the date on which the alleged unjust treatment occurred.

Steps that students must take to have their grievance reviewed are listed below. The student is not required in any step to confront alone the person he/she claims is responsible for the unjust or discriminatory treatment.

Student Advocate: Upon the student’s request, the Director of Admission or designee will assist the student with the steps required to follow the process, including providing the CVCC Student Grievance Form and the Student Grievance Committee Review Form.

It is expected that all parties will adhere as strictly as possible to the time lines outlined in the steps below. However, there may be occasions when the time lines cannot be upheld as outlined. In the rare occurrence that a time line must be extended, agreement must be reached by all parties concerned. Extensions must be approved by the Executive Vice President of the College or by his/her designee. If no extension has been granted and if the college employee does not meet the processing time line, the grievance will be forwarded to the next level supervisor for action. If no extension has been granted and if the student does not meet the processing time line, the process will be terminated and the grievance cannot be resubmitted.

#### **Student vs. Student Grievance**

##### **Step 1: Student Resolution**

The aggrieved student(s) must meet with the student(s) perceived to be the source of the alleged problem. This meeting will be facilitated and attended by the CVCC Student Advocate or designee. An attempt will be made to resolve the matter equitably and informally at this level. The meeting must take place within five (5) working days of the “event date” of the incident which generated the complaint.

##### **Step 2: Dean Resolution**

If the grievance is not resolved at the informal meeting in Step 1, the student(s) may initiate a Dean Resolution review by completing the student part of the Student Grievance Form and submitting it to the Dean of the School of ADS within five (5) working days of the conclusion of the Step 1 meeting. The Dean of the School of ADS will conduct an investigation into the alleged charge(s). The investigation may include interviewing the aggrieved student(s), interviewing the student(s) who is (are) perceived to have committed the alleged problem, interviewing witnesses, reviewing written statements, consulting other College officials, and other appropriate methods to make an informed decision. The Dean of ADS will respond in writing to the aggrieved student(s) and to the student(s) who allegedly caused the problem within five (5) working days of receipt of the Student Grievance Form with the decision. The Dean will also complete the Dean’s part of the Student Grievance Form and submit it to the Office of the President at the same time.

##### **Step 3: Student Grievance Committee Resolution**

If the grievance is not resolved at the Dean Resolution in Step 2, the student(s) may initiate a Student Grievance Committee review by completing the student part of the Student Grievance Committee Review Form and submitting it to the Office of the President within five (5) working days of the receipt of the Step 2 written decision.

Following receipt of a Student Grievance Committee Review Form, a Student Grievance Committee (“the Committee”) shall be selected. The Committee membership (5 voting members and a non-voting chair) shall be as follows and shall not include any members who have had any involvement in the grievance to date:

- Committee Chair (a non-voting member): A Vice President selected by the President
- Two (2) voting representatives selected by the Committee Chair from a group of nine (9) faculty or non-credit professional staff representatives (3 from each academic school) appointed by the President

- One (1) voting representative selected by the Committee Chair from a group of two (2) Student Services counselors or admissions representatives appointed by the President
- Two (2) voting student representatives selected by the Committee Chair from the group of five (5) current SGA officers

#### **Student vs. Faculty or Staff Grievance**

##### **Step 1: Student Resolution**

The student must meet with the faculty or staff where the alleged problem originated. This meeting will include the faculty or staff supervisor. An attempt will be made to resolve the matter equitably and informally at this level. The meeting must take place within five (5) working days of the “event date” of the incident which generated the complaint.

##### **Step 2: Supervisor Resolution**

If the grievance is not resolved at the informal meeting in Step 1, the student may initiate a Supervisor Resolution review by completing the student part of the Student Grievance Form and submitting it to the Dean of the faculty or staff involved in Step 1 within five (5) working days of the conclusion of the Step 1 meeting. The Dean will respond in writing to the student within five (5) working days of receipt of the Student Grievance Form. The Dean will also complete the supervisor part of the Student Grievance Form and submit it to the Office of the President at the same time.

##### **Step 3: Student Grievance Committee Resolution**

If the grievance is not resolved at the Supervisor Resolution in Step 2, the student may initiate a Student Grievance Committee review by completing the student part of the Student Grievance Committee Review Form and submitting it to the Office of the President within five (5) working days of the receipt of the Step 2 written decision.

Following receipt of a Student Grievance Committee Review Form, a Student Grievance Committee (“the Committee”) shall be selected. The Committee membership (5 voting members and a non-voting chair) shall be as follows and shall not include any members who have had any involvement in the grievance to date:

- Committee Chair (a non-voting member): A Vice President selected by the President
- Two (2) voting representatives selected by the Committee Chair from a group of nine (9) faculty or non-credit professional staff representatives (3 from each academic school) appointed by the President
- One (1) voting representative selected by the Committee Chair from a group of two (2) Student Services counselors or admissions representatives appointed by the President
- Two (2) voting student representatives selected by the Committee Chair from the group of five (5) current SGA officers

#### **Student Group vs. Student/Faculty/Staff Grievance**

##### **Step 1: Student Resolution**

The student group must meet with the student(s), faculty or staff where the alleged problem originated. The student group, in collaboration with the advisor/supervisor for the group, will select at most three (3) members in good standing to represent the grievance for the group. The group advisor/supervisor may be included in any meeting with others to resolve the grievance.

If the grievance is against a student(s), the CVCC Student Advocate or designee will facilitate a meeting between the selected students, the advisor/supervisor, and the student(s) where the alleged problem originated. An attempt will be made to resolve the matter equitably and informally at this level. The meeting must take place within five (5) working days of the “event date” of the incident which generated the complaint.

If the grievance is against a faculty or staff, the selected students and advisor/supervisor must meet with the faculty or staff where the alleged problem originated. This meeting may include the faculty or staff supervisor. An attempt will be made to resolve the matter equitably and informally at this level. The meeting must take place within five (5) working days of the “event date” of the incident which generated the complaint.

##### **Step 2: Dean/Supervisor Resolution**

If the grievance is not resolved at the informal meeting in Step 1 and the grievance is against a student(s), the group may initiate a Dean Resolution review by completing the student part of the Student Grievance Form and submitting it to the Dean of the School of ADS within five (5) working days of the conclusion of the Step 1 meeting. The Dean of the

School of ADS will conduct an investigation into the alleged charge(s). The investigation may include interviewing the aggrieved student(s), interviewing the student(s) who is (are) perceived to have committed the alleged problem, interviewing witnesses, reviewing written statements, consulting with other College officials, and other appropriate methods to make an informed decision. The Dean of ADS will respond in writing to the aggrieved student(s) and to the student(s) who allegedly caused the problem within five (5) working days of receipt of the Student Grievance Form with the decision. The Dean will also complete the Dean's part of the Student Grievance Form and submit it to the Office of the President at the same time.

If the grievance is not resolved at the informal meeting in Step 1 and if the grievance is against a faculty or staff, the group may initiate a Supervisor Resolution review by completing the student part of the Student Grievance Form and submitting it to the Dean of the faculty or staff involved in Step 1 within five (5) working days of the conclusion of the Step 1 meeting. The Dean will respond in writing to the student within five (5) working days of receipt of the Student Grievance Form. The Dean will also complete the supervisor part of the Student Grievance Form and submit it to the Office of the President at the same time.

#### Step 3: Student Grievance Committee Resolution

If the grievance is not resolved at the Dean/Supervisor Resolution in Step 2, the group may initiate a Student Grievance Committee review by completing the student part of the Student Grievance Committee Review Form and submitting it to the Office of the President within five (5) working days of the receipt of the Step 2 written decision.

Following receipt of a Student Grievance Committee Review Form, a Student Grievance Committee ("the Committee") shall be selected. The Committee membership (5 voting members and a non-voting chair) shall be as follows and shall not include any members who have had any involvement in the grievance to date:

- Committee Chair (a non-voting member): A Vice President selected by the President
- Two (2) voting representatives selected by the Committee Chair from a group of nine (9) faculty or non-credit professional staff representatives (3 from each academic school) appointed by the President
- One (1) voting representative selected by the Committee Chair from a group of two (2) Student Services counselors or admissions representatives appointed by the President
- Two (2) voting student representatives selected by the Committee Chair from the group of five (5) current SGA officers

#### Procedural Responsibilities for the Committee Chair

The Committee Chair shall schedule a Review/Hearing by the Committee within five (5) working days following the receipt of the Student Grievance Committee Review Form by the Office of the President. The Chair shall inform the student with the following information:

- Restatement of the charge(s).
- Notice of the day, time, and location of the meeting.
- Statement of the student's basic procedural rights.

Procedural Rights for the Student include the following:

- The right to counsel. The role of the person acting as counsel is solely to advise the student. The counsel shall not address the Committee nor examine or cross-examine any persons. If the counsel is an attorney, the Committee Chair must be informed to allow the College attorney to be present.
- The right to produce witnesses on one's behalf.
- The right to present evidence.

Procedural Conduct of the Student Grievance Committee Review/Hearing:

- The Committee Review/Hearing shall be confidential and shall be closed to all persons except the following:
  - The student;
  - Counsel (if any); and/or
  - Witnesses who shall
- Give testimony singularly and in the absence of other witnesses.
- Leave the Review/Hearing room immediately upon the completion of the testimony.
- The Review/Hearing will be recorded by the College in an audio format.

- Recordings will become the property of the College, and access to them will be determined by the Committee Chair. All recordings will be filed in the Office of the President.

- Upon completion of a Review/Hearing, the Committee shall meet in executive session to decide if the student has been treated unjustly, and if so, must recommend corrective action. Committee decisions shall be determined by a majority vote of the Committee members and are final. Decisions made by the Committee shall be provided in writing to the student by the Committee Chair within two (2) working days following the completion of the Review/Hearing. Copies of the written decision shall be provided to the Dean of the School of ADS, to the Office of the President, and to the CVCC employees involved in Steps 1 and 2 of the grievance process. The decision rendered by the Committee will be the final decision of the institution, and all due process opportunities will be exhausted.

The following exception applies if the CVCC employee who is allegedly responsible for the unjust treatment is a Dean: In Step 2, the supervisor shall be the Executive Vice President.

The following exception applies if the CVCC employee who is allegedly responsible for the unjust treatment is a Vice President: In Step 2, the supervisor shall be another Vice President appointed by the President. In Step 3, the Committee Chair shall be the CVCC President.

The following exception applies if the CVCC employee who is allegedly responsible for the unjust treatment is the CVCC President: In Step 2, the supervisor shall be the Chair of the Board of Trustees. In Step 3, the Committee Chair shall be the Chair of the Board of Trustees.

## STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

Students are requested to be especially alert and careful in entering and leaving the school grounds. The maximum on-campus speed is 10 miles per hour. Employees, students, and visitors are expected to park in designated parking spaces only. Handicapped parking spaces are designated and are regulated by NC General Statutes. Vehicles parked in areas not designated for parking may be ticketed and/or towed at vehicle owner expense. CVCC will not be responsible for vehicles damaged while parked on the school premises, during towage, or while being stored.

In order to maintain open fire lanes and clear roadways in case of emergency, the Board of Trustees of CVCC has established parking regulations. Student and visitor parking shall be in the lots so designated. Students, faculty and staff parking will be unreserved and will require a parking hang tag which will be issued during registration.

## INCLEMENT WEATHER CLOSINGS

Catawba Valley Community College will cancel classes only when the weather is considered too hazardous for safe travel to and from the college. The decision will be made as soon as possible by the President or designee, in order to inform students and staff. An official announcement stating that classes are delayed or the College is closed will be made by the automated attendant (updated college closing information option), on the telephone system 828-327-7000, CVCC's web page ([www.cvcc.edu](http://www.cvcc.edu)), or by CVCC's text alert option.

# ACADEMIC STANDARDS

## DEGREES, DIPLOMAS, AND CERTIFICATES

Catawba Valley Community College awards the ASSOCIATE in APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE (A.A.S.) upon the successful completion of a two-year program of study in the School of Academics, Education, and Fine Arts; the School of Business, Industry, and Technology; and the School of Health and Public Services.

The ASSOCIATE in ARTS, ASSOCIATE in ENGINEERING, and ASSOCIATE in SCIENCE DEGREES are awarded graduates of college transfer curriculums. The College also awards the ASSOCIATE in GENERAL EDUCATION (A.G.E.) degree.

Upon completion of a vocational program of study one or more years in length, CVCC grants a DIPLOMA in the major area of training.

Program CERTIFICATES are awarded in curricula where the curriculum provides for skill-training subjects only. Certificates of course completion are also awarded for non-credit short courses and special programs.

HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY DIPLOMAS are awarded by the North Carolina Department of Community Colleges to individuals who make satisfactory scores on the General Educational Development (known as GED), HiSet, Tasc, or the Adult Basic High School Diploma.

## REGISTRATION

The Dean, School of Access, Development, & Success or designee is responsible for establishing and communicating the dates, times, locations, and processes for registration in curriculum courses.

Registration is generally not permitted in a class on or after the start date of the class unless the registration is a course section switch. Approval for registration in a class on or after the start date of the class must be based on extenuating circumstances and be educationally sound as determined by the Executive Vice President or designees.

Registration in certain courses may be restricted to students meeting certain criteria established by the North Carolina Community College System or the Executive Vice President.

Students enrolling in credit courses are expected to register for course work during the registration periods specified for each semester. Registration for non-credit classes may be held at the first class meeting for the course.

Course **additions** will not be approved after the ten (10) percent point of the class. Section changes are allowable under departmental jurisdiction with the approval of the department head.

Veterans and other eligible persons certified by the Veterans Administration for Education Payments (G.I. Bill) cannot receive such benefits for any course not required for graduation in their approved educational program of study. Such individuals may register for other than required courses, but such courses will not be considered in determining the enrollment status of the recipient of educational benefits.

## COURSE LOAD

Unless required by suggested curriculum sequence, students are strongly encouraged not to enroll for more than 18 credit hours per semester. Should you choose to do so, you need to meet with the Dean, School of Access, Development, & Success or designee prior to enrolling for classes.

## COURSE PREREQUISITES AND CO-REQUISITES

CVCC and each student are responsible for ensuring that prerequisite and co-requisite requirements have been satisfied.

If requisite competencies are not documented in the student's CVCC transcript but are evidenced by completion of academic experiences at other regionally accredited institutions or completion of certain testing administered by other institutions, then satisfaction of the requisite shall be documented in the student's record on the student database following processes specified by the Dean, School of Student Access, Development, and Success or designee.

If requisite competencies are not documented in the student's CVCC transcript and are not evidenced by academic experiences completed elsewhere as outlined above, the academic supervisor (department head, dean,

etc.) for the course may authorize enrollment in the course if the requisite competencies are evidenced by other life experiences such as work (for example, the department head for math could make this determination for a math course). Such authorization shall be documented in the student's record on the student database following processes specified by the Dean, School of Access, Development, & Success or designee.

**WAIVER OF DEVELOPMENTAL COURSES** may be based upon course-work successfully completed (grade of C or better) at a regionally accredited college using the following guidelines:

- Completion of the appropriate developmental coursework at another college.
- Completion of a college-level course, which has a developmental prerequisite/corequisite as indicated in the current CVCC college catalog. This includes a course taken at a regionally accredited college other than CVCC, if the course is equivalent in content to a course in the current CVCC catalog.

## CLASSIFICATION/ENROLLMENT STATUS

Catawba Valley Community College classifies students in several categories for various administrative purposes. Those classifications and their definitions are as follows:

**FULL-TIME STUDENT.** A full-time student is any student enrolled for at least 12 credit hours in the fall and spring semesters and 9 credit hours in the summer semester.

**FULL-TIME STUDENT FOR TUITION PAYMENT.** For the purpose of tuition and fee payment, a full-time student is any student enrolled in at least 16 credit hours in any semester.

**FULL-TIME STUDENT FOR FINANCIAL AID.** For the purpose of Financial Aid, a full-time student is any student enrolled for at least 12 credit hours in the fall semester, the spring semester, or the summer semester.

**PART-TIME STUDENT.** A part-time student is any student enrolled for fewer than 12 credit hours in the fall and spring semesters and 9 credit hours in the summer semester.

**PART-TIME STUDENT FOR TUITION PAYMENT.** For the purpose of tuition and fee payment, a part-time student is any student enrolled for less than 16 credit hours in any semester.

**FRESHMAN STUDENT.** A freshman student is any student who has earned fewer than 32 semester hours of credit.

**SOPHOMORE STUDENT.** A sophomore student is any student who has earned a minimum of 32 semester hours of credit.

**SPECIAL CREDIT STUDENT.** Individuals may enroll in classes without pursuing a diploma or degree. Persons enrolling under these circumstances are considered SPECIAL CREDIT STUDENTS. Placement tests may be required depending upon the student's educational background and the prerequisites/corequisites of the courses in which the student wishes to register.

**AUDITING A COURSE.** Students may attempt a course as an audit student one time. Students may not audit a class for which they have received credit unless justified by a clear benefit connected to a current program of study at CVCC. A change from an auditing status to a credit status (or vice versa) on or after the start date of the class must be approved by the instructor of the class and the Dean, School of Access, Development, & Success.

Students wishing to audit a course must satisfy all requisite requirements for the course just as do students taking a course for credit. Students who audit a course will not receive a grade (other than AU) or credit for the course. Credit will not be granted under advanced placement procedures after enrolling in a course as an audit student. Tuition and fees for auditing a course are the same as those for enrolling in a course for credit.

Students who audit are required to comply with class attendance policies, complete assignments, and participate in class activities. They are not required to take examinations unless specified by the academic department. Students should be aware that audited credit hours do not qualify for federal financial aid, VA Benefits, and certain other grants and/or scholarships.

## ATTENDANCE (MEMBERSHIP)

Instructors are required to establish attendance requirements and maintain accurate records of membership/attendance for their classes in accordance with the North Carolina Community College System and other regulatory guidelines. The attendance requirements for a class shall be included in the syllabus for the class.

Students shall be permitted excused absences from all classes two days per academic year for religious observances required by the faith of a student. Students shall be provided reasonable opportunity to make up any tests or other work missed due to an excused absence for a religious observance. Specific procedures that students must follow to obtain authorization for an excused absence for a religious observance shall be established by the Chief Academic Officer. These procedures shall, at a minimum, require the student to submit a written request for the absence sufficiently in advance to permit the instructor and student to develop a sound plan for making up any missed class work. All students must plan absences from a class so that their total absences, including any absences authorized in accordance with this policy, do not exceed the total absences otherwise permitted by the instructor, a certifying board, or an accrediting agency. For purposes of this policy, an academic year begins on the first day of the fall semester and ends on the last day of the summer semester in the following calendar year.

Additionally, instructors are required to maintain and submit accurate attendance and/or membership reports, including the timely submission of appropriate withdrawals, according to instructions provided by the Dean, School of Access, Development, & Success or designee. Attendance and/or membership records shall comply with all federal and state guidelines related to the disbursement of financial aid. Procedures to ensure the recording and reporting of membership/attendance in accordance with the above policies shall be established by the Chief Financial Officer.

If an instructor fails to meet his/her class within 15 minutes of its scheduled beginning time, the students may leave without attendance penalty.

## ELECTIVE COURSES

In selected curricula, students may take elective courses to meet graduation requirements. Where provisions have been made and approved, students may elect to take work-based learning in place of electives.

## DISTANCE EDUCATION

Catawba Valley Community College strives to meet the needs of all students by utilizing technologies effectively to provide affordable, accessible, and quality learning opportunities for those students who, because of time, geographic, or other constraints, choose not to attend traditional, seated classes. CVCC offers a variety of distance education courses.

North Carolina Information Highway (NCIH) courses utilize a statewide network to deliver instruction to and from remote sites. Hybrid courses combine both face-to-face meetings on the CVCC campuses with online course work. Fully online courses are entirely on the Internet with no, or very little face-to-face interaction with the instructor.

CVCC ensures that all distance education courses meet the high standard of quality that students expect. The college has developed a list of standards that all online courses must meet. All online instructors must complete CVCC's Excellence in Online Instruction class and all online classes are subject to evaluation.

## ACADEMIC CREDIT

The Dean, School of Access, Development, and Success, or designee will ensure appropriate procedures and guidelines exist for the granting and recording of academic credit. CVCC shall award credit for all curriculum courses completed at CVCC with a final grade of D or higher.

Additionally, credit may be awarded as a result of the following processes: (credits awarded through these processes shall not exceed sixty-five (65) percent of the total credit hours required for graduation in a student's program of study)

a. CVCC will grant transfer credit for a course completed at a regionally accredited institution provided the coursework is relevant to the student's program of study, the competencies required for successful completion are at least equivalent to those required for successful completion of the equivalent CVCC course, and the final grade received, as evidenced by an official transcript, was a C-minus or higher. CVCC only allows the use of quarter credits earned at Catawba Valley Community College or at another regionally accredited institution currently using the quarter system to count toward current programs of study and graduation requirements;

b. CVCC will grant transfer credit for a course completed at a foreign (outside the United States) institution provided that the coursework is relevant to the student's program of study, the competencies required for successful completion are at least equivalent to those required for successful completion of the equivalent CVCC course, and the final grade received was a C-minus or higher. The Chief Academic Officer or designees will determine relevance to the program of study and equivalence of competencies. Students desiring transfer credit must submit transcripts that have been evaluated by a current member of NACES (National Association of Credential Evaluation Services) at [www.naces.org](http://www.naces.org). (The name the student is currently using should appear on the transcript as well as the date of birth.) The evaluating agency for post-secondary transcripts (college/university) must send the evaluation report directly to CVCC's Student Records Office. Student copies of evaluations will not be accepted;

c. Articulation agreements may be established with high schools whereby high school students may receive transfer credit for courses completed at their high school;

d. Students enrolled in degree, diploma, or certificate programs and special credit students may petition for credit by exam. To be eligible for credit by exam, the student must provide evidence of prior education and/or experience which would likely have provided skills, knowledge, and/or abilities similar to those provided in the CVCC course. The dean for the school in which the course is offered will determine the credit to be allowed, if any. Credit will be based upon the minimum attainment of a grade of "B" on oral, written, and/or manipulative tests and the credit hours indicated for the appropriate course in the current catalog; or

e. Students may earn credit by successfully completing (score of 3 or better) Advanced Placement (AP) exams sponsored by the College Entrance Examination Board and/or by successfully completing (scores per ACE guide) College Level Examination Program (CLEP) exams.

Transfer credits, credits granted based on advanced placement assessments, and credits earned by successful completion of AP/CLEP exams may be used to satisfy program of study requirements but will not be included in the calculation of semester or cumulative grade point averages (GPAs).

Transfer credits, credits granted based on advanced placement assessments, and credits earned by successful completion of AP/CLEP exams may not be used to obtain VA educational benefits or federal financial aid.

At this time no fee or tuition charge is imposed for advanced placement assessment for curriculum course credit. Some charges may apply for certain non-credit course assessments.

If a Workforce Development/Corporate and Continuing Education advance placement exam is requested to certify course competency, a flat rate of \$30 for each testing session will apply. An additional \$10 will be charged for each additional person tested.

## COURSE SUBSTITUTION

Courses may be substituted in a curriculum for a student only under exceptional circumstances and only if the substitution is within the NCCCS Curriculum Standards. Course substitutions must be recommended by the student's academic advisor. Course substitutions must be approved by the department head or director of the requesting curriculum, by the department head or director responsible for the course to be substituted, and by the Director of Student Records.

## CURRICULUM COURSE REPEAT POLICY

A student may attempt a course a maximum of three times. A course is considered attempted when any one of the following grades is received – A, B, C, D, F, WP, WF, CS, P, R, AU. The highest grade received will be used in the computation of the student's grade point average. An academic program may have a more restrictive policy regarding the number of permissible attempts to fulfill a program requirement. Students should be aware that satisfactory academic progress requirements exist for students applying for or receiving financial aid and that repeated attempts of a course may have an undesirable effect on these satisfactory progress measures. Exception to the 3-attempt maximum may be granted if the student has not completed the course with a grade of A, B, or C and if the student provides documented evidence of mitigating circumstances, academic intervention which increases the likelihood of success in the course, or three year break in enrollment. Petition for exceptions should be directed to the Dean, School of Access, Development, & Success or designee.

## GRADING SYSTEM

**CURRICULUM/CREDIT COURSES.** The measure of a student's overall academic performance for courses attempted at the College and with a course number greater than or equal to 100 shall be a grade point average (GPA) based on a 4.0 scale.

Students enrolled in the Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program are required to achieve a numerical grade of 80 or above in NUR classes to progress to subsequent Associate Degree Nursing program courses.

Students enrolled in various Healthcare/Allied Health programs are required to achieve specific grades to continue enrollment in the program. See specific program requirements for details.

Credits received for successful completion of developmental courses (courses with a course number less than 100) are included in the computation of attempted credits and earned credits but shall be excluded from all GPA computations.

Transfer credits and credits granted based on advanced placement processes shall also be excluded from all GPA computations.

The Dean, School of Access, Development, & Success or designee will ensure that the grade system and the processes used for record keeping purposes comply with college policy.

Grades listed below are calculated into all grade point average (GPA) computations. Developmental grades (courses below 100 level) are not calculated in computing the grade point average (GPA).

### Grading System

Grade	Description	Grade Points per Credit Hour	
A	Excellent	4	Numerical grade of 90-100
B	Above Average	3	Numerical grade of 80-89
C	Average	2	Numerical grade of 70-79
D	Below Average	1	Numerical grade of 60-69
F	Failed	0	Numerical grade below 60
WF	Withdraw Failing	0	Numerical grade below 60

Grades listed below are not calculated into grade point average (GPA) computations.

### Grading System

Grade	Description
AP	Credit by Exam/Other Proficiency Assessment
AU	Audit
CS	Continued Study
I	Incomplete
NC	*Non-Course Credit by Exam/Other Proficiency Exam
NG	No Grade
P	Passed
R	Re-enroll
R/Grade (ie. RA)	Repeat (see note below)
TR	Transfer Credit
WP	Withdraw Passing

\*Non-course credits awarded prior to 2002-2003 may be recorded as AP. NOTE: Repeated courses are graded with the letter grade actually earned for the course preceded by an R.

## GRADE POINT AVERAGE. How To Calculate GPA.

The measure of a student's overall academic performance at the college shall be a grade point average (GPA) based on a 4.0 scale. **The computation of GPA includes only those courses completed at CVCC numbered 100 or higher and for which a grade of A, B, C, D, F, or WF is received.** (See also Repeat Policy).

The GPA may be calculated in the following manner:

1. Determine Total Hours Attempted. (Hours attempted are equal to the number of credit hours assigned to a course as shown on your CVCC transcript.)
2. Determine Total Grade Points Earned. The grade point value for a course is multiplied by the number of attempted credit hours for the course.

**For Example:** A grade of A is earned in ENG 111. A grade of A carries a value of 4 grade points per credit hour.

ENG 111 is a 3 credit hour course:  $4 \times 3 = 12$ .

In this example, 12 grade points were earned for ENG 111.

3. Divide the Total Grade Points Earned by the Total Hours attempted to determine Cumulative GPA.

### Example:

Course	Hours Attempted	Grade Earned	Grade Points Earned
BIO 168	4	A	16 (4 x 4 = 16)
ART 111	3	C	6 (3 x 2 = 6)
ACA 111	1	B	3 (1 x 3 = 3)

Total Grade Points Earned = 25

Total Hours Attempted = 8

25 divided by 8 = 3.125

**INCOMPLETES.** A grade of I (Incomplete) may be given under extenuating circumstances to be determined by the instructor of the course. A grade of I must be replaced with the final course grade by the end of the subsequent semester unless approval is granted by the Executive Vice President for continuation of the incomplete course for one additional semester. Otherwise, the grade of I changes to an F. A grade of WP or WF cannot be used to replace a grade of I.

**DEVELOPMENTAL COURSES.** Developmental courses are curriculum courses with a course number less than 100. Students who successfully complete developmental courses will earn a grade of P depending upon the level of acquired competence. Students who fail to complete developmental course requirements by the end of the grading period for the course will be assigned a grade of R. Students who receive an R must register for the developmental course again and pay tuition and fees again.

Developmental course credit does not count toward graduation requirements. In addition, developmental course grades are excluded from GPA calculations.

**WITHDRAWALS.** When a student is unable to maintain regular attendance as defined by the syllabus for a class, either the student or instructor may initiate the process to withdraw the student from class membership. If such action occurs on or before the 50% point of the class, the student's grade shall be WP (Withdrawal Passing) unless the instructor issues a grade of WF (Withdrawal Failing) based on extenuating circumstances. If such action occurs after the 50% point of the class, the student's grade shall be a WF (Withdrawal Failing) unless the instructor authorizes a WP based upon appropriate circumstances. The student's grade is recorded on the student's permanent record. To withdraw from class membership, the student should meet with Advising Center staff to begin this process. Instructors may submit an add/withdrawal form to the Student Records Office, online or in person.

**CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSE GRADE.** For continuing education courses, a grade of S signifies satisfactory progress and a grade of U designates unsatisfactory progress. Grades earned in continuing education courses are not included in GPA calculations.

## ACADEMIC SANCTIONS AND DUE PROCESS

**STUDENT ADVOCATE.** Students may contact the Director of Admissions for assistance regarding academic problems and/or concerns. The Director of Admissions (or designee) will work with the student, instructors, academic supervisors, and other College resources to identify and implement the best available solution to academic problems and/or concerns.

**ACADEMIC SANCTIONS.** When a student's cumulative grade point average is based upon 12 or more credit hours and is less than a 2.0, the student shall be placed on academic probation. The Dean, School of Access, Development, & Success or designee shall be responsible for notifying the student and for establishing procedures to ensure the student receives academic counseling. A student who remains on academic probation for two consecutive semesters may be suspended from CVCC for one semester. Certain programs may establish additional academic progress requirements and impose sanctions for failure to meet those requirements. The Executive Vice President shall ensure any additional academic requirements and potential sanctions for failure to meet those requirements are communicated to students in those programs.

In addition to academic probation, other academic sanctions may be imposed on students enrolled in certain health sciences programs. Students applying for or admitted to these programs should contact their faculty advisor for further information.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY.** Students at CVCC are expected to be honest in all academic pursuits, whether class, lab, shop, or clinical. Acts of academic dishonesty are considered unethical and subject to behavior sanctions. Examples of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to the following:

- a. Sharing information about the content of quizzes, exams, classroom/lab/shop/clinical assignments (scheduled or make-up) without approval of the instructor including but not limited to unauthorized copying, collaboration, or use of notes, books, or other materials when preparing for or completing examinations or other academic assignments (scheduled or make-up).
- b. Buying, selling, or otherwise obtaining a copy of a quiz, exam, project, term paper, or like document, without approval of the instructor.
- c. Plagiarism, which is defined as the intentional representation of another person's work, words, thoughts, or ideas (from any source) as one's own.
- d. Failing to follow approved test taking procedures by performing such acts as the following:
  - Looking on another student's test
  - Use of unauthorized notes; written, electronic, or otherwise
  - Changing answers after exam is scored
  - Verbal, non-verbal, or electronic communication with another student during an exam.

Instructors have the authority to impose either the loss of Academic Credit or Grade Sanction to students under their supervision.

Students have an obligation to report any acts of academic dishonesty to the instructor or appropriate campus authority when reasonable grounds exist for such a report. Students also have a responsibility to cooperate in the investigation of any alleged acts of academic dishonesty. Failure to report acts of academic dishonesty could result in a behavior sanction.

**ATTENDANCE SANCTIONS.** Instructors have the responsibility and authority to establish and enforce attendance requirements for their classes. An instructor may withdraw a student from class when the instructor believes that the student's absences are excessive or that the student does not intend to pursue the learning activities of the class. In justifiable cases, instructors have the prerogative to re-admit a student to class membership when the withdrawal process was initiated by the instructor.

**VETERANS BENEFITS AND STUDENT FINANCIAL AID.** The College complies with the Standards of Progress for Veterans certified for education benefits. Under such standards students will no longer be certified for benefits or aid if placed on academic probation for two successive semesters. Eligibility may be reestablished after one semester of satisfactory progress on a minimum of six or more credit hours.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

**GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.** The student is responsible for officially applying to Student Services for his/her degree, diploma, or certificate according to guidelines established by the Dean, School of Access, Development, & Success. Graduation applications and specific deadlines are available in Student Services and on the website at [cvcc.edu/Student\\_Services/Student\\_Records/Graduation.cfm](http://cvcc.edu/Student_Services/Student_Records/Graduation.cfm). A diploma fee is due when the application for graduation is submitted. (See Fees and Insurance.) This fee applies regardless of any election by the student not to participate in commencement. Students who apply for graduation and then fail to meet graduation criteria must reapply for graduation, and may be required to resubmit the fee.

The student is responsible for determining and fulfilling all requirements for the program of study from which he/she expects to graduate. Minimum credit hours and the required courses for each program have been established and are listed in the Program Listings section of the CVCC General Catalog. A minimum graduation requirement of all curriculum programs is a cumulative grade point average of 2.00 or a program grade point average of 2.00. Certain programs may have additional requirements. Students should consult the Advising Center or their advisor for information on program and graduation requirements.

The catalog of record is the catalog that is current at the time a student enrolls at CVCC in his/her program of study. If a student changes his/her program of study, then the catalog of record becomes the catalog that is current at the time of that change of program. To graduate under a program of study, a student must meet the requirements of his/her catalog of record or any catalog in effect within the next five years as long as the student has been continuously enrolled. If a student breaks enrollment for one academic year (fall and spring consecutively), the catalog of record will become the catalog that is current at the time of re-entry. From that point of re-entry, the rule of continuous enrollment will apply. The program faculty or the Director of Student Records have/has the authority to choose a catalog, within a five year period of continuous enrollment, that best suits the student's needs for his/her particular program of study at the time of graduation. Exceptions to this policy must be approved by Executive Vice President or designee(s).

To be eligible for graduation, the applicant must also fulfill all financial obligations to the College.

**RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS.** Students graduating from Catawba Valley Community College must enroll in and complete at CVCC a minimum of 35% of the semester hours required for their program of study (credits granted through transfer credit and advanced placement credit processes may not be used to satisfy this requirement). The final fifteen credit hours of study prior to graduation must be completed at CVCC unless special permission is obtained through the Dean, School of Access, Development, & Success or designee.

As a Servicemembers Opportunity College (SOC) institution, CVCC recognizes the following for active-duty service-members: An SOC institution limits academic residency requirements for active-duty service-members to no more than 25 percent of the undergraduate degree program; recognizes all credit course work offered by the institution as applicable in satisfying academic residency requirements; and allows service-members to satisfy academic residency requirements with courses taken from the institution at any time during their program of study, specifically avoiding any "final year" or "final semester" residency requirement, subject to stated requirements in specific course areas such as majors.

**EXIT INTERVIEW.** Graduates are required to complete an online exit interview prior to receipt of diploma.

## GRADUATING WITH HONORS AND HIGH HONORS.

Students graduating from a degree or diploma program of study with a final cumulative GPA greater than or equal to 3.80 will receive recognition in their permanent student record as graduating with "high honors."

Students graduating from a degree or diploma program of study with a final cumulative GPA greater than or equal to 3.50 and less than 3.80 will receive recognition in their permanent student record as graduating with "honors."

The student's cumulative GPA at the end of the most recent fall semester and the GPA ranges noted above will be used to determine which graduates will be recognized as graduating with "high honors" or "honors" during the May commencement ceremony.

"High honors" and "honors" designation on the student's diploma will be based on their final term of enrollment at the time of graduation and the GPA at the end of that term. (For example, a student who is enrolled in the spring semester may be recognized as a graduate with either honors or high honors during the ceremony.) The actual determination of honors will be evaluated at the end of the spring semester and will be based on his or her cumulative GPA. This may differ from the GPA that was used to recognize his or her status during the ceremony.

## SEMESTER HONORS AND HIGH HONORS

At the conclusion of the fall and spring semesters, the CVCC President shall recognize those students who meet the following requirements for semester honors and high honors.

- Semester high honors: students who complete 6 or more credit hours (included in the computation of GPA) during the completed semester while earning a semester GPA greater than or equal to 3.80 on a 4.0 scale.
- Semester honors: students who complete 6 or more credit hours (included in the computation of GPA) during the completed semester while earning a semester GPA greater than or equal to 3.50 and less than 3.80 on a 4.0 scale.

## STUDENT RECORDS AND TRANSCRIPTS

**PRIVACY OF STUDENTS.** The College protects the privacy of students in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 (the "Act"), as amended, enacted as section 444 of the General Education Provisions Act. A copy of the Federal Regulations setting out the requirements for the protection of the privacy of students under the act is available at Federal FERPA Regulations or in Student Services.

Under this Act, students have the right to:

- Inspect and review their education records.
- Seek amendment of their education records that they believe to be inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of their privacy rights.
- Consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in their record, except to the extent that the Act (and in particular section 99.31) authorizes disclosure without consent.
- File with the U.S. Department of Education a complaint under Sections 99.63 and 99.64 concerning alleged failures by the College to comply with the requirements of the Act.

A student may exercise the right to inspect and review his/her education record by making written application to the Director of Student Records.

A student may request amendment(s) to his/her record under section 99.20 of the Act by contacting the Director of Student Records. The Director of Student Records will attempt to resolve the issue. If the student is not satisfied with the resolution offered by the Director of Student Records, then the student may commence formal student due process procedures.

The College does disclose education records to College officials, including faculty, who are determined to have a legitimate educational interest. Faculty/staff are considered to have a legitimate educational interest if they might reasonably need to access information to academically advise a student or assist the student in a transaction with the College. All full time faculty have access to the student database.

Upon request, the College may disclose directory information. Directory information means information contained in the education record of

## CONTINUING EDUCATION

### GENERAL INFORMATION

An important function of the College is to provide quality courses of continuing education for adults. The development of these courses is based upon community needs and interests.

Continuing Education provides life-long learning experiences that will help adults fulfill occupational, social and personal needs. It allows adults to achieve their fullest potential and effectiveness in a rapidly changing world of increasing knowledge, skill and understanding. Courses offered are helpful in achieving occupational goals, as well as increasing the quality of life. The diversity of these programs ranges from basic reading and writing skills to vocational and technical upgrading to cultural and personal enrichment.

CVCC also offers specialized services to the business, corporate, and industrial community.

### ADMISSION

Admission to classes in the division is open to individuals 18 years of age or older. Individuals less than 18 years old who are high school graduates or whose high school class has graduated may also enroll in continuing education courses. High school juniors and seniors, sixteen years of age and older, may enroll with permission from high school officials. See general college admissions requirements for further details.

### ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to attend class regularly. Individual attendance records are maintained and retained. Students must meet attendance requirements to receive recognition for the course. Some classes are offered in accordance with state guidelines which may require stricter attendance policies.

This policy also applies to continuing education courses for which CEUs or certifications are issued. Minimum attendance requirements are communicated to students. Failure to meet these requirements will result in a grade of U (unsatisfactory). Make-up of missed class time is not guaranteed but may be permitted, within a specified timeline, in documented emergency situations with approval of the faculty, program director, and within state auditing guidelines.

### CLASS LOCATIONS

While a number of classes are held on CVCC East and Main campuses, as well as the Alexander Center for Education in Taylorsville, others are conducted at various locations in surrounding communities or within a particular business or industry throughout the area served by CVCC.

### CLASS SCHEDULE

Classes are scheduled continuously throughout each semester. Special business seminars and industrial courses may be scheduled to begin at any time period appropriate to a company and CVCC. For specific announcements of course offerings, registration dates, and locations, check the website: <http://cce.cvcc.edu>.

### CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS (C.E.U.)

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, of which CVCC is an accredited member, has recommended that the Continuing Education Unit (C.E.U.) be used as the basic instrument of measurement for a student's participation in an institution's offering of non-credit classes, courses, and programs. The C.E.U. is a unit measure. One C.E.U. is defined as ten contact hours of participation in an organized continuing education experience under responsible sponsorship, capable direction, and qualified instruction. Continuing Education Units may be offered for CVCC courses that are applicable to professional certification or license renewal.

### COURSE COMPLETION

Certificates are given for the satisfactory completion. Requests for enrollment verification or course transcript should be directed to the Continuing Education Business Office located at the East Campus.

### FEES

Occupational Extension course fees are on a graduated scale as outlined in the fee schedule on page 14. Other Self-Supporting course fees vary. Fees may be waived in compliance with North Carolina Statutes, as specified under fee waivers. There are no registration fees for enrollees in Basic Skills Education. Other costs in continuing education classes may include textbooks, equipment, tools, or other specific fees.

a student which would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. The College has designated directory information to be the student's name, student ID photo, student ID number, address, institutionally assigned electronic mail address, telephone listing, date of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, enrollment status (full-time or part-time), degrees and awards received, and the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended. A student has the right to refuse to let the College designate any or all types of information about him/her as directory information. The student must notify the Director of Student Records in writing that he/she does not want any or all types of information about him/her designated as directory information prior to the first day of the semester.

Under the Act, the College may not disclose personally identifiable information to the parents of an "eligible student" without the written consent of the student unless the disclosure is to parents of a dependent student as defined in Internal Revenue Code. An "eligible student" means a student who is 18 years of age or is attending an institution of postsecondary education. Parents must provide appropriate tax return information documenting the dependent status of the student before disclosure will be made without the student's written consent.

**COPIES OF ACADEMIC RECORD.** The College will provide students with official copies of their CVCC transcripts. There is a fee of \$5 for each CVCC transcript. Complete the "Transcript Request" form and submit it to the Business Office along with payment.

The college will provide students with personal and/or official copies of placement testing results and other testing administered by CVCC Testing Services. At this time there is no cost for this service. (TEAS and PSB Exam results may not be available through CVCC. Students receive a copy of this result at the time of their exam).

Student access to transcripts from other educational institutions is generally limited to visual access. CVCC does not provide students with file copies or photocopies of transcripts and/or test reports from other institutions.

Proof of identity is required to obtain a transcript and/or test score report.

**STUDENT RECORD RETENTION.** CVCC maintains student records in accordance with the Records Retention and Disposition schedule approved for colleges in the North Carolina Community College System. This schedule was approved for colleges in the North Carolina Community College system in accordance with provisions of the General Statutes of North Carolina.

### ACADEMIC FREEDOM

Catawba Valley Community College is committed to the provision of and protection of academic freedom. The college seeks to foster an academic learning environment that allows for the advancement of knowledge and critical thinking on the part of faculty, staff, and students through ethical teaching and research practices. Faculty, staff, and students are expected to use reasonable judgment as they exercise their academic freedom.

### INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

**OWNERSHIP OF MATERIALS.** The College retains the right to use student work produced as a part of class assignments for non-profit educational purposes.

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## MINIMUM ENROLLMENT REQUIRED

Normally, a course may be offered when a minimum of 10-15 persons enroll for the subject. The College reserves the right to cancel any course when an insufficient number of people register.

## TO ENROLL

Individuals interested in enrolling must register and prepay by mail, telephone, fax, or visiting the CVCC East Campus or Alexander Center for Education. Applicants are registered on a first-come, first-served basis.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION

(PROGRAM OFFERINGS/CENTERS)

### HEALTH & PUBLIC SERVICE INNOVATION CENTER

## OCCUPATIONAL EXTENSION COURSES

The College offers many vocational, technical, and business courses. The primary objectives of these courses are to (1) provide adults additional skills and/or knowledge applicable to the present occupation; (2) provide training for occupations in which skill and knowledge requirements are undergoing transition due to technological advances in equipment, materials, and machines; and (3) provide area businesses and industries assistance in meeting manpower needs through other specialized courses.

**Occupational upgrading courses  
are available in each of the following areas:**

**BUSINESS** courses are available to a wide variety of business organizations, administration, management, sales, and secretarial occupations.

**COMPUTER** courses are also available in popular software applications currently used by local employers. Courses are also available to prepare students to take certification exams in networking such as PC Repair A+.

**FIRE, RESCUE, & EMS** training is offered for members of municipal, volunteer, industrial fire brigades, and rescue squads. EMT courses are available to the public. Entrance tests are required for certain courses.

## HEALTHCARE TRAINING

**Healthcare Occupation** programs have been established for persons seeking initial or additional training in the medical field. All level courses from entry level to para-professional to professional are offered. Entrance tests are required for certain classes.

- Some programs require criminal background checks and/or drug testing.

Healthcare course offerings include CNA, Phlebotomy, Medical Front Office, Medication Aid, Healthcare Activities director, EKG, and Pharmacy Tech.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT** courses have been designed for law enforcement personnel in cooperation with training departments of agencies.

Additional information regarding occupational upgrading courses may be obtained by contacting the Continuing Education Office at the CVCC East Campus.

## LEARNING & PERSONAL ENRICHMENT INNOVATION CENTER

## BASIC SKILLS EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Basic Skills Education covers the four main program areas: Adult Basic Skills, Compensatory Education, English as a Second Language, and Adult Secondary Credentials. Basic Skills Education is an instructional program designed to assist adults 16 years of age or older who need academic remediation. Emphasis is placed on assisting the adult in obtaining a higher education level.

Classes are organized and designed to assist individual student's efforts of reaching a level where individualized study is possible. As the student gains competency in subject areas, a greater scope of subjects is introduced. Each person receives assistance in selecting the correct level from which to begin his/her studies.

After gaining competency in subject areas, the adult will be encouraged to enroll in the Adult Secondary Credential Program. This includes the Adult High School Diploma and High School Equivalency such as GED. Currently, Basic Skills Education classes are available on campus and at various locations throughout Catawba and Alexander counties. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Basic Skills office at 828-327-7000, ext. 4353.

**MATH SENSE** is a six-week intensive basic skills review for students whose placement tests indicate this is the appropriate math level in which to begin their curriculum studies. Topics include operations with whole numbers, decimals, and fractions; data analysis and measurement; statistics and probability; basic geometry; order of operations; and a very brief introduction to algebraic expressions and integers. Contact the Basic Skills Office for registration information 828-327-7000, ext. 4353.

**ENGLISH FOUNDATIONS** is an eight-week intensive basic skills review for students whose placement tests indicate this is the appropriate reading and writing level at which to begin their curriculum studies. Topics include vocabulary review, comprehension development, grammar review, basic sentence and paragraph construction, and the writing process. Contact the Basic Skills Office for registration information 828-327-000, ext. 4353.

## ADULT BASIC EDUCATION (ABE)

The Adult Basic Education program teaches basic skills to help adults survive in an adult world. Instruction is designed to assist individuals with learning to read, improving reading skills, math, and writing skills. Classes are available both on campus and at a number of off-campus locations for all program areas. Please call the Basic Skills Office for further information at 828-327-7000, ext. 4353.

## COMPENSATORY EDUCATION (CED)

Instruction designed for adults who have intellectual disabilities or who have suffered a brain injury. These classes assist students in learning basic functional and literacy skills as a means to improve their level of daily independent living. Classes are available at both the East Campus 828-327-7000, ext. 4268, and the Alexander Center for Education 828-632-8221, ext. 304.

## ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

English as a Second Language is a program of instruction designed for adults with limited English skills. Information covered throughout the course will include survival language, health and safety information, dealing with cultural differences, occupational language, U.S. history and legal information, and citizenship requirements. Emphasis is placed on conversational skills. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Basic Skills Office at 828-327-7000, extension 4353. Classes are offered on and off campus.

## ADULT SECONDARY CREDENTIAL PROGRAM

The Adult Secondary Credential Program allows students two options to complete a secondary credential: the Adult High School Diploma Program or the High School Equivalency Program (such as GED).

Adult High School Diploma classes offer students the opportunity to earn a high school diploma sanctioned by the Board of Education of Catawba and Alexander Counties. Students are given full credit for any units they have completed in high school. Classes are free. Please contact

the Basic Skills Office at 828-327-7000, ext. 4353 for more information.

The High School Equivalency Program (HSE), (such as GED) focuses on the areas of mathematics, literature, writing, social studies, and science. Catawba Valley Community College offers classes in a variety of locations and online. **Classes are free; however there is a cost for the HSE exam.** Please contact the Basic Skills Office at 828-327-7000, ext. 4353, if you are in need of financial assistance for the HSE exam fee and would like to apply for a scholarship.

## PERSONAL ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

These programs are offered to individuals 16 years of age and older. These are short-term courses for self-improvement, cultural enrichment, and academic achievement. The program is intended to meet the growing needs and interests of the community. The purpose is to give an individual a chance to pursue special interests and to fill his/her leisure time with worthwhile educational projects. Some of these include conversational foreign languages, economics, government, consumer education, cake decorating, sign language, guitar, needlepoint, quilting, landscaping, dancing and personal development. Normally, a course may be offered when a minimum of 10-15 individuals indicate interest. Additional information regarding these classes may be obtained by contacting the Continuing Education Office at 828-327-7037.

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT INNOVATION CENTER

### CATAWBA VALLEY FURNITURE ACADEMY

Catawba Valley Furniture Academy is an industry-driven training program designed by local furniture manufacturers that prepares students for skilled positions in high demand. The Catawba Valley Furniture Academy covers furniture fundamentals, pattern making, manual cutting, automated cutting, sewing, introduction to upholstery, spring up, inside upholstery, and outside upholstery. This program provides career path exploration and assessment, plant tours, and career previews. The CVCC Furniture Academy is in partnership with Century Furniture, Lee Industries, Lexington Home Brands, Sherrill Furniture, and Vanguard Furniture. To find out more about the program, register for the class, and learn about scholarship opportunities, please contact us at 828-327-7000 ext. 4294 or [kswright@cvcc.edu](mailto:kswright@cvcc.edu)

### COMPUTRAIN

CVCC's Corporate Computer Training Center provides professional development courses in the most current versions of software applications used by area businesses. These short, one-day, six-hour-per-day courses are designed for employees who need to become more productive in the shortest time possible with practical hands-on experience in a Windows and LAN environment. COMPUTRAIN will also design short courses to meet a company's specific personal computer application needs, to be held on CVCC's campuses or at a company's computer lab. For more information, contact the Director of COMPUTRAIN at 828-327-7000, Ext. 4330 or e-mail [sblake@cvcc.edu](mailto:sblake@cvcc.edu).

### CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The Corporate Development Center at CVCC was designed to meet the needs of business, industry, entrepreneurs, and job seekers. Its mission is to help individuals and businesses attain profitability/prosperity in a global economy. The Center works collaboratively with the Manufacturing Solutions Center. The Center includes the Small Business Center, Advanced Manufacturing Labs, flexible corporate training rooms, a computer lab, and a teleconferencing meeting room. Courses/Training offered at the Center include Mechatronics/Robotics, SolidWorks, Lean/ISO, Professional in Human Resources/PHR, Senior Professional in Human Resources/SPHR Certifications, Project Management Certification, Certified Production Technician, Certified Logistics Technician, Six Sigma Green & Black Belt, and the Catawba Valley Furniture Academy. For more information, call 828-327-7000, ext. 4294. Or visit the Workforce Development Innovation Center website: [http://www.cvcc.edu/Workforce\\_Development/](http://www.cvcc.edu/Workforce_Development/).

## CUSTOMIZED TRAINING

The Customized Training Program supports the economic development efforts of North Carolina by providing education and training services to ensure the presence of a well-trained workforce for new and existing business and industry to remain productive and profitable within the State. This Customized Training assistance supports full-time production and direct customer service positions created in the State of North Carolina, thereby enhancing the growth potential of companies located in the state while simultaneously preparing North Carolina's workforce with the skills essential to successful employment in emerging industries. Call 828-327-7000, ext. 4294.

## HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

The Human Resources Development Program (HRD) is designed to provide skill assessment services, employability skills training, and career development counseling to unemployed and underemployed adults. The courses shall address six core components as follows: assessment of an individual's assets and limitations, positive self-concept, employability skills, communication skills, problem-solving skills, and an awareness of the impact on information technology in the workplace. Students enrolling in HRD classes may be eligible for a fee waiver if they meet any of the following criteria: unemployed, received notice of lay-off, working and eligible for Federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), or working and earning at or below 200% of federal poverty guidelines. For information about the HRD program call 828-327-7000, ext. 4370 or 4522. Or visit the HRD website: [http://www.cvcc.edu/Workforce\\_Development/HRD/index.cfm](http://www.cvcc.edu/Workforce_Development/HRD/index.cfm).

## MANAGEMENT AND SUPERVISORY

**DEVELOPMENT** courses are offered to improve supervisory and management techniques for experienced as well as beginning personnel.

## MANUFACTURING SOLUTIONS CENTER

The mission of the Manufacturing Solutions Center (MSC) is to help US Manufacturer's increase sales, improve quality and improve efficiency to create or retain jobs. This is accomplished by

- enhancing and improving products through research and development.
- assisting in creating prototypes for new, innovative offerings.
- analyzing new materials to enhance structure and programs.
- testing products for reliable content and quality.
- training personnel for lean manufacturing processes and supply chain efficiencies.
- providing a forum for rollout of new 21st century technologies.
- providing hands-on guidance for international marketing and sales and military procurement.
- industry advocacy.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**FOR EDUCATORS** courses are offered to assist teachers in meeting recertification requirements.

## SMALL BUSINESS CENTER

The Small Business Center (SBC) is dedicated to increasing the success rate of all businesses in Alexander and Catawba counties. The Small Business Center offers Start-It seminars for budding entrepreneurs, as well as Grow-It seminars for more seasoned business owners. Seminar topics range from feasibility to product/service analysis to marketing, operations, management, and business finances. For help with business planning, the SBC director is available by appointment for one-on-one, confidential counseling. The SBC also maintains a resource library of print and electronic media for use in exploring business ownership. In keeping with its economic development mission, many services are delivered in conjunction with chambers of commerce, economic development offices, local business and merchant associations. The SBC also works closely with CVCC career instructors to help students learn how to start and operate a business once they have mastered the subject matter of their trade. To register for a seminar, contact the SBC Support Team at [dsawyer@cvcc.edu](mailto:dsawyer@cvcc.edu) or call 828-327-7000, extension 4117. For a counseling appointment, contact the SBC Director at [jneville@cvcc.edu](mailto:jneville@cvcc.edu) or call 828-327-7000, extension 4102. Funded annually by grant with tax dollars, the SBC is one of 58 centers comprising the North Carolina Community College Small Business Center Network (SBCN).