

2024-2025 Regional  
College & Career Guide

**RCCCG**

**EVERYONE**

Future Ready

*6th Edition*



Charleston Metro  
Chamber of Commerce



## Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce

Driving Solutions for  
a Thriving Community

The Charleston Metro Chamber is committed to ensuring that current and future generations have career opportunities in our region's fastest growing occupations. The Chamber partners with our school districts and regional partners to provide programs, services and resources to introduce local students to the skills and jobs in highest demand. Through robust programming with K-12 and higher education, the Chamber is working to fill our talent demand gaps while providing our students with pathways for lucrative careers.

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*Funding for this Regional College and Career Guide was provided by support from the region's school districts.*

Charleston > excellence is our standard  
County SCHOOL DISTRICT



**Dorchester School  
District Two**

Leading the Way  
Every Student  
Every Day



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*Section 1:*  
**MUST HAVES**

A close-up photograph of a green graduation cap with a yellow tassel. The cap is positioned diagonally, with the tassel hanging down. The background is a light, neutral color.

# WHAT IS AN INDIVIDUAL GRADUATION PLAN?

The South Carolina Department of Education requires all students to complete an “Individual Graduation Plan” (IGP) each year starting in 8th grade and continuing through 12th grade. The plan is discussed annually during a meeting attended by the student, a parent or guardian and the student’s school counselor.

It is an opportunity for students to make a plan for the future well before the future happens!

Students are able to think about their skills and interests, learn and explore careers in high demand and ask questions and initiate research into potential pathways for them during and after high school.

During the discussion, your school counselor will make a starting list of what courses you must take and what courses you may want to take next year. You and your parent/guardian will have the opportunity to continue to discuss your plan before it becomes more concrete later in the school year.

Think of this as an open door to ideas and opportunities available to you as a student. But don’t worry, your plan doesn’t have to be concrete! You will have five IGP meetings before you graduate.

# HOW TO USE THE REGIONAL COLLEGE AND CAREER GUIDE

This Regional College and Career Guide serves as a resource to help students, parents and school counselors make the most of the IGP process.

We know there is a lot of information in this book, but we encourage you to use it as a learning tool and reference material for after your IGP meeting.

# PROFILE OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA GRADUATE

## WORLD-CLASS KNOWLEDGE

**Rigorous standards in language arts and math for career and college readiness**

**Multiple languages, science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), arts and social sciences**



## WORLD-CLASS SKILLS

**Creativity and Innovation**

**Critical Thinking and Problem Solving**

**Collaboration and Teamwork**

**Communication, Information, Media and Technology**

**Knowing How to Learn**



## LIFE AND CAREER CHARACTERISTICS

**Integrity | Self Direction | Global Perspective | Perseverance | Work Ethic | Interpersonal Skills**

© SCASA Superintendents' Roundtable

Adopted by: SC Arts in Basic Curriculum Steering Committee, SC-ASCD, SC Chamber of Commerce, SC Council on Competitiveness, SC Education Oversight Committee, SC State Board of Education, SC State Department of Education, Transform SC Schools and Districts



An Initiative of



# COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS INDICATORS

South Carolina recognizes the value of a variety of measures for college and career readiness to achieve the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate. Students have multiple pathways to college and careers based upon their individual goals. Students should demonstrate they are “ready” for the next level (*i.e. two-year college, four-year college or careers*) by meeting any one of the measures used by the state and by not requiring remediation or significant on-the-job training to enter their post-secondary choice. In South Carolina, a student is considered college and career-ready by meeting at least one of the marks listed below.



To be **COLLEGE-READY**, a student must meet one of the following:

- Scores a composite score of 20 or higher on the ACT
- OR**
- Scores a composite score of 1020 or higher on the SAT
- OR**
- Scores a 3 or higher on an Advanced Placement (AP) exam
- OR**
- Scores a 4 or higher on an International Baccalaureate (IB) assessment (Only higher learning (HL) exams may count)
- OR**
- Completes at least six (6) credit hours in dual-enrollment courses with a grade of C or higher.

To be **CAREER-READY**, a student must meet one of the following:

- Is a CTE completer and earns a national or state industry credential as determined by the business community
- OR**
- Level 3 or higher on all three subtests of the state-approved career readiness assessment
- OR**
- Earns a scale score of 31 or higher on the ASVAB
- OR**
- Successfully completes a state-approved work-based learning program
- OR**
- Is identified as a student with a disability who successfully completes the South Carolina High School Employability Credential according to their Individualized Education Plan (IEP)



# SOUTH CAROLINA GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

South Carolina Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 43-234 lists course requirements for public high school students to graduate with a South Carolina High School Diploma.

SUBJECT AREA	CREDITS REQUIRED	CREDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR CLASSES OF 2027 AND BEYOND
ENGLISH / LANGUAGE ARTS	4	4
MATHEMATICS	4	4
NATURAL SCIENCE	3 <sup>2</sup> & <sup>3</sup>	3 <sup>2</sup> & <sup>3</sup>
U.S. HISTORY	1	1
ECONOMICS	0.5 <sup>4</sup>	0.5 <sup>4</sup>
U.S. GOVERNMENT	0.5	0.5
OTHER SOCIAL STUDIES ELECTIVE	1	1
PHYSICAL EDUCATION OR JROTC	1	1
COMPUTER SCIENCE	1	1
WORLD LANGUAGE OR CAREER & TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION ELECTIVE	1 <sup>2</sup>	1 <sup>2</sup>
ELECTIVES	7 <sup>1</sup> & <sup>2</sup>	6.5
PERSONAL FINANCE	n/a	.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>

<sup>1</sup> Must include a program of instruction in health as outlined in the Comprehensive Health Education Act of 1988 and the regulation of the S.C. Board of Education.

<sup>2</sup> Additional requirements may apply in Natural Science, Foreign Language and Fine Arts for students planning to attend a four-year college. Those are noted below in the section outlining S.C. College and University Admission Requirements.

<sup>3</sup> The Student must pass a high school credit course in science in which an end-of-course examination is administered. For state accountability purposes, every student must take an end-of-course examination in Biology.

<sup>4</sup> Based upon state legislation, beginning in 2023, high school students will be required to take a one-semester, half credit personal finance class in order to graduate. The SC Department of Education is developing regulations to update graduation requirements in the fall of 2022. The language of the legislation appears to indicate it will begin for 9th graders in the 2022-2023 academic year who will be graduating in 2026. Once additional requirement details are provided by the state, content will be update for the 2023-2024 Guide.

For students interested in entering a South Carolina four-year public college or university, page 30 lists courses that are required upon graduation. Please ask your school counselor for specific information regarding your individual high school course pathways.



# SOUTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL CREDENTIAL

The S.C. High School Credential will provide a course of study designed to equip students with the skills, knowledge and work ethic needed to succeed in today's job market.

South Carolina has roughly 100,000 students with disabilities serviced under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), of which the majority are able to earn a state high school diploma. Given the varying levels of student achievement, some students are unable to complete this required high school coursework. As a result, there is a need to provide an alternative option for students with disabilities to demonstrate their ability to transition into the work community.

The Credential helps to ensure that we are working to prepare the entirety of the S.C. workforce by equipping students with adequate skills. Since the fall of 2018, this option has been available for students entering high school.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

**The student must be able to meet the following requirements:**

- 24 units of coursework aligned with the S.C. College and Career-Ready Standards:

COURSE	UNITS
English / Language Arts	4
Mathematics	4
Natural Science	2
Social Studies	2
Employability Education	4
Physical Education / Health	1
Technology	1
Electives	6

AND

- Career Portfolio that includes a multimedia presentation project
- Work readiness assessment results that demonstrate the student is ready for competitive employment
- Work-based learning/training that totals at least 360 hours

## QUICK FACTS

**Section 59-39-100 was amended to include:**

- Flexibility in identifying and creating personalized diploma pathway options for all students
- An employability credential for applicable students with disabilities

**The S.C. High School Credential:**

- Is **NOT** a S.C. High School Diploma
- Is **NOT** for all students with disabilities
- Is a career-based educational program
- Is aligned with the Profile of the S.C. Graduate

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

South Carolina High School Credential  
[thesccredential.org](http://thesccredential.org)

Transition Alliance of South Carolina  
[transitionalliancesc.org](http://transitionalliancesc.org)

Hire Me SC  
[hiremesc.org](http://hiremesc.org)

# SOUTH CAROLINA UNIFORM GRADING SCALE

The State Board of Education adopted a uniform grading policy for South Carolina's public schools in December 1999. That policy, which applied to all students who first enrolled in the ninth grade in the 2000 - 2001 school year, was revised in 2007 and modified in 2016.

The modified uniform grading scale and the system for calculating grade point averages (GPAs) and class rank will be effective for all students being awarded High School credits. Credit-bearing courses, completed prior to August 15, 2016, will be awarded quality points based on the 7-point grading scale associated with the weighting of the course. Coursework completed after August 15, 2016 will be awarded quality points based on the 10-point grading scale with the weighting associated with the course. Quality points awarded are limited to the use of the three-decimal-place conversion factors specified in the South Carolina Uniform Grading Policy's grade point conversion chart. No additional criteria will be used to determine quality points awarded.

Please see your school counselor for a copy of the 7-point scale. The 10-point scale chart is listed to the right.

NUMERICAL AVERAGE	LETTER GRADE	COLLEGE PREP	HONORS	AP / IB DUAL CREDIT
100	A	5	5.5	6
99	A	4.9	5.4	5.9
98	A	4.8	5.3	5.8
97	A	4.7	5.2	5.7
96	A	4.6	5.1	5.6
95	A	4.5	5	5.5
94	A	4.4	4.9	5.4
93	A	4.3	4.8	5.3
92	A	4.2	4.7	5.2
91	A	4.1	4.6	5.1
90	A	4	4.5	5
89	B	3.9	4.4	4.9
88	B	3.8	4.3	4.8
87	B	3.7	4.2	4.7
86	B	3.6	4.1	4.6
85	B	3.5	4	4.5
84	B	3.4	3.9	4.4
83	B	3.3	3.8	4.3
82	B	3.2	3.7	4.2
81	B	3.1	3.6	4.1
80	B	3	3.5	4
79	C	2.9	3.4	3.9
78	C	2.8	3.3	3.8
77	C	2.7	3.2	3.7
76	C	2.6	3.1	3.6
75	C	2.5	3	3.5
74	C	2.4	2.9	3.4
73	C	2.3	2.8	3.3
72	C	2.2	2.7	3.2
71	C	2.1	2.6	3.1
70	C	2	2.5	3
69	D	1.9	2.4	2.9
68	D	1.8	2.3	2.8
67	D	1.7	2.2	2.7
66	D	1.6	2.1	2.6
65	D	1.5	2	2.5
64	D	1.4	1.9	2.4
63	D	1.3	1.8	2.3
62	D	1.2	1.7	2.2
61	D	1.1	1.6	2.1
60	D	1	1.5	2
59	F	0.9	1.4	1.9
58	F	0.8	1.3	1.8
57	F	0.7	1.2	1.7
56	F	0.6	1.1	1.6
55	F	0.5	1	1.5
54	F	0.4	0.9	1.4
53	F	0.3	0.8	1.3
52	F	0.2	0.7	1.2
51	F	0.1	0.6	1.1
0 - 50	F	0	0	0
50	WF	0	0	0
50	FA	0	0	0
-	WP	0	0	0
-	P	0	0	0
-	NP	0	0	0
-	AU	0	0	0



# DIPLOMA PATHWAYS TO SEALS OF DISTINCTION

<b>Honors Seal of Distinction</b>	<b>College-Ready Seal of Distinction</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>UGP GPA 3.5 or higher</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"> <b>UGP GPA 3.0 or higher</b>  OR  <b>ACT (Composite Score) = 20</b>  OR  <b>SAT = 1020 (combined math and evidenced-based reading and writing scores)</b> </p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>and</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>English</b> - *4 Credits 2 at honors or higher level</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Math</b> - *4 Credits 3 at honors or higher level *Alg. 1, Alg. 2, Geometry, AND a 4th higher level math requiring Alg. 2 as a prerequisite</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lab Science</b> - *3 Credits 2 at honors or higher level</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Social Studies</b> - *3 Credits 2 at the honors or higher level</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>World Languages</b> - *3 Credits of the same language</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Advanced Coursework</b> - *4 credits of honors or higher in Jr. / Sr. years (the last 2 years prior to graduation)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>and</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>English</b> - *4 Credits</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Math</b> - *4 Credits *Alg. 1 (or the equivalent of Alg. 1), Alg. 2, Geometry, AND a 4th Higher Level Math</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lab Science</b> - *3 Credits</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Social Studies</b> - *3 Credits</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>World Language</b> - *2 Credits of the same language</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Fine Arts</b> - *1 Credit</p>	

**ONE OR MORE SEALS MAY BE EARNED, BUT ARE NOT REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION.**

	Career Ready Seal of Distinction	Specialization Seal of Distinction
	UGP GPA 3.0 or higher	UGP GPA 3.0 or higher
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>and</b></p> <p>CTE Completer with an industry recognized credential</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <p>Silver or Higher on Career Readiness Exam</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <p>Completion of Work Based Learning (WBL) placement</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>and</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Complete one area to qualify)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>STEM</b> - *4 credits beyond required courses in math, science, technology, and engineering; at least 2 at honors level or higher; may be in 1 area of STEM or across 4 areas</li> <li>• <b>World Language</b> - *4 credits in the same language OR a nationally normed proficiency-based language assessment score of “Intermediate Low” OR AP exam score of 3 or higher OR IB exam score of 4 or higher OR Cambridge AICE Language exam score of E or better before the senior year.</li> <li>• <b>Military</b> - *4 credits in JROTC; AND an ASVAB score of 31 or higher</li> <li>• <b>Arts</b> - *4 credits in single or multiple areas of the Arts; 2 or more at Honors or higher level** AND Mastery on external exam or performance task</li> </ul>

*\*Consult District or School Curriculum Guides for more information regarding curriculum choices and requirements.*

*\*\*If honors credit is not available for visual arts or performing arts courses, students must complete four courses in a single area.*

# WIN LEARNING WORK READY AND ESSENTIAL SOFT SKILLS ASSESSMENTS

The WIN Learning Work Ready and Essential Soft Skills Assessments evaluate students' life and career skills in direct alignment to the "Profile of a South Carolina Graduate" standards. When students pass the assessments, they earn portable, nationally recognized credentials that are endorsed by the National Work Readiness Council.

## SKILLS MEASURED IN THE WORK READY ASSESSMENT:

**Work Ready Math** measures students' ability to use mathematical reasoning skills to solve real-life workplace problems, including calculating sizes, quantities, and costs; and evaluating information and results to determine the best solution.

**Work Ready Reading** measures students' reading skills including obtaining information and applying new knowledge; following instructions in procedural documents; and understanding regulations, policies, and procedures.

**Work Ready Data** measures students' data analysis skills including identifying trends and relationships among variables; interpreting research and operational data; and reviewing technical drawings and specifications.

## SKILLS MEASURED IN THE ESSENTIAL SOFT SKILLS ASSESSMENT:

**Communicating Effectively** measures students' communication and listening skills, and their ability to resolve conflicts in a respectful manner.

**Conveying Professionalism** measures students' understanding of the importance of a strong work ethic and a positive attitude, as well as the value of dependability and motivation in the workplace.

**Promoting Teamwork and Collaboration** measures students' ability to work with others to achieve goals and their understanding of the positive impact of diversity in the workplace and the importance of sensitivity to individual differences.

**Thinking Critically and Solving Problems** measures students' critical thinking, reasoning, and problem solving skills.

WIN Learning's Work Ready Assessments were developed in alignment with the U.S. Department of Labor's O\*NET Content Model Framework. O\*NET (Occupational Information Network) is the nation's primary source of occupational data, providing a database of hundreds of standardized and occupation-specific descriptors on almost 1,000 occupations covering the entire U.S. economy. Each of the four credential Achievement Levels (2, 3, 4, and 5) correlates to an O\*NET Job Zone. The higher the student scores, the greater his or her readiness for careers in higher-level O\*NET Job Zones.

The credential level is determined by the lowest score across all three assessments. For example, a student who scores a Level 4 in Work Ready Math, a Level 4 in Work Ready Reading, and a Level 3 in Work Ready Data will earn an Achievement Level 3 credential because the lowest score was Level 3.





## PROFILE OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA GRADUATE

### WORLD-CLASS KNOWLEDGE

Rigorous standards in language arts and math for career and college readiness

Multiple languages, science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), arts and social sciences

### WORLD-CLASS SKILLS

Creativity and Innovation • Critical thinking and problem solving • Collaboration and teamwork • Communication, information, media and technology • Knowing how to learn

### LIFE AND CAREER CHARACTERISTICS

Integrity • Self-direction • Global perspective • Perseverance • Work ethic • Interpersonal skills



### ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL 5

Earning an Achievement Level 5 credential indicates that the learner has the foundational skills to pursue O\*NET Job Zone Level 5 career pathways, which includes 100% of all jobs.



### ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL 4

Earning an Achievement Level 4 credential indicates that the learner has the foundational skills to pursue O\*NET Job Zone Level 4 career pathways, which includes 83% of all jobs.



### ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL 3

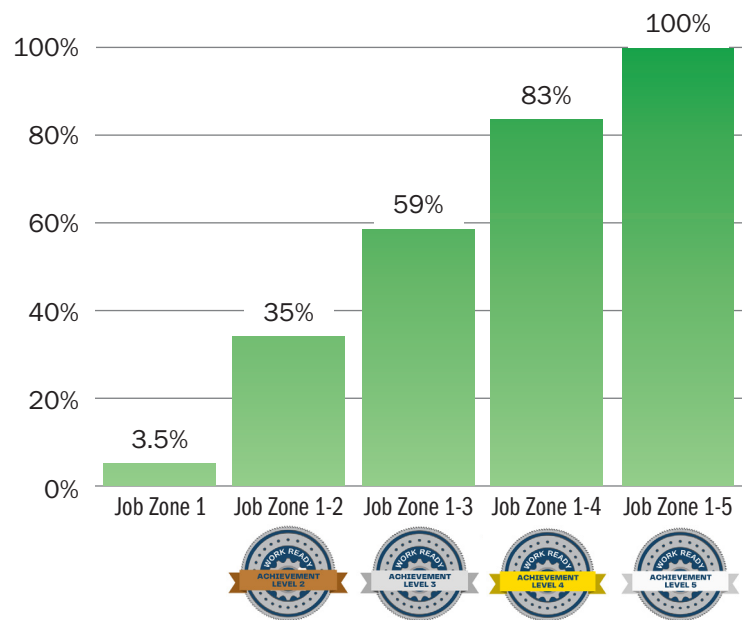
Earning an Achievement Level 3 credential indicates that the learner has the foundational skills to pursue O\*NET Job Zone Level 3 career pathways, which includes 59% of all jobs.



### ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL 2

Earning an Achievement Level 2 credential indicates that the learner has the foundational skills to pursue O\*NET Job Zone Level 2 career pathways, which includes 35% of all jobs.

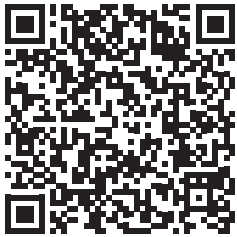
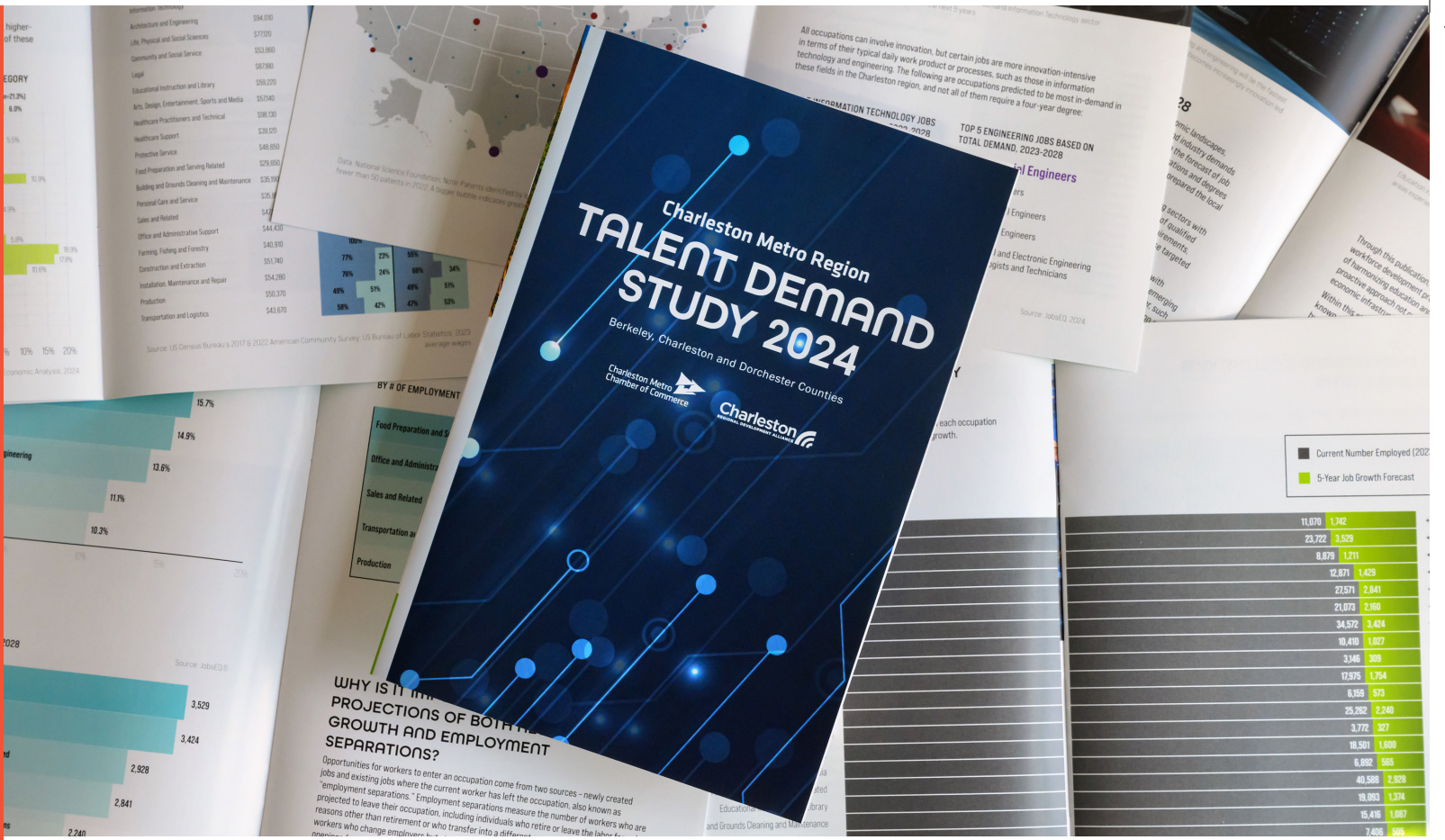
## O\*NET JOB ZONE DISTRIBUTION







*Section 2:*  
**GAIN A COMPETITIVE  
ADVANTAGE**



# TALENT DEMAND STUDY

The Charleston Metro Chamber has been publishing the Talent Demand Study since 2016 to equip schools, students and parents with up-to-date data to make career decisions.

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

**1,742** NEW JOBS IN THE NEXT 5 YEARS

The Technology and Education and Literacy in Schools (TEALS) program equips students with equitable access to computer science education.



### DID YOU KNOW:

Charleston is home to more than **1000+ TECH COMPANIES**

## PRODUCTION

**3,529** NEW JOBS IN THE NEXT 5 YEARS



Charleston was named one of **“AMERICA’S NEW INNOVATION HOTSPOTS”** as advanced manufacturing continues to expand across the region.

**HEALTHCARE SUPPORT**

**1,429** NEW JOBS IN THE NEXT 5 YEARS



Average Median annual salary for Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations: **\$80,820**

**ARCHITECTURE AND ENGINEERING**

**1,211** NEW JOBS IN THE NEXT 5 YEARS



**TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS**

**3,424** NEW JOBS IN THE NEXT 5 YEARS

**DID YOU KNOW:**

**THE PORT** creates 1 in 9 jobs and has a **\$87B ECONOMIC IMPACT**

**INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR**

**1,754** NEW JOBS IN THE NEXT 5 YEARS

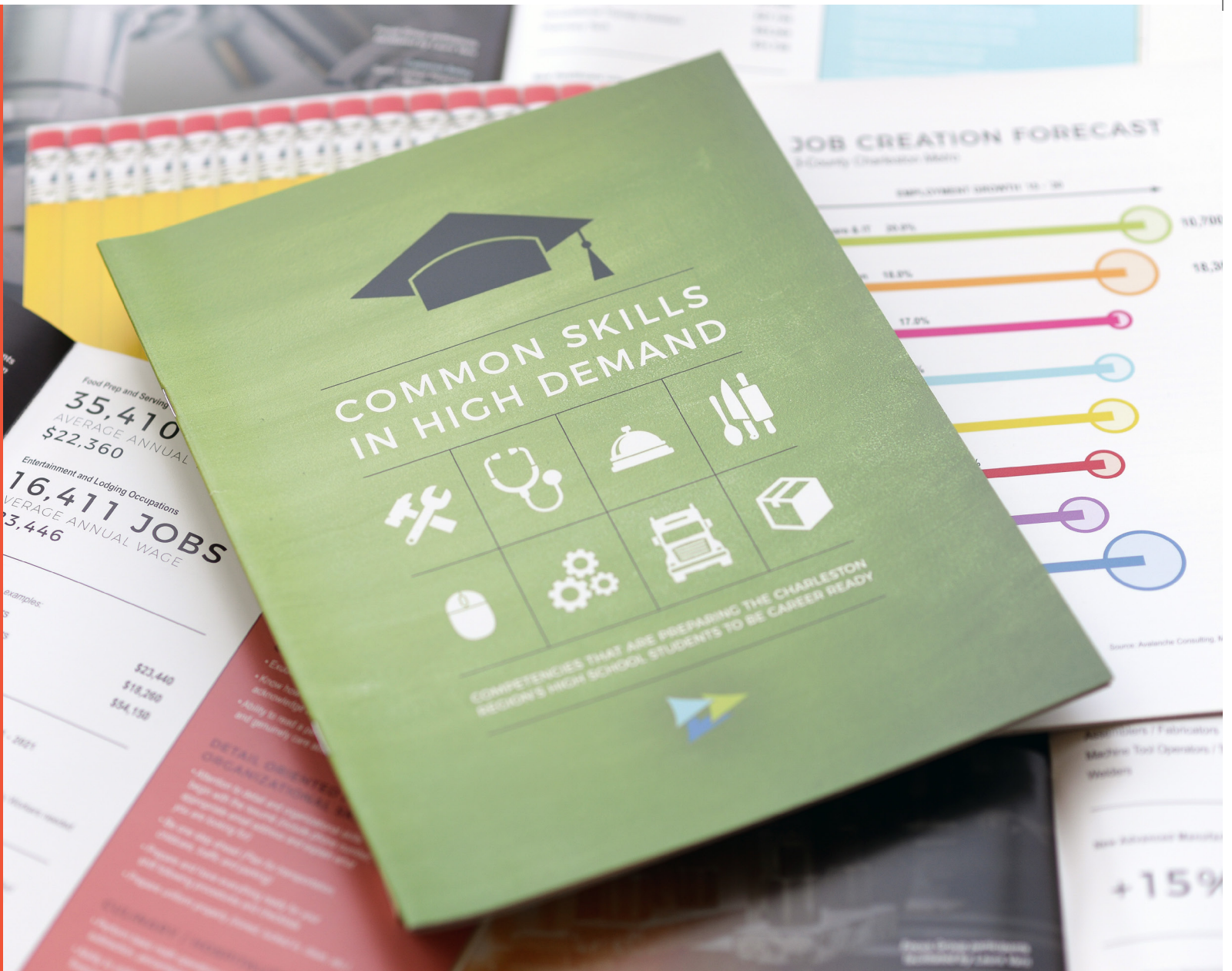


**BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

**2,400** NEW JOBS IN THE NEXT 3 YEARS



There are **9 REV CREDIT UNIONS RUN BY STUDENTS** in local high schools



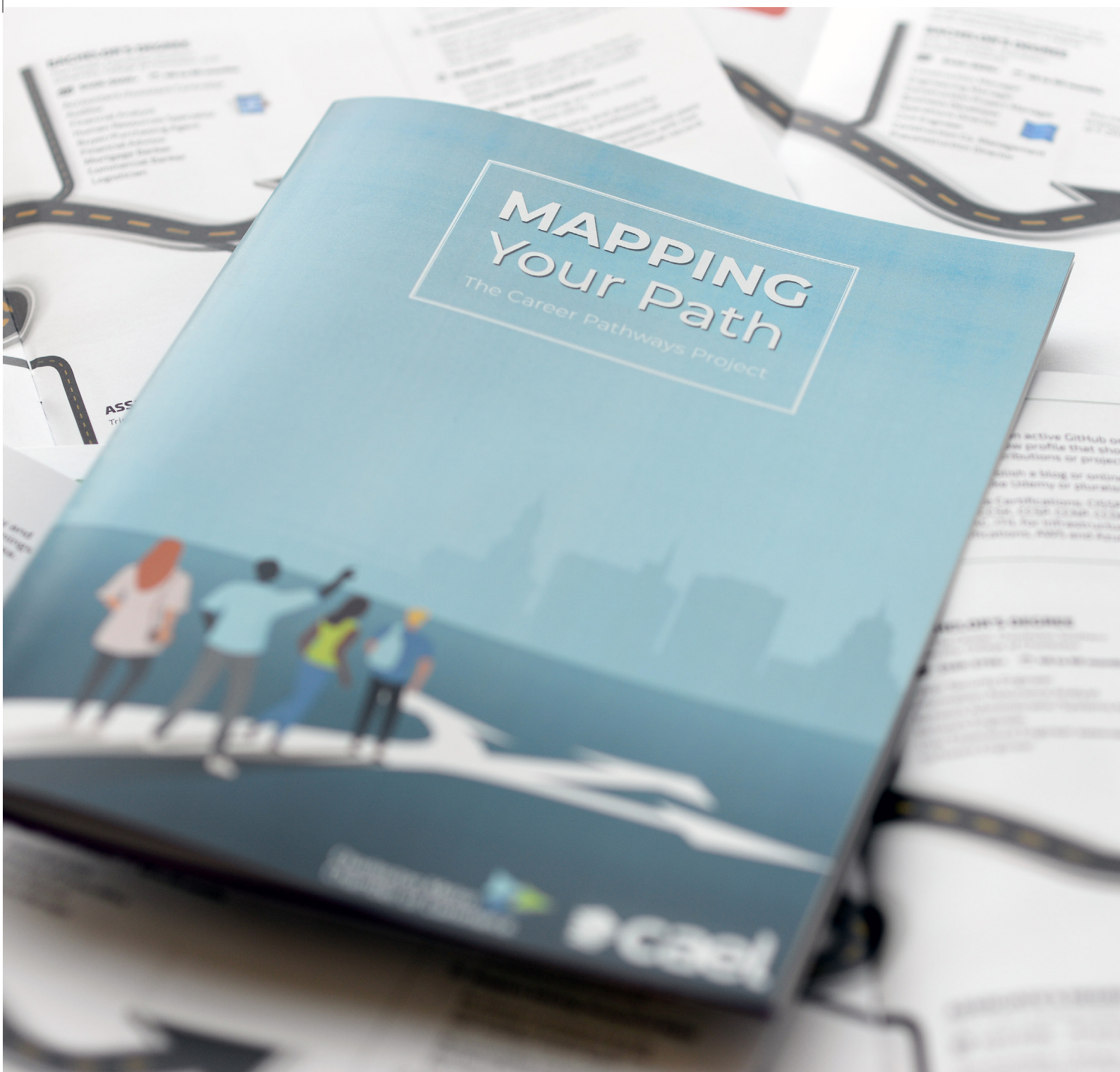
## COMMON SKILLS IN HIGH DEMAND

Common Skills in High Demand provides the skills that our high-demand employers identify as needed for success in their industry. When an employer says they need prospective employees to have ‘math skills’ what does that really mean? Algebra, geometry, experience with a calculator? This report provides specific answers to those questions, dividing skills into Standard Fundamental Skills and Advanced Leadership Skills designed to give students a competitive advantage.

Students can use this report to get a better understanding of the skills and experience they should gain during their education.

### KEY INDUSTRIES FEATURED INCLUDE:

- Building and Construction
- Culinary and Hospitality
- Healthcare
- Cyber, Computer Science and IT
- Manufacturing and Production
- Transportation, Distribution and Logistics



## MAPPING YOUR PATH

It's critical to remember that there is more than one path to a successful career. Within each industry, there are on and off ramps to build education and experience which allow you opportunities to ascend within an organization. This report ties directly to the Talent Demand Study data and features high-demand sectors, with the data being validated by 17 of the region's employers.

**CHECK OUT WHERE YOU ARE NOW AND FOLLOW THE PATH TO WHERE YOU COULD GO.**

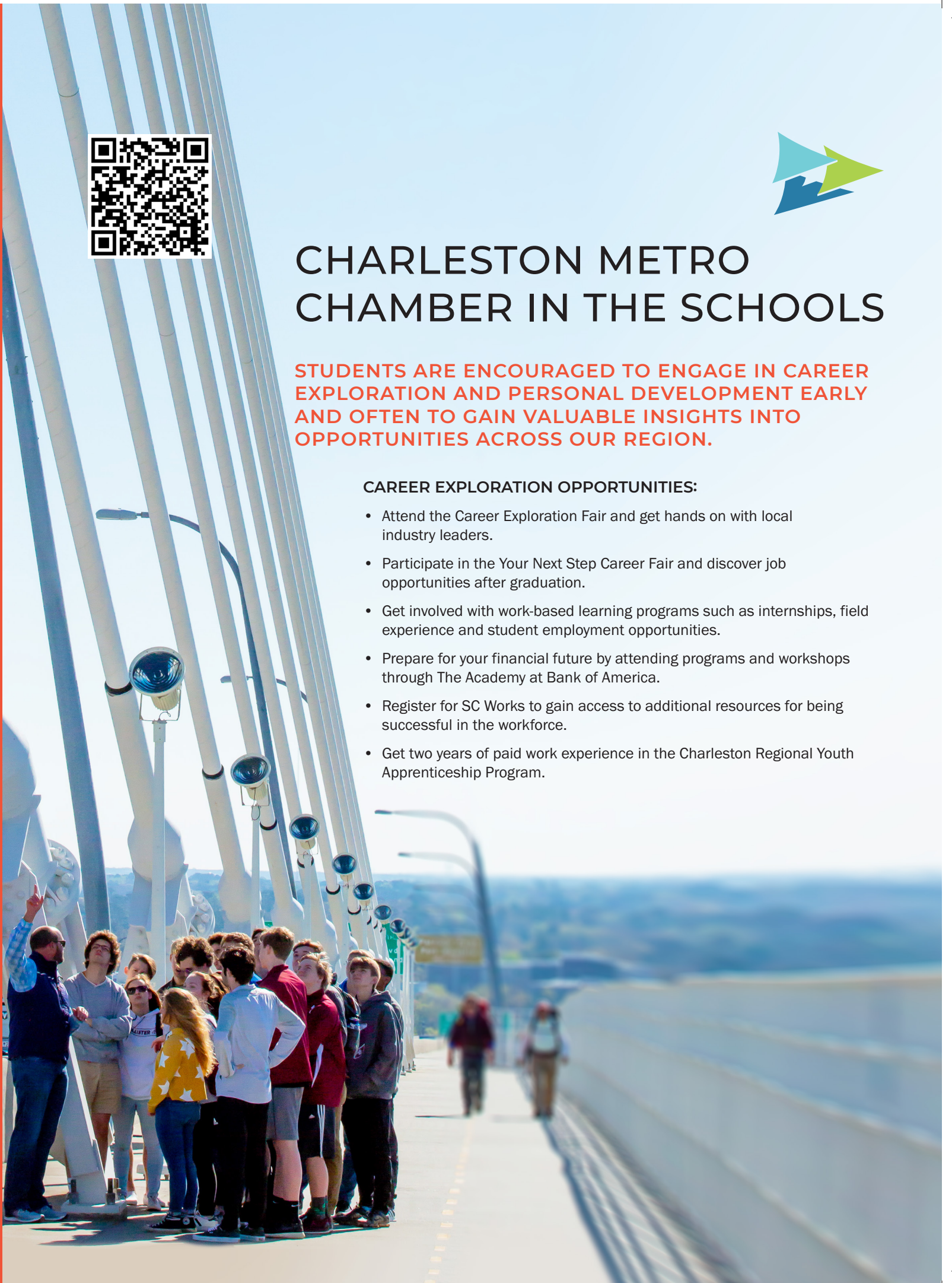


# CHARLESTON METRO CHAMBER IN THE SCHOOLS

**STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ENGAGE IN CAREER EXPLORATION AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT EARLY AND OFTEN TO GAIN VALUABLE INSIGHTS INTO OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS OUR REGION.**

## **CAREER EXPLORATION OPPORTUNITIES:**

- Attend the Career Exploration Fair and get hands on with local industry leaders.
- Participate in the Your Next Step Career Fair and discover job opportunities after graduation.
- Get involved with work-based learning programs such as internships, field experience and student employment opportunities.
- Prepare for your financial future by attending programs and workshops through The Academy at Bank of America.
- Register for SC Works to gain access to additional resources for being successful in the workforce.
- Get two years of paid work experience in the Charleston Regional Youth Apprenticeship Program.





# Charleston Regional Youth Apprenticeships

AT TRIDENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE



The Youth Apprenticeship Program started in 2014 as a regional collaboration with Trident Technical College, Apprenticeship Carolina and the Charleston Metro Chamber to give high school students the opportunity to gain real world experience in today's high-demand fields.

**STUDENTS ENTER THE TWO-YEAR PROGRAM AS A RISING JUNIOR, RISING SENIOR OR GRADUATING SENIOR**

## EXAMPLE OF A YOUTH APPRENTICE SCHEDULE:

### A.M.

Attend high school

### P.M.

Rotate between going to an industry-specific college class at Trident Technical College and working for their Youth Apprentice host company. (about 10-15 hours per week)

*During the summer the student works full time.*

## APPRENTICESHIP PATHWAYS:

- Automotive Technician
- Civil CAD Technician
- CNA / Pre-Nursing
- Computer Networking
- Culinary Arts
- Cybersecurity
- Engineering Technician
- Hotel Operations
- HVAC Technician
- Industrial Mechanics
- Machine Tool Technology
- Medical Office Assistant
- Security / Pre-Law Enforcement
- Supply Chain Analyst
- Welding Technician

## AT THE END OF TWO YEARS, STUDENTS HAVE EARNED:



**A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA**



**30 HOURS OF COLLEGE CREDIT**



**CREDENTIALING FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**



**TWO YEARS OF PAID WORK EXPERIENCE**

## INTERESTED?

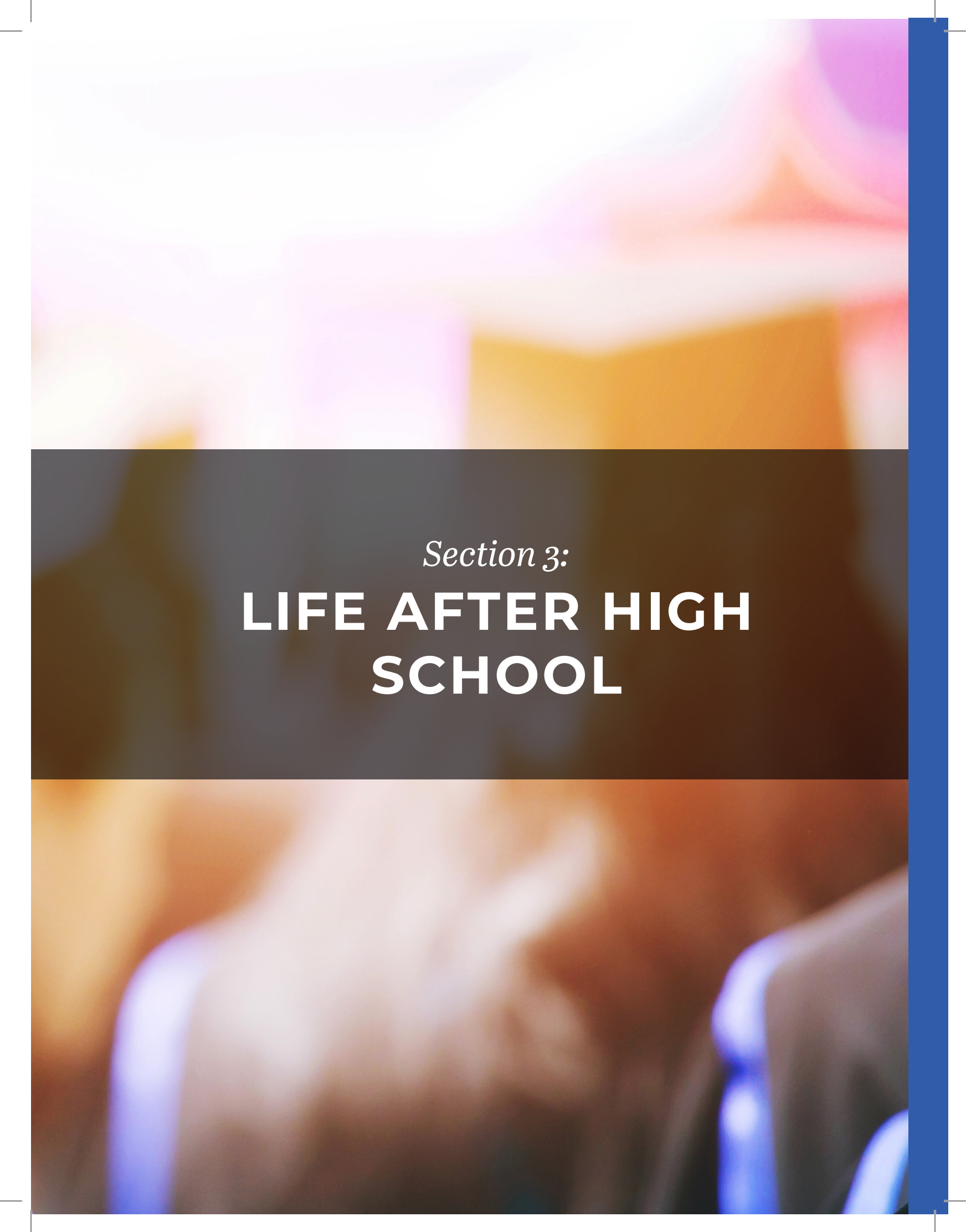
Talk to your school counselor or apply online: [www.tridenttech.edu/career/workforce](http://www.tridenttech.edu/career/workforce)

## NEED MORE HELP?

We get it! The process may seem daunting until you talk to someone. If you have questions that haven't been answered or need some help getting started or completing the application, call Ellen Kaufman at 843.574.6990.







*Section 3:*  
**LIFE AFTER HIGH  
SCHOOL**

# STRAIGHT TO A CAREER

DO YOU WANT TO GO STRAIGHT TO A CAREER AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?  
YOU HAVE MORE REWARDING CHOICES THAN EVER!



One pathway leading straight to a career is through the Charleston Regional Youth Apprenticeship program. With over 15 different career choices in this growing program, it is designed to provide you real-world work experience while earning credits towards a degree.

Students can start this two-year program at the start of their Junior or Senior year OR as a recently-graduated senior. At the end of the program students gain:

- A high school diploma
- About 30 hours of college credit (free tuition)
- Two years of paid work experience
- US Department of Labor portable credential

See page 23 for more information.

Another option is to gain employment with an industry that will train you as you work and gain

experience. Construction and many trades including plumbing, electrical and roofers, as well as IT and Networking, Transportation and Logistics, Industrial Mechanics, Flight Attendants, Patient Care Tech, Pharmacy Tech and Sales are an example of the well-paying careers that often include benefits such as health insurance, 401K, sick days and more.

**THESE JOBS ARE PLENTIFUL FOR STUDENTS THAT STRIVE TO KEEP A CLEAN DRIVING RECORD AND CAN PASS A DRUG TEST.**

Want to see more examples? Go to *Mapping Your Path* on page 21.

**EVERYONE CAN IMPROVE THEIR JOB PROSPECTS BY BEING A LIFELONG LEARNER!**

# COLLEGE PATHWAY OPTIONS

## TWO-YEAR COLLEGES

THEY ARE COMPRISED OF JUNIOR COLLEGES AND COMMUNITY / TECHNICAL COLLEGES.

### JUNIOR COLLEGES

Offer the traditional college environment, including dorms, sports, etc., within a two-year program of study. Students can earn their associate degree and then can choose to go on to a four-year college. Examples of junior colleges in S.C. are Spartanburg Methodist, USC-Union, USC-Salkehatchie and other USC satellite campuses.



### COMMUNITY / TECHNICAL COLLEGES

Offer diplomas, certificates and associate degree programs preparing students for the world of work in specific career fields. Coursework for these programs may take a semester, a year or two years depending on the degree program sought.

Trident Technical College serves this region.

Visit [sctechsystem.edu](http://sctechsystem.edu) to learn more about the S.C. Technical College system.

## 2 + 2 (UNIVERSITY TRANSFER PROGRAMS)

ALLOW STUDENTS TO START THEIR COLLEGE EXPERIENCE AT A TWO-YEAR COLLEGE AND THEN TRANSFER TO A FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE INSTITUTION.

Typically, during the first two years, students take general education courses and earn their associate degree. Then when they transfer to a four-year college, they take specific courses within their major to earn their bachelor's degree. Transfer students are required to meet the transfer admission requirements of the four-year institution and can transfer to both in and out-of-state four-year colleges.

To learn more about transferring college credit in S.C. (including AP/IB and Dual Enrollment) go to [sctrac.org](http://sctrac.org).

### BENEFITS OF ATTENDING A TWO-YEAR COLLEGE:

- Lower tuition cost
- “Restarting” your academic record
- Flexible course schedule
- Smaller class size
- Possible lower living expenses / living at home
- Coursework designed specifically for your chosen career path

# CAREER CERTIFICATIONS:

## “STACKING” CERTIFICATIONS GIVES STUDENTS A COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

Opportunities to earn industry certifications begin in high school, most often through CTE courses. Many students see the benefit in “stacking” certifications, meaning they earn multiple credentials in their chosen career pathway to strengthen their resume.

Profession certification preparation courses can be short - some are even a single day! Some employers provide “certification prep” courses and pay for the test.

Check out the list below of in-demand professional certifications in the Trident region, including some of the local providers offering training and testing.



### HEALTHCARE:

TRIDENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE, ECPI UNIVERSITY, SOUTHEASTERN INSTITUTE

**TIME FRAME:** 6 to 24 months

**STARTING SALARY:** \$25K - \$37K+

**AVERAGE SALARY:** \$64,480\*

- Emergency Medical Technician
- Advanced EMT
- Paramedic
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Medical Office Assistant or Certified Medical Assistant (PRN)
- Coding or Claims Processor



### CULINARY/HOSPITALITY

TRIDENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE

**TIME FRAME:** 6 to 24 months

**AVERAGE SALARY:** \$27,976\*

- Pastry Cook III or Prep Cook
- Lead Front Desk Agent/Concierge
- Housekeeping Supervisor



### BUSINESS

TRIDENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE

**TIME FRAME:** 6 to 24 months

**AVERAGE SALARY:** \$30K - 40K\*

- Bookkeeping Assistant
- Accounting Clerk
- Digital Marketing Communications

## DID YOU KNOW?

Every student in South Carolina has the opportunity to earn a work certification with National Career Readiness Certification to Assessment! (See page 14)

## ONLY IN SOUTH CAROLINA

You can get a ManuFirst SC Certificate and be recognized as having one year of manufacturing experience. This eight-week course is offered by Trident Technical College.



### CONSTRUCTION:

TRIDENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE

**TIME FRAME:** 6 to 24 months

**AVERAGE SALARY:** \$30K - 40K+\*

- CAD Drafter
- Electrician
- Mason
- Welder/Iron Worker
- Construction Manager
- Boiler maker
- Millwright
- Instrumentation Tech
- Equipment/Crane Operator
- Electric Line Worker



### IT/TECHNOLOGY

TRIDENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE, ECPI UNIVERSITY

**TIME FRAME:** 6 to 24 months

**AVERAGE SALARY:** \$40K - 60K+\*

- Web Developers & Web Designers
- Junior Software Programmers/Developers
- Network Security Technician



### MANUFACTURING

TRIDENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE

**TIME FRAME:** 6 to 24 months

**AVERAGE SALARY:** \$30K - 48K\*

- Aircraft Mechanical Tech/Industrial Mechanic
- CNC Machine Tool Operator
- Robotics Tech
- Machining/Mechanics Technician
- Welder

*\*Average salary reflects salaries ranging in years of experience and across the represented industry*

# S.C. FOUR-YEAR PUBLIC COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

SUBJECT AREA	UNITS	REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION
ENGLISH / LANGUAGE ARTS	4	Four years of College-Preparatory English Composition and Literature or higher. It is strongly recommended that students take two units that are literature based, including American, British and World Literature.
MATHEMATICS	4	These units must include Algebra I, Algebra II and Geometry. A fourth higher-level mathematics unit should be taken before or during the senior year. Foundations in Algebra and Intermediate Algebra may count together as a substitute for Algebra I if a student successfully completes Algebra II. No other courses may be substituted for the three required mathematics courses (Algebra I or equivalent, Algebra II, Geometry and high mathematics).
LABORATORY SCIENCE	3	Two units must be taken in two different fields of the physical, earth or life sciences and selected from among biology, chemistry, physics or earth science. The third unit may be from the same field as one of the first two units (biology, chemistry, physics or earth science) or from any laboratory science for which biology, chemistry, physics and/or earth science is a prerequisite. Courses in general or introductory science for which one of these four units is not a prerequisite will not meet this requirement. It's strongly recommended that students desiring to pursue careers in science, mathematics, engineering or technology take one course in all four fields: biology, chemistry, physics and earth science.
SOCIAL STUDIES	3	One unit of U.S. History, a half unit of Economics and a half unit of Government are required. World History or Geography is strongly recommended. Civics, Psychology, Sociology and Law Education are considered social studies credits. Students should check with their school counselor before considering other courses to meet this requirement.
WORLD LANGUAGE	2	Two units with a heavy emphasis on language acquisition. Note, some colleges may require more than two units, therefore, check early with the colleges of your choice.
FINE ARTS	1	One unit in appreciation of, history of or performance in one of the fine arts. This unit should be selected from among media/digital arts, dance, music, theater or visual and spatial arts.
PHYSICAL EDUCATION OR JROTC	1	One unit of physical education to include one semester of personal fitness and another semester in lifetime fitness. Exemption applies to students enrolled in Junior ROTC and for students exempted because of physical disability or for religious reasons.
ELECTIVES	2	Two units must be taken as electives. A college preparatory course in Computer Science (i.e., one involving significant programming content, not simply keyboarding or using applications) is strongly recommended for this elective. Other acceptable electives include college preparatory courses in English, fine arts, foreign languages, social science, humanities, mathematics, physical education, and laboratory science (courses for which biology, chemistry, physics or earth science is a prerequisite).

For additional information, visit [che.sc.gov](http://che.sc.gov)

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## SOUTH CAROLINA PREREQUISITE REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION

### IMPORTANT NOTES:

The College Preparatory Course Prerequisite Requirements are minimal requirements for four-year public college admission. Therefore, students should check early with colleges of their choice to plan to meet additional high school prerequisites that might be required for admission and to prepare for college entrance examinations.

Students should prepare themselves for college-level work by enrolling in challenging high school courses, such as Honors, Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB) and dual-enrollment courses.

It is the responsibility of each school district to disseminate this set of requirements to entering freshmen interested in pursuing a four-year college degree in South Carolina upon graduation from high school and to provide the web address for their viewing:

**[getsmartsc.com/going-to-college-for-the-first-time/](https://getsmartsc.com/going-to-college-for-the-first-time/)**

Each institution may make exceptions in admitting students who do not meet all the prerequisites, limited to those individual cases in which the failure to meet one or more prerequisites is due to circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the student.



# COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS



**ACT**<sup>®</sup>

The ACT is an achievement test with four core sections (english, math, reading and science) and an optional writing section. ACT test questions are directly related to what students learn in most of their high school courses.

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**SAT**<sup>®</sup>

The SAT covers core content areas deemed essential for success in college – reading, mathematics, writing and language. The SAT is connected to the College Board’s earlier grade college-readiness assessments, such as the PSAT, which work together to provide an ongoing grade-level picture of a student’s progress.





# FAFSA

# FederalStudentAid

An office of the U.S. Department of Education

## FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID

The FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and is the only way to apply for federal student aid. The schools you list on your application will use FAFSA information to evaluate your financial need and determine how much federal aid you are eligible to receive. Many states and colleges also use information from your FAFSA to provide their own financial aid.

Each October, the FAFSA is available for the next school year. It is best to fill it out as early as you can because some aid is first come, first serve.

When you complete the FAFSA, you'll need to provide personal and tax information. You may be able to automatically retrieve your tax information from the IRS.

### MAKE SURE TO FILL OUT AND SUBMIT THE FAFSA EACH YEAR YOU ARE IN COLLEGE.

After you submit your FAFSA, you'll receive your Student Aid Report (SAR). Your SAR summarizes the information in your FAFSA. Review it and make corrections if needed.

Complete the FAFSA online at [fafsa.ed.gov](https://fafsa.ed.gov)

As the largest provider of financial aid, the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Federal Student Aid provides grants, loans and work-study funds.

Your FAFSA helps your school determine the types of federal student aid you are eligible to receive. Do not assume you do not qualify – lots of students do.

## TYPES OF FEDERAL STUDENT AID

### GRANTS

Grants are free money that do not have to be repaid.

### LOANS

Student loans are real loans (like a car or home loan) that need to be repaid with interest.

### WORK-STUDY

A work-study job gives you the opportunity to earn money to help pay your educational expenses.

### AWARD LETTER

Your award letter explains the combination of federal grants, loans and work-study a college is offering you. The offer might also contain state and institutional aid. If you receive award letters from multiple colleges or career schools, you should compare them and decide which school works best.

## COLLEGE

Every year, millions of new students attend college or career school for the first time. Your college or career school has a financial aid office to help guide you along the way.

## BEYOND EDUCATION

### WORKFORCE

When you take the time to plan for your education and let Federal Student Aid help you along the way, you'll be setting the foundation for a bright future and success in the workforce.

### REPAYMENT

Once you leave school, you will need to repay your student loans. Contact your loan servicer to discuss your repayment options.

# SOUTH CAROLINA SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

	PALMETTO FELLOWS SCHOLARSHIP	LIFE SCHOLARSHIP
INITIAL ELIGIBILITY	<p>Minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA based on S.C. Uniform Grading Scale</p> <p>Rank in top 6% of class at end of Sophomore, Junior or Senior year</p> <p>Minimum score of 1200 SAT / 25 ACT</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <p>Minimum 4.0 cumulative GPA based on S.C. Uniform Grading Scale</p> <p>Minimum Score of 1400 SAT / 31 ACT</p> <p>Rank requirement waived</p>	<p>Four-Year Institution</p> <p><b>MUST HAVE 2 OF 3:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum of 3.0 cumulative GPA based on S.C. Uniform Grading Scale</li> <li>• Rank in top 30% of high school graduation class</li> <li>• Minimum Score of 1100 SAT / 22 ACT</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <p>Two-Year Institution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA based on S.C. Uniform Grading Scale. Test score and rank are waived.</li> </ul>
AWARD AMOUNT	<p>Up to \$6,700 towards the cost of attendance at eligible four-year institutions Freshman year</p> <p>Up to \$7,500 for Sophomore, Junior and Senior years</p>	<p>Up to \$5,000 towards the cost of attendance at eligible four-year institutions (includes \$300 book stipend)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <p>Up to the cost of attendance at eligible two-year institutions (includes \$300 book stipend)</p>
RENEWAL CRITERIA	<p>Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA and 30 credit hours for graduation purposes each academic year</p>	<p>Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA and an average 30 credit hours each academic year based on initial college enrollment</p>
TERM LIMIT	<p>Eight consecutive terms towards first bachelor's degree</p>	<p>Two consecutive terms for a certificate or diploma</p> <p>Four consecutive terms for an associate degree</p> <p>Eight consecutive terms for a bachelor's degree</p>

This section contains a brief overview of the State Scholarships and Grants programs. The information provided is from the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (SCCHE) and is based on the Commission's interpretation of the South Carolina Education Lottery Act. SCCHE information may be changed or updated without notice. Changes may also occur anytime during the legislative process. Although SCCHE attempts to provide up-to-date information on their website ([che.sc.gov](http://che.sc.gov)), please seek confirmation of information from the appropriate SCCHE office prior to any action taken.

S.C. HOPE SCHOLARSHIP	S.C. NEEDS-BASED GRANT	LOTTERY TUITION ASSISTANCE
<p>Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA based on the S.C. Uniform Grading Scale</p> <p>No minimum test score and rank required</p> <p>For students who do not qualify for the LIFE or Palmetto Fellows Program, but graduate from high school with at least a B average (3.0+)</p>	<p>No minimum GPA</p> <p>Students must complete Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)</p>	<p>No minimum GPA</p> <p>Students must complete Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)</p> <p>For two-year public or independent institution</p>
<p>\$2,800 towards the cost of attendance at eligible four-year institutions (includes \$300 book stipend)</p>	<p>Up to \$2,500 for full-time students and \$1,250 for part-time students towards the cost of attendance at eligible four-year institutions</p>	<p>Up to cost of tuition at eligible two-year public or independent institutions</p>
<p>This scholarship is for the first year of attendance at a four-year institution only</p>	<p>Fill out FAFSA and minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA and 24 credit hours each academic year if full-time and 12 hours if part-time</p>	<p>Fill out FAFSA and maintain satisfactory academic progress</p>
<p>Up to two consecutive terms of funding</p>	<p>Eight consecutive terms toward bachelor's degree</p>	

# MILITARY CAREER PATHWAYS



Careers are available in the general categories listed below for qualified individuals with a high school education. Starting salary, pay and benefit information can be found at [todaysmilitary.com](http://todaysmilitary.com)

## SPECIFIC JOB INFORMATION IS LOCATED AT THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES:

Army: <a href="http://www.goarmy.com">www.goarmy.com</a>	Air Force: <a href="http://www.airforce.com">www.airforce.com</a>
Army Reserve: <a href="http://www.goarmyreserve.com">www.goarmyreserve.com</a>	Air Force Reserve: <a href="http://www.afreserve.com">www.afreserve.com</a>
Army National Guard: <a href="http://www.1800guard.com">www.1800guard.com</a>	Air National Guard: <a href="http://www.goang.com">www.goang.com</a>
Navy: <a href="http://www.navy.com">www.navy.com</a>	Marine Corps: <a href="http://www.marines.com">www.marines.com</a>
Navy Reserve: <a href="http://www.navyreserve.com">www.navyreserve.com</a>	Marine Corps Reserve: <a href="http://www.marforres.usmc.mil">www.marforres.usmc.mil</a>
Coast Guard: <a href="http://www.gocoastguard.com">www.gocoastguard.com</a>	Space Force: <a href="http://www.airforce.com/spaceforce">www.airforce.com/spaceforce</a>
Coast Guard Reserve: <a href="http://www.gocoastguard.com">www.gocoastguard.com</a>	

Military Officer careers are open to individuals who take college level ROTC and complete a four-year degree, or for those who graduate from one of the Service Academies.

## ACADEMY INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND AT THESE WEBSITES:

Military Academy: <a href="http://www.usma.edu">www.usma.edu</a>	Air Force Academy: <a href="http://www.usafa.af.mil">www.usafa.af.mil</a>
Army ROTC: <a href="http://www.armyrotc.com">www.armyrotc.com</a>	Air Force ROTC: <a href="http://www.afrotc.com">www.afrotc.com</a>
Naval Academy: <a href="http://www.usna.edu">www.usna.edu</a>	Coast Guard Academy: <a href="http://www.cga.edu">www.cga.edu</a>
Navy ROTC: <a href="http://www.nrotc.navy.mil">www.nrotc.navy.mil</a>	



The Department of Defense introduced the ASVAB (which stands for Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) in 1968. It was originally designed to predict future academic and occupational success in military occupations. However, extensive research indicates the ASVAB assesses academic ability and predicts success in a wide variety of occupations.

The ASVAB CEP is used for career exploration and is given to high schools and early post-secondary students. An enlistment version of the ASVAB is primarily given at Military Entrance Processing Stations (MEPS), and is used for enlistment purposes only. More information about ASVAB CEP is available at [asvabprogram.com](http://asvabprogram.com). The ASVAB test consists of nine subjects.

- 1. GENERAL SCIENCE:** A 16-item test measuring knowledge of life science, earth and space science, and physical science
- 2. ARITHMETIC REASONING:** A 16-item test measuring ability to solve basic arithmetic word problems

**3. WORD KNOWLEDGE:** A 16-item test measuring ability to understand the meaning of words through synonyms

**4. PARAGRAPH COMPREHENSION:** An 11-item test measuring ability to obtain information from written material

**5. MATHEMATICS KNOWLEDGE:** A 16-item test measuring knowledge of mathematical concepts and applications

**6. ELECTRONICS INFORMATION:** A 16-item test measuring knowledge of electrical current, circuits, devices and electronic systems

**7. AUTO INFORMATION:** An 11-item test measuring knowledge of automotive maintenance and repair

**8. SHOP INFORMATION:** An 11-item test measuring knowledge of wood and metal shop practices

**9. MECHANICAL COMPREHENSION:** A 16-item test measuring knowledge of the principles of mechanical devices, structural support and properties of materials



*Section 4:*  
**TOOLS**



# CHECKLISTS

## 9TH / 10TH GRADE

### **CREATE A FOUR-YEAR HIGH SCHOOL PLAN DURING YOUR IGP MEETING.**

- Think about what you'd like to accomplish in the next four years.
- Ask your counselor which high school courses are required by colleges, and make sure that you're taking the right classes as early as the ninth grade.
- Get to know the levels and types of courses offered by your school.

### **START THINKING ABOUT YOUR LIFE AFTER SCHOOL, INCLUDING THE TYPES OF CAREERS THAT MIGHT INTEREST YOU.**

- Identify your interests, likes and dislikes, not just in classes but in every area.
- Talk to other people, such as your school counselor, teachers, recent college graduates who are working, professionals in the community, etc., about careers you might find interesting.

### **MEET WITH YOUR HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR. YOUR COUNSELOR KNOWS HOW TO HELP YOU GET THE MOST OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL.**

- Discuss post-high school plans with your counselor.
- Research potential internship and job shadow sites that align with your goals and share the information with your counselor.
- Discuss taking Honors courses, Advanced Placement courses or dual-credit courses. Find out which courses will prepare you for your post-high school plans.

### **PARTICIPATE IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES. ACADEMICS IS JUST THE STARTING POINT.**

- Explore your interest in a sport, school club, music or drama group or community volunteer activity.
- Remember that colleges/employers would rather see real involvement in one activity instead of a loose connection to several.
- If you're interested in playing sports in college, research the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) eligibility requirements. The NCAA requires completion of certain core courses; you can find the specifics at [ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://ncaaclearinghouse.net).

### **PLANNING TO ATTEND A TWO-YEAR OR FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE? IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO PUT MONEY ASIDE FOR COLLEGE. EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS!**

- Learning about financial aid early on can also help you down the road.

### **EXPLORE LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES.**

- Look for a job, internship or volunteer position that will help you learn about a field of interest.
- Research Youth Apprenticeship programs and internship opportunities.
- Discuss work-based learning opportunities with your counselor.
- Update your resume or online portfolio with your accomplishments.

### **GET FAMILIAR WITH ANY ASSESSMENTS YOU MAY NEED FOR YOUR POST-HIGH SCHOOL PLANS.**

- Most four-year colleges consider applicants' scores on college admission tests as part of a deciding factor for admission.
- Take the PRE-ACT and/or the PSAT to get an understanding of the testing format before taking entrance tests in 11th grade.
- Download free practice tests for needed assessments.
- Review PSAT scores to see what Advanced Placement courses might be good for you to take.

### **RESEARCH COLLEGES AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES.**

- Attend college and career fairs. Participate in any learning opportunity available to explore career fields.
- Tour college campuses. Take advantage of vacation or travel time to visit colleges. Even if you have no interest in attending the college you are visiting, it will help you learn what to look for in a college.

## 11TH GRADE

### SUMMER

- Get the facts about what college costs. You may be surprised by how affordable higher education can be. Research options at the local two-year or technical college.
- Explore financial aid options. These include grants and scholarships, loans and work-study programs that can help pay for college costs.



- ❑ Explore employment opportunities in your local area. Research industry trends.
- ❑ Research training programs, apprenticeship programs and certificate opportunities if college is not in your immediate plans.

## FALL

- ❑ Make sure you and your parent meet with your school counselor. This meeting is especially important this year to learn about the college application process.
- ❑ Stay organized! Make weekly or monthly to-do lists to keep on top of the tasks required to get ready for applying to colleges and explore work-based learning or apprenticeship opportunities.
- ❑ Get ready for the PSAT/NMSQT in October. This is a preliminary test that helps you practice for the SAT and assess your academic skills. Juniors who score well on the test are also eligible for scholarship opportunities.
- ❑ Set goals for the school year. Working toward specific goals helps you stay motivated and focused.

## WINTER

- ❑ Register and prepare for the ACT and the SAT. Take both tests during the winter of your junior year. Check with your school counselor on the registration process and testing dates or go to [collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org).
- ❑ Discuss other testing opportunities with your school counselor, such as NCRC, ACCUPLACER and ASVAB. These standardized tests will give insight into your career-ready skills.

## SPRING

- ❑ Search for colleges that meet your goals. Once you have an idea of the colleges you may be interested in, create a list and research application deadlines, campus tours and programs.
- ❑ Research scholarships! Search your college websites for specific school-based scholarships. Make note of all deadlines!
- ❑ Attend college fairs, financial aid events and career opportunities. These events allow you to meet with college representatives and get answers to questions.
- ❑ Make summer plans. Summer is a great time to explore interests and learn new skills. Look into summer learning programs or find a job or internship.
- ❑ Visit your top college choices.

# 12TH GRADE

## SUMMER

- ❑ Visit colleges. Make plans to check out the campuses of colleges on your list.
- ❑ Find out your top colleges' actual cost. Research the potential for financial aid and the true out-of-pocket cost, or net price, of each college.
- ❑ Start on your applications. Get the easy stuff out of the way now by filling in as much required information on college applications as possible.
- ❑ Ask your parents to gather necessary financial documents. To apply for most financial aid you will need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

## FALL

- ❑ Meet with your school counselor early in your senior year. Your counselor will work with you on college scholarship and job applications.
- ❑ Create a calendar with deadlines and important dates, including application deadlines.
- ❑ Prepare for college admission tests or other assessments.
- ❑ Apply for scholarships. Find out about scholarship opportunities from your school counselor.
- ❑ Ask your counselor, parent and a teacher to review all applications and essays before submitting.
- ❑ Work with your parents to complete the FAFSA. Contact the financial aid offices at the colleges to find out what forms you must submit to apply for aid. Make sure you apply for aid by or before any stated deadlines. Funds are limited, so the earlier you apply, the better.

## WINTER

- ❑ Contact potential employers. Research opportunities for internships and apprenticeship programs.
- ❑ Ask for letters of recommendation from teachers, club sponsors, coaches and other adults who can highlight your skills and attest to your character.

## SPRING

- ❑ Process your college responses. Once you start hearing back from colleges about admission and financial aid, work with your parents on which college to attend. Complete the paperwork to accept a college's offer of admittance.
- ❑ Practice interview skills.
- ❑ Review financial aid offers together. You will need help reading through financial aid award letters and figuring out which package works best. Be sure to pay attention to and meet any deadlines for acceptance.
- ❑ Finish your senior year strong.

# WEB RESOURCES

## ACADEMIC COMMON MARKET

[che.sc.gov](http://che.sc.gov)

The Academic Common Market allows for South Carolina residents who are enrolled in specific programs at out-of-state institutions to be charged only the applicable in-state tuition by the institution in which the student is enrolled.

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## BIG FUTURE

[bigfuture.collegeboard.org](http://bigfuture.collegeboard.org)

Big Future by The College Board is a college planning tool to generate a list of colleges that match your preferences.

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## CAREER AISLE

[knowitall.org](http://knowitall.org)

With Know It All, career exploration resources are provided to assist with career awareness, career exploration and career preparation of students with the objective of facilitating a successful transition into post-secondary opportunities and the 21st century global workplace.

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## CAREER ONE STOP

[careeronestop.org](http://careeronestop.org)

U.S. Department of Labor sponsored site offers sections where students can explore careers (*self-assessments, look at general information, check out employment trends, look at videos, see skills and occupations*), look at salary and benefits, review education and training and more!

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## CHARLESTON METRO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

[charlestonchamber.org](http://charlestonchamber.org)

The Charleston Metro Chamber works as a collective voice to develop initiatives and advance the region.

## COLLEGE SCORECARD

[collegescorecard.ed.gov](http://collegescorecard.ed.gov)

Information provided by the U.S. Department of Education such as average tuition costs, graduation rates, typical total debt and typical monthly loan payments.

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## COMMON SKILLS IN HIGH DEMAND

[charlestonchamber.org/commonskills](http://charlestonchamber.org/commonskills)

Defines the entry-level job skills and competencies required by the region's high-demand industry sectors.

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## ECAMPUSTOURS.COM

[ecampustours.com](http://ecampustours.com)

A revolutionary college planning website featuring 360° x 360° virtual campus tours of over 1,300 college campuses.

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## FAFSA

[fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov)

Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

## APPLYING FOR A PIN

[in.ed.gov](http://in.ed.gov)

## FASTWEB

[fastweb.com](http://fastweb.com)

Fastweb members are matched to relevant scholarship opportunities completely free of charge.

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## HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS AT TRIDENT TECH

[tridenttech.edu/start/before/ad\\_highschool.htm](http://tridenttech.edu/start/before/ad_highschool.htm)

Get a smart start on college with Trident Technical College's Dual Credit and Early Admit Programs. TTC offers eligible high school students the opportunity to earn college credit before graduating from high school.

## LEXILE / QUANTILE

[lexile.com](http://lexile.com)

[quantiles.com](http://quantiles.com)

Lexile and Quantile measures provide an actionable tool for helping students engage in learning, comprehend their reading materials and succeed in math class.

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## MAPPING YOUR FUTURE

[mappingyourfuture.org](http://mappingyourfuture.org)

Mapping Your Future is a national collaborative, public-service, non-profit organization providing career, college, financial aid and financial literacy services for students, families and schools.

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## MICROBURST LEARNING

**EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS**

[microburstlearning.com](http://microburstlearning.com)

Explore interactive career profiles that contain important career information to help you make educated decisions about your future.

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## MYFUTURE.COM

[myfuture.com](http://myfuture.com)

Myfuture.com helps young adults plan their next steps in life by bringing together the most recently available information about colleges, careers and military service opportunities from the U.S. Departments of Commerce, Defense, Education and Labor.

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## MY NEXT MOVE

[mynextmove.org](http://mynextmove.org)

An easy-to-use online career search to research over 900 different careers and see important information including skills, tasks, technologies, salaries and employment outlook. Includes the 60-item, web-based O\*NET Interest Profiler Short Form, a tool that offers career suggestions based on a person's interests and level of work experience.

## PETERSON'S GUIDE

[petersons.com](http://petersons.com)

Guides you through the college planning process with personalized resources.

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## NCAA

**ELIGIBILITY CENTER**

[web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3](http://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3)

A website specifically dedicated to educating students and parents about new NCAA Division 1 standards for 2016 and beyond.

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## PRINCETON REVIEW

[princetonreview.com](http://princetonreview.com)

Helps students, parents and educators achieve the best results at every stage of their educational careers.

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## OCCUPATIONAL INFORMATION NETWORK

**O\*NET ONLINE**

[online.onetcenter.org](http://online.onetcenter.org)

The nation's primary source of occupational information; this is an interactive site with occupational search, tools and technology section, skills section and more!

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## REGIONAL CAREER ACADEMIES

[charlestonchamber.org/careeracademies](http://charlestonchamber.org/careeracademies)

Highlights regional workforce initiatives within area high schools. Through these opportunities students are engaged in projects, learning from industry professionals and exploring through capstone experiences.

## SC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

[sciway.net/colleges](http://sciway.net/colleges)

List of all South Carolina Colleges, Universities and Specialized Schools.

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## SCCIS

[portal.sccis.intocareers.org](http://portal.sccis.intocareers.org)

An online system that provides access to several career assessments, college information, occupational information, college major information, career clusters, school subjects matched to careers, financial aid information, private trade schools, career videos, building and posting resumes, career electronic portfolios, salary and outlook information on careers, lesson plans for teachers, career guidance tools for parents, accountability reports for administrators and much more.

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## S.C. CAN

### SOUTH CAROLINA CAN GO TO COLLEGE

[sccango.org](http://sccango.org)

The primary goal of this campaign is to encourage South Carolina students and families to take an active role in pursuing higher education while raising needed awareness about college access.

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## S.C. SCHOLARSHIP ENHANCEMENTS

### PALMETTO FELLOWS & LIFE SCHOLARSHIP UPDATES

[che.sc.gov](http://che.sc.gov)

## S.C. TRAC

[sctrac.org](http://sctrac.org)

The South Carolina Transfer and Articulation Center (SC TRAC) is designed to facilitate student transitions between and among South Carolina's institutions of higher education. Plan your coursework to avoid taking classes that will not count towards your degree.

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## S.C. UNIFORM GRADING POLICY

[ed.sc.gov](http://ed.sc.gov)

Administrative procedures for the South Carolina Uniform Grading Policy.

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## S.C. UNIFORM GRADING SCALE

[ed.sc.gov](http://ed.sc.gov)

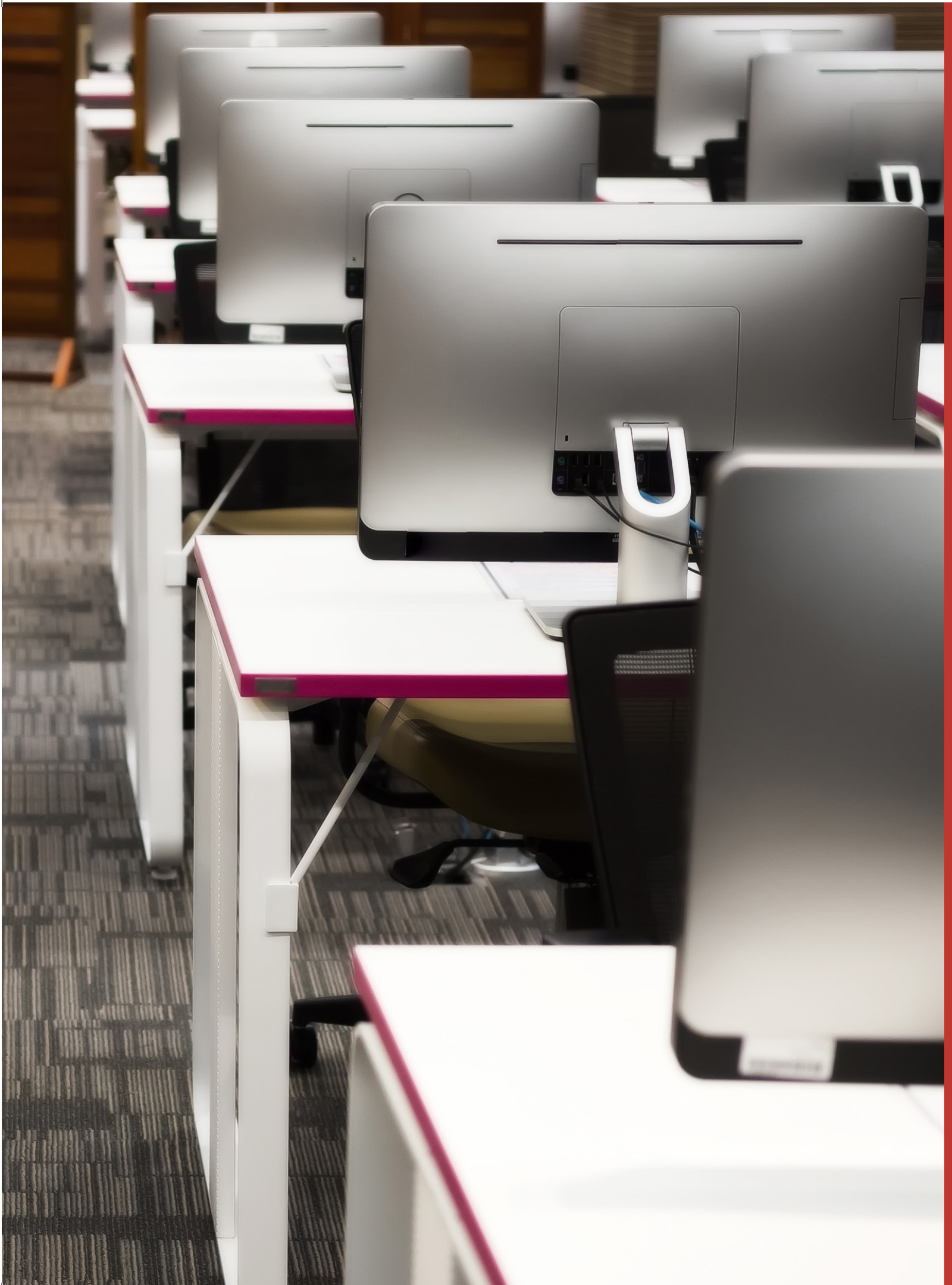
The South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale is a uniform scale and the system for calculating grade point averages and class rank for student being awarded high school credits.

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## S.C. COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

[che.sc.gov](http://che.sc.gov)

The Commission on Higher Education (CHE) provides statewide policy direction, management and oversight of the state's public higher education institutions. This includes state scholarships, college admission requirements, articulation agreements and awareness of the importance of higher education.



D I S

T R I

C T

CONTENT



# CHARLESTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

## OUR MISSION

The mission of CCSD is to educate and support every child in achieving college, career, and citizenship readiness.

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## OUR VISION

CCSD is a premier school system in which

- every child is supported in and out of school,
  - every child succeeds academically,
- every child will graduate from high school prepared for employment in the modern workforce or credential
  - completion or postsecondary degree, and
- every student, teacher, principal, and staff member is valued and respected with the opportunity to learn every day.

[www.ccsdschools.com](http://www.ccsdschools.com)



# THINGS TO CONSIDER FOR COURSE SELECTION AND SCHEDULING

## REGISTRATION

High school course selection enables students to experience a wide variety of courses in various fields of study. Students should take advantage of these many opportunities to explore their interest. This guide is designed to provide parents and students with information to plan a complete high school course of study. A current list of course offerings can be obtained from the School Counseling Office or your school's website.

All students who are presently enrolled will make course selections before the end of the school's calendar year. Scheduling during the summer is reserved for new students and students requiring changes due to extended year or summer course work. Failure to complete course selection on time may result in desired courses not being available. Students who fail to register for courses within the appropriate period will be assigned courses by school personnel.

Changing course selections may adversely affect eligibility for interscholastic competitions including athletics. Student athletes should consult with their coach, the school athletic director and their school counselor prior to requesting any course changes.

Teacher choice cannot be honored. Decisions on whether courses can be offered depend on student request and teacher staffing. If a selected course is not offered, the student's alternate choice will be used. Use extreme care in choosing alternates for courses, as they will be assigned if the primary course request cannot be fulfilled.

## RETAKEING A COURSE

According to the SC Uniform Grading Policy, students are allowed to retake the same course at the same difficulty level under the following conditions:

- A student taking a course for a unit of credit earned prior to their 9th grade year may retake the course, during the 9th grade year or before enrolling in the next sequential course, regardless of the grade earned. Effective August 2016, all course attempts will remain on the transcript, however, in this case, only the highest grade earned will calculate into the student's Grade Point Average (GPA). Additionally, the student will only receive credit for the course with the highest grade earned.
- A student taking a course for a unit of credit in grades 9-12 may retake a course in which a D or F is earned. The course must be retaken during the current academic year or no later than the next academic school year. In addition, the student must retake the course before enrolling in the next sequential course. The student's record will reflect all courses taken and the grade earned. Students who repeat a course in which a D

was earned will only receive credit for the course with the highest grade earned.

## CREDIT RECOVERY

Credit Recovery offers students an opportunity to recover credits for some failed courses. Students with final grades in the district- approved range of 50-59 may be approved for credit recovery. Options for students to complete credit recovery are through CCSD On-line, VirtualSC and Extended School Year in the summer. There may be fees associated for credit recovery in the Extended School Year. Effective August 2018, after successful completion of credit recovery, the student will receive a "P" (Pass) as the letter grade and earn the appropriate credit for the course. Students who do not successfully complete the credit recovery course work will receive an "NP" (not passed). The "P" nor the "NP" carrying a GPA value and will not affect the student's GPA. Students who wish to improve their GPA for a failed course should not do credit recovery and instead repeat the course.

Students should talk with their school counselor about the best option to either retake or complete credit recovery for a failed course(s).

## PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS

Minimum requirements for promotion/retention will be determined as follows:

To be classified as 10th grader, the student must have complete

6 total credits to include:

English 1 Credit

Math 1 Credit

To be classified, as 11th grade, the student must have completed 12 total credits to include:

English 2 Credits

Math 2 Credits

Science 2 Credits

To be classified, as 12th grade, the student must have completed 18 total credits to include:

English 3 Credits

Math 3 Credits

Science 2 Credits

In addition, the student must be enrolled in all other units, required and electives, needed to complete graduation requirements. \* If a student has 16 units and is enrolled in course work, which would allow them to complete the 24 units needed within the school year, the student will be designated as a senior. Designation as a senior does not guarantee that graduation requirements will be successfully met.

## NCAA

The NCAA website is dedicated to educating students and parents about new NCAA Division 1 standards for 2016 and beyond. College-bound student athletes preparing to enroll and play sports at a Division I or II college or university must meet specific eligibility requirements. Visit [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org) to learn about what courses, grades, and test scores are needed to be eligible for college athletics. If you are interested in playing sports at a non NCAA school, please check out the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics ([www.naia.org](http://www.naia.org)) or the National Junior College Athletic Association([www.njcaa.org](http://www.njcaa.org)).

## College and Career Readiness in CCSD

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is committed to ensuring that every student graduates with the knowledge, skills, and experiences necessary to succeed in college, career, and beyond. Rooted in the district's three pillars—High-Quality Instruction, Challenging Curriculum, and Wrap-Around Services—our college and career readiness initiatives provide students with equitable access to academic pathways, career exploration, and workforce preparation. By partnering with the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce, local businesses, and higher education institutions, CCSD offers students hands-on learning opportunities, dual enrollment programs, apprenticeships, and industry certifications that align with the region's growing economy.

In today's rapidly evolving job market, it is critical for students to develop both technical competencies and essential soft skills, such as communication, collaboration, and problem-solving. CCSD works closely with families to support students in setting personalized post-secondary goals, whether that means attending a four-year university, pursuing a technical degree, joining the military, or entering the workforce with career-ready credentials. By integrating career-focused education with academic excellence, we are preparing our students to thrive in an ever-changing global landscape while strengthening Charleston's workforce pipeline. Families and students are encouraged to take advantage of the many resources available, ensuring every graduate leaves CCSD ready for their next step.

## CCSD Centers for Advanced Studies



### [Cooper River Center for Advanced Studies](#)

Serving students from Burke HS, Military Magnet Academy, North Charleston HS, and R.B. Stall HS



### [East Cooper Center for Advanced Studies](#)

Serving students from Lucy Beckham HS and Wando HS



### [West Ashley Center for Advanced Studies](#)

Serving students from Baptist Hill MHS, St. John's HS, and West Ashley HS

# IGP CHECKLIST: MIDDLE SCHOOL CONFERENCE

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## STUDENT POWERSCHOOL CHECK

- Correct Legal Name:  Home Address:  Email Addresses:  Phone #'s:

## MY PORTAL ACCESS

My Portal Username: \_\_\_\_\_ Password: \_\_\_\_\_

## REVIEW

- Current Schedule  Current Grades

## CAREER CLUSTER INTERESTS /PLANS

Career Cluster: \_\_\_\_\_

## POSTSECONDARY PLANS

- Select:  2-Year College  2+2 College Program  4-Year College  Military  Workforce

## GRADUATION & COLLEGE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- PSAT  SAT  ACT  Naviance Assessment  MAP  
 SC PASS / SC READY  End of Course Exams (EOC)

## TOPICS AND RESOURCES DISCUSSED

- College and Career Readiness Indicators
- SC Graduation & College Admission Requirements
- Career Exploration
  - Opportunities CCSD CTE
  - Majors and Programs CTE
  - Concentrators and Completers Internship
  - Opportunities
  - Registered Youth Apprenticeship

*More information about CTE Programs, Work Based Learning and Apprenticeships can be found at [www.charlestonempowered.com](http://www.charlestonempowered.com)*
- SC Seals of Distinction
- Post-Secondary Preparation
  - Post-Secondary Planning Checklist
  - Post-Secondary Testing and Test Preparation
  - South Carolina Educational Scholarships (Life, Hope, Palmetto Fellows and eligibility requirements) Financial Aid
- SC Uniform Grading Policy: Retake Policy
- SC Uniform Grading Scale
- Athletic Eligibility, if applicable
- Web Resources
- Process for 9th grade registration, teacher recommendations and course selection
- Choice School options, if applicable

## IGP COMPLETION

- Career Cluster Noted on IGP in PowerSchool  
 IGP Parent/Guardian & Student Signatures Obtained

# IGP CHECKLIST: HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCE

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## STUDENT POWERSCHOOL CHECK

Correct Legal Name:  Home Address:  Email Addresses:  Phone #'s:

## MY PORTAL ACCESS

My Portal Username: \_\_\_\_\_ Password: \_\_\_\_\_

## REVIEW

Current Schedule  Current Grades  Class Rank (If applicable)  GPA

## CAREER CLUSTER INTERESTS /PLANS

Career Cluster: \_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Career Interest/Plans: \_\_\_\_\_

## POSTSECONDARY PLANS

Select:  2-Year College  2+2 College Program  4-Year College  Military

Workforce

College Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

## GRADUATION & COLLEGE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Graduation Requirements  Transcript Audit  4-Year College Requirements

## COLLEGE & CAREER ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

PSAT  PRE-ACT  SAT  ACT  WIN  Naviance Task/ Assessments

ASVAB  End of Course Exams (EOC)  Accuplacer  Advanced

Placement (AP) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## SCHOLARSHIP & FINANCIAL AID

Life  Hope  Palmetto Fellows  Lottery Tuition Assistance  SC Needs Based Grants

Private Scholarship  Institutional Scholarships  FAFSA  Military Scholarships

Other Scholarship Resources

## ADDITIONAL TOPICS & RESOURCES TO DISCUSS/REVIEW

Process for Course Selection

Retake Policy

SC Uniform Grading Scale

Dual Credit Information

CTE/Career Majors Course Requirements and Programs

SC Seals of Distinction

Board Scholar Recognition

Naviance

Athletic Eligibility

Internships

Registered Youth Apprenticeships

College & Career Readiness Indicators

*More information about CTE Programs, Internships and Apprenticeships can be found at [www.charlestonempowered.com](http://www.charlestonempowered.com)*

## IGP COMPLETION

Career Cluster Noted on IGP in PowerSchool

IGP Parent/Guardian & Student Signatures Obtained

## Career and Technical Education Programs of Study

**"Students are the Heart of Our Work"**



Magnet, Program, and Charter Schools							West Ashley CAS			Cooper River CAS				E. Cooper CAS	
Academic Magnet	Clark Academy	CCSMS	Daniel Jenkins	Greg Mathis	JJ Charter	School of the Arts	Baptist Hill	St. John's	West Ashley	Military Magnet	North Charleston	Burke	R. B. Stall	Wando	Lucy Beckham

### Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources

Horticulture															•	•
Environmental and Natural Resource Management			•													
Plant and Animal Systems																•

### Architecture & Construction

Building Construction						•		•		•	•	•	•			•
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### Arts, A/V & Communications

Digital Art and Design						#		•							•	
Fashion Design and Apparel Construction							•									
Interior Design																•
Media Technology						#		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

### Business, Management & Administration

Administrative Services																
Business Information Management			#			#		•		#		#	•		•	
General Management			#		#	•			•		#	#	•	•	•	•
Human Resource Management															#	
Operations Management																

### Education & Training

Early Childhood Education									•							
---------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

### Finance

Accounting									•	#			•	•	•	•
Banking Services									#				•	#	#	#
Business Finance									•				•	•	•	•
Insurance									#				#	#	#	#
Securities and Investments									#				#	•	#	#

### Health Science

Biomedical Sciences (PLTW)			•				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Health Science			#			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Sports Medicine						•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

### Hospitality & Tourism

Baking and Pastry						#										
Culinary Arts Management						•		•	•	•	•	•		•		
Hospitality and Tourism Management								•		•	•	•				

### Human Services/Family & Consumer Sciences

Barber/Master Hair Care								•								
Cosmetology															•	•
Family and Consumer Sciences						•	•		•		•			•	•	•
Family Systems and Mental Health									#					#	#	#
Nail Technology									•							

### Information Technology

Computer and Information Systems Security/Info Assurance								•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Computer Science (PLTW)	#									#	#	#	#	•	•	•
Game and Interactive Media Design						•								•	•	#
Information Support and Services						•		•	•	•	•			•		
Networking Systems								#	#	#						
Programming and Software Development						•		•		•	•	•	•			
Web and Digital Communications			#		•	•			#		•	#	#	#	#	#

### Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security

Emergency and Fire Management Services									•							
Law Enforcement Services												•				

### Manufacturing

Electronics Technology										•	•	•	•			
Mechatronics Integrated Technologies								•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Welding Technology								•	•	•						

### Marketing, Sales & Service

Marketing Analytics		#	#		#	#				#	#	#		#	#	#
Marketing Communications		•	•		•	#				#	#	#		•	•	•
Marketing Management		#	#		#	•				#	#	•		#	•	•
Merchandising		#	#		#	#				•	#	#		#	#	#
Real Estate															•	•

### Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics

Pre-Engineering (PLTW)	•		•			•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
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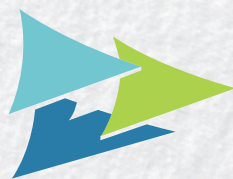
### Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

Automotive Collision Repair Technology											•	•	•	•		
Automotive Technology								•	•	•					•	•
Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management											•	•	•	•		

# = Concentrator Programs | • = Completer Programs







## Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce

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