

Blue Ridge Community College

2011-2012 Catalog
Volume 36

Henderson County Campus
180 West Campus Drive
Flat Rock, North Carolina 28731
(828) 694-1700

Transylvania County Campus
45 Oak Park Drive
Brevard, North Carolina 28712
(828) 883-2520 or (828) 694-1900

www.blueridge.edu

Blue Ridge Community College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, www.sacscoc.org) to award the Associate in Arts Degree (A.A.), the Associate in Science Degree (A.S.), the Associate in Fine Arts Degree (A.F.A.), the Associate in General Education (A.G.E.), and the Associate in Applied Science Degree (A.A.Sc.).

Blue Ridge Community College is an equal opportunity college.

Notices

Blue Ridge Community College issues this catalog for the purpose of furnishing prospective students and other interested persons with information about the College and its programs. Announcements contained herein are subject to change without notice and may not be regarded in the nature of binding obligations on the College or state. Efforts will be made to keep changes to a minimum, but changes in policy by the State Board of Community Colleges, or by local conditions, may make some alterations in curriculums, fees, etc., necessary. The College disclaims any liability of any kind by virtue of changes in any of the information contained in this catalog.

Blue Ridge Community College is an equal educational opportunity institution, which makes no distinction in the admission of students or in any activities on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability (as defined by law), or sexual orientation.

Blue Ridge Community College supports the protection available to members of its community under all applicable federal laws, including Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (as amended), Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Public Health Service Act (as amended by the Nurse Training Amendment Act of 1971), the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Age Discrimination Act of 1967 (as amended), the Equal Pay Act of 1963, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Vietnam Era Veteran's Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, Executive Order 11246 of 1965 (as amended), and other related federal and state legislation pertaining to equal employment opportunity.

Inquiries concerning federal Title IX, Section 1681, and related laws may be addressed to:

Vice President for Finance and Operations
Blue Ridge Community College
180 West Campus Drive
Flat Rock, NC 28731
Telephone (828) 694-1716

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2011-2012 Academic Calendar for Curriculum Students

Fall Semester 2011

Fall Semester Final Registration	August 16
Classes Begin	August 17
Labor Day - Holiday	September 5
Fall Break	October 10
Classes Resume	October 11
Thanksgiving - Holidays	November 23-25
Reading Day	December 9
Final Exams	December 12-14
December Graduation	December 16

Spring Semester 2012

Spring Semester Final Registration	January 4
Classes Begin	January 5
Martin Luther King - Holiday	January 16
Winter Break	February 21
March Break	March 16
Easter Holiday	April 6
Spring Break	April 9-13
Classes Resume	April 16
Reading Day	May 4
Final Exams	May 7-9
May Graduation	May 11

Summer Term 2012

Summer Final Registration	May 15
Classes Begin	May 16
Memorial Day Holiday	May 28
Independence Day Holiday	July 4
Classes Resume	July 5
Last Class/Final Exam Day	July 26

Frequently Called Numbers

Henderson County Campus

180 West Campus Drive, Flat Rock, NC, 28731
(828) 694-1700

Transylvania County Campus

45 Oak Park Drive, Brevard, NC, 28742
(828) 883-2520

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e-mail: information@blueridge.edu

www.blueridge.edu

Message from the President



If this is your first look into the College you will find that we are dedicated to providing you with the best educational experience possible. We are committed to the belief that education should prepare people with the skills and abilities they will need to live a full, productive, and satisfying life.

That commitment is the motivation for everything we do at the College.

At the heart of Blue Ridge Community College is a dedicated and highly qualified faculty and support staff who work hard to make your learning experiences here challenging and rewarding. We are here to support you in attaining your educational goals. Whether your goal is a technical skill in which you wish to be certified, preparation for further study in a four-year institution, qualifications for a technical career achieved through an associate degree, pursuit of a technical interest or mastery of literacy and basic education, we want to provide instruction at convenient times and manageable costs.

Blue Ridge Community College is a vital part of all communities in Henderson and Transylvania Counties. However, our reach extends far beyond county lines, since many of the corporations here serve markets throughout the world. We recognize our obligation to keep at the forefront of information and technology in order to provide the best training and education for our students.

I want to thank you for your interest in Blue Ridge Community College. Education is a lifelong, life-sustaining journey. We are proud that you would consider us as a partner in your travels.

Molly A. Parkhill, Ed. D.
President

General Information

History

Through the combined efforts of interested citizens of Henderson County, the college known today as Blue Ridge Community College (BRCC) was established as Henderson County Technical Institute in May 1969. At that time, the citizens of Henderson County approved a bond issue and a special tax levy which provided funds for the construction, operation, and maintenance of a physical plant for the school. The institution began operation on December 1, 1969, with the first course offered on January 8, 1970. The first full-time curriculum classes began on September 14, 1970. On October 12, 1970, the board of trustees voted to change the school's name to Blue Ridge Technical Institute. On July 9, 1979, they voted to change the name to Blue Ridge Technical College. The board approved the name of Blue Ridge Community College on September 14, 1987. Today, the College operates on two campuses. The Henderson County Campus is a 13-building, 128-acre complex two-and-a-half miles southeast of Hendersonville. The Transylvania County Campus occupies two large facilities on 9 acres in Brevard. Both campuses offer curriculum and continuing education classes. Blue Ridge opened an Environmental Training Center in 1998 which provides training to business and industry throughout the region. The Technology Education and Development Center on the Henderson County Campus and the Applied Technology Building at the Transylvania County Campus opened in 2008. The Henderson County JobLink Career Center and Blue Ridge Literacy Council are housed on the Henderson County Campus. BRCC is also the home of the Helping Hand Developmental Center and the Henderson County Work First Employment Services.

Mission Statement

Our mission . . . enriching the lives of those within our reach through education, training, and cultural activities.

Vision

BRCC will continue to provide programs of excellence in academics and training that foster economic vitality in our community. Our College will lead by example with our partners in business, industry, and education to improve the quality of life for the people we serve by:

- Promoting instructional excellence in all program areas
- Serving the lifelong learning needs for all citizens
- expanding and enhancing programs to meet the evolving needs of our community
- Working closely with business and industry to train a competent workforce
- Strengthening partnerships to advance the mission of the College
- Enhancing customer service to all who come our way
- Increasing the retention and success of our students
- Increasing community awareness of the programs of the College
- Infusing appropriate technologies for problem solving and enhanced program delivery
- Developing a multi-culturally competent citizenry
- Developing responsive and effective education programs

Values

We value excellence in teaching, training, and student-centered learning.

We open our doors to all who seek knowledge and a better life through academic growth and development.

We value the diversity of all people and will make our programs accessible to all learners regardless of disabilities or physical challenges.

We believe that our faculty, staff, and administration should conduct themselves with the highest integrity in the classroom and beyond.

We will be candid and supportive with our students in the assessment of their skills and their progress on the journey toward knowledge.

We will be responsive to the changing needs of our community by providing targeted programming that improves the skills, knowledge, and economic progress of our workforce.

We will be the champions of innovation, ever vigilant for opportunities to improve the delivery and quality of instruction through changes in technology and educational research.

As a public educational institution, our faculty and staff are accountable to the people we serve to deliver the best programs possible to enrich the lives of those within our reach. Our students are accountable to their instructors to strive for improvement and demonstrate the mastery of identified, measurable educational objectives in every class attended.

These are the values of Blue Ridge Community College that guide our behavior and frame our dreams. As your community college, we pledge to demonstrate these values in all that we do and say as we work in partnership to make our community a better place in which to live and work.

Location and Facilities

Blue Ridge Community College Henderson County Campus is located on 128 acres on College Drive, between Airport Road and South Allen Road in Flat Rock, North Carolina. The 13-building complex provides over 358,000 square feet of floor space. In addition to offices, classrooms, laboratory space and student center areas, facilities also include a distance learning center, a 66,000-square foot Applied Technology Building, a comprehensive library, an Environmental and Safety Training Center, teaching and performance auditoriums, and a state-of-the-art Technology and Education Development Center that includes virtual training, television and audio recording studios, and a 1,000-seat conference hall.

The Transylvania County Campus is located on 9 acres on the corner of Oak Park Drive and Osborne Road in Brevard, North Carolina. The two-building complex houses instructional and office space, an Applied Technology Building completed in 2008, and the Blue Ridge Innovation Network, a 3,500 square-foot facility for small business incubation.

Situated near the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina at an altitude of 2,140 feet, the College is easily accessible via Interstate 26, Highways 64, 25, 191, and 176. Commercial air service is provided by several major airlines which serve the Asheville Regional Airport located twelve miles north of Hendersonville. The location between the metropolitan areas of Asheville, North Carolina, and Greenville, South Carolina, place the College near the center of a rapid growth area in southwestern North Carolina. This location is also near several vacation/recreation destinations which include Flat Rock, the Pisgah National Forest, Brevard, Bat Cave-Chimney Rock, Biltmore House, and the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Accreditation

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Blue Ridge Community College is an accredited member of the North Carolina Community College System and all programs offered by the College have been approved by the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges. The Associate Degree Nursing Program is approved by the North Carolina State Board of Nursing. The Surgical Technology Program is approved by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Programs. The Early Childhood Program is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Blue Ridge Community College Educational Foundation, Inc.

Blue Ridge Community College Educational Foundation was founded in 1974, just five years after the institution was chartered. Today Blue Ridge Community College Educational Foundation is a separate organization affiliated with, and serving only, Blue Ridge Community College. It is governed by a Board of Directors and qualifies as a 501(c)(3) organization under the guidelines of the Internal Revenue Service. As such, the Foundation ensures to donors the tax deductibility for charitable gifts that is provided by state and federal laws. The mission of the Foundation is to aid, strengthen, and further in every proper and useful way the work and services of Blue Ridge Community College and to provide broader educational opportunities to its students, staff, faculty, and to the residents of Henderson and Transylvania Counties. In fulfilling its mission, the Foundation provides financial assistance to students through scholarships, a work-study program, and emergency loans and grants; purchases state-of-the-art equipment for use in classrooms; sponsors faculty development through special projects; enables the College to achieve its institutional effectiveness goals; provides start-up costs for new programs; and solicits monies for other College projects. Private support through the Foundation enables Blue Ridge Community College to keep pace with the educational changes occurring in its service area and in the lives of its students, faculty and staff, and the citizens it serves. For further information, contact Blue Ridge Community College Educational Foundation, 180 West Campus Drive, Flat Rock, North Carolina 28731, (828) 694-1710.

Core Indicators of Student Success (Year 2008-2009)

The State Board of Community Colleges has established standards of performance for measures that have been identified as being critical to ensure public accountability for programs and services at Blue Ridge Community College. These core indicators are listed below along with current data about the success of students and/or services.

Measure A: Progress of basic skills students; Description: Basic skills students include all adult literacy students. Progress of basic skills students is a composite measure that includes the percent of students progressing within a level of literacy, the percent of students completing a level entered or a predetermined goal, and the percent of students completing the level entered and advancing to a higher level. Results: Percentage of BRCC students who progressed within the level entered completed the level entered, progressed to a higher level: 75%

Measure B: Passing rates on licensure and certification examinations; Description: The percentage of first-time test-takers from community colleges passing an examination required for North Carolina licensure or certification prior to practicing the profession. A licensure requirement for an occupation is one that is required by state statute for an individual to work in that occupation. Certification is generally voluntary but may be required by employers or an outside accrediting agency. Purely voluntary examinations are not reported. Results: 82% of all first-time test takers from BRCC passed an examination required for North Carolina licensure or certification prior to practicing the profession. The following indicates specific passing rates for BRCC students: Basic Law Enforcement: 86%; Cosmetology: *; Cosmetic Arts Esthetics: *; Cosmetic Arts Manicurist: *; Cosmetology Apprentice: 100%; EMT: 75%; EMT-I: *; EMT-P: *; Nursing: 80%; Real Estate: *. *No test takers

Measure C: Performance of College Transfer Students; Description: College transfer programs provide educational experiences that will enable transfer students to make the transition to a baccalaureate program and perform as well as the students who enroll as first-time freshmen at universities. The purpose of this measure is to compare the performance of community college associate degree students (Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, and Associate in Fine Arts) who transfer to public North Carolina universities with students native to the four-year institutions. Results: 89% of BRCC college transfer students had a GPA greater than 2.0 after two semesters at a University of North Carolina institution.

Measure D: Passing Rates of students in developmental courses; Description: The percent of students who complete developmental English, mathematics, or reading courses with a grade of "C" or better. Results: 77% of BRCC students completed developmental English, mathematics, or reading with a grade of "C" or better.

Measure E: Success Rate of Developmental Students in Subsequent College-Level Courses; Description: The performance of developmental students in subsequent college level courses will be compared with the performance of non-developmental students in those courses. Results: 87% of the students who completed a developmental course had a grade of "C" or better in subsequent college-level courses.

Measure F: Student Satisfaction of Program Completers and Non-Completers; Description: This indicator reports the proportion of graduates and early-leavers who indicate that the quality of the college programs and services met or exceeded their expectations. Results: 97% of graduates and early-leavers indicated the quality of the college programs and services met or exceeded their expectations.

Measure G: Curriculum Student Retention and Graduation; Description: This composite indicator consists of (1) number of individuals completing a curriculum program with a certificate, diploma, or degree; and (2) number of individuals who have not completed a program but who are continuing enrollment in either curriculum or occupational extension programs. Results: 69% of the fall 2008 cohort had either graduated or completed by the fall 2009.

Measure H: Client Satisfaction with Customized Training; Description: The percentage of businesses/industries who have received services from a community college indicating that their expectations have been met. This measure is intended primarily to determine the satisfaction of organizations that received services from a community college. Results: 93% of the businesses/industries surveyed indicated they were satisfied with the customized training provided by Blue Ridge Community College.

The entire Critical Success Factors report is at the following Web site: <http://www.nccommunitycolleges.edu/Publications/docs/Publications/csf2010.pdf>

Admission

Entrance Requirements and Admissions Procedures

In keeping with the North Carolina Community College System's Open Door policy, Blue Ridge Community College enrolls students who are 18 years or older or are high school graduates or equivalent. For admission into all degree, diploma, and certificate programs, high school graduation or equivalent is required. Applicants who have not graduated from high school or otherwise fulfilled this requirement may do so by successfully completing the General Educational Development (GED) Tests. Applicants without a high school diploma or a GED may enroll in specific individual classes as a special credit student.

All applicants for admission are responsible for fulfilling the following steps:

1. Complete an application for admission and file with the Registrar's Office.
2. Have official copies of high school transcript and/or GED scores sent to the Registrar's Office. Official transcripts are those with the school seal and Registrar's signature and must arrive unopened from the issuing school or agency. Students whose required transcripts have not been received will be admitted on a provisional basis for one semester. Applicants to all allied health programs who have a GED or Adult High School diploma must also submit an official high school transcript if they completed ninth grade or higher. If transcripts cannot be obtained due to extenuating circumstances (loss by fire, school no longer exists, etc.), documentation of all efforts made by the student and a letter of explanation regarding the circumstances must be submitted to the Vice President for Student Services. Students under the age of 18 who are high school graduates or the equivalent must provide official transcripts prior to enrolling.
3. Complete a set of pre-enrollment placement tests. The College uses the College Board's ACCUPLACER for placement testing. These tests examine the individual's levels of ability in reading, math, English, and computer skills so that the student can be placed in appropriate developmental level courses if necessary. These tests are not admissions tests. Placement testing may be waived under conditions outlined in the Placement Testing Waiver Policy. Students who place into STAR Center level reading will be allowed to enroll in curriculum courses for credit only after they have received appropriate remediation through the STAR program. Students who test into STAR Center English and mathematics must also receive appropriate remediation prior to enrolling in curriculum courses for credit. Students who place into STAR Center level math only or STAR Center English only will be allowed to take STAR Center directed studies and/or curriculum classes with approval of their academic advisor. Students who

test into STAR Center computer skills may be required to complete remediation prior to enrolling in distance education courses.

4. Meet with assigned faculty advisor.

A student is officially accepted to the College when all requirements are met and the student receives written notification from the Vice President for Student Services. Acceptance to the College does not necessarily imply admission to a specific curriculum since certain programs, such as those in the allied health area, may have additional entrance requirements.

Pre-Enrollment Placement Testing Waiver Policy

Students may waive the placement testing requirements under the following conditions:

1. Documentation of acceptable SAT or ACT scores: To be enrolled directly into first-level curriculum English or math courses, a student must have a minimum score of 500 on the applicable (critical reading verbal or mathematics) portion of the SAT, or a minimum of 21 on ACT English, or a minimum of 20 on ACT math. SAT and ACT examinations must have been taken within the preceding three years.
2. Results of ACCUPLACER tests taken at another institution within the preceding three years and that meet the BRCC cutoff scores will waive placement testing.
3. The computer skills portion of the placement test will be waived for students who have completed Computer Applications in at high school with a grade of "C" or better.
4. Transfer credit (grade C or better) received from a regionally accredited institution for first-level curriculum English, math or computer courses will be accepted in lieu of placement testing. Development level courses may be considered for transfer credit if taken at a North Carolina Community College within the last three years. The student must submit an official transcript to receive transfer credit and to officially waive the need for placement testing. A maximum of 50% of the Total Semester Credit Hours in any program will be accepted in transfer.
5. For certificate programs without developmental prerequisites, testing may be waived based on a passing score on the NC Competency Test, Test of General Educational Development, or Iowa Test of Basic Skills.

Pre-Enrollment Placement Testing Retesting Guidelines

In general the ACCUPLACER placement tests provide a reasonable assessment of a student's abilities in English, reading, math, and computer skills. In some cases, however, students may question their placement in one or more of these areas.

If test scores are 1 year old or less, alternate placement measures may be arranged through the Dean for Arts and Sciences if test scores fall within one or two points of the cut-off score.

If Pre-Enrollment Placement Test scores are 1 to 3 years old, students who want to retake their pre-enrollment exams and who have not yet taken any courses may request a retest by speaking with the Vice President for Student Services.

If Pre-Enrollment Placement Test scores are more than 3 years old and the student has not yet taken any courses, the student must retake the pre-enrollment tests.

Associate Degree Nursing Admission Procedures

Phase I

1. Submit Blue Ridge Community College Associate Degree Nursing Application for Admission. This application is generally available in April of each year.
2. Submit official transcripts of all previous education. Transcripts must verify the following course work and grades:
 - High school math - "C" average or above
 - High school biology - "C" average or above
 - High school chemistry - "C" average or above

If an applicant earned a GED, requirements will be met with the following:

 - Math - Standard score of 450 or above
 - Biology - Standards score of 450 or above on Natural Science
 - Chemistry - no GED equivalent

Students who have not met all of these prerequisites may do so by taking MAT 140 –Survey of Mathematics and MAT 140A - Survey of Mathematics Lab, BIO 090 - Foundations of Biology, and CHM 092 - Fundamentals of Chemistry. Applicants who are currently enrolled in high school taking these courses and anticipate completing grade requirements may continue with the application process.
3. Complete the Pre-Enrollment Placement Test. The following course work must be exempted or completed with a grade of "C" or above:
 - ENG 080 - Writing Foundations
 - RED 080 - Introduction to College Reading
 - ENG 090 - Composition Strategies
 - RED 090 - Improved College Reading
 - MAT 060 - Essential Mathematics
 - MAT 070 - Introductory Algebra

Placement testing is waived for applicants with a bachelor's degree or college level English and math with a 'C' grade or above or applicants with acceptable SAT or ACT scores taken within the last three years. Acceptable scores are a SAT score of 500 or above on verbal and 500 or above on mathematics or an ACT score of 21 or above on English and 20 or above on Math.

4. Attend a Nursing Information Session. Dates will be posted in the application packet. Applicants who complete all steps of Phase I by the deadline listed in the application packet will receive a letter acknowledging their eligibility to pick up Phase II packets during the time frame published in the application packet.
5. Complete the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS version V). A minimum composite score of 70 on the TEAS is required.

Phase II

Applicants who complete Phase I will be contacted by letter to pick up Phase II materials. Applicants will be required to sign that they have received the packet and instructions.

To complete the Phase II application process, the candidate will be required to submit the following items to the Dean for Allied Health.

1. Acknowledgement of applicant's ability to provide safe nursing care to the public. The applicant will sign a statement that she/he understands they must demonstrate a level of physical and emotional health that is indicative of their ability to provide safe care to the public.
2. Completion of the enclosed form noting education endeavors (specific course work), accomplishments (certifications, degree, etc.), and work/volunteer activities.
 - a. Transcripts must be on file in the Registrar's office.
 - b. Photocopy of certification, degree and or diploma enclosed in packet.
 - c. Documentation by employer or supervisor on letterhead stationary indicating dates for work or volunteer activities, role and function and enclosed in a sealed envelope within the packet.

Points are awarded for grades in specific courses and the applicants TEAS score. Details of the point value system are listed in the application packet.

After the deadline for Phase II applications, each applicant's file will be evaluated. Points will be based on documentation provided and evaluation of transcripts. The applicants with the highest points will be accepted until the 54 available spaces are filled. Then the next 15 will be designated as alternates. Notification of provisional acceptance or non-acceptance will be mailed by mid-April.

Full acceptance into the program will be pending the following requirements:

1. Successful completion of a North Carolina approved Certified Nurse Aide I Program AND current listing on the North Carolina Nurse Aide I Registry with no substantiated finding of resident abuse, resident neglect or misappropriation of resident property in a Nursing Facility. The Certified Nurse Aide I Training Program must include theory, lab, and clinical components.

If an applicant has taken the Certified Nurse Aide Program in a state other than North Carolina this will be considered on an individual basis if the student is listed on the North Carolina Nurse Aide I Registry with no substantiated finding of resident abuse, resident neglect or misappropriation of resident property in a Nursing Facility. It will be the responsibility of this applicant to show documentation that the course they took contained a theory, clinical, and lab component.

2. A medical form verifying acceptable levels of immunization, physical, and mental health will be required prior to entering the nursing core classes in the fall.
3. Verification of current and continued American Heart Association Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation for a healthcare provider.

Additional requirements may be required based upon the clinical agencies utilized for clinical sites. A student must earn a grade of C or better in each required course in the major to remain in the program.

Basic Law Enforcement Training Admission Procedures

Applicants for admission to the Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) Program must:

1. Have graduated from high school or have an Adult High School Diploma or have passed the GED with an equivalency certificate that meets the minimum requirements set by the State of North Carolina.
2. Meet the minimum standards for employment as established by the NC Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission and /or the NC Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission which include:
 - a. Be a citizen of the United States;
 - b. Be at least 20 years of age (must be 20 years of age as of the first day of class or have prior written authorization from the Director of the Criminal Justice Standards Division if less than 20 years old);
 - c. Be of good moral character;
 - d. Be free of:
 - (1) Any convictions of any serious crimes, civilian or military;
 - (2) Recent convictions of driving while impaired or under the influence; or
 - (3) Major motor vehicle law infractions
 - e. Be examined and certified by a licensed physician or surgeon to meet the physical requirements necessary to perform the functions of law enforcement officer.
3. Have not ever committed or been convicted of any of the following:
 - a. A felony;
 - b. A crime for which the punishment could have been imprisonment for more than two years;
 - c. A crime or unlawful act for which the punishment could have been imprisonment for more than six months but less than two years and the crime or unlawful act occurred within the last five years;
 - d. Four or more crimes or unlawful acts described in "c" above regardless of the date of occurrence; or;
 - e. Four or more crimes or unlawful acts for which the punishment could have been imprisonment for less than six months.
4. Complete a Reading Test and score at a 10th grade reading level or higher. This test will be administered at the beginning of the program by the BLET Coordinator.
5. Possess a valid North Carolina driver's license.

Final approval to begin the program is contingent upon meeting admissions requirements, acceptable health certification and proof that you meet all minimum standards of the NC Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission and/or the NC Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission.

Prior to enrollment in the BLET program an accepted applicant must provide the BLET Coordinator with a Medical Examination Report (Form F-1 and F-2) completed by a physician licensed to practice medicine in North Carolina. The Medical Examination Report must include a Cholesterol Screening Report and Medical Release Form for Basic Law Enforcement Training. Medical forms will be provided to applicants upon determination of their eligibility to enroll in the BLET program.

PROCEDURES FOR ADMISSION:

1. Obtain a BLET application packet and schedule a Reading Test in the Continuing Education Office.
2. Complete the Application for Admission and call the BLET Coordinator, named on the face of the application, to schedule an appointment. At this interview, the applicant will turn in the application to the Coordinator.

ADMISSION INTERVIEW

Each applicant is interviewed by the BLET Coordinator. The interview is used to determine if the applicant meets minimum standards for employment as established by the NC Training Standards Commission and if the applicant is free of conviction of any serious crimes, civilian or military; recent convictions of driving while impaired or under the influence; or major motor vehicle law infractions and to determine the disposition of such charges. At the interview, the applicant will be given additional information relative to details of the schedule, total cost of the program, attendance policy, etc. The applicant will be required to sign waivers which allows the applicant to participate in the training.

Early Childhood and School-Age Education Practicum Requirements

To register for the practicum courses in the early childhood or school-age programs, students will be required to sign that they have received the practicum packet and successfully

complete the following process with the lead instructor of either the school-age or early childhood program.

1. Submit a completed practicum application form
2. Complete an acknowledgement of applicant's ability to provide safe care of children. The applicant will sign a statement that she/he understands they must demonstrate a level of physical and emotional health that is indicative to their ability to provide safe care of children.
3. Effective January 1, 1996, anyone working, or wanting to work, in child care must complete a criminal records background check. For compliance with North Carolina Division of Child Development regulations, a criminal background check is a search of local, state, and/or federal records to determine if a person has been convicted of a crime. The results of the background check are used to decide if the person's experience is fitting to care for children.
4. Sites hosting Blue Ridge Community College students in practicum experiences may require a criminal background check, a medical release, or additional requirements.

High School Student Enrollment

A high school student enrolled in a North Carolina public school system, private high school system, or home school may enroll in a course(s) at Blue Ridge Community College provided that the student is at least sixteen (16) years of age.

Admission requirements for high school students are essentially the same as for any student enrolling at BRCC, except that written permission from the student's principal or other high school designee must accompany the application for admission. Along with the approval of the principal or designee, permission must also be obtained from the appropriate Dean and the Division of Student Services at Blue Ridge Community College.

As a rule, high school students must take the College's pre-enrollment placement tests. The Vice President for Student Services must approve exceptions. High school students who are required to take developmental courses as a result of placement tests will not be allowed to enroll in those developmental courses or any other courses for which those are prerequisites per North Carolina Community College System regulations.

High school students will not displace regular curriculum students but will be permitted to enroll as class space permits.

High school students at least 16 years of age who are enrolled at least half-time in high school courses are exempt from tuition for select courses. Any courses that are not approved by the NC General Assembly for high school tuition waivers will be billed at the current tuition rate as a self-supporting course. Students will pay for fees, books, supplies,

and materials. In the case of high school students enrolled in Blue Ridge Community College courses taught on the high school campus, fees will be waived and those students will not be eligible for benefits financed by fees.

High school students are responsible for their own transportation to and from the Blue Ridge Community College Henderson County Campus and Transylvania County Campus.

All other applicable College regulations apply to high school students upon their admission to Blue Ridge Community College.

All other provisions of the North Carolina Administrative Code and the Manual on Cooperative Programs in North Carolina High Schools and Community Colleges apply to high school students.

Surgical Technology Admission Procedures

Level I: Surgical Technology – Diploma Program

All Surgical Technology applicants must complete the requirements listed in steps 1-5.

1. Submit Blue Ridge Community College Surgical Technology application for admission. The application is generally available in November of each year.
2. Submit official transcripts of all previous education. Transcripts must verify the following course work and grades:
 - High School math – "C" average or above
 - High School biology – "C" average or above

If an applicant earned a GED, requirements will be met with the following:

- Math – Standard score of 450 or above
- Biology – Standard score of 450 or above on Natural Science

Students who have not met all of these prerequisites may do so by taking MAT 140 - Survey of Mathematics, MAT 140A - Survey of Mathematics Lab, and BIO 090 – Foundations of Biology. Applicants who are currently enrolled in high school taking these courses and anticipate completing grade requirements may continue with the application process.

3. Complete the Pre-Enrollment Placement Test or waiver of test based on Placement Test Waiver Policy cited in the Blue Ridge Community College Catalog. The following course work must be exempted or completed with a grade of "C" or above:
 - ENG 080 - Writing Foundations
 - RED 080 – Introduction to College Reading
 - ENG 090 - Composition Strategies

RED 090 - Improved College Reading

MAT 060 - Essential Mathematics

MAT 070 - Introductory Algebra

CIS 070 – Fundamentals of Computing

Placement testing is waived for applicants with a Bachelor degree or college level English and math with a 'C' grade or above or applicants with acceptable SAT or ACT scores taken within the last three years. Acceptable scores are a SAT score of 500 or above on verbal and 500 or above on mathematics or an ACT score of 21 or above on English and 20 or above on Math.

4. Attend a Surgical Technology information session. Dates will be posted in the application package.
5. The first twenty (20) applicants meeting the above requirements will receive acceptance into the program. Once twenty applicants are accepted, a waiting list of fifteen applicants will be formulated. A medical form verifying acceptable levels of immunization, physical health, and mental health will be required prior to entering surgical technology core courses in the fall.

Level II: Surgical Technology - Associate Degree Program

The Advance SUR courses are individually tailored for surgical/special areas of concentration. The applicant must complete the requirements listed in steps 1-5.

1. Make an appointment with the Surgical Technology Program Faculty.
2. Successfully pass the National Certification Exam and provide proof of current CST card.
3. Present proof of current American Heart Association Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Healthcare Provider level certification.
4. Documentation of 500 hours or more work experience or documentation of having been the primary scrub on 125 cases.
5. Two references – forms will be provided by Program Faculty.

Additional requirements may be required based upon the clinical agencies utilized for clinical sites. A student must earn a grade of "C" or better in each required course in the major to remain in the program.

International Students

The College is authorized under federal law to enroll non-immigrant alien students. An immigrant is subject to the same considerations as a citizen. Proficiency in the English language and satisfactory academic records are important factors in the admission decision for all applicants

from outside the United States. International students must have graduated from a secondary school that is equivalent to secondary schools in the United States. The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with a score of 550 or above on the paper-based test or 215 or above on the computer-based version is required for all international applicants except those from countries where English is the native language or those applicants with college-level English transfer credit from an accredited United States institution. Additionally, the college pre-enrollment placement test and documentation of financial support for one year's tuition and living expenses are required of all international applicants seeking a completed I-20 Form for student visa status. International applicants should contact Student Services at Blue Ridge Community College for additional information. Alien Registration Card holders are admitted under the same guidelines used for U.S. citizens.

Out-Of-State Students

Applicants classified as out-of-state for North Carolina tuition purposes are admitted under the same regulations as North Carolina residents. See also Residency for Tuition.

Practicum/Clinical Requirements

Sites hosting Blue Ridge Community College students in practicum/clinical experiences may require a criminal background check, a medical release, immunization records, or additional requirements.

Provisional Students

Students applying too late to furnish pre-entrance requirements before the registration period may be permitted to enter the college as a provisional student after an interview with the Vice President for Student Services or counselor. Once students have fulfilled all admission requirements (application, transcripts, and tests if required), they will be accepted in good standing. All students must fulfill these requirements by the end of their first semester. Note: Students under the age of 18 who are high school graduates or equivalent must provide official transcripts at the time of application for admission.

Readmission

Students with credit from Blue Ridge Community College who withdraw for any reason before completing the requirements for a degree, diploma, or certificate may be readmitted by submitting a Returning Student Form or the College application. A conference with a counselor will be required for students returning after academic probation or suspension. Programs of study are under continuous review and course requirements are subject to change as students return after an absence of one or more semesters. The current academic catalog determines program requirements.

Undocumented Individuals

The College admits undocumented individuals pursuant to the NC Administrative Code (23NCAC 02C.0301) and guidelines from the North Carolina Community College System as follows:

1. An undocumented immigrant with a diploma from a United States public high school, private high school, home school, or Adult High School that operates in compliance with State or local law is eligible to be admitted to Blue Ridge Community College. Undocumented individuals with a General Education Development (GED) diploma do not meet this criteria and are ineligible for admission.
2. Undocumented students are required to pay the out-of-state tuition rate.
3. A student who is lawfully present in the United States will always have priority for a space or program of study over a student who is an undocumented student. Undocumented students cannot enroll into a class or program of study for which there are waiting lists and must wait until the conclusion of the last published (i.e. late) registration period to register for classes
4. Undocumented individuals may not be admitted into courses of study where licensure is required for employment.
5. Undocumented individuals who are high school students (public, private, or home school) in North Carolina who meet the eligibility criteria may enroll in college level courses consistent with the concurrent enrollment policy and the cooperative program agreement which include Dual Enrollment, Huskins Bill, Learn and Earn Online, and Early College.
6. Undocumented students may enroll in non-college level courses or programs including GED preparation courses, Adult Basic Education, Adult High School, English as a Second Language, and other continuing education courses less than college level.
7. Undocumented or battered illegal aliens who have been determined to meet one of the qualifying conditions set forth in Federal Law, 8 USC Section 1641 are eligible for college level courses. It is the applicant's responsibility to produce sufficient documentation to satisfy the College that the applicant is eligible for post-secondary education benefits.

Registration

Procedures for registration will be published prior to the beginning of each semester. Students are expected to register on the day or days specified for each semester. In cases of late registration, absences will be counted beginning with the student's registration.

Changes in schedules must be approved by the student's faculty advisor or appropriate dean. The College reserves the right to cancel any curriculum or course for reasons of insufficient enrollment or lack of funds.

Academic Advising

This institution views student advisement as one of its most important functions. Each student is assigned a faculty advisor who is usually a faculty member from the curriculum in which the student is enrolled. Advisors assist students in selecting and scheduling appropriate classes and developing future academic and career plans. Advisors may also refer students to other available campus resources.

Students are required to meet with their faculty advisor each semester for assistance in completing an Educational Plan on BRCC's online WebAdvisor system. Advisors' office hours are posted on their office doors and on the College Web site. It is important that students realize that it is ultimately their responsibility to familiarize themselves with specific course and program requirements so that they may complete their goals while enrolled at the College.

Bookstore

New and used textbooks and school supplies are available in the College Bookstore located in the Killian Building on the Henderson County Campus and the Student Center at the Transylvania County Campus. Books may also be purchased online at www.blueridgebooks.com. Pursuant to the Higher Education Opportunity Act, Blue Ridge Community College is required to share required textbook information (ISBN number and retail price) with students at the time they register for classes. This information can be found on the Blue Ridge Community College Bookstore Web site at www.blueridgebooks.com.

Fulfillment of Financial Obligations

Students who have an outstanding financial obligation will be denied the right to enroll. No degree, diploma, or certificate will be granted nor will a transcript be provided for a student until all financial obligations to the College have been paid. These financial obligations include institutional loans, library fines, etc.

Orientation

To promote rapid and sound adjustment to the educational philosophy, program, and standards of the College, new curriculum students are required to participate in an orientation program prior to registration.

Note: ACA 115 - Success and Study Skills is a required course for all degree and diploma programs at BRCC but is not part of the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement for transferability. Students should take this course their first semester or in the semester required by their particular program. Students who are enrolled as special credit students should take this course before they have completed 12 semester hours.

Priority Registration

Priority Registration dates are published in the Student Handbook and Calendar. All currently-enrolled curriculum students are strongly encouraged to register during Priority Registration in order to get the courses they need to progress in their programs.

Registration for Continuing Education Students

Pre-registration for continuing education classes can be made in person, online, or by mail with enrollment available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Late registration is held at the first class meeting if space is available.

Special Credit Students

Students who do not wish to apply for a degree, diploma, or certificate program may enroll for individual curriculum courses upon completion of an application for admission and documentation (transcripts) of prerequisite coursework, if applicable. Special credit students who later wish to enroll in a program of study must complete all admission requirements and declare a program of study. Credit earned as a special credit student may be applied to program requirements, if appropriate.

Student Classification

A full-time student is a student enrolled in a given semester with twelve (12) or more semester hours of credit. A part-time student is a student enrolled with fewer than twelve (12) semester hours of credit. A freshman is a student who has completed less than half the required credit hours of an associate degree program and a sophomore is a student who has completed half or more of the required credit hours of an associate degree program.

Tuition and Fees

Residency for Tuition

Under North Carolina law, a person must qualify as a resident for a curriculum tuition rate lower than that for non-residents. North Carolina statute 116-143.1 requires that "To qualify as a resident for tuition purposes, a person must have established legal residence (domicile) in North Carolina and maintained that legal residence for at least twelve (12) months immediately prior to his or her classification as a resident for tuition purposes." Substantial inquiry is made on the application for admission to determine initial classification.

New applicants and returning students classified as out-of-state for tuition purposes are responsible for submitting the North Carolina Residence and Tuition Status Application to the admissions office for reclassification to in-state status. Applications are available at the Student Services receptionist desk in the Sink building. Individuals are encouraged to submit the application as early as possible. The admissions office will review the application, make a determination as to the individual's residency/non-residency status, and then will advise the individual of the decision. The change in classification, if deemed to be warranted, shall be effective at the beginning of the next academic semester following the reclassification. Applications received less than two (2) weeks prior to registration for a semester may result in a delay in reclassification until the following academic semester.

Students who provide false residency information or knowingly withhold residency information shall be deemed to have submitted a fraudulent application. Students making fraudulent application are subject to reclassification and payment of the difference between out-of-state and in-state tuition for the enrolled term(s) intervening between the fraudulent application and its discovery.

Regulations concerning the classification of students by residence are set forth in "A Manual to Assist the Public Higher Education Institutions of North Carolina in the Matter of Student Residence Classification for Tuition Purposes." A copy of the manual is available in Student Services for student inspection.

Tuition for Curriculum Students

Tuition rates for Blue Ridge Community College are established by the North Carolina General Assembly. These rates are subject to change.

Resident of N.C.

\$66.50 per semester hour
16 or more semester hours \$1,064

Non-resident

\$258.50 per semester hour
16 or more semester hours \$4,136

Other Fees and Expenses for Curriculum Students

Student Activity Fee

The student activity fee is applicable to all curriculum students and is non-refundable after the 100% refund period. This fee will be charged for Fall and Spring semesters only. The student activity fee is waived for students taking only distance education classes which do not require attendance on campus.

Students taking:

12 or more semester hours.....	\$25
6 - 11 semester hours	\$22
1 - 5 semester hours	\$20.50

Accident Insurance Fee \$1.30

Students are required to take limited coverage accident insurance while enrolled. The amount varies each year. The accident insurance fee is waived for students taking only distance education classes which do not require attendance on campus. This insurance fee is not refundable after the 100% refund period. Due to the changing nature of the insurance industry, types of policies and rates are subject to change without notice. Blue Ridge Community College is not liable for injury suffered by students while participating in classes, shop work, or other school activities.

Textbooks, Supplies, and Tools

Costs for textbooks, supplies, and tools are variable depending on the student's enrollment status and program. Students are required to have the textbooks, supplies, and tools prescribed in the curriculum program they are entering. New and used textbooks and school supplies are available in the College Bookstore located in the Killian Building on the Henderson County Campus and the Student Center at the Transylvania County Campus. Books may be purchased online at www.blueridgebooks.com. Pursuant to the Higher Education Opportunity Act, Blue Ridge Community College is required to share required textbook information (ISBN number and retail price) with students at the time they register for classes. This information can be found on the Blue Ridge Community College Bookstore Web site www.blueridgebooks.com.

Science Lab Fee is \$10 per semester per course. The Science Lab fee is non-refundable after the 100% refund period.

Art Lab Fee is \$20 per semester per course. The Art Lab fee is non-refundable after the 100% refund period.

Technology Fee

The technology fee is applicable to all curriculum and continuing education students and is non-refundable after the 100% refund period. The fee is charged each semester.

Curriculum students

12 or more semester hours.....	\$16
6 - 11 semester hours	\$11
1 - 5 semester hours	\$6

Professional Liability Fee\$15

The Professional Liability Fee is charged annually in September to Associate Degree Nursing and Surgical Technology students.

Other course fees may apply ranging from \$10 to \$75.

Graduation Fee \$20

The fee covers graduation expenses for degrees, diplomas, and certificates and is payable during registration for the semester in which the student expects to complete a program of study. Invitations, caps, and gowns may be purchased at the student's expense in the bookstore prior to graduation.

Tuition and fees paid by students do not represent the total operating expenses of the College. The balance is provided by local, state, and federal tax funds.

Tuition and fees must be paid in full or deferred through the College tuition payment plan by the published tuition payment deadline or the student's schedule will be deleted. North Carolina residents at least 65 years of age are exempt from tuition for the first 6 credit hours taken. Each credit hour above 6 will be billed at the current tuition rate. High school students at least 16 years of age who are enrolled at least half-time in high school courses are exempt from tuition for select courses. Any courses that are not approved by the NC General Assembly for high school waivers will be billed at the current tuition rate as a self-supporting course. However, all students are required to pay the student accident insurance fee, the technology fee, and the activity fee. If high school students are enrolled in Blue Ridge Community College courses offered on a high school campus, the student accident insurance fee and the activity fee may be waived. The student accident insurance fee and the activity fee may also be waived for the distance learning student who does not attend the Blue Ridge Community College campus. However, it is the responsibility of the student to notify the business office of the high school or distance learning status at the time charges are paid.

Deferred Payment Plan

The College offers a deferred payment plan for curriculum students. The amount of tuition and fees that can be deferred is determined by the amount due and deferred payment plan enrollment date. Enrollment and service fees may apply. The Deferred Payment Plan is not available for summer term. Information is available from the Division of Finance and Operations or faculty advisors.

Fees for Continuing Education Students

To comply with North Carolina law, nominal registration fees are charged for continuing education courses. The fee for each course is indicated in the schedule of courses and usually ranges from \$65 to \$175. There is no charge for volunteer rescue and lifesaving personnel or local law enforcement officers for their special extension training programs. Students are responsible for buying supplies and materials as necessary. Basic Skills programs are provided at no charge to the participants.

The registration fee for continuing education computer classes includes a \$5 computer use and technology fee. This is required and is non-refundable.

A \$10 graduation fee is charged to basic law enforcement students. A \$15 graduation fee is charged to paramedic students.

In some cases, allied health and emergency medical courses may carry additional costs such as professional liability fees and course lab fees. A complete list of fees is available from the program director/coordinator upon request.

Tuition Refund Policy, Curriculum Students

Title 23 of the N.C. Administrative Code, 2d.0200, states that a 100% refund of tuition shall be made if the student officially withdraws prior to the first day of classes of the semester as noted in the college calendar. Also, a student is eligible for a 100% refund if the class in which the student is registered is canceled. A 75% refund of tuition may be made if the student officially withdraws from the class(es) after the class(es) begins but prior to or on the official 10% point of the semester. Students must contact their instructor or the appropriate dean to officially withdraw from a class after the academic semester begins. The student's signature is required on the drop card.

Refunds for official withdrawals from classes beginning later in the semester than the scheduled date in the academic calendar (e.g., telecourse and second session classes) are as follows: 100% if officially withdrawn before the first day the class meets; 75% if officially withdrawn prior to or on the 10% point of class. Student fees are not refundable. Questions about the College tuition refund policy should be directed to the Vice President for Student Services. Requests for refunds will not be considered after the 10% point. Refunds will be made by check to the student if the payment was made by cash or check. If payment was made by credit or debit card, refunds will be made to the card used. Refunds will be written at the earliest date following the 10% point of the semester, as determined by the Division of Finance and Operations.

Federal regulations require a refund calculation for all students receiving Title IV funds who officially withdraw from the semester on or before the 60% point in semester. Students earn a portion of the Title IV funds on a ratio

of number of calendar days attended and the number of calendar days in the term. Unearned federal aid will be returned in the following order: Federal Direct Loan, Federal PLUS Loan, Pell Grant, and SEOG. NC monies will be returned according to state regulations. Institutional and outside scholarships will be fully applied to the student's account, unless otherwise restricted.

If there is a student account balance resulting from these adjustments, the student is responsible for payment.

Tuition Refund Policy, Continuing Education Students

The College may refund continuing education registration fees under the following circumstances:

1. If a student officially withdraws from the class prior to the first class session, the student will receive a 100% refund.
2. If a class is canceled due to insufficient enrollment, the student will receive a 100% refund.
3. After a class begins and a student officially withdraws from the class prior to or on the 10% point of the scheduled hours, the student will receive a 75% refund of the registration fee.

This refund is limited to the fees paid and does not include textbooks or supplies.

Students should request a refund in writing, by e-mail, or complete a Course Withdrawal Form. Course Withdrawal forms must be received by the Continuing Education Office on or prior to the deadlines listed above before a refund can be initiated. Forms are available at the Continuing Education Office or on the College Web site www.blueridge.edu.

Financial Aid

Students may receive assistance through federal programs, state programs, and local scholarship funds. Funds may be available for veterans and children or spouses of deceased or disabled veterans through the Department of Veterans Affairs. Students should be aware that some certificate curriculum programs are not eligible for federal or state financial aid, and that some diploma curriculum programs are only eligible for a prorated amount of federal financial aid.

Application for financial aid should be made at the time of applying for admission to the College. Since processing of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) may take up to two weeks, please allow ample time to complete your form prior to the semester in which you plan to enroll. The Blue Ridge Community College Federal School code number is 009684. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid may be completed online at www.fafsa.gov.

The College is required by Federal regulations to verify the application data provided by students. All financial aid

applicants should be prepared to provide the Financial Aid Office with signed copies of family federal income tax forms. Other financial documents may also be requested. Students must enroll in an eligible program, be a high school/GED/AHS graduate, be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen, and not be in default on a federal loan or owe on a Pell Grant overpayment. In order to be eligible for federal student aid funds, a student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress in his/her course of study.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

Federal and state regulations require that students receiving financial aid maintain satisfactory academic progress. BRCC applies these standards to all federal and state financial aid funds in order to maintain a consistent procedure for all students receiving assistance. In order to be eligible for financial aid, students must meet the following minimum guidelines:

1. The student must successfully complete at least 67% of their cumulative credit hours attempted during their enrollment at BRCC.
2. Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.00 (C) or higher at BRCC.
3. Students must complete their program of study in a time frame not to exceed 150 percent of the credit hours required of the program. All credit hours attempted will be counted even if the student changes programs.

Withdrawal: Students who officially withdraw from classes (or are withdrawn unofficially by their instructor for non-attendance) should understand their withdrawal might affect their eligibility for future financial aid determined by this Satisfactory Academic Progress policy. Students who withdraw from all of their classes may be subject to the Return of Title 4 Funds Policy for the current semester.

Grades: Grades of A, B, C, D or CR will be considered as hours attempted and earned. Grades of F, WF, WP, or I will be considered as hours attempted, but will not be considered as hours earned. Grades of W or Y will not be counted as hours attempted or earned. Transfer credit hours accepted from other institutions are included in the calculation of the maximum time frame.

Repeated Courses: Students are permitted to repeat a class in which their prior grade was a "WP", "WF", "F", or a "D". This provision may not apply to a student who is receiving VA benefits.

Concurrent Enrollment (Consortium Agreement): A student's academic progress will be calculated by BRCC as the Home Institution, with the 67% rule being calculated based on total number of hours attempted at both institutions and the GPA requirement from BRCC only.

Developmental Courses: Developmental courses (designated by course numbers below 100, e.g. MAT 060) are eligible for inclusion in receipt of financial aid, and therefore, meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress guidelines. However, a student may only receive financial aid for a maximum 30 credit hours of attempted developmental courses.

Review Process: It is the student's responsibility to be aware of his/her eligibility for financial aid. Each student's academic record will be evaluated at the end of every semester to determine their eligibility for financial aid the next term. Once a student becomes ineligible for financial aid based upon his/her failure to meet the minimum guidelines for attempted hours and/or GPA, the student will be placed on Financial Aid Warning for ONE semester. The student is eligible to receive aid during that semester. If the student fails to regain eligibility at the end of the warning semester, financial aid will be suspended and the student must pay for their next semester of enrollment. A student's financial aid will be reinstated the next semester of enrollment after meeting both the 67% hours attempted AND the 2.00 cumulative GPA requirements.

Appeal Process: A student who has become ineligible for financial aid due to a failure to meet the minimum guidelines for satisfactory academic progress may appeal their status to the Financial Aid Office and request to be placed on Financial Aid Probation. Appeals will be considered for extenuating circumstances only (i.e. an extended illness or injury, death in the immediate family, etc) and must be made in writing - stating why they failed to meet the guidelines and how those circumstances have changed. In addition, the student should provide all relevant supporting documentation (e.g. hospital/doctor verification, death certificate, etc). Circumstances that are deemed to be academic in nature or within the student's area of control are not usually considered as grounds for appeal. Appeals may be made for any student not meeting the 67% rule or the GPA requirement. Only students with documented learning disabilities may appeal the 150% time frame. All appeals should be submitted to the Financial Aid Office. The student will receive a notice of approval or denial of their appeal to be placed on Financial Aid Probation in a timely manner.

Students who are placed on Financial Aid Probation may be required to meet specific criteria as outlined in an individualized Academic Plan in order to be eligible for continued receipt of financial aid.

If the student's appeal is denied, their financial aid will be suspended and the student must pay for their next semester of enrollment. A student's financial aid will be reinstated the next semester of enrollment after meeting both the 67% hours attempted AND the 2.00 cumulative GPA requirements. A student may appeal the decision of the Financial Aid Office by requesting, in writing, that their appeal be reviewed by the Financial Aid and Scholarship Committee.

Return of Title IV Funds Policy

Students who withdraw from BRCC should understand their withdrawal may affect their eligibility for financial aid for the current semester. Federal regulations require a refund calculation for all students receiving Title IV funds who withdraw from the semester on or before the 60% point in semester. Students earn a portion of the Title IV funds on a ratio of number of calendar days attended and the number of calendar days in the term. Unearned federal aid will be returned in the following order: Federal Direct Loan, Federal PLUS Loan, Pell Grant, SEOG, and ACG. NC monies will be returned according to state regulations. Institutional and outside scholarships will be fully applied to the student's account, unless otherwise restricted.

If there is a student account balance resulting from these adjustments, the student is responsible for payment.

Students Receiving Financial Aid—Change of Status

Financial aid recipients must immediately notify the Financial Aid Office of any changes that may affect their status. Such changes include change of program, change of hours, or change of address. Financial Aid awards will be reduced if the student remains enrolled but officially reduces enrollment status prior to the 10% point of the semester.

Additional information, application forms, and assistance in applying for aid are available from the Financial Aid Office.

Types of Financial Aid

BRCC Educational Foundation Scholarships: Scholarships are provided each year for Blue Ridge Community College students through the fundraising efforts of BRCC Educational Foundation, Inc. Annual awards are made by the College Financial Aid and Scholarship Committee. Students must maintain a cumulative 2.00 grade point average in order to be eligible to apply for scholarship assistance from the Foundation. Applications are due March 1 for the following Fall semester and are available online at www.blueridge.edu.

Childcare Funds: The State of North Carolina provides limited funds to assist curriculum students with childcare. A student must demonstrate financial need as determined by the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) code on the FAFSA or provide the Financial Aid Office with a signed copy of the most recent federal tax return. Applications are available from the Financial Aid Office on July 1 of each year. In most cases, a student must be using a licensed day care provider.

Educational Assistance for Veterans and Certain Dependents of Veterans: Most curriculum programs offered by the College are approved for the training of veterans. Eligible veterans and/or their eligible dependents who wish to pursue their education should contact the Financial Aid Office for application procedures and assistance.

Emergency Grants and Loans: Emergency grants and loans are available to enable a student to begin or continue a program of study by alleviating a short-term lack of funds or providing temporary assistance. Preference for emergency grants and loans is given to currently enrolled students who have attended BRCC for at least one semester. There is limited funding for these programs, and students must be maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress.

Federal Loans: Student loans are borrowed money that must be repaid with interest. BRCC participates in the William D, Ford Federal Direct Loan Program. Student loans, both Subsidized (need-based) and Unsubsidized (non-need-based), and PLUS loans to parents are available. The amounts vary depending on the student's year in college and financial need. Students must be enrolled at least half-time (6 credits) in an eligible program and maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress. Students need to complete a FAFSA application to determine eligibility.

Federal Pell Grants: Students attending Blue Ridge Community College may be eligible for Federal Pell Grant assistance. Amounts vary, and eligibility is based on financial need as determined by a formula developed by the U.S. Department of Education. Applicants must have a high school diploma or a GED certificate to be eligible. Students are ineligible if they have a bachelor's degree. Students with exceptional financial need may be eligible for further aid through the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant Program.

Federal Workforce Investment Act Grants: Individuals who are (1) unemployed/underemployed or (2) have recently been dislocated from their jobs and want to learn new skills to enter or re-enter the workforce may be eligible for WIA funding of books and tuition. Those interested should contact Henderson County JobLink Career Center in the Continuing Education Building, Room 125, (828) 694-1755.

Federal Work-Study Program: Blue Ridge Community College participates in the Federal Work-Study Program, which provides on-campus work and community service opportunities for students needing financial assistance to attend school. Work is available for qualified students to assist in the library, faculty and administrative offices, bookstore, and labs. Students working under this program are paid each month for the work performed. There is limited funding for the program.

Local Scholarships: Some local scholarship funds provided by interested citizens and civic organizations are available. Requirements for local scholarships vary.

North Carolina Student Incentive Grants/North Carolina Community College Grants/North Carolina Education Lottery Scholarships: The North Carolina Student Incentive Grants (NCSIG), North Carolina Community College Grants (NCCCG), and North Carolina Education Lottery Scholarships

(NCELS) are administered by College Foundation of North Carolina to provide assistance to North Carolina residents demonstrating financial need. Students receiving NCSIG must be enrolled full-time. Students receiving NCCCG or NCELS must be enrolled at least half-time. Application is made through the FAFSA form.

Veteran's Benefits

Application for Veteran's Benefits

To apply for benefits, the veteran must be a fully accepted student in an approved curriculum program, nursing assistant, and Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET). Students eligible for veteran's benefits should follow the procedures outlined below.

- A. Select a program and apply for admission to the College. All admission requirements must be completed before application for veteran's benefits can be processed. This includes the submission and evaluation of all transcripts of prior training.
- B. Notify the Financial Aid Office of intent to apply for veteran's benefits. Veterans and dependents of veterans make application via the online application process on the VA Web site: www.gibill.va.gov.

Disabled veterans attending under Vocational Rehabilitation must have the approval of a counselor at the DVA before payment of benefits may be authorized.

Information can be obtained by calling the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) Regional Office at (888) 442-4551. Members of the Selected Reserve and National Guard may be eligible under Chapter 1606 or 1607 to receive benefits while attending the College.

Interruption of Veteran's Benefits Due to Unsatisfactory Progress

In order to maintain veteran's assistance, a student must maintain satisfactory academic progress in his/her program of study. Veteran's assistance will be interrupted due to unsatisfactory progress. For the purpose of veteran's assistance, Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) at Blue Ridge Community College has two components:

1. The student must successfully complete at least 67% of their cumulative credit hours attempted during their enrollment at BRCC.
2. Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.00 (C) or higher at BRCC.

Students receiving veteran's benefits who are placed on suspension may appeal this decision in writing to the Financial Aid and Scholarship Committee. Appropriate documentation will be required.

Student Receiving Veteran's Benefits— Change of Status

Benefit recipients must immediately notify the Financial Aid Office of any changes that may affect their pay status. Such changes include change of program, dropping or adding of classes, or change of address. All necessary forms, instructions and assistance for notifying the Department of Veterans Affairs of changes in status may be obtained through the Financial Aid Office.

Financial Aid Tax Information

There are several tax credits/deductions that may be claimed by the student and/or parent in the form of education credits, tuition and fees deduction, and student loan interest deduction. In addition, some awarded grants and scholarships may be subject to taxation as taxable income. Students should consult their tax advisor or visit the IRS Web site (www.irs.gov) for detailed tax information.

Student Policies

Acceptance of Academic Credit

College credit may be awarded up to a maximum of 50% of the applicable program requirements if appropriate conditions are met by transfer credit, Credit by Examination, Advanced Placement (AP) courses, College Level Examination Program (CLEP) test scores, Regional Articulation in Vocational Education (RAVE) courses, or professional certifications. See Student Services Division for details.

Advanced Placement Courses: Blue Ridge Community College academic credit will be awarded to enrolled students who receive scores of 3, 4, or 5 on the AP tests offered by the College Board. AP credit accepted at other post-secondary institutions is not automatically transferred to Blue Ridge Community College, but is reviewed when scores are received.

College Level Examination Program (CLEP): Blue Ridge Community College credit may be granted to students who have satisfactorily passed certain CLEP tests. Credit may be considered only for those courses which have been approved by the various divisions and/or programs of the College. A listing of CLEP equivalencies is available from the Student Services Division or on the Blue Ridge Community College Web site at www.blueridge.edu.

Regional Articulation in Vocational Education (RAVE): Blue Ridge Community College will grant advanced placement credit to high school graduates for successful completion of certain high school courses. This credit expires two years after the student graduates from high school. The requirements for each course include:

1. The student must obtain a grade of "B" or higher in the course.
2. The student must obtain a Level III proficiency or higher in the End-of-Course (EOC) assessment.
3. The student must complete all application procedures and enroll in a member institution of the NCCCS authorized to offer the applicable college courses within two years of their high school graduation.
4. The student must notify (with the method established by the community college) the appropriate admissions officer of his/her qualifications for college credit under this agreement.
5. The student must receive teacher recommendation for completed course.

Blue Ridge Community College programs eligible for advanced placement credit include: Automotive Systems Technology, Business Administration, Computer Programming, Web Technologies, Computer Information Technology, Office Administration, Cosmetology, Mechanical Engineering Technology, Electronics Engineering Technology, Horticulture Technology, Computer-Integrated Machining, and Welding Technology.

For information about specific courses, contact the Blue Ridge Community College Registrar or your high school counselor.

Transfer Credit: Course work transferred or accepted for credit toward an undergraduate degree must represent collegiate course work relevant to the degree, with course content and level of instruction resulting in student competencies at least equivalent to those of students enrolled in Blue Ridge Community College undergraduate degree program. This work must be documented by official transcript and must meet the minimum Blue Ridge academic standards of a grade of "C" or better. Blue Ridge Community College accepts transfer credit of course work from regionally accredited institutions only. In assessing and documenting equivalent learning and qualified faculty, Blue Ridge Community College uses recognized guides that aid in the evaluation for credit. Such guides include those published by the American Council on Education, the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, and the National Association of Foreign Student Affairs. Course work transferred or accepted for credit toward the Degrees and Diplomas which are part of the College Transfer program is governed by the North Carolina Comprehensive Articulation Agreement. Students wishing to use credit from foreign institutions for transfer may, at the discretion of the College, be required to provide foreign credential evaluation from a nationally recognized service such as "World Education Services." For further information, contact the Student Services Division.

Professional Certifications: Blue Ridge Community College currently recognizes the Automotive Service Excellence certification (A.S.E.) and awards credit in the Automotive Systems Technology curriculum program. A handout outlining specific course credit for certification levels is available in Student Services.

Academic Probation

The following procedures apply to those students who experience academic difficulty:

A student is considered to be making unsatisfactory academic progress, and will be placed on academic probation, when his/her cumulative grade point average falls below 2.0. A student on academic probation for one semester will be required to consult with a counselor before registering for another semester.

During this conference the counselor and student will determine that one of the following actions is required:

1. Continue with normal academic load next semester
2. Reduce academic load next semester
3. Either 1 or 2 and participate in academic assistance in the form of tutoring, counseling sessions, learning center, or other appropriate resources
4. Enroll in preparatory courses of study
5. Transfer to another program of study

Students who fail to maintain satisfactory academic progress two successive semesters will be required to consult with a counselor. As a result of this conference, the counselor, in conjunction with the academic advisor, may require the student to take one of the actions described in point 3 above.

In certain circumstances the counselor, in conjunction with the academic advisor, may institute one semester of academic suspension when it appears to be in the best interest of the student. This option will be exercised only after two consecutive semesters of academic probation and when it is clear that other assistance for the student is not appropriate. Note: See Readmission.

Auditing

A student who audits a course pays the normal tuition and fees. Auditing students do not take tests or examinations, nor do they receive grades, credit, or financial aid. They cannot later change the "audit" to credit. Students auditing a course must meet the same course prerequisite and attendance standards as other students. Students who audit a course and withdraw or are dropped from the course will be issued a grade of WP. Students who desire to audit must inform their instructor at the first class session. Audits appear on the grade report as "Y."

Certificates and Diplomas, Continuing Education Classes

Certificates and diplomas are awarded to students who successfully complete the requirements of the class and are given for certification, state testing, documentation of training, or by request of the instructor or student.

Change of Major

A student completes requirements as listed in the most current curriculum standard at the time of entry into a program of study. A change of major constitutes moving to the most current curriculum standard. Appropriate forms are located in the Registrar's Office or on the Blue Ridge Community College Web site at www.blueridge.edu.

Course Overload Policy

The minimum number of hours required to qualify as a full-time student is twelve (12) semester hours. No student may take more than twenty-one (21) semester hours without written permission from the Vice President for Student Services. Requests to take course overloads will be considered in light of the student's previous academic performance.

Any student enrolled in two or more colleges concurrently during a semester shall give each of the colleges complete enrollment information including the name of each college in which the student is enrolled, the number of credit hours taken, the class schedules, and other relevant information. Any student who exceeds 21 credit hours during a semester

without prior approval of the home college or fails to give complete and accurate enrollment information shall be prohibited from taking courses at any community college for one academic year.

Course Repetitions

Curriculum Students: A student may elect to repeat courses in which "D" or "F" was the assigned grade. A student may not audit or repeat a course in any curriculum for credit more than one time. The appropriate Dean must approve any exception. A student may not repeat a course for credit when transfer credit has been awarded. When a course is repeated for credit, the last grade assigned will be used in computing the grade point average unless the last grade assigned is a non-weighted grade such as W, WP, WF, or Y.

Continuing Education Students: Students who take an occupational extension course more than twice within a five-year period will be charged the actual cost of the course, currently \$6.50 per classroom hour. Students may repeat an occupational extension course more than once if repetitions are required for certification, licensure, or recertification.

Course Substitutions

Only courses with a grade of "C" or better for comparable coursework may be considered for substitution. Substitution of courses is generally not allowed except in extreme circumstances. Such occasions might include changes in curriculum course requirements or addition of new courses which might be more beneficial to the long-term, part-time student who matriculates over a period of several years. In such cases it is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for course substitution with the appropriate faculty advisor. The form is forwarded to the appropriate dean for approval. If approved at that level, the request will then be forwarded to the Vice President for Instruction for review and final approval. If approved by the Vice President for Instruction, the request is routed to the Registrar for the student's official record. Financial aid and veterans benefits recipients may be limited in the number of course substitutions by federal regulations.

Credit by Examination

Students who can document their proficiencies in a subject area may request credit by examination. Examples of documentation include: transcript(s) of similar college level courses, record of military study, certification or licensure, or written statements from employers regarding training or directly related work experience.

Exams are comprehensive and may be taken only once. A student who has previously received any recorded grade for a course may not request credit by exam for that course. The testing instructor's decision will be final. Credit by examination appears on the grade report as "CR."

The Dean within the department offering the course is responsible for testing procedures within that department.

The following procedure should be used by the student who requests credit by examination:

1. The student must be currently enrolled at Blue Ridge Community College.
2. The student must enroll in the course and attend class prior to requesting credit by examination.
3. The student must confer with his/her advisor and/or instructor regarding the procedure and documentation requirements.
4. The student must present proper documentation before permission is granted.
5. The student must complete the Application for Credit by Examination with his/her advisor and be tested within the first 15 school days of the semester.
6. The student who successfully completes credit by examination must then officially withdraw from the course.

NOTE: Tuition charges paid for credit by examination are nonrefundable.

Dean's List

Full-time students in degree or diploma programs can be named to the Dean's List. For the Dean's List, a full-time student is defined as a student carrying a minimum of twelve (12) credit hours for Fall and Spring semesters and nine (9) credit hours for Summer Term.

The student must have a minimum 3.50 grade point average to qualify for the semester under consideration. Grades of D, F, I, W, WP, or WF will eliminate a student from the Dean's List for that particular semester. Course work completed with a grade of "CR" issued for Credit by Exam will not count towards full-time enrollment.

A list of students attaining honors will be compiled by the Registrar each semester and sent to the Director of Public Relations for publication in local and pertinent hometown newspapers.

Double Major

A student may declare a double major pending approval by the appropriate dean and the Registrar. The student's academic file will reflect both majors. Upon completion of required courses for each major, the student will receive the associate degree, diploma, or certificate depending upon the curriculum in which the student is enrolled. The second major is not eligible for financial aid or veteran's benefits.

Final Examination Policy

Final examinations are normally scheduled during the last three days of the Fall and Spring Semester. Final examinations for Summer Term are normally the last day of class. The length of the final examination is at the discretion of the instructor and the Vice President for Instruction.

General Education Competencies

The College has identified three specific college-level competencies within the general education core that are tracked for associate degree students to gauge the level of proficiency of its graduates.

1. **Reading for Information:** Students will be able to read and comprehend a variety of written information. The student will be able to interpret, analyze, summarize, and evaluate written material from academic, professional, technical, and popular sources.
2. **Locating Information:** Students will be able to locate, evaluate, synthesize, and compare information in a variety of forms. Students will then be able to make informed decisions.
3. **Applied Mathematics:** Students will demonstrate appropriate understanding of basic mathematical concepts and use this understanding to solve practical problems. Students should be able to use this information to make informed decisions and as a basis for lifelong learning.

Students graduating with an A.A.Sc. degree will complete the WorkKeys® certification program through the JobLink Career Center as part of their program of study.

Grading System

Grades issued by the College are based upon quality of achievement of the objectives of the course being taken.

Grade Point Average (GPA)

The grade point is used to evaluate the student's scholarship record. Grade points are allocated to semester credit hours earned as follows:

A	4 grade points for each credit hour
B	3 grade points for each credit hour
C	2 grade points for each credit hour
D	1 grade point for each credit hour
F	0 grade points for each credit hour
WF	not calculated in grade points
WP	not calculated in grade points
I	not calculated in grade points
W	not calculated in grade points
Y	not calculated in grade points
CR	not calculated in grade points

A qualitative index of the student's scholarship, or overall grade point average, is obtained by dividing the total number of grade points earned by the total number of semester hours attempted in which a grade of A, B, C, D, or F is received. For example, if a student has earned 136 grade points on 48 hours attempted, the grade point average is 136 divided by 48 or 2.833.

The qualitative index of the student's scholarship in the program of study, the major grade point average, is obtained by dividing the number of grade points earned in the program of study by the total number of semester hours attempted in the program of study in which a grade of A, B, C, D, or F is received. Grade points and hours attempted for courses not in the program of study are not included in the calculation of the major grade point average.

In order to improve the ratio, a student may elect to repeat courses in which the grade assigned has been D or F. A student may not repeat courses for credit for which transfer credit has previously been granted. When a course is repeated for credit, the grade and hours earned the last time the course is taken will be used in computing the grade point average. The previous grades cannot be removed from a student's record, and the records will show all grades for all courses taken.

Grades and Grade Changes

All grades are recorded on a student's official transcript after the completion of each semester. The student will be furnished with a report of grades earned. Once grades have been awarded, they may be changed only with the written authorization of the instructor and the approval of the Vice President for Instruction.

The College has the right to set academic standards which students must meet. A student is entitled to an explanation from his or her instructor(s) for the basis of his/her grade to ensure that the grade has not been assigned in an arbitrary and capricious manner. For purposes of these Procedures, a course grade is deemed to have been assigned in an arbitrary and capricious manner if:

1. The course grade was based upon the student's race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, disability, sexual orientation, or for some other arbitrary or personal reason unrelated to the instructor's exercise of his or her professional academic judgment in the evaluation of the academic performance of the student;
2. The course grade was assigned in a manner not consistent with the standards and procedures for evaluation established by the instructor, usually at the beginning of the course in the course syllabus but supplemented on occasion during the semester in other written or oral communications directed to the class as a whole; or
3. The course grade assigned by the instructor was the result of a clear and material mistake in calculating or recording grades.

A course grade assigned consistent with these Procedures can only be changed by the instructor; however, the instructor may be forced to change the grade if it is determined that the grade was assigned in an arbitrary and capricious manner. If a student is dissatisfied with his or her grade, the student must first meet with the instructor who assigned the grade or

the supervising dean if the instructor is not available within thirty (30) business days after official posting of that grade. If the student is still dissatisfied with his or her grade, within ten (10) business days after the meeting with the instructor, the student may file a grievance pursuant to Student Grievance Procedure and Due Process section of this catalog.

Grade Significance

- A Represents work of definitely superior quality and is reserved for the few outstanding students. It is distinctly the honor mark.
- B Represents work of excellent quality and is recorded for those who do work which is clearly above average
- C Represents work of average quality and is recorded for those students who do average work
- D Represents work which is below the average but above failure
- F Represents work that is not of an acceptable quality
- I Represents incomplete. An incomplete grade must be removed before the end of the succeeding term or the incomplete automatically becomes a grade of F
- WP Represents withdrawal from a course with a passing grade. If the student is doing passing work, this grade will also be assigned when the student withdraws or drops from a course prior to the 75% point of the semester
- WF Represents withdrawal from a course with a failing grade. This grade will also be assigned to all students who are dropped from a course after the 75% point of the semester for all reasons other than extenuating circumstances.
- W Represents never attending a class for which a student registered
- Y Represents audit
- TR Transfer Credit
- CR Credit by Examination
- AP Advanced Placement or R.A.V.E.
- (*) Represents repeated courses; GPA refigured
- (.) Represents course not included in GPA of current program of study
- S Passing, student accomplished class objectives from "standard of progress" (for Continuing Education course work only)
- U Failing - student failed to meet course requirements and/or attend 80% of the course contact hours to be eligible for a passing grade (for Continuing Education course work only)

Graduation Requirements

The student will be held responsible for fulfilling all requirements for the degree, diploma, or certificate. In order to graduate, students must:

1. Achieve a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 in their program of study.
2. Apply to the Registrar's Office for the degree, diploma, or certificate during registration for the last semester of

enrollment. The application should be accompanied by the required graduation fee and be paid to the cashier.

3. Fulfill all financial obligations and admissions requirements to the College.
4. Complete a minimum of one-half the required credit hours as a student at Blue Ridge Community College. The final fifteen credit hours of study prior to graduation must be completed at the College unless special permission is obtained from the Vice President for Student Services.

Candidates for graduation from degree, diploma, and certificate programs are required to participate in graduation rehearsal and exercises unless excused by the Vice President for Student Services. A written request must be submitted to the Vice President for Student Services. Students who complete requirements for degrees, diplomas, or certificates will be eligible to graduate at the next scheduled graduation ceremony following the semester during which requirements are completed.

Graduation with Honors: Any student who has a grade point average of 3.50 or greater in their program of study and has completed at least half of the curriculum requirements in residence at Blue Ridge Community College will be granted a degree, diploma, or certificate with honors.

Incompletes

Incomplete indicates failure to complete certain course requirements because of extenuating circumstances. All incompletes must be removed before the end of the succeeding term or the incomplete automatically becomes a failure. The student is responsible for completing requirements when an incomplete "I" grade is issued. Two or more incompletes in a semester will result in the student being required to carry a reduced load the following semester. Students with three or more incompletes may register for the following semester by special permission only. Incompletes will be counted as hours attempted and not earned for Satisfactory Academic Progress in determining financial aid eligibility.

Licensure

Graduates of certain Blue Ridge Community College programs, such as Associate Degree Nursing and Cosmetology, are eligible to sit for licensing examinations. Surgical Technology graduates are eligible to sit for a certification exam. However, the College assumes no responsibility for the administration of these exams. Students are encouraged to inquire about the possibility of licensing prior to entering a program of study.

Prerequisites/Corequisites

Prerequisites: Prerequisites include developmental course work as prescribed by placement testing, the preceding course in a sequence of courses, or a high school course. Certain programs require prerequisite courses be completed prior to fall enrollment. The advisor and the student must

discuss the waiver of any course prerequisite; any request must be made prior to the process. There must be adequate documentation, which demonstrates that the student has the ability to be successful in the course materials. Developmental course prerequisites, however, may not be waived.

The decision to waive a prerequisite course will be made by the appropriate dean after consultation with the student's advisor, the department faculty, and the student. The Vice President for Instruction, who will provide written notice to the Registrar, must approve the decision.

If a student registers for a course without meeting the prerequisite(s), the student will be officially dropped prior to the first day of class unless a waiver is granted.

Corequisites: Corequisite courses should be taken the same semester. Exceptions may be approved by the appropriate dean and will be documented in the student's academic file.

Second Degree or Diploma

A graduate who holds one associate degree may earn a second associate degree by taking additional work equal to at least one-half of the total credit hours for the second degree and by meeting all requirements for the second degree. A graduate who holds one diploma may earn a second diploma by taking additional work equal to at least one-half of the total credit hours for the second diploma and by meeting all requirements for the second diploma.

Student Records

Student records are maintained in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Blue Ridge Community College considers the following information to be "Directory Information" and will release such information to the public on request unless the individual student declares in writing to the Registrar that such information is not to be made available:

1. Student's name
2. Dates of attendance, degrees, diplomas, certificates, or awards received
3. Major field of study or program
4. Enrollment status
5. Most recent educational agency or institutions attended
6. Date and place of birth
7. Full address
8. Telephone number or e-mail address
9. Participation in officially recognized activities
10. Photograph
11. Grade level

All other information contained in the individual's educational record is considered confidential and will be released only on written approval from the student concerned.

The individual student is authorized, upon request to the Registrar, to review his/her educational record and to challenge erroneous or misleading information contained therein. Copies of the detailed policy concerning student records are maintained in the Registrar's Office and are available upon request.

Blue Ridge Community College does not sell or otherwise provide mailing lists of students to any person or entity except as mandated by certain federal laws for military recruiters. The Solomon Amendment requires the release of name, address, and date of birth to military recruiters upon their request.

Transcript Request of a Student's Academic Record

Transcripts of a student's Blue Ridge Community College academic record will be released only on written request from the student concerned. Forms to request transcripts are available in the Registrar's Office or students may write, fax, or send a scanned signature to the Registrar. There is no charge for this service. Transcript requests are processed daily and normally can be picked up after 10 a.m. or are mailed the day following receipt of a written request, according to the student's instructions. Transcripts are not faxed. Persons who pick up transcripts for students must have written, signed permission to do so from the student.

Transfer of Blue Ridge Credits to Senior Institutions

As an accredited community college, courses from the College Transfer programs (Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, and Associate in Fine Arts) transfer to senior institutions throughout the state and country. Transfer of courses between institutions in the North Carolina Community College System and the University of North Carolina is governed by the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement developed by the two systems. Students successfully completing a designated 44 semester hour "general education transfer core" at a community college will be considered to have fulfilled the lower-division general education requirements of the senior institution, and degree graduates will be granted junior status upon transfer. In addition to the comprehensive articulation agreement, many senior institutions in the area have prepared transfer equivalency lists which demonstrate how Blue Ridge Community College courses match courses at their institution. These are available from the Transfer Coordinator or from the Vice President for Student Services.

In addition to courses in the College Transfer Program, many courses in the technology programs (Associate in Applied Science) transfer to certain senior institutions. For example, transfer agreements exist with the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and Western Carolina University whereby graduates of Blue Ridge Community College engineering technology curricula may transfer into Bachelor

of Engineering Technology programs at those institutions. Other colleges have signed agreements whereby they will accept graduates of Blue Ridge Community College technical programs, normally granting the student junior status. Details on transfer agreements are available in the Student Services Division. It is important that students consult with the four-year institution of choice about transfer procedures as early as possible during their enrollment at Blue Ridge Community College. It is always the prerogative of the receiving institution to accept or reject transfer credit.

Blue Ridge Community College has the following specific transfer/articulation agreements to facilitate further education for graduates:

Collaborative Agreements Program

- Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College
 - Biotechnology
- Fayetteville Technical College
- Southeastern Community College
 - Interpreter Education
 - Environmental Science Technology

One-Plus-One Programs

- Greenville Technical College
 - Dental Hygiene
 - Occupational Therapy Assistant
 - Physical Therapist Assistant

Two-Plus-Two Programs

- UNC-Greensboro
 - Various programs

Transfer Agreements

- East Carolina University
 - B.S. Birth - Kindergarten Teacher Education
- East Tennessee State University
 - B.S. Early Childhood Education (licensure or non-licensure)
- Mars Hill College
 - Binary Education Agreement for Elementary Education, Special Education, Integrated Education, Middle Grades and ESL
- North Carolina A and T State University
 - Landscape Horticulture Design
- North Carolina Central University
 - Hospitality and Tourism
- North Carolina State University
 - Horticulture
- Western Carolina University
 - B.F.A. in Theatre
 - B.A. in Speech and Theatre Arts
 - B.A., B.S., B.S.Ed. in Music
 - B.S. Electronics Engineering Tech
 - B.S. Telecommunications Eng Tech
 - B.S. Birth - Kindergarten (teacher licensure)
 - B. S. Ed. Elementary Education

Transfer to Another Program Within BRCC

All transfers within the College will be carefully considered on an individual basis, with special attention being given to the student's past academic record.

Students granted internal transfers of program will be given credit for courses taken in their previous programs that are comparable or identical to courses offered in their new program, provided their grades meet minimum college academic standards.

Grades of "D" or better for all identical courses will be transferred and will be included in the grade point average of the new program. Courses with grades of "C" or better will be transferred for all comparable courses and will be included in the total hours completed in a program but will not be included in the computation of the grade point average.

Students receiving financial aid should notify the Financial Aid Office if they transfer to another program.

Tutoring

The Peer and Volunteer Tutoring Program provides additional support to all students at the College. Free tutoring is available in most subject areas by trained, instructor-recommended tutors. For more information, students should contact their instructor, the STAR Center at the Henderson County Campus, or the Learning Center at the Transylvania County Campus.

Unit of Credit

The unit of credit at Blue Ridge Community College is the semester hour. The school year consists of two semesters and a summer term.

Credit hours may be computed by the following formula:

- 1 class hour = 1 semester credit hour
- 2 laboratory hours = 1 semester credit hour
- 3 manipulative laboratory hours = 1 semester credit hour
- 10 work experience (cooperative education) hours = 1 semester credit hour

For the credit value of a given course, consult the course descriptions in this catalog.

Continuing Education Units: Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be awarded to those persons satisfactorily completing any of the courses listed as offering a specified number of CEUs. One CEU is defined as ten contact hours of participation in an organized continuing education experience under responsible sponsorship, capable direction, and qualified instruction.

A permanent record of each person's CEU attainments will be maintained. Individuals, firms, and professional organizations may use compilations of CEUs to provide measures of recognition for non-credit educational achievements

Withdrawals from Courses

This policy applies to all Blue Ridge Community College curriculum courses.

During Drop/Add: The student may officially drop a class through the drop/add period using the Drop/Add Card. These cards can be obtained from the student's advisor or the registrar.

After Drop/Add: A student wishing to officially withdraw from a class must complete a drop card. All drop cards must be submitted to the Registrar during the first 75% of the term. For semester classes the 75% point occurs at the end of the twelfth week. For summer semester it occurs in the middle of the seventh week. Deadline dates will be published in the Student Calendar. The official withdrawal from a course must be arranged through the instructor of the course or the appropriate dean. An official withdrawal requires the student's signature on the drop card. In the case of a drop, the student will receive a grade of WP or WF, which will not influence the grade point average, but which will appear on the transcript. Students receiving financial aid should notify the Financial Aid Office if they withdraw from a course or withdraw from the College. Students may not initiate dropping a class during the final 25% of the term.

Any student who accumulates absences in excess of 10% of the course contact hours may be dropped from the class (See Attendance, Curriculum Students). If the student is dropped from a class during the first 75% of the term, the student will receive a grade of WP, or WF. If the student is dropped from a class during the final 25% of the term for excessive absences, the student will receive a grade of WF for all reasons other than extenuating circumstances. In cases of extenuating circumstances such as serious illness or job transfer, appeals must be made to the supervising dean. The dean and the instructor of the course will determine the appropriate grade for the course.

Students who register for a course and never attend classes will be dropped by the instructor after accumulated absences exceed 10 percent of the scheduled class contact hours for the semester. A grade of "W" will be assigned for these courses.

Student Life

Bookstore

New and used textbooks and school supplies are available in the College Bookstore located in the Killian Building on the Henderson County Campus and the Student Center at the Transylvania County Campus. Books may be purchased online at www.blueridgebooks.com. Pursuant to the Higher Education Opportunity Act, Blue Ridge Community College is required to share required textbook information (ISBN number and retail price) with students at the time they register for classes. This information can be found on the Blue Ridge Community College Bookstore Web site at www.blueridgebooks.com.

Cafeteria

The cafeteria in the Killian Building provides food service for students, faculty, and staff.

Campus Security

Campus Security serves the safety and security needs of the College. It is the mission of Blue Ridge Community College to provide the safest educational environment possible for faculty, staff, students, and visitors at Blue Ridge Community College campus locations.

9-1-1 Emergency Services should be contacted in any situation involving imminent harm or threat to self or others.

There are fourteen 9-1-1 call boxes located around the Henderson County Campus.

Crime awareness is a collective responsibility of the College, its staff, faculty, students, and visitors. All must recognize that they must take individual steps to protect themselves from becoming the victim of a crime and to promote security on campus and at College events. Contact Security at (828) 243-9950 with any concern you may have. Security can provide escorts when needed.

1. **Access to Campus Facilities:** All Blue Ridge Community College campus locations are open to faculty, staff, students, and visitors during normal operating hours. Access during closed hours will be governed by prior arrangements with the Finance and Operations Division for community groups and with the College vice presidents for employees. All persons, while on the premises, are expected and required to obey all federal, state, and local laws and ordinances, as well as College procedures governing appropriate conduct. Persons in violation of the above will be subject to any action deemed appropriate by competent authority.
2. **Campus Law Enforcement/Campus Security:** Blue Ridge Community College provides a Sheriff's deputy during the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. on the Henderson County Campus. This officer coordinates with the Vice President for Finance and Operations. Law enforcement support agencies include the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation, N.C. State Highway Patrol, Henderson County Sheriff's Department, Transylvania County Sheriff's Department, Brevard Police Department, and other appropriate agencies.
3. **Criminal Activity Reporting:** Known or suspected violations of federal and state criminal laws should be reported to 9-1-1 if the violation is in process, then to the on-campus Sheriff's deputy at (828) 243-9950 or the College Switchboard (Henderson County Campus: (828) 694-1700, Transylvania County Campus: (828) 883-2520). Upon notification by Security or the Switchboard of criminal activity, an assigned administrator will involve the appropriate law enforcement agency and file the required documentation with the College administration. Responsible administrators will review campus crime reports to ensure that the data required by the Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act is compiled and disseminated to the College community. Examples of criminal activity to be reported: larceny, theft, assault, threat, fight, vandalism, disorderly/disruptive behavior, and suspicious person, vehicle or activity.
4. **Criminal Activity at Off-Campus Student Organizations:** Criminal incidents occurring off-campus including students participating in a College function should be reported to the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction. The Vice President for Student Services should be informed of the incident as soon as possible.
5. **Other Incident Reporting:** For non-criminal incidents such as accidents, major injuries, illness or fire, first call 9-1-1, then call the College Switchboard (Henderson County Campus: (828) 694-1700, Transylvania County Campus: (828) 694-1900). Switchboard will notify the Emergency Response Team.
6. **Current Statistics Concerning Crime on Campus:** During the period January 1 - December 31, 2010, no offenses were reported in the categories of burglary, murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, motor vehicle theft, or liquor/drug violations on Blue Ridge Community College campuses.
7. **Registered Sex Offenders on Campus:** The Federal Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act requires registered sex offenders/predators to provide to the Henderson County or Transylvania County Sheriff's Office notice of each institution of higher education in the state at which the offender/predator is employed, carries on a vocation, or is a student. Any member of the Blue Ridge Community College community who wishes to obtain further information regarding sexual offenders/predators in their area may refer to any the following Web sites:
 - Federal Bureau of Investigation:
www.fbi.gov/hq/cid/cac/states.htm
 - Dru Sjodin National Sex Offender Public Web site:
www.nsopr.gov
 - NC Sex Offender and Public Protection Registry:
www.ncfindoffender.gov or call (919) 856-6900.

Class Locations

Most curriculum and continuing education classes are held at the Henderson County Campus and the Transylvania County Campus of Blue Ridge Community College. Other continuing education courses are conducted throughout Henderson and Transylvania Counties at local public schools, community centers, churches, industries, businesses, or wherever a suitable meeting place can be arranged. Continuing Education classes may be organized in any community whenever a sufficient number of prospective class members indicate an interest.

Counseling

Counseling services are available for students who desire assistance with vocational, educational, or personal problems. All interviews with the counselor are conducted in strict confidence. Counselors are available both day and evening.

Disability Services

Blue Ridge Community College shall operate its programs, activities, and services to ensure that no otherwise qualified individuals with a disability shall be excluded from participating in, be denied the benefit of, or be subjected to discrimination under any such program, activity, or service solely by reason of their disability.

Individuals with disabilities (as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act) wishing to make a request for reasonable accommodation or desiring to file a complaint of alleged discrimination on the basis of disability should contact the Disability Services Office located in Room 127 of the Sink Building. It is the student's responsibility to request services from this office. Current documentation of the disability by an appropriate professional will be required. All information will be 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 at least two weeks in advance to allow sufficient time for accommodations to be arranged.

Drug Prevention Program

Blue Ridge Community College conducts an ongoing informational program for students and employees describing the dangers of abuse of narcotics, alcoholic beverages, and stimulant drugs. The Student Services Division will provide informational materials designed to alert the entire college community to the above described hazards. The College will cooperate with all other appropriate community agencies in this endeavor. Specific college policies strictly prohibit possession and use of such substances on the campus and during any college sponsored function. Severe sanctions against violators are provided for in these policies.

Electronic Images

Blue Ridge Community College reserves the right to use photographs, motion pictures, and electronic images of students who are age 18 or older with the following provisions:

- Such photographs, pictures, or images are taken on College property or at College-sponsored events; and
- The use of such photographs, pictures, and images is for marketing and promotional purposes.

Objection to the use of an individual's photograph in such a manner may be made in writing to the Director of Public Relations.

Electronic Mail

Student electronic mail is considered to be an official means of communication between the College and a student. Student e-mail is an official account of Blue Ridge Community College. It is the property of the College and should be used only for institutional purposes. When a student first enrolls in any curriculum course, he/she will be issued a free student e-mail account. Instructions on how to log in to the network and obtain passwords, etc. may be obtained from the student's faculty advisor or the Student Services Division. Online students must activate their BRCC e-mail accounts as soon as possible following registration for classes.

Emergency Closings

Blue Ridge Community College will remain open as scheduled unless the following emergencies exist: (a) severe or inclement weather conditions that would endanger the adult population while traveling to and from places of employment such as in business, industry, and service agencies; (b) quarantines or epidemics declared by medical authorities for public health purposes; (c) critical power failure that would prevent normal operation of the school plant; (d) declared national or state emergencies or restrictions imposed by civil authorities; (e) bomb threats, conveyed by phone or other communications; (f) fire emergencies; (g) tornadoes; (h) disruptive activities; (i) financial emergency.

Notice of closings will be made using radio, television messaging, telephone recordings, and Internet postings. A complete list of media used is available in the Student Handbook and Calendar. Announcements will specify openings, closings, and delayed schedules for both day and evening classes, and for both the Henderson County Campus and the Transylvania County Campus. Morning announcements will be made by 6:30 a.m. A separate announcement about evening classes will be made by 2 p.m.

Delay or cancellation of classes may not always coincide with announced closings of local public schools, colleges, or governmental agencies. It is also possible, for example, that classes at the Transylvania County Campus may be held while the Henderson County Campus is closed. In some cases, off-campus instruction may continue when

safety permits and when those class locations are deemed operational by other agencies.

In cases when the College announces a delayed opening, if any portion of a scheduled class or lab can be held after the opening time, then that remaining portion of the class must be held.

Emergency Contact of Students

In medical emergencies, a student may be contacted through the Student Services Division. Classes will not be disturbed to deliver personal messages except in emergencies as determined by the Vice President for Student Services or a designated substitute.

Emergency Medical Assistance

Blue Ridge Community College has no facilities for medical treatment. Students are encouraged to disclose any acute medical conditions to the Registrar's Office and to their instructors. Such information will be held in confidence.

Blue Ridge Community College personnel and/or individuals will contact emergency services at 9-1-1 and request first responder services in the event of a medical emergency.

Henderson County Joblink Career Center

The Henderson County JobLink Career Center, located on the campus of Blue Ridge Community College, provides a comprehensive system of services to area job seekers and businesses. Workforce development professionals from Blue Ridge Community College, Mountain Area Workforce Development, North Carolina Department of Social Services Work First, North Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation and North Carolina Employment Security Commission collaborate to offer career planning, training, placement, and business services. The Center has an "open door" policy and serves anyone regardless of age or income level.

Henderson County JobLink Career Center is committed to building an integrated economic and workforce development system in Henderson County which effectively pools the resources of diverse partner agencies and delivers optimal quality, customer focused services.

Services to Job Seekers

The JobLink Center assists job seekers in choosing career direction, identifying training programs and funding, refining job seeking skills, finding employment and career progression. Services to job seekers include:

- ACT® WorkKeys Assessment in Communication, Problem Solving, Interpersonal and Personal Skills
- Career assessments/exploration and career counseling
- Computer software tutorials and assessments
- Employment coaching
- Information on community resources
- Internet access to employment and training resources

- Job readiness skills training
- Job referral
- Job search strategies
- Job-seeking skills workshops
- On-site Employment Security Commission services
- Preparation for and issuance of the North Carolina Career Readiness Certificate
- Resume consultation and preparation
- Workforce Investment Act (WIA) job training assistance funding
- Workplace skills enhancement using WIN curriculum

Housing

The College does not provide housing; students commute to campus from their place of residence.

Multi-Cultural Services

Blue Ridge Community College recognizes and respects cultural differences. The College strives to help minority students find a sense of identity, belonging, commitment, and achievement. For more information about services for multi-cultural students, contact the Director of Minority Services in the Student Services Division.

Open Computer Lab

The Open Computer Lab in the Technology Education and Development Center provides a place where students have access to computers with Microsoft Office applications, Internet access, and other software programs used at Blue Ridge Community College. Students may work on online courses, research papers or special projects for class. Hours for each semester will be posted on the College Web site at www.blueridge.edu. Students will be asked to present their BRCC Student Identification (ID) Card.

Print Shop

The College Print Shop offers photocopying and printing services for students at a nominal fee. All work is performed in strict accordance with federal copyright laws and N.C. General Statute 66-58(a).

Student Accident Insurance

Students covered under the student accident insurance policy should notify the Vice President for Student Services or a designee within forty-eight (48) hours of an accident. The Vice President for Student Services or a designee will assist the student in making a claim to the insurance company.

Student Activity Fees

State funds cannot be used for athletics or other extracurricular activities; therefore, such activities at Blue Ridge Community College are established and maintained by Student Government Association (SGA) funds. These SGA funds are derived from the activity fee. Their use is determined by the SGA.

Student Center

The Student Center on the Henderson County Campus is located in the Killian Building. Wireless internet access is available as well as game tables and vending.

Student Clubs

Student club participation is an important part of the total college experience, providing a variety of educational, cultural and social activities for the entire college community. Students attendance and participation is encouraged for workshops, speakers, concerts, plays, and other events.

Student Consumer Information

Blue Ridge Community College believes it has a major responsibility in helping students to make sound decisions about availing themselves of the educational opportunities available at the College. Through the admissions process and beyond, the College shall endeavor to provide accurate and reliable information about its programs of study and career fields they represent. Graduation rates by program, opportunities for employment in the chosen field, and average salary rates are available upon request from the Student Services Division.

Student Government Association (SGA)

The Student Government Association (SGA) is made up of representatives from the student body. SGA coordinates and regulates student activities and serves as the official voice of the student body. All curriculum students who pay an activity fee are considered members of SGA and are welcome and encouraged to attend meetings. The President of the SGA is a non-voting member of the BRCC Board of Trustees. The SGA constitution can be found in the Student Services Division located in the Sink Building.

Traditionally SGA has promoted at least one major social activity each term. Allied Health Day is generally held for day and evening students during October and the Annual Spring Picnic in April. SGA purchases twenty-five (25) memberships to the YMCA for Blue Ridge Community College curriculum students living in Henderson County. Activity fees are further used for the annual SGA Awards Ceremony as well as various other fun events on campus. SGA also provides six merit scholarships each year.

Student Identification Cards

All curriculum students (full-time or part-time) enrolled at BRCC and taking classes on campus are required to obtain a student identification (ID) card at the time of registration for classes. ID cards will have a photograph of the student and will contain embedded data. The card may be used at the College Library, in BRCC computer labs, or for admission to College activities or events. Students enrolled in certain classes, such as "clinical site" classes, must display their

BRCC identification. ID cards will be issued at the College Bookstore. To obtain an ID card, students must have a current semester schedule and one other means of identification. Students will be charged a nominal fee for the first ID card. Replacement cards cost \$10. All ID cards will remain valid for one year. The President, a College Vice President, and Security Officers have the authority to retrieve a student ID card in the event of a disciplinary action by the college, such as suspension or dismissal, or in the event of misuse of the card, such as using the card for false identification.

Sustainability Policy

Blue Ridge Community College is committed to providing a sustainable campus by reducing, reusing, and recycling resources, and adopting sound institutional energy conservation practices to enhance the long-term well-being of the College.

Visitors on Campus

Classes should not be interrupted by visitors except in cases of emergency or by permission of the instructor. Visitors coming to see students are directed to the Student Services Division.

The College encourages visitors to campus, but due to certain hazards that may exist on campus, children must be supervised at all times by a responsible adult who shall be deemed responsible for the children's actions. Children who are unsupervised must be considered to be in a dangerous position. An administrator should be alerted immediately. Students should not bring children with them to class.

Stalking, as defined in North Carolina General Statute 14-277.3, is the following or being in the presence of someone without legal purpose, with the intent to cause emotional distress by placing that person in fear of death or bodily injury. Such activity is illegal and should be reported to the Vice President for Student Services or the Vice President for Finance and Operations.

Dogs on Campus

Dogs are permitted on College grounds only under the following conditions:

1. Dogs must be restrained at all times and kept on a hand-held leash. Dogs may not be tethered or unattended for any length of time.
2. All dogs must have a current license and evidence of rabies vaccinations.
3. Persons walking dogs on campus are responsible for removing any refuse left by the animal and depositing such in a proper receptacle.
4. No dog defined as dangerous by either state or county law is allowed on College grounds at any time.
5. No dog, except guide dogs or dogs used for law enforcement, may be brought into College buildings.
6. Dogs in violation of any of the above may be subject to apprehension and impounding.

Student Conduct

Academic Freedom

Blue Ridge Community College recognizes the necessity for freedom in legitimate academic decisions that foster a learning environment where faculty and students can freely inquire, study, and evaluate in order to gain greater understanding of the subjects being taught. To that end, the College endeavors to give faculty members the freedom to conduct individual academic affairs in accordance with each member's best judgment.

The content of most college courses is designed for mature learners. Parents of minors who take college level courses should be aware that these students may be exposed to frank portrayals of world events, history, and controversial events that take place in contemporary society. It is each parent's responsibility to determine if the student is mature enough to participate in advanced studies at the college level.

Academic Honesty

Blue Ridge Community College operates under the premise of academic honesty. The policy is that plagiarism and cheating are prohibited. Whereas it is the instructor's responsibility to create an environment in which academic honesty is expected, it is the student's obligation to uphold this policy.

A student is responsible for authenticating any assignment submitted to an instructor. If asked, the student must be able to substantiate to the instructor's satisfaction that the assignment submitted is actually his/her own work. The instructor may employ various means of ascertaining authenticity - such as requiring photocopies of source documents, requiring copies of all drafts of the work, engaging in Internet searches, creating quizzes based on student work, requiring the student to explain the work and/or process orally, etc.

A. Academic Honesty Policy: A student who violates the academic honesty policy, either directly or indirectly, is immediately responsible to the instructor of the course. The following terms are defined:

- Cheating:** Cheating is defined as the act of practicing or attempting to practice dishonesty or deception in the taking of tests or in the preparation or submission of academic work purporting to be one's own. It includes any of the following actions without instructor permission: (a) copying or attempting to copy from another person's test, paper, online file, or other graded work in a course; (b) allowing someone to copy one's test, paper, online file, or other graded work; (c) using during a testing period, or bringing into a testing area with the intent to use, any notes or other materials which a student is not permitted to consult; (d) creating, falsifying or misrepresenting any data in connection

with a seated (traditional) class, lab or online class or the act of giving any unauthorized assistance or collaboration in a learning environment.

- Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is defined as the act of copying a sentence, several sentences, or a significant part of a sentence that has been written by someone other than the person submitting the paper, and then neglecting to indicate, through the use of quotation marks or blocking, that the material has been copied. Plagiarism includes copying from another writer in such a way as to change one or two words in the sentence, or to rearrange the order of the wording, or to paraphrase, or to summarize information and then neglect to furnish documentation. Failure to cite sources, when appropriate, is a form of dishonesty.

The acts of cheating and/or plagiarism shall encompass, but shall not be limited to the examples or context cited above.

B. Violations of Academic Honesty: In situations involving violations of academic honesty, the student's instructor will take disciplinary actions that may include but are not limited to the following:

- A written warning describing the offense and detailing further consequences should the infraction be repeated.
- The instructor may assign a failing grade ("F" or "zero") for the course, any portion of the course, or a single assignment. If the course serves as a prerequisite for sequential courses within the curriculum, the student will not be able to progress in the program of study until completing the course with a passing grade.
- Referral to the Vice President for Instruction for further disciplinary action.

The President or the President's designee may suspend or expel a student if there are repeated violations of the Academic Honesty Policy.

A student charged with a violation of the Academic Honesty Policy retains the rights of appeal contained in the Student Grievance Procedure and Due Process section of this catalog.

Accountability Statement

Each student at Blue Ridge Community College shall:

- Accept the stated philosophy and purpose of the College as a standard for student rights and responsibilities while enrolled;
- Be responsible for abiding by the regulations designed to promote an atmosphere conducive to learning;
- Agree to share this responsibility with the faculty and administration of the College for the creation of an effective learning environment;

- Remain informed about the objectives of each course, work diligently to complete those objectives, and at all times observe class and institutional policies and procedures;
- Recognize that failure to live up to class and institutional policies and procedures could jeopardize his/her standing as a student at Blue Ridge Community College; and
- Acknowledge by signature on the application for admission to Blue Ridge Community College, acceptance of these responsibilities.

Attendance

Regularity of class attendance is necessary in order to receive maximum benefits from the program offered and for maintenance of a satisfactory academic record. Whenever students' attendance or punctuality endangers their own success or that of other students, they may be dropped from the course. Two tardies may constitute one contact hour absence. Students will normally be dropped after they have accumulated a combination of excused or unexcused absences exceeding ten percent of the scheduled class contact hours for the semester. The instructor may make exception in cases of extenuating circumstances such as a disabling accident or illness. A student is expected to confer with each instructor before anticipated or after unavoidable absences. The responsibility for making up class work rests entirely with the student.

Continuing education students are expected to attend class regularly. Instructors maintain attendance records. Insufficient enrollment will result in cancellation of the class.

Religious Observances: Students are permitted to be absent from class for religious observances required by the student's faith. Two days during the academic year may be approved as excused absences. Students must consult with their instructors during the first week of class and acquire a request form for excused absences for any regularly scheduled religious observance. Information is also available in the Office for Student Services and the Office for Instruction.

Campus Parking and Traffic Regulations

Sheriff's deputies are employed to enforce the parking rules and traffic regulations on the Henderson County Campus. State and local law enforcement agencies will prosecute for violations of applicable laws on campus. The North Carolina Highway Patrol will enforce laws along state roads leading to the College and will investigate traffic accidents in parking lots and on campus access roads. In case of accident, call Security, which will verify the exchange of information, provide advice and counsel and help decide if an accident report is needed. Security can also jump start vehicles, call a locksmith, or otherwise assist with vehicle problems.

Parking on campus does not require a parking sticker. Blue Ridge Community College decals are available, however, for

students, faculty and staff who would like to display them. Temporary handicapped decals, valid only on campus, may be obtained from Security with permission of the Vice President for Finance and Operations. Park only in designated parking places, obey posted parking and traffic signs, and observe flow-of-traffic arrows and "stop" markings painted on paved roads and lots. Citations may be issued for the offenses listed below. A copy of each campus citation is kept on file in the Finance and Operations Division, and repeat offenders may be required to park off campus. In emergency situations and for repeat offenders, illegally parked vehicles may be towed at the expense of the owner.

Parking Offenses

- Parking in Unauthorized Areas
- Double Parking/Blocking Vehicle
- Speeding in Excess of 25 MPH
- Failure to Yield to Pedestrian
- Reckless Driving
- Backing into Parking Space
- Parking in Handicapped Space
- Parking in Visitor's Space

Questions about College parking regulations should be directed to Security or the Director of Facilities Management.

Harassment/Discrimination

Blue Ridge Community College is committed to providing and promoting an atmosphere in which students can engage fully in the learning process. Accordingly, sexual, gender and other unlawful harassment or discrimination is prohibited.

- A. Sexual Harassment: Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature constitute sexual harassment. Examples of sexually harassing conduct include, but are not limited to:
1. Deliberate, unwelcome touching of a sexual nature or that takes on sexual connotations;
 2. Suggestions or demands for sexual involvement accompanied by implied or overt promises of preferential treatment or threats; pressure for sexual activity;
 3. Continued or repeated offensive sexual flirtations, advances, or propositions;
 4. Continued or repeated verbal remarks of a sexual nature;
 5. Sexually degrading words used towards an individual or to describe an individual;
 6. The display of sexually suggestive objects or pictures;
 7. Use of personal or College electronic communications to convey sexually inappropriate words, pictures, or images. Electronic communications include, but are not limited to, e-mail, text messaging, instant messaging, chat rooms, blogging, Web site, and social networking Web sites (e.g., Facebook or MySpace).

Furthermore, conduct will constitute sexual harassment when:

1. Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of employment or academic status;
2. Any such proposals are made under circumstances implying that one's response might affect the academic or employment decisions that are influenced by the person making such proposals;
3. Such conduct is abusive of others and implies a discriminatory hostility toward their personal or professional interests because of their sex or sexual orientation;
4. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or learning performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or learning environment; or
5. The sexual attention is unwanted, regardless of consequences and relationships.

It is possible for sexual harassment to occur at various levels: between fellow students or co-workers; between supervisors and subordinates; between employees and students; or imposed by non-employees, including between visitors and employees and/or students. In addition, sexual harassment can occur between members of the opposite sex or the same sex.

B. Gender Harassment: Gender harassment is defined as behavior that targets someone for offensive, hostile, degrading, or insulting treatment because of their gender. The following are examples of conduct that may constitute gender harassment:

1. Using derogatory, gender-based terms;
2. Making derogatory jokes about gender-specific traits or based on negative gender stereotypes;
3. Suggesting that students of one gender should not engage in certain activities because of their gender;
4. Impeding the educational progress of a person of one gender either explicitly or implicitly, such as by questioning an individual's ability because of his/her gender or suggesting that it is abnormal for a person of that gender to hold a particular interest;
5. Limiting or denying an individual of one gender access to educational opportunities;
6. Using sexist humor as a classroom teaching technique;
7. Use of personal or College electronic communications (as defined herein) to convey inappropriate gender-based remarks, pictures, or images; or
8. Using verbal, graphic, or physical conduct which threatens, ridicules, or demeans an individual because of gender.

C. Other Unlawful Harassment/Discrimination: Other unlawful harassment may consist of verbal or physical

conduct that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual or excludes an individual from a College activity based on his/her race, color, religion, age, national origin, disability, creed, sexual orientation, political affiliation, or any legally protected status not listed herein or any arbitrary distinction, or that of his/her relative, friends, or associates, and has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work or learning environment; has the purpose or effect of interfering unreasonably with an individual's work or academic performance; or otherwise adversely affects an individual's employment or educational opportunities.

Other unlawful harassment/discrimination may include but is not limited to:

1. Threatening or intimidating conduct directed at another because of the individual's race, color, religion, age, national origin, disability, veteran's status, creed, sexual orientation, political affiliation, or any legally protected status not listed herein;
 2. Jokes, name calling, or rumors based upon an individual's race, color, religion, age, national origin, disability, veteran's status, creed, sexual orientation, political affiliation, or any legally protected status not listed herein;
 3. Ethnic slurs, negative stereotypes, and hostile acts based on an individual's race, color, religion, age, national origin, disability, creed, sexual orientation, political affiliation, or any legally protected status not listed herein; or
 4. Stalking, which, for purposes of this policy, is when a person intentionally and repeatedly follows or harasses another person and who makes a credible threat, either expressed or implied, with the intent to place that person in reasonable fear of death or bodily harm.
- C. Reporting and Complaint Procedure:** Students may report complaints of sexual, gender, or other unlawful forms of harassment or discrimination to the Vice President of Student Services. The College will investigate the complaint and take appropriate action, including, but not limited to, disciplinary action. Complaints about the Vice President of Student Services should be made directly to the President who will delegate the investigation to another Vice President. If the student making the harassment or discrimination complaint is not satisfied with the Vice President of Student Services' decision, or the decision of another Vice President, s/he may, within ten (10) business days of receipt of the decision, appeal that decision to the President, in writing, who will further investigate the claim, if necessary, and render a decision. The President's decision shall be final. No one who makes a complaint, testifies as a witness, assists or participates in any investigation, proceeding, or hearing on a harassment or discrimination complaint will be retaliated against nor will they be coerced, intimidated, threatened, or interfered with in the exercise of any rights.

Computer Usage

Students must adhere to the following policy concerning computer usage at Blue Ridge Community College.

The following are examples of unauthorized uses of the BRCC network or other computer resources:

1. Use of a BRCC network account by someone other than that student for whom the account is specifically designated.
2. Interfering with the ability of other users to make effective use of the BRCC network, computer, or telecommunications services.
3. Gaining illegal access to files, damaging systems or information, or using the network for illegal activities
4. Interfering with the effective operation of the College bandwidth capacity.
5. Creating computer worms or viruses or deliberately infecting College property.
6. Using BRCC network accounts, facilities, or equipment for commercial use or for personal use or profit.
7. Sending, receiving, or viewing unwanted, threatening, abusive, obscene, or pornographic messages, language, material, or files to others, including posting such on a Web site or otherwise displaying such.
8. Using chat rooms for non-College-related purposes
9. Using unauthorized peer-to-peer file sharing programs for accessing music, videos, movies, games, network files, applications, or other unauthorized activities.

All student Web pages on College servers or those linked to College resources must comply with BRCC acceptable use policies.

Student e-mail is an official means of communication between student and instructor. It is the property of the College and should be used only for institutional purposes.

Students are expected to comply with all College published policies and procedures contained in the Blue Ridge Community College Policies and Procedures Manual.

All computer software on College computers is protected by federal copyright laws and by legal licensing agreements. Copying, providing, receiving, or using copyrighted material may be in violation of licensing agreements.

Violations of computer use policies by students must be reported to the Vice President for Technology and/or the Vice President for Student Services. Individuals violating these guidelines will immediately lose their access rights; other disciplinary action may also be taken by the College.

The College reserves the right to inspect all information on the network in order to ensure compliance with these policies, applicable laws, and regulations.

Users should not assume that any use not listed is otherwise excluded. Questions regarding whether a specific use is permitted should be referred to the Director of Network Services, Director of Media Services, or the Director of Instructional Technologies and Distance Learning.

BRCC departments may have additional rules relative to computer or equipment use in their respective areas. Users are expected to abide by such rules.

Institutional Responsibilities to Third Party Recipients of Certain Services

As a part of their normal training, students in human service programs are engaged in activities where the health and well-being of persons outside the school are involved. Under these conditions the institution incurs a moral and legal obligation concerning the student and the recipient of his/her services. To ensure the safety of the third party recipients the institution may suspend, expel, or refuse to enroll any such student who:

1. Presents problems in physical or emotional health which do not respond to appropriate treatment and/or counseling within a reasonable period of time
2. Demonstrates behavior which conflicts with safety essential to nursing and/or child care.

Student Conduct

A student enrolled at Blue Ridge Community College may rightfully expect that the teachers and administrators will maintain an environment in which there is freedom to learn. This requires that there be appropriate conditions and opportunities in the classroom and on the campus.

Students at Blue Ridge Community College assume an obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with the College's function as an educational institution. It is expected that the student will adhere to the rules and regulations as may be established by the College and the student body, and that the student will respect the rights, privileges, and property of other members of the institutional community. Students are responsible for their own conduct, and violation of established rules and regulations may subject them to disciplinary measures or dismissal.

The College has adopted basic standards of student conduct and when these standards are violated penalties may be incurred. Consequences for violations include warning, fine, loss of privileges or campus resources, probation, restitution, suspension, or expulsion. The College reserves the right to withhold academic records or to deny registration for subsequent semesters. When any of these penalties are applied, students are afforded due process as described in the Student Grievance and Due Process section of this catalog. If a student's behavior simultaneously violates both College regulations and the law, the College may take disciplinary action independent of that taken by legal authorities.

Types of student conduct for which disciplinary proceedings may be initiated include but are not limited to the following:

1. **Disruption of School:** A student shall not by use of violence, force, noise, coercion, threat, intimidation, fear, passive resistance, or any other conduct intentionally cause the substantial and material disruption or obstruction of any lawful mission, process, or function of the school. Neither shall a student engage in such conduct for the purpose of causing the substantial and material disruption if obstruction is reasonably certain to result. The following illustrate the kinds of offenses encompassed here:
 - (a) occupying any school building, school grounds, or part thereof, with intent to deprive others of its use;
 - (b) blocking the entrance or exit of any school building or corridor or room therein with intent to deprive others of lawful access to or from, or use of, the building or corridor or room;
 - (c) setting fire to or substantially damaging any school building or property;
 - (d) firing, displaying, or threatening use of firearms, explosives, or other weapons on the school premises for any unlawful purpose;
 - (e) prevention of or attempting to prevent by physical act the convening or continued functioning of any school class, or activity, or of any lawful meeting or assembly on the school campus;
 - (f) preventing students from attending a class or school activity;
 - (g) except under the direct instruction of an administrator, blocking normal pedestrian or vehicular traffic on a school campus;
 - (h) continuously and intentionally making noise, or acting in any manner so as to interfere seriously with the instructor's ability to conduct the class; and
 - (i) unruly conduct at a school activity, function, or event.
2. **Damage or Destruction of School Property:** A student shall not intentionally cause or attempt to cause substantial damage to valuable school property or steal school property of substantial value. Repeated damage or theft involving school property of small value also shall be a basis for long term suspension or expulsion from school.
3. **Damage or Destruction of Private Property:** A student shall not intentionally cause or attempt to cause substantial damage to valuable private property or steal or attempt to steal valuable private property either on the school grounds or during a school activity, function, or event off school grounds. Repeated damage, theft, or fraud involving private property of small value also shall be a basis for long term suspension or expulsion from school.
4. **Physical Abuse of a School Employee, Student, or Other Person not employed by the School:** A student shall not intentionally do serious bodily injury to any person (1) on the school grounds during and immediately before or immediately after school hours, (2) on the school grounds at any other time when the school is being used by a school group, or (3) off the school grounds at a school activity, function, event, or on a College owned vehicle. Neither self defense nor action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect some other person is to be considered an intentional act under this rule
5. **Weapons and Dangerous Instruments:** A student shall not knowingly possess, handle, or transmit any object that can reasonably be considered a weapon: (1) on the school grounds during and immediately before or immediately after school hours: (2) on the school grounds at any other time when the school is being used by a school group, or (3) off the school grounds at any school activity, function, event, or on a College owned vehicle.
6. **Narcotics, Alcoholic Beverages, and Stimulant Drugs:** A student shall not knowingly possess, use, transmit, or be under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind: (1) on the school grounds during and immediately before or immediately after school hours or (2) on the school grounds at any other time when the school is being used by any school group. Use of a drug authorized by a medical prescription from a registered physician shall not be considered a violation of this rule.
7. **Tobacco Use:** A student shall not violate the College's Tobacco-Free Campus regulations. Smoking and the use of smokeless tobacco products are prohibited on all College properties including inside any building or facility and on College grounds. Exceptions are only limited to smoking or the use of smokeless tobacco inside the confines of a motor vehicle on College grounds. Refer to Tobacco-Free Campus section of this catalog.
8. **Campus Parking and Traffic Regulations:** A student shall not violate campus parking and traffic regulations. Refer to the Campus Parking and Traffic Regulations section of this catalog.
9. **Harassment/Discrimination:** For all issues related to violations of the Harassment/Discrimination policy, refer to the Harassment/Discrimination section of this catalog.
10. **Computer Use:** For all issues related to violations of the College's Computer Use Policy refer to the Computer Usage section of this catalog.
11. **Disruptive Communications:** A student shall not intentionally send electronic communications which disrupt the learning environment. In addition to items listed specifically in BRCC's Computer Use Policy, this may include but is not limited to the use of profanity, insulting or harassing remarks in e-mail, discussions, chat, electronic text, or telephone communications. Violations may be grounds for the student to receive a failing grade, suspension, or expulsion.

12. **Classroom Conduct:** A student shall not engage in any conduct that endangers the success of the student or others in the classroom. Examples of this type of conduct include, but are not limited to, stealing, cheating, gambling of any type, personal combat, loud, profane, or boisterous language, or any other conditions on the campus which would be considered unbecoming to a member of the student body.
13. **Academic Honesty:** A student shall not violate the Academic Honesty Policy outlined in the Academic Honesty section of this catalog.
14. **Public Laws/College Policy:** Violations of any federal, state, or local laws occurring while on campus may lead to legal actions as well as campus discipline. Violations of federal, state, or local laws occurring off campus may result in disciplinary action if the student's continued presence on campus constitutes a threat to the safety and order of the campus. Violations of College policies and procedures may result in disciplinary action.

In cases where suspension or expulsion are possible, the following procedures apply:

1. The President, or the President's designee, may suspend or expel a student if in his/her judgment it is necessary to remove the student from the instructional site so that teaching can continue without interruption.
2. If the student appeals the suspension decision, and in all cases where suspension is longer than ten (10) days or expulsion is appropriate, the student will receive written notice describing the charges against him/her and the nature of the proceedings.
3. The student may, within ten (10) business days of receipt of such notice, request, in writing to the President, a hearing before the Judicial Board. A hearing will be convened pursuant to the Student Grievance Procedure and Due Process section of this catalog.

Student Grievance Procedure and Due Process

Any Blue Ridge Community College student has the right to be officially heard in matters where they have general grievances and for which there is no other approved grievance or review process.

To ensure that the grievance is given proper attention, the student should follow these steps:

1. Student initiated grievances should first be directed to the appropriate dean and then to the applicable vice president. Should there be no satisfactory resolution following a conference with the applicable vice president, the student may initiate a formal grievance by submitting in writing to the President, within ten (10) business days of the conference, a request for a

hearing before the Judicial Board. The student shall state the grievance, the remedy desired, the efforts made to remedy the matter, and any other pertinent information.

2. The Vice President for Student Services shall convene and chair the Judicial Board except in cases where the grievance involves the appeal of a decision made or upheld by the Vice President for Student Services. In such cases, the President shall appoint another vice president to take the place of the Vice President for Student Services.
3. The Judicial Board shall consist of three (3) members: The Vice President for Student Services (or Presidential designate); one faculty member appointed by the President, who is not an interested party in the issue to be heard; and the President of the Student Government Association (SGA) or his/her designee who is also a member of the SGA.
4. The hearing shall be scheduled within ten (10) business days of receipt of the student's written request for a hearing. In extraordinary circumstances, if the student wishes to be accompanied by legal counsel, for advisory purposes only, he/she shall include his request with his/her written request for a hearing. In such cases, the College may also be similarly represented.

The Judicial Board hearing procedure shall be as follows:

1. The Chair shall introduce all present.
2. The student shall have the opportunity to present evidence and witnesses in support of his or her case. The Judicial Board shall have the opportunity to question the student and, if applicable, his or her witnesses.
3. The administrator and/or other College representatives will present their evidence and witnesses in support of their case. The Judicial Board shall have the opportunity to question the administrator and/or other College representative and, if applicable, their witnesses.
4. The student will have the opportunity to make a closing statement. After the student's closing statement, the College representative will have the opportunity to make a closing statement.
5. The Judicial Board shall deliberate in closed session. The College's attorney may sit with the Judicial Board and provide legal advice should such advice be necessary. The North Carolina Rules of Evidence do not apply and all relevant evidence shall be included in the official record; however, in reaching its decision, the Judicial Board shall weigh and consider the credibility of the presented evidence.
6. The Judicial Board hearing shall be audio recorded and that recording shall serve as the official hearing minutes.
7. Within five (5) business days of the hearing, the Chair shall, in writing, summarize the Judicial Board's

decision and send a copy to the parties and to the President.

8. If any of the parties are not satisfied with the Judicial Board's decision, they may, within ten (10) business days of the date of the decision, appeal, in writing, to the President. The Vice President for Student Services shall accept the appeal on behalf of the President. The President shall review the official record and the hearing minutes. If, after his or her initial review, the President needs additional information, he or she may ask the parties to supplement the official record by responding to his or her additional questions. Within ten (10) business days of receipt of the party's appeal, or an additional five (5) business days after the official record has been supplemented, the President shall issue his or her final decision to affirm, reject, or modify the Judicial Board's decision. A written copy of the President's decision shall be sent to both parties. The President's decision shall be final, subject only to the student's right of appeal to the Board of Trustees, and ultimately to the courts.

To afford a student due process and the expedient resolution of issues where it is impractical or impossible, given the situation, for a student or his/her supporting witnesses to appear and participate in their grievance in person, special accommodation may be made including: written statements, telephone conferences, electronic mail, videotape, live video, or similar means of communication.

Student Rights

All students at Blue Ridge Community College shall be treated in an equitable and fair manner and afforded certain due process rights in academic, discipline, and grievance matters as established in the following College procedures:

- For issues with respect to grade appeals, see Grade and Grade Changes.
- For issues with respect to academic honesty, see Academic Honesty.
- For issues with respect to disciplinary matters (aside from allegations of unlawful harassment and discrimination), see Student Conduct.
- For issues with respect to harassment and discrimination, see Harassment and Discrimination.
- For issues with respect to general grievances, see Student Grievance and Due Process.
- For issues with respect to students records and the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, see Student Records.
- For issues with respect to student use of computers, see Computer Usage.

As a general matter, students are free to pursue their educational goals and, in so doing, have the right to freedom of expression, inquiry, and assembly without restraint or censorship subject to reasonable, appropriate, and non-

discriminatory College rules and regulations regarding time, place, and manner.

Students have the right to propose improvements in policies, regulations, and procedures affecting the welfare of students through established student government procedures, campus committees, and College offices.

Tobacco-Free Campus

Blue Ridge Community College is committed to providing students, employees, and visitors a safe and healthy environment. To address this commitment, smoking and the use of smokeless tobacco products is prohibited on all College properties including inside any building or facility and on College grounds. Exceptions are only limited to smoking or the use of tobacco products inside the confines of a motor vehicle on College grounds.

Academic Support

Basic Skills/Literacy Programs

Adult Basic Education (ABE): The ABE Program at BRCC is the cornerstone upon which the overall Basic Skills Program is built. ABE is a dynamic outreach program specifically targeting non-readers and other under-educated adults. A variety of traditional and non-traditional, innovative curricula have been implemented to upgrade the academic skills of this population. Special programs offered through formal partnerships with other agencies have promoted program accessibility. All classes are offered free-of-charge.

Compensatory Education (CED): The CED program is designed to provide remedial academic programs to adults who have been diagnosed as being intellectually disabled and who can provide documentation of intellectual disabilities. The program includes task-analyzed lessons in language arts, math, social sciences, consumer education, health, and community living skills. CED classes are offered at Vocational Solutions in Henderson County and Transylvania Vocational Services in Transylvania County. All classes are offered free-of-charge.

English as a Second Language (ESL): ESL classes are designed for adults who are not native English speakers. Because individual needs vary considerably, instruction in reading, writing, speaking, and listening is tailored to meet individual needs. Three distinct levels are offered to help students acquire functional English competence: Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced. All classes are offered free-of-charge.

General Education Development (GED): GED courses are designed for adults who have not received a high school diploma. Courses prepare students for the five official GED tests: Language Arts-Writing, Social Studies, Science, Language Arts - Reading, and Mathematics. The GED diploma certifies that the graduate has achieved a level of general educational development equivalent to that of high school diploma recipients. All classes are offered free-of-charge. There is a one-time-only nominal administrative fee for GED testing as well as a graduation fee for students completing their GED. Graduation ceremonies are held each year.

Cooperative Education

Cooperative Education (Co-op) is an educational program that combines classroom instruction with practical work experience directly related to the student's curriculum. This combined classroom study and work experience is a meaningful way for students to practice skills they have learned in their programs of study while earning college credit.

Any student enrolled in a program offering Co-op for academic credit as a requirement or elective may apply. The Cooperative Education Office will make the final determination of a student's acceptance into the program based on selected

criteria. These criteria include, but are not limited to, the student's prior experience, academic status (minimum 2.0 grade point average) and position availability. After determination of Co-op status, the Director will be responsible for locating or approving an appropriate work assignment. Students accepted for Co-op must have completed nine (9) credit hours, three (3) of which are required to be in their prescribed program of study. Students who are approved for Co-op must register with the Co-op Office and attend an orientation before going to their assignments.

A student may earn up to four credit hours during any one semester, with the allowed maximum credit hours differing for each curriculum.

Co-op is an open enrollment program, which means students have the option of enrolling during the semester, not only at registration.

Benefits to the Student

- Gain work experience in one's chosen field of study
- Practice marketable skills
- Explore career interests
- Earn academic credit toward one's degree
- Enhance one's résumé
- Meet job placement and employment contacts
- Develop confidence, responsibility, and greater human relations skills
- Explore one's own abilities in relation to a real job
- Develop references
- Be considered for a full time job at one's Co-op site after Co-op is complete

Interested students should contact the Cooperative Education office in the Henderson County JobLink Career Center, Continuing Education Building, Room 125; (828) 694-1755. Information is also available through faculty advisors.

Distance Education

In an effort to better meet the needs of its students, Blue Ridge Community College may offer courses through distance education. Such courses are offered to improve access and provide increased flexibility in scheduling. These courses may include telecourses, teleweb courses, online courses, or courses via the North Carolina Information Highway. Blue Ridge Community College strives to ensure that the quality and content of these courses are the same as for traditional, classroom courses. A qualified, competent instructor serves as facilitator for each course offered through one of these methods of delivery. The following guidelines will govern delivery of these courses:

- All academic policies, including, but not limited to, admissions, credits, degree completion, academic honesty, dropping and adding classes, repetition of courses, course withdrawal, grading, student conduct, computer usage, grievance procedure, and due process for distance education courses are the same as those for traditional classroom courses.

- In cases of student grievance or disciplinary matters, where it is impractical for a distance education student to appear in person to be heard, to afford the student due process and expedient resolve of issues, special accommodation may be made (e.g., written statements, telephone conferences, electronic mail, video tape live video, or similar means of communication).
- Beginning and ending dates for distance education courses are aligned with the College calendar.
- Blue Ridge Community College guidelines for tuition and materials will apply.
- The student must meet prerequisite requirements for distance education courses unless a Waiver of Prerequisites form is completed with the consent of the advisor and the instructor of the course.
- The student must be able to demonstrate appropriate computer skills or may be required to complete remediation.
- The student is required to have access to the appropriate technology (including software and hardware) for the distance education courses for which he/she registers
- Blue Ridge Community College faculty teaching distance education courses will attempt to contact students enrolling in these courses. It is suggested that the student contact the instructor at the time of registration for the course to provide necessary information (e.g., current mailing address, e-mail address, or phone number). Ultimate responsibility for contact rests with the student.
- A student enrolled in online classes is required to complete an online orientation. A link is provided to this orientation on the Distance Learning Home page of the College Web site at www.blueridge.edu. Use guest access.
- The student is required to attend any scheduled orientation sessions, review sessions, or test sessions.
- The student must communicate with the instructor at least once a week unless more communication is necessary to meet course requirements. A student who fails to maintain this communication may be dropped from the course for nonattendance.
- Materials will be faxed or mailed when necessary and feasible.

Before registering for a distance education course the student should access the Distance Learning Home page on the college Web site at www.blueridge.edu. This site provides a self-assessment to assist the student in determining whether this mode of learning is consistent with personal study habits and learning styles. Links are also provided to technology requirements, general information about distance education at Blue Ridge Community College, and a listing of distance education courses.

The student enrolled in distance education courses may access the Blue Ridge Community College Library and online resources through links provided on the College Web site at www.blueridge.edu. This Web page has links to Web sites that provide access to other libraries, resources, and services

such as NC LIVE. Use of some resources requires a Student ID Card which can be obtained in the College Bookstore.

Library

The Library's mission is to serve as a resource center for the College with books and other materials particularly adapted to the objectives and curricula of Blue Ridge Community College. Audiovisual materials, electronic resources, and other resource materials augment the instructional programs. Microfilm and microfiche readers, as well as photocopy services, are available for use. A variety of opportunities is provided for serious study and leisure reading by students, faculty, staff, and community patrons. The Library is located at the front entrance of the William D. Killian Building. The Library has approximately 34,000 volumes, and subscribes to 250 periodicals and 11 newspapers.

Library services at the Transylvania County Campus include online access to research materials and a direct link to the automated card catalog located on the Henderson County Campus. Students also have access to a collection of approximately 500 volumes. Other services include audiovisuals, interlibrary loans, and networking resources. Through a cooperative agreement, the James A. Jones Library of Brevard College provides additional library services for the Transylvania County Campus.

STAR Center

The Success Through Academic Readiness (STAR) Center, provides academic support to students in curriculum, developmental, and basic skills courses through the use of non-credit academic review classes, one-on-one instruction, peer and instructor tutoring, computerized and video instruction, workshops, and information sessions. A STAR Center instructor is always available, during STAR Center open hours, to provide assistance.

Classes: Non-credit academic review courses in basic grammar, literature, basic math, pre-algebra, and reading are offered in a classroom setting for skills brush-up.

GED Preparation: Adult Basic Education (ABE) and GED preparation classes are offered in the STAR Center. The five official GED tests leading to the award of the High School Diploma (Equivalency) are administered at the Henderson County Campus STAR Center and at the Transylvania County Campus. The High School Diploma (Equivalency) certifies that the graduate has achieved a level of general educational developmental equivalent to that of traditional high school diploma recipients.

Instructor Tutoring: The Writing Center and Math Lab are located in the STAR Center and are staffed by curriculum instructors to provide additional instruction, outside the classroom. Students can drop by for assistance or be referred by an instructor. Instructor tutoring in other subjects, such as computer information technology, is also offered in the Center. Hours of assistance vary each semester according to instructor schedules. Contact the Center for more information.

Irlen Syndrome Screening: Scotopic Sensitivity (Irlen)

Syndrome is a perceptual problem with reading that affects learning and academic performance. STAR Center faculty can evaluate a student to determine the problem and provide transparent overlays in the correct color combination to aid in more effective reading. Irlen Syndrome symptoms are common and range from mild to severe. Symptoms might include any of the following: sensitivity to light, eye strain, seeing moving lines or moving words when reading, print appearing to float above the page, skipping words or lines when reading, and recurrent headaches when reading.

Peer Tutoring Program: Students who need supplemental instruction in a particular course can receive free tutoring from an instructor recommended student who excels in the same subject. Tutors are paid by the hour, with College funds. Any student interested in receiving tutoring or becoming a tutor can contact the STAR Center or see an instructor. Peer tutors must have an instructor recommendation to tutor.

Remediation: Students who want to prepare for the Pre-enrollment Placement Test may contact the STAR Center. Students needing assistance with developmental courses or with making up a grade of incomplete in developmental reading, English, or math can come to the Center for assistance.

Test Proctoring: The Center offers test proctoring for make-up tests offered by BRCC adjunct instructors. Instructors and students can contact the Center to schedule a time for test taking.

Workshops: Study Skills Workshops on a variety of topics including test taking strategies, note taking, time management, memory techniques, good study habits, learning styles, goal setting, stress reduction, and dealing with test anxiety are offered on a continual basis and are free to anyone at BRCC. Information sessions on program offerings, the application process, and financial aid are also offered periodically.

Developmental Courses

Blue Ridge Community College provides an opportunity for students to strengthen their basic educational background. Through a series of courses, instruction is provided to help the student overcome educational deficiencies that would likely prevent him/her from succeeding in an associate degree or diploma program. Developmental courses are offered in the areas of reading and vocabulary development, grammar and composition, keyboarding, and mathematics.

Incoming students are given a series of pre-enrollment placement tests to determine if any of these courses will be prerequisites to their related coursework. Students should take prerequisites in their first semester of enrollment if possible. Certain programs require that prerequisite courses be completed prior to fall enrollment. In addition, OST 131 may be required if a student has little or no experience with the keyboard and cannot type at least 20 words per minute. For these students OST 131 is considered a developmental course notwithstanding the 100 level designation.

Developmental and prerequisite courses include:

BIO	090	Foundations of Biology
CHM	092	Fundamentals of Chemistry
CIS	070	Fundamentals of Computing
ENG	080	Writing Foundations
ENG	090	Composition Strategies
MAT	060	Essential Mathematics
MAT	070	Introductory Algebra
MAT	080	Intermediate Algebra
OST	131	Keyboarding
RED	080	Introduction to College Reading
RED	090	Improved College Reading

A student must earn a "C" or better to progress to the next class.

Language Prerequisite Courses

Students desiring to take French, German, or Spanish in their program of study may be required to take one of the prerequisite courses listed below. This requirement is waived if the student has completed one unit of high school French, German, or Spanish.

FRE	110	Introduction to French
GER	110	Introduction to German
SPA	110	Introduction to Spanish

Electives

The Associate in Arts, Associate in Fine Arts, and Associate in Science elective listings are listed with the program description.

Associate in Applied Science: The following listings for Humanities Electives apply to Associate in Applied Science degree-seeking students. These electives should be carefully selected with the faculty advisor to ensure proper credit. Each program of study has specific courses that meet the humanities elective requirement. ASL, foreign language, and public speaking courses cannot count as the sole humanities course in an associate in applied science program.

Humanities Electives

ART	111	Art Appreciation
ART	114	Art History Survey I
ART	115	Art History Survey II
ASL	111	Elementary ASL I*
ASL	181	ASL Lab 1*
ASL	112	Elementary ASL II*
ASL	182	ASL Lab 2*
ASL	211	Intermediate ASL I*
ASL	281	ASL Lab 3*
COM	231	Public Speaking
DRA	111	Theatre Appreciation
DRA	112	Literature of the Theatre
DRA	115	Theatre Criticism
ENG	231	American Literature I
ENG	232	American Literature II
ENG	233	Major American Writers
ENG	241	British Literature I
ENG	242	British Literature II
ENG	252	Western World Literature
ENG	262	World Literature II
HUM	110	Technology and Society
HUM	123	Appalachian Culture
HUM	211	Humanities I
HUM	212	Humanities II
MUS	110	Music Appreciation
PHI	210	History of Philosophy
PHI	230	Introduction to Logic
PHI	240	Introduction to Ethics
REL	110	World Religions
REL	212	Intro to New Testament

The following humanities electives are suggested only if the student has had an international language in high school. There is a prerequisite requirement to these courses. Students who have had one or more units of an International Language in high school with a grade of "C" or better usually can advance place.

FRE	111	Elementary French I*
FRE	181	French Lab 1*
FRE	112	Elementary French II*
FRE	182	French Lab 2*
GER	111	Elementary German I*
GER	181	German Lab 1*
GER	112	Elementary German II*
GER	182	German Lab 2*
SPA	111	Elementary Spanish I*
SPA	181	Spanish Lab 1*
SPA	112	Elementary Spanish II*
SPA	182	Spanish Lab 2*
SPA	211	Intermediate Spanish I
SPA	212	Intermediate Spanish II

* Denotes a corequisite, course cannot be taken by itself.

Social/Behavioral Science Electives

The following listing for Social/Behavioral Science Electives applies to Associate in Applied Science degree-seeking students. These electives should be carefully selected with the faculty advisor to ensure proper credit. Each program of study has specific courses that meet the social/behavioral science elective requirement.

ANT	210	General Anthropology
ANT	220	Cultural Anthropology
ECO	151	Survey of Economics
ECO	251	Principles of Microeconomics
ECO	252	Principles of Macroeconomics
GEO	111	World Regional Geography
GEO	130	General Physical Geography
HIS	111	World Civilizations I
HIS	112	World Civilizations II
HIS	131	American History I
HIS	132	American History II
POL	120	American Government
POL	130	State and Local Government
PSY	150	General Psychology
PSY	237	Social Psychology
PSY	241	Developmental Psychology
PSY	281	Abnormal Psychology
SOC	210	Introduction to Sociology
SOC	213	Sociology of the Family
SOC	215	Group Processes
SOC	220	Social Problems