About the Honors College
The Honors College, consisting of over 1300 students, seeks to attract and retain high-achievers to a student-led community that works with faculty, staff, and citizens of the region with the aim of fostering WCU graduates who are well-prepared to compete for careers and graduate schools in state, national, and global arenas.

Admission to the Honors College
Admission to the Honors College is very selective. Students must meet at least one criterion for consideration. Students meeting more than one criterion are more competitive for admission:

- High-school students:
  - 1870 SAT (three part) OR 1240 SAT (two part)
  - 30 ACT
  - 4.2 weighted cumulative High School GPA
  - 3.8 unweighted cumulative High School GPA
  - Ranking within the top 10 or top 10% of one’s high school class
- New freshman students: a student must be accepted into WCU before s/he is eligible for admission to the Honors College. Once accepted, the Honors College reviews your academic profile and record and determines your eligibility. If selected, you will receive a letter in the mail. No additional application is required.
- Transfer students: must have at least a 3.5 cumulative GPA (with at least 15 credit hours) at their most recent, accredited institution. Transfer students must complete an application available at honors.wcu.edu. Transfer students from Honors Programs at select North Carolina Community Colleges may transfer into the WCU Honors College with Honors Credits. Consult with your Honors College advisor ensure your credits transfer.
- First-year students already enrolled at WCU in the fall, who complete at least 15 hours of WCU credit and maintain a GPA of at least 3.5 will be invited to join The Honors College.
- Sophomores or juniors already enrolled at WCU who have achieved a 3.5 or above cumulative GPA are welcome to apply for Honors admission. Honors College applications are available at honors.wcu.edu.

Benefits of Being in the Honors College
- Being part of a learning community of support, facilitated by engaged membership
- Smaller Honors courses taught by dedicated faculty that explore topics of interest in depth
- The opportunity to live in Honors College residence halls, Balsam and Blue Ridge, premium housing located in the heart of the main campus. Opened in 2009, A/C, private bathrooms, academic-focused environment
- Honors College offices located in Balsam Hall, providing direct access to Honors College staff
- Honors College scholarships
- Priority registration
- Library privileges equivalent to those of graduate students
- The receipt of an Honors College medallion and diploma at graduation, upon completion of requirements
- Perhaps the most unique feature of the Honors College is that it is led by a student Board of Directors
**Academic Advising**

Associate Dean April Tallant, Director of Honors Advising Emily Sharpe, and Honors Advisor Colin Townsend advise Honors students who have not yet declared a major. After declaring a major and being assigned a major advisor, Honors students retain their Honors advisors as secondary advisors for their four years at WCU.

The Honors College offers Pre-Professional Advising for students who seek admission to professional schools (medicine, veterinary medicine, optometry, law, physical therapy, occupational therapy, pharmacy, physician assistant, dentistry, and chiropractic). They are advised by the Director of Honors Advising & Pre-Professional Programs, Emily Sharpe. Pre-professional advising is open to all Honors students, regardless of major.

**Scholarships**

- **Most Honors students**, like other WCU students, receive some form of financial aid in the form of loans, grants, Work-Study, need-based scholarships, or university scholarships. Students are advised to go to scholarcat.wcu.edu for all university-wide scholarship consideration or contact the Scholarship & Financial Aid Office.
- **Incoming first-year Honors students**, by virtue of admission to The Honors College, are automatically considered for a WCU Honors College merit scholarship. These scholarships are very competitive, and approximately one-third of accepted Honors College students will receive an award. Honors College Merit Scholarships range from $1000 to $10,000 per year.
- **Transfer students** may be eligible for transfer scholarships through the Office of Admissions.
- **Continuing Honors students** may apply for WCU and Honors College scholarships. For information about scholarships related to a particular major, continuing students should contact the academic department head.
- **External scholarships, fellowships, and internships** are important for continuing Honors students to consider, although they are extremely competitive.

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