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Chattanooga State
Community College

CHATTANOOGA STATE HONORS HANDBOOK

—
Broaden your perspective.
Transform your world.

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WELCOME

CHATTANOOGA STATE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Welcome to Chatt State Honors!

You are now taking your first steps on a path of personal growth, learning, and discovery that will shape the rest of your life. Your decision to join the honors program represents a bold first step down that path, as you will now be walking alongside the very best and brightest students on campus.

Please consider the pages to follow as a road map to help you honor your dreams over your time at Chattanooga State. It will serve as a guide to the rich array of resources and opportunities available to you as an honors student. It also describes the values that inform our work together as an academic community.

Turn to your academic advisor, professors, and to me often. Listen to what your peers have to say. We are here to make the most out of your honors experience, so never hesitate to email, call, or drop by. We are looking forward to following you on your journey.

Broaden Your Perspective,

Dr. Angie E. Wood

Interim Director, Chattanooga State Honors Program

Guiding Principles

The Chattanooga State Honors Program at Chattanooga State Community College is designed to provide students a means to broaden, enhance, expand, and challenge their academic dreams. The Honors Program offers smaller class sizes, undergraduate research opportunities, and study and travel experiences.

The program is dedicated to broadening student's understanding of global issues and equipping them with the knowledge and skills to become responsible and engaged global citizens. It is committed to fostering an inclusive and culturally diverse learning environment that encourages students to explore different perspectives and backgrounds.

The program enhances the learning experience and encourages students to explore the connections between different fields of study and to apply their knowledge in different contexts. It aims to instill a love of learning in students, encouraging them to pursue knowledge and growth throughout their lives.

The program expands access to dedicated faculty and professional mentors who can guide and support students throughout their academic journey. It also provides students with opportunities to develop their leadership skills and gain valuable professional experience.

The program challenges students to become active members of their local and global community through service learning and volunteer opportunities. It supports students in conducting independent research and scholarship in their field of interest. It fosters critical thinking and creativity in students, encouraging them to question assumptions and explore new ideas.



BROADEN | ENHANCE | EXPAND | CHALLENGE

The Chattanooga State Honors Program at Chattanooga State Community College offers a unique, challenging education for the college's most promising students.

Designed to promote student initiative and academic achievement, the program's most important criteria for success are student motivation and dedication to learning. The Honors Program serves learners who work hard, raise questions, and seek answers.

Real Benefits

- Field trips (most are partially funded by college)
- Assistance with transfer to a university
- Personalized instruction
- Engaged professors who share a passion for academic excellence, knowledge, and student success
- Recognition at graduation (honors cords/medallion)
- Increased access to scholarships
- Social activities (funded by college).

Real Advantages

- Form lasting friendships with peers committed to academic excellence
- Develop working relationships with professors
- Earn honors recognition at graduation
- Enhance research skills and creativity
- Prepare for a chosen career or transfer program
- Enjoy being a member of a small group within a larger college
- Design innovative projects on cutting edge topics
- Explore areas of professional and personal interest
- Feel the pride of accomplishment.

Chattanooga State Honors Students are recognized in the following ways:

- **Honors designation on diploma***
- **Notation on official transcript of honors credit earned for each course**
- **Honors cords presented at ceremony and worn at graduation**
- **Medallion presented at ceremony and worn at graduation***

*with 15 honors course credit hours

BENEFITS AND ADVANTAGES

Chattanooga State
Community College



ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS



Grade Point Average

- ACT composite score of 25*
- SAT score of 1130
- High School GPA of 3.50*
- GPA of 3.50 or higher based on a minimum of 12 hours of college level courses

*Candidates must meet all college-readiness benchmarks in math, reading, and writing.



Application

As a part of the online application, you will submit an essay (250 word MINIMUM). The essay should be thoughtfully and carefully executed. There is no "right answer".

www.chattanoogastate.edu/global-scholars



Scholarships

In addition to TN Promise, TN HOPE Scholarship, and Pell Grants, you will have access to a variety of scholarship opportunities through the Chattanooga State Foundation. Out-of-state and international students may receive in-state tuition as part of the program.

www.chattanoogastate.edu/scholarships-grants

HONOR ACTIVITIES

The Chattanooga State Honors Program encourages students to be actively involved and engaged on campus. To meet this goal, students must attend at least three activities each semester.

Activities include:

- any event sponsored by the Honors Program
- academic and cultural events on campus
- volunteering at events to promote the Honors Program (such as open houses, orientations, and more).

The Director of the Honors Program will announce approved upcoming events via email. Students can request approval for additional events by emailing the Director.

Students attending Honors Program events will sign in to receive their points. Students attending other approved events on campus will email the Director with a thoughtful paragraph explaining what they learned at the event.

Points do not carry over from one semester to the next. If students do not meet their points requirement one semester, they must complete all required points plus one additional point the following semester in order to regain good standing.

Sample activities include:

- Chattanooga State musical performance or play
- Honors Program Induction
- Member of a Chattanooga State athletic team
- Guest Speaker on campus
- Chattanooga State Jazz Festival
- and more!



MEMBERSHIP STATUS

The academic records of Honors students are reviewed after each semester. A scholar's status will be determined based on the criteria described in the table below. An active member of the Honors Program must be enrolled in AT LEAST ONE HONORS COURSE A SEMESTER (should their degree plan allow it), participate in at least three activities, and maintain the required grade point average.

For convenience, the honors program membership criteria have been summarized in the following table. However, interpretation and assignment of any individual member's status is at the sole discretion of the Director of the Chattanooga State Honors Program, where decision is final.

Membership Status Criteria Summary for Global Scholars Honors Program			
GPA ¹	Enrolled in Honors Courses	Participating in Honors Activities	Then Membership Status is:
At least 3.50	Yes ²	Yes ²	Good Standing
3.25-3.50	Yes ²	Yes ²	Conditional
3.00-3.24	Yes	Yes	Probation (one semester only)
At least 3.50	No ³	No	Associate
Less than 3.00	Yes or no	Not available	Contact Director ³

1-at the discretion of the Chattanooga State Honors Program Director, an Honor Student's GPA calculation may exclude coursework completed at an early stage of the student's college career as long as the student has demonstrated subsequent substantial improvement in coursework preference

2-a one-semester lapse may be allowed as long as the student demonstrates a commitment to future participation

3-exceptions for good cause are available. Contact the Director of the Chattanooga State Honors Program for more information.

- **Good Standing.** The student is eligible for all Honors Program rights and benefits. This is the expected status of all members of the Program except for conditional new members.
- **Conditional.** The "condition" attached to this status generally is that the new member must earn at least a 3.50 semester GPA each semester in which they are enrolled until achieving a 3.50 cumulative GPA, at which point the student's status reverts back to Good Standing. If the student fails to meet the "condition", his/her status reverts to Probation. A conditional member is eligible for Honors Program activities.
- **Probation or Associate.** A member with probation or associate status is not eligible for scholarships. Probation members must achieve a minimum 3.25 cumulative GPA at the end of the semester following probation status or else be subject to dismissal from the program.
- **Dismissal.** A student failing to meet the minimum GPA, probation and/or student conduct requirements will be dismissed. Students dismissed for academic reasons may reapply at such point as they meet the criteria for admission.

HONORS COURSEWORK



The Chattanooga State Honors Program is designed to meet the needs of high-achieving students seeking to improve their college transcripts and transferability with challenging coursework provided across a broad range of disciplines. Our courses will engage and challenge students inside and outside the classroom through small classes and close interactions with dedicated faculty.

In honors sections, the entire course is designed as honors instruction- from text selection to course scheduling to class assignments. *Discuss, writing, research, and presentations are hallmarks of honors courses.* Honors courses emphasize ideas and active learning over the lecture-only classroom.

The Chattanooga State Honors Program is committed to offering students challenging, engaging honors instruction that fosters active and collaborative scholarship, service, and leadership.

Our honors program courses have in common the following five National Collegiate Honors Council course objectives:

- To help students develop effective written communication skills
- To help students develop effective oral communication skills
- To help students develop their ability to analyze and synthesize a broad range of material
- To help students understand how scholars think about problems, formulate hypotheses, research those problems, and draw conclusions about them; and to help students understand how creative artists approach the creative process and product original work
- To help students become more independent and critical thinkers, demonstrating the ability to use knowledge and logic when discussing an issue or an idea, while considering the consequences of their ideas, for themselves, for others, and for society.

CHATTANOOGA STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE



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