

## Applications Open for HBCU Internships, Fellowship Programs

The N.C. Department of Transportation is now accepting applications for the 2024 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) and Minority-Serving Institutions (MSI) internship and fellowship programs.

"Our HBCU and MSI Internship and Fellowship Programs are turbocharged pathways to success that provide students with hands-on experience and invaluable professional development opportunities," said Christy Dunston, director of NCDOT's HBCU Programs.

The summer internship program offers graduate and undergraduate students valuable work experiences with NCDOT, providing insight into transportation industry careers. The internship features professional development workshops covering resume building, business writing, networking and other essential skills.

Candidates for the fellows program must have earned a bachelor's or master's degree from a North Carolina HBCU or MSI within the past three years. Fellows will commit to a two-year term within a designated business unit, to support daily operations and

special initiatives. Participants will gain comprehensive transportation knowledge of, spanning road construction and maintenance, drone operations, and state ferry system management.

Fellows are classified as temporary, full-time NCDOT employees and they contribute to a talent pool for potential permanent positions with NCDOT and the transportation industry.

Don't miss your chance to steer your career in the right direction. The application deadline for the HBCU/MSI Internship and Fellowship Programs is March 1, with selected applicants beginning work May 28. The internship runs from May 28 to Aug. 2.

For more information, visit the NCDOT HBCU Initiatives and Programs Page at [www.ncdot.gov](http://www.ncdot.gov) or the N.C. Office of State Human Resources' jobs website: [www.governmentjobs.com/careers/northcarolina](http://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/northcarolina).

## Cheraw Arts Commission Chili Cook Off in March

The Cheraw Arts Commission presents its Chili Cook-Off Fundraiser on Saturday, March 2. The event at Cypress Music Hall in Cheraw features amateur and professional chefs sharing their favorite chili recipes. Music will be provided by the Rawtown Ramblers.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with tastings beginning at 7 p.m.

Participants will enjoy tastings of various styles of chili with all the fixings. Teams will vie for Best Chili, Best Spirit and People's Choice Awards.

\$15 Tickets can be purchased at the Cheraw Community Center - 200 Powe Street. Tickets will be limited and ONLY Advance Tickets will be available. No tickets will be sold at the door. Call the CAC - 843.537.8420 x 12 for info regarding tickets and entering a team.

## NCDA&CS is Accepting Applications for 2024 Specialty Crop Block Grant Program

The N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is accepting grant applications for the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, which aims to enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops in the marketplace. Nonprofits and government agencies wishing to apply have until March 4 at 5 p.m.

Applicants can submit a draft application for staff review by Jan. 25 to gain feedback on their grant proposals. A pdf of the draft application should be sent to [jenni.keith@ncagr.gov](mailto:jenni.keith@ncagr.gov).

The Specialty Crop Block Grant Program is managed by the department, through funding by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Eligible projects must involve fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, culinary herbs and spices, medicinal plants, nursery, floriculture or horticulture crops.

"North Carolina's economic impact topped \$100 billion for the first time in 2023 and the diversification of agriculture and the growth of the specialty crop sector has certainly helped us reach this goal," said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. "In 2023, we awarded \$1.2 million for 10 projects across the state and we want to continue to invest in specialty crops. We anticipate another \$1.2 million in funding this year for projects."

The department will accept grant requests up to \$200,000 from nonprofit organizations, academia, commodity associations, state and local government agencies, and colleges and universities. Grants are not available for projects that directly benefit or provide a profit to a single organization, institution or individual.

Visit [ams.usda.gov/services/grants/scbgp/specialty-crop](http://ams.usda.gov/services/grants/scbgp/specialty-crop) for a comprehensive listing of qualifying specialty crops. For grant guidelines and an application, go to: [www.ncspecialtycrops.com/apply](http://www.ncspecialtycrops.com/apply).

For questions, contact Jenni Keith at 919-707-3158 or by email at [jenni.keith@ncagr.gov](mailto:jenni.keith@ncagr.gov).

## NOTICE OF PRIMARY ELECTION FOR ANSON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

The PRIMARY ELECTION will be held on Tuesday, March 5, 2024.

The polls will be open for voting on Election Day from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

### CANDIDATES

#### PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE - DEMOCRAT

• Joseph R. Biden, Jr

#### PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE - LIBERTARIAN

• David (Trime Taveler) Dunlap • Michael Rectenwald  
• Jacob Hornburger • Joshua Smith  
• Beau Lindsey • Mike ter Maat  
• Lars Mapstead • Toad Anderson  
• Chase Oliver • Charles Ballay

#### PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE - REPUBLICAN

• Ron DeSantis • Donald J. Trump  
• Nikki Haley • Ryan Brinkley  
• Asa Hutchinson • Chris Christie  
• Vivek Ramaswamy

#### US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 08 (REP)

• Mark Harris • John R. Bradford III  
• Chris Maples • Don Brown  
• Allan Baucom • Leigh Brown

#### NC GOVERNOR (DEM)

• Gary Foxx • Marcus W. Williams  
• Michael R. (Mike) Morgan • Chrelle Booker  
• Josh Stein

#### NC GOVERNOR (LIB)

• Mike Ross  
• Shannon W. Bray

#### NC GOVERNOR (REP)

• Dale R. Folwell  
• Bill Graham  
• Mark Robinson

#### NC LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR (DEM)

• Rachel Hunt  
• Mark H. Robinson  
• Ben Clark

#### NC LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR (REP)

• Rivera Douthit • Ernest T. Reeves  
• Jeffrey Elmore • Hal Weatherman  
• Marlenis Hernandez Novoa • Seth Woodall  
• Allen Mashburn • Deanna Ballard  
• Jim O'Neill • Peter Boykin

#### NC ATTORNEY GENERAL (DEM)

• Satana Deberry  
• Tim Dunn  
• Jeff Jackson

#### NC AUDITOR (REP)

• Charles Dingle • Jeff Tarte  
• Jim Kee • David Boliek  
• Anthony Wayne (Tony) Street • Jack Clark

#### NC COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE (REP)

• Colby (Bear) Hammonds  
• Steve Troxler

#### NC COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE (DEM)

• Natasha Marcus  
• David Wheeler

#### NC COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE (REP)

• Andrew Marcus  
• C. Robert Brawley  
• Mike Causey

#### NC COMMISSIONER OF LABOR (REP)

• Luke Farley  
• Jon Hardister  
• Chuck Stanley  
• Travis J. Wilson

#### NC SECRETARY OF STATE (REP)

• Jesse Thomas  
• Christine E. Villaverde  
• Chad Brown

#### NC SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (DEM)

• C.R. Katie Eddings  
• Maurice (Mo) Green  
• Kenon Crumle

#### NC SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (REP)

• Michele Morrow  
• Catherine Truitt

#### NC TREASURER (DEM)

• Gabe Esparza  
• Wesley Harris

#### NC TREASURER (REP)

• A. J. Daoud  
• Rachel Johnson  
• Brad Briner

#### NC SUPREME COURT ASSOCIATE JUSTICE SEAT 06 (DEM)

• Allison Riggs  
• Lora Christine Cabbage

#### NC COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE SEAT 15 (REP)

• Chris Freeman  
• Hunter Murphy

#### NC HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 055 (REP)

• Arthur L. McDonald  
• Richard T. Miller  
• Mark Brody

### IDENTIFICATION IS REQUIRED TO VOTE

Acceptable IDs include NC drivers license, military or veteran ID cards issued by the federal government, and college student and public employer ID cards that the State Board approved for use in voting.

For a full list of acceptable forms of photo ID for voting, see the website: [ncsbe.gov/voting/voter-id](http://ncsbe.gov/voting/voter-id).

Registered voters who do not have an acceptable ID card for voting in North Carolina can go to the Board of Elections office to get a free ID.

### ANSON COUNTY POLLING PLACES:

- **Ansonville Fire & Rescue**  
9145 US Highway 52 North, Ansonville NC 28007
- **Burnsville Fire-Rescue** 33 Rescue Road, Polkton NC 28135
- **Gulledge Fire Dept.** 34 Chewning Road, Wadesboro NC 28170
- **Lilesville Fire Department** 202 West Wall Street, Lilesville NC 28091
- **Morven-McFarlan Fire Department**  
242 East Main Street, Morven NC 28119
- **Peachland Fire Department**  
35 East Passaic Street, Peachland NC 28133
- **Polkton Fire Department** 61 West Polk Street, Polkton NC 28135
- **Wadesboro SPCC Lockhart-Taylor Center Ingram Room**  
514 North Washington Street, Wadesboro NC 28170
- **White Store-Community Bldg.**  
5672 Union Church Road, Peachland NC 28133

### ALL ANSON COUNTY VOTERS CAN VOTE EARLY AT THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS OFFICE (402 Morven Road in Wadesboro)

#### Early Voting Time Period - February 15 - March 2

Mondays - Fridays 8:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Saturdays 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 25 12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

\*\* If you do not vote at the Early Voting site - you will need to go to your regular polling precinct to vote on Election Day, Tuesday, March 5. 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

There will not be voting held at the Board of Elections on Election Day.

### BUFFER ZONE NOTICE:

All election day voting locations will have signs posted to indicate a 50-foot buffer zone where no electioneering will be allowed per NC GS 163-166.4(a).

\* Campaigning or distribution of election material is only allowed outside the Buffer Zone.

### REGISTERING:

Anson County residents may register to vote by mail or in person at the Board of Elections Office.

The deadline to register to vote on Election Day is 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 9, 2024. If you are registered to vote in Anson County (and your name or address has not changed) you DO NOT need to register again to vote in this election.

**Voters who are not registered in the county by the deadline may register and vote during One Stop Early Voting.** They will be required to provide documentation of their identity and residence: Current and valid photo identification - or a copy of one of the following documents that show the name and address of the voter; a current utility bill; bank statement, government check; paycheck; or other government document.

### ABSENTEE BY MAIL VOTING:

Is available upon request from the voter or a near relative or a legal guardian. State law requires that all requests must be made on the official Absentee Ballot Request Form, which is available online. Application may be made in person at the Board of Elections Office, or by writing to this address: Anson County Board of Elections, PO Box 768, Wadesboro NC 28170.

#### The deadline to apply for an Absentee by Mail ballot

is 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 27, 2024. §163-230-2

To apply or request an Absentee by Mail Ballot, a voter or near relative must complete the state issued Absentee Request Form. Absentee By Mail requests can only be turned in by the voter or a near relative.

(Near relatives as defined by statute are: spouse, brother, sister, parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, mother-in-law, father-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, step-parent, or step-child.)

### EARLY VOTING:

is Monday, February 15 until Saturday, March 2 at the Anson County Board of Elections Office, located at 402 Morven Road, Wadesboro NC.

#### Early Voting hours

Monday - Friday (8 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.)  
Saturdays (8 a.m. - 3 p.m.) & Sunday, Feb. 25 (12 p.m. - 6 p.m.)

### ABSENTEE MEETINGS:

The Anson County Board of Elections will meet to approve applications for absentee ballots for the March Primary Election at the Board of Elections Office, 402 Morven Road, Wadesboro NC pursuant to G.S. 163.230.1(c1). Other business may be transacted by the board at this time.

Absentee by Mail ballots will be counted on March 5, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. Results for Absentee Mail and Early Voting will be reported after polls close at 7:30 p.m. Overseas (UOCAVA) Ballots must be returned by the close of polls on Election Day, March 5, 2024 (7:30 p.m.), or the covered voter shall submit the ballot for mailing, electronic transmission, or other authorized means of delivery not later than 12:01 a.m., at the place where the voter completes the ballot, on the date of the election AND the County Board of Elections receives the ballot the last business day before the County Canvass.

### CANVASS DAY MEETING:

Will be held in the Board of Elections Office on Friday, March 15, 2024, at 11:00am.

### QUESTIONS:

Any questions about registration, voting locations, or other election matters may be answered by calling the Anson County Board of Elections Office at 704-994-3223, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Ross Streater, Chairman, Anson County Board of Elections  
PO Box 768, Wadesboro NC 28170  
402 Morven Road, Wadesboro NC 28170  
Phone: 704-994-3223 Fax: 704-994-3260