

**PIEDMONT-APPALACHIAN
COLLEGE OF COMMISSIONER SCIENCE**



**Western Carolina University
104 Centennial Drive, Cullowhee, NC 28273
May 29 - 31, 2026**

**“EMPOWERING COMMISSIONERS FROM THE
APPALACHIANS TO THE ATLANTIC”**

**PIEDMONT COUNCIL
PALMETTO COUNCIL
SEQUOYAH COUNCIL
BLUE RIDGE COUNCIL
DANIEL BOONE COUNCIL
COASTAL CAROLINA COUNCIL
GEORGIA-CAROLINA COUNCIL**

Questions? Contact Glenn Stoner at lakedude@bellsouth.net

Dear Commissioners and other Scouters:

The 43rd Annual Piedmont-Appalachian College of Commissioner Science (PACCS) will be held at beautiful Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC on May 29-31, 2026. PACCS is one of the premier sources for Commissioner training in the nation. Please encourage all Commissioners as well as any other registered Scouters to attend. The training is applicable to all and should result in increased volunteers in the Commissioner Corps.

This booklet contains course offerings, curricula descriptions, schedules, plus other pertinent information. The registration form and additional information can be found at

<https://scoutingevent.com/549-paccs>

Staff members for the entire college are trained, dedicated, and enthusiastic about this year's College. You can expect a weekend packed with learning experiences plus friendship and fellowship.

Call your Scouting friends and make plans to attend the Piedmont-Appalachian College of Commissioner Science, on May 29-31, 2026, at Western Carolina University. We look forward to you being there. Your participation in the College can and will make a big difference in the quality of the Scouting program you deliver to the youth of your community in the next several years.

Yours in Scouting,

Anna Booher
Commissioner with Sequoyah Council
President of PACCS

HOST COUNCIL COMMISSIONER: DEE KIVETT, Blue Council

GENERAL INFORMATION

LOCATION

The college will be held at:

Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC. Courses will be in the Killian Building. The dorm room we will be in is Black Rock. Meals will be at Courtyard Dining Hall, just across the square from Killian. You will be able to park at both Killian and Black Rock and drive between them if you wish.

Once on campus follow the signs to parking for Commissioner College.

WHAT TO BRING

Bring notebook, paper, pencil, or pen, etc. for taking notes in classes. We will be staying in a dorm, with two people per room. Bathrooms are shared and are down the hall from rooms. Bring your own linens (including pillow), or they can be provided for you at an additional charge (NO PILLOW!). Private rooms are also available at an additional charge, but still have the same bathrooms down the hall. **NO PETS ALLOWED.**

UNIFORMS

The Official Scout Uniform (some still call this the Class A Uniform or Field Uniform) is preferred for all events except free time. During free time, the PACCS shirt or any other Scout-related casual shirt (still referred to as Class B or Activity Uniform by some) is acceptable. Please wear the Official Scout Uniform during class time.

MEDICAL FORMS

ALL participants (weekend AND Saturday only!) are required to bring completed Parts A and B of the BSA medical form. These should be turned in at check-in. Forms will be secured and accessed as necessary in case of an emergency. Forms may be picked up upon departure. Any forms not picked up will be securely destroyed.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Accommodations will be in Black Rock dorm, with two occupants each with a community bathroom down the hall. Bring your own linens, or they can be provided for you at an additional charge (no pillow!). Room to yourself is available at an additional charge (still hallway bathrooms!). You can choose your options and extras during the registration process. Bring your own pillow!

DINING

Meals will be in the Courtyard Dining Hall.

TRADING POST

There will be some items available in the trading post run by the Daniel Boone Council. Please bring your checkbook or cash.

REFUNDS

No refunds will be made except for serious illness or death in the immediate family. If this type of situation occurs, contact Sue Persons (suepersons@gmail.com) or Doug Bartlett (DBartlett@Carolina.RR.com) prior to the college.

EXHIBITS

You are encouraged to request a space for exhibits; however, the college will not be able to staff your area and will not be liable for your exhibit. Collections (stamps, books, patches, uniforms, etc.) of Scouting interest are encouraged.

FAMILY MEMBERS

Spouses are invited to participate in the College or to enjoy local sightseeing in the Cullowee, NC area. Spouses/family members are subject to the same fees as attendees. Please be forewarned that the College will not be prepared to provide for their entertainment or discipline. Note that a separate registration form must be completed for each individual attending.

COLLEGE TRANSFER PROGRAM

If you began your Commissioner College work at another college and are new to the Piedmont-Appalachian College of Commissioner Science, you may request a college transfer for the Bachelor and Master portion of the program. For Bachelor and Master degree credit, you must submit valid documentation of your participation in another college (photocopy of your certificate of completion and/or pocket card). This must be submitted with your completed registration form. College transfer credit will be given for the bachelor's and master's degrees only. The Candidate for Doctor of Commissioner Science (CDCS THIRD YEAR) may only be earned by completion of the required course of study at the Piedmont-Appalachian College of Commissioner Science.

YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING

PACCS supports the BSA policies on YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING. All Commissioners are required to have completed the new version of the YPT course.

If you need to update your YPT you may do so on-line through the my.scouting.org website.

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The Official Scout Uniform (Class A Uniform or Field Uniform) is preferred for all events except free time. During free time, the PACCS shirt or any other Scout-related casual shirt (Class B or Activity Uniform by some) is acceptable. Please wear the Official Scout Uniform during class time.

MEDICAL FORMS

All participants are required to bring completed Parts A and B of the BSA medical form. These should be turned in at check-in. Forms will be secured and accessed as necessary in case of an emergency. Forms may be picked up upon departure. Any forms not picked up will be securely destroyed. **MEDICAL FORMS ARE REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE!**

SCHEDULE

Friday, May 29

4:00-10:30 PM	Registration/Staff & Friday arrivals -- Black Rock
WHENEVER	DINNER (ON YOUR OWN)
8:00	General Assembly – presentation – Black Rock
9:00	Faculty Meeting (Deans & Activities Staff) – Black Rock
	Doctoral Review Board – Black Rock

Saturday, May 30

7:15-8:15 AM	Breakfast (Courtyard Dining Hall)
7:45-9:00	Registration for Saturday arrivals (Killian Building)
8:30-8:55	General Assembly (General Assembly Area in Killian)
9:00-9:50	Period #1 (Killian)
9:50-10:00	Break
10:00-10:50	Period #2 (Killian)
10:50-11:00	Break
11:00-11:50	Period #3 (Killian)
12:00-12:50 PM	Lunch (Courtyard Dining Hall)
1:00-1:50	Period #4 (Killian)
1:50-2:00	Break
2:00-2:50	Period #5 (Killian)
2:50-3:00	Break
3:00-3:50	Period #6 (Killian)
3:50-4:00	Break
4:00-4:50	Period #7 (Killian)
4:50-5:00	Break
5:00-5:50	Period #8 (Killian)
6:00-7:00	Dinner (Courtyard)
7:30-9:30	Evening Program (Black Rock)
9:30	Cracker Barrel

Sunday, May 31

7:15-8:15 AM	Breakfast (Courtyard Dining Hall)
8:30-9:00	Worship Service in General Assembly Area in Black Rock
9:00-10:00	Graduation and Certificate Awards in General Assembly Area
10:15	Staff Meeting in General Assembly Area (Black Rock)

NOTE: All rooms must be cleared by 11:00 AM on Sunday morning.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

BACHELOR OF COMMISSIONER SCIENCE DEGREE (BCS – FIRST YEAR)

1. Be an active, registered Scouter.
2. Be certified by the Dean of the BCS Program as having satisfactorily completed the prescribed course of study for the degree at the Piedmont-Appalachian College of Commissioner Science or qualify for the BCS Degree under the college's transfer policy.

MASTER OF COMMISSIONER SCIENCE DEGREE (MCS – SECOND YEAR)

1. Be an active, registered Scouter with at least one year of active service since receiving the BCS Degree.
2. Be certified by the Dean of the MCS Program as having satisfactorily completed the prescribed course of study for the degree at the Piedmont-Appalachian College of Commissioner Science or qualify for the MCS Degree under the college's transfer program.

CANDIDATE FOR DOCTOR OF COMMISSIONER SCIENCE (CDCS – THIRD YEAR)

1. Be an active, registered Scouter with at least one year of active service since receiving the MCS Degree.
2. Be certified by the Dean of the CDCS Program as having satisfactorily completed the prescribed course of study for the degree at the Piedmont-Appalachian College of Commissioner Science. This recognition may only be earned by completion of the required course of study at the Piedmont-Appalachian College of Commissioner Science and may not be awarded for work completed in another council's college. The specific requirements to complete the CDCS course(s) are:
 - Complete the CDCS course curriculum as prescribed for the session(s) attended.
 - Select a research project topic for a Doctoral paper which is approved by the Faculty of the Doctoral Candidate Review Board. (Please come to class with 3 or 4 ideas for a doctoral study/project.)
 - Agree to meet the submission and completion dates and other requirements as designated in the course materials.

DOCTOR OF COMMISSIONER SCIENCE DEGREE (DCS – FOURTH YEAR)

1. Be an active, registered Scouter with at least one year of active service since receiving the CDCS Certificate.
2. Serve one year on the staff of PACCS.
3. Present a dissertation approved by the Doctoral Review Board.
4. Give a 5-minute presentation on your project during the Saturday evening fellowship.
5. Attend the graduation ceremony on Sunday morning to receive your PACCS Doctoral neckerchief and slide.

**PIEDMONT-APPALACHIAN COLLEGE OF COMMISSIONER SCIENCE
BACHELOR OF COMMISSIONER SCIENCE
(FIRST YEAR)**

**DEANS: RAYMOND LYNCH, Daniel Boone Council
PAUL KORINKO, Georgia-Carolina Council
CHUCK LANCE, Coastal Carolina Council**

- *BCS 101 - Core Concepts of Unit Service*
- *BCS 104 - Connecting with Units*
- *BCS 106 - Coaching Leaders*
- *BCS 109 – The Essential Element (A Servant’s Heart)*
- *BCS 111 - Commissioner and S.A.F.E. Scouting*
- *BCS 114 - Understanding and Communicating with Today’s Leaders*
- *BCS 116 - Title: Unit Connections: A Commissioner’s Guide to Positive Impact*
- *BCS 119 - Building Relationships*

**PIEDMONT-APPALACHIAN COLLEGE OF COMMISSIONER SCIENCE
MASTERS OF COMMISSIONER SCIENCE DEGREE
(SECOND YEAR)**

**DEANS: RICHARD MCBETH, Sequoyah Council
PATRICK COTE, Palmetto Council**

MCS-303 Unit Service Management at the District Level

Managing unit service in the district is the primary responsibility of the district commissioner, who is aided in this task by various assistant district commissioners. This course will familiarize students with the modules available in Commissioner Tools, enabling them to enhance their ability to support the unit.

MCS-306 Mentoring Skills

Mentoring is a long-term relationship in which one individual supports and guides the personal or professional growth and development of another. Mentoring is an essential skill for a commissioner. This course will equip commissioners with the tools necessary to mentor others effectively. It will also explore the similarities and subtle differences between mentoring and coaching. The course will discuss the new mentoring model, differences between coaching and mentoring, and how it applies to unit service.

MCS-310 Succession Planning

Adult leadership changes. To support the orderly transition of leadership, it is essential to encourage each unit to develop a long-term succession plan. Commissioners need to understand the process to support the development and maintenance of a succession plan in the units they support.

MCS-316 Unit Service Today

A contemporary approach to unit service has replaced the assessment-based approach, enabling commissioners to work more closely with unit leaders. This course explores these new concepts, which focus more on listening and less on data.

MCS 304 – Service to Units at Risk

Early detection and systematic problem-solving is critical to support units when they encounter problems which may prevent them from functioning effectively. This class will provide the commissioner with ways to identify these units and to discuss the processes needed to support the unit's move toward performing as an effective scouting unit.

MCS 312 – Recruiting Commissioners in the 21st Century

All commissioners are responsible for recruiting other commissioners. This course familiarizes commissioners with the considerations and techniques that support recruiting volunteers who represent the diverse generations of the 21st century.

MCS 315 – Effective Unit Service in Rural Communities

In this course, participants will learn about the characteristics of a rural community and how to work with it to maintain an effective unit. While this course discusses rural and small towns in general, there are helpful tips for every commissioner when developing relationships in the community they serve, whether rural, urban, or suburban.

MCS 350 – Unit and Roundtable Commissioners Working Together

While unit commissioners and roundtable commissioners wear distinct position patches, denoting their field of expertise, both patches feature the wreath of service, and for good reason! Unit commissioners and roundtable commissioners collaborate to ensure that unit leaders have the necessary support to succeed.

PIEDMONT-APPALACHIAN COLLEGE OF COMMISSIONER SCIENCE CONTINUING EDUCATION

DEAN: RICHARD SEVILLA, Piedmont Council

CED-701 Combating Commissioner Stress (50-min) We've probably all had our moments when we ask ourselves, "Why are we involved in Scouting? Why are we doing this?" This course will explore ways to help overcome burnout and stressful situations, and motivate ourselves and others toward improved tenure in Scouting America.

CED-716 Navigating Difficult Conversations (50-min)

Scouting is full of conversations. Most are pleasant and productive- but at times, differences can arise. It occurs whenever people disagree over their values, motivations, perceptions, ideas, or desires. Sometimes these differences appear trivial, but they can trigger strong emotions. As commissioners, we need to be able to navigate these difficult conversations in a way that leaves everyone feeling heard, understood and valued.

CED-722 Support Mixed Gender Scouting as Commissioners (50-min)

As commissioners, we respond to concerns from volunteers in various positions and also help prepare them to address concerns from Scouts and parents. Today's Scouting America programs continue to support the aims and methods of scouting, while expanding our reach to a larger audience. This course familiarizes commissioners with the considerations related to the expanded inclusion of girls in Scouting.

CED-712 Roster Mining for Recruiting (50-min)

This workshop is designed to allow participants the opportunity to practice recruiting commissioners using the Roster Mining method. The following plan has been used successfully by commissioners across BSA. The key to success is to use what works for you.

CED-751 Administrative Commissioner Role for Roundtable (50-min)

We'll discuss how developing a team with a unit service mindset starts with establishing relationships and talk about how administrative commissioners, such as the assistant council commissioner for roundtable and the assistant district commissioner for roundtable, can be reliable resources for units at the district and council level. We'll also learn how building an effective roundtable commissioner team is vital to the success of all roundtables and how Commissioner Tools, recognition, and using available resources help strengthen the roundtable program.

CED-752 Advanced Roundtable Promotion (50-min)

When it comes right down to it, the roundtable program is not simply a situation of "if you build it, they will come." Rather, you must first create a *robust* roundtable program that unit leaders need and THEN, in turn, create a *robust* promotion plan to tell unit leaders **WHY** they should come to roundtable. The focus of this course will be the promotion plan.

CED-754 Roundtable Workshop (1-hr, 50-min)

This roundtable workshop helps commissioners understand that units are best served when their needs are met. The workshop will help participants learn how to tailor roundtable to the current needs of their unit leaders.

**PIEDMONT-APPALACHIAN COLLEGE OF COMMISSIONER SCIENCE
CANDIDATE FOR DOCTOR OF COMMISSIONER SCIENCE CERTIFICATE
(THIRD YEAR)**

DEAN: ELIZABETH STONER, Palmetto Council

CDCS 611 HOW TO IDENTIFY A NEED IN SCOUTING THAT MIGHT BE A DISSERTATION TOPIC?

CDCS 612 WHAT IS A PROJECT AND HOW DO YOU DESIGN IT?

CDCS 613 WHAT IS A STUDY AND HOW DO YOU DEVELOP ONE?

CDCS 614 WHAT ARE YOUR POTENTIAL RESEARCH SOURCES AND TOOLS?

CDCS 615 A DISCUSSION OF INDIVIDUAL TOPIC SELECTIONS. (2 hours)

CDCS 617 HOW TO ASSEMBLE AND WRITE THE DISSERTATION. (2 hours)

This 8-hour series of discussions is specifically designed to help the Doctoral Candidate select and define a research paper topic to solve a Scouting problem. The Candidate will consider ways of developing and accomplishing a project or a study which solves that problem. Candidates learn about sources of information and help and how to complete a report paper (their dissertation) that describes their solution of the Scouting problem.

Please come to this class prepared with 3 or 4 ideas for a Doctoral project/study.

**PIEDMONT-APPALACHIAN COLLEGE OF COMMISSIONER SCIENCE
DOCTOR OF COMMISSIONER SCIENCE DEGREE
(FOURTH YEAR)**

DEAN: PAUL KORINKO, Georgia-Carolina Council

DCS 700 PRESENTATION OF COMPLETED DISSERTATIONS

Candidates will make a **5-minute** presentation on his/her completed project/study on Saturday during the Entertainment Period. Each Candidate must have served in a PACCS staff position. Degree certificates and PACCS neckerchiefs and slides will be presented at the Graduation Ceremony on Sunday morning.