



CONNECT ASHE

What is Connect Ashe?

TO INFORM...TO CHALLENGE...TO CONNECT! Connect Ashe is a program coordinated by Wilkes Community College's Workforce Development & Community Education program, NC Cooperative Extension, and the Ashe County Chamber of Commerce. The Ashe County Chamber of Commerce, specifically the Business & Community Development Committee, plays a pivotal role in facilitating the program. Many other local organizations and businesses are also involved in the program as host locations, tour sites, and session speakers.

The program's goal is to connect participants ages 70+ and provide them with the community information and encouragement needed to spur local involvement.

How is the Program Structured?

Connect Ashe is comprised of three sessions that will provide tours of area businesses, organizations, and facilities. All sessions are planned by leaders in the topic areas who will offer information and thoughtful analysis. Sessions are designed to stimulate interest, awareness, and interaction, and to facilitate discussion.

How are Participants Selected?

The class is open to 12 participants. Prospective participants are encouraged to apply and should complete the enclosed application, which will be reviewed by a selection committee. After a thorough review of all applications submitted, participants will be selected to create a good cross-section of the community.

What is the Program Cost?

The class tuition fee of \$80 includes program materials, a graduation reception, and a diploma award. Additionally, graduates will receive continuing education credits for this program. A limited number of partial scholarships are available, based on need. Program sponsors supplement other costs.

Apply Today!

We encourage you to apply! Applications should be returned by **Friday, May 12, 2023**, to the Ashe County Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center, or emailed to: director@ashechamber.com. Applicants will be notified by email the week of May 15 (*Make sure to check your spam folder*). Payment will be expected by May 31.



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2023 Application Form

Name: _____ Preferred Name (if any): _____

Are you 70+ years old? (circle one) YES NO

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ St/Zip: _____

*Email: _____ Phone: _____

Emergency Contact Name & Phone: _____

Hobbies & interests: _____

Employment Information

Are you currently working? (circle one) YES NO

If YES, who is your current employer? _____

If you are retired, what was your previous occupation? _____

Where are you currently connected in the community? (i.e., church, Friends of the Library, Bridge Club, etc.)

I wish to participate in Connect Ashe because: _____

Dietary Restrictions: Do you have any dietary restrictions of which we should be aware? ___ Yes ___ No

If yes, please list: _____

Allergies/Medical:

Do you have any allergies/medical conditions of which we should be aware? ___ Yes ___ No

If yes, please list: _____

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
& COMMUNITY EDUCATION

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2023 Sessions Overview

DATE	FOCUS AREA
June 7 9 am-5 pm	Environmental Governmental Tourism Human Services Technology
June 14 9 am-5 pm	Industry Food & Hospitality Cultural Education
June 21 9 am-1:30 pm	Virtual Connections 101 Agriculture Lunch/Graduation

COVID-19 Statement:

Connect Ashe will address current COVID-19 restrictions and communicate these with selected participants prior to the start of the program. We will follow all recommended guidelines that may be in place during this class as recommended, or required, by a combination of the NC Dept. of Health & Human Services, App Health Care, Wilkes Community College, NC Cooperative Extension, and the Ashe Chamber. Participants will be required to supply and correctly wear masks if required by the hosting location.