

Anson Students on Wingate University Honors Lists

Wingate University Fall 2020 President's List

The President's List includes undergraduate students who have earned a term GPA of 3.80 on at least 12 quality-point academic hours and have no grade below a "C-".

- **Lilesville** Sarah Burr, Kimberly Teal
- **Peachland** Abby Dagenhart, Brooke Huneycutt, Liberty Wright
- **Polkton** - Kaitlin Campbell
- **Wadesboro** Anna Blackwelder, Reilley Boyko, Beau Horne, Carli Jackson, Hanna Osborne, McKalya Ricketts

Wingate University Fall 2020 Dean's List

The Dean's List includes undergraduate students who have earned a term GPA of at least a 3.30 but no more than a 3.799 on at least 12 quality-point academic hours and have no grade below a "C-".

- **Peachland** Faith Haren, Katie Taylor, Blake Treadaway
- **Polkton** Amber Freeman, Gracie Moree
- **Wadesboro** Kurstin Hartsell, Mili Nguyen, Latrece Pratt

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Governor Cooper Proposes Emergency Budget Supplement to Turn Corner on COVID-19 and Invest in a Stronger Future for NC

Strong, Resilient, Ready

Governor Roy Cooper has outlined a plan for allocating federal COVID-19 relief funds for immediate needs and investing state resources to help North Carolina communities build back as the state turns the corner on the pandemic.

"North Carolinians have stood strong during this pandemic and we are ready to move our state forward. The past year has tested all of us but we must work together on a focused, responsible plan to help families and businesses survive and grow strong while we bolster our economy and health care system and make sure students and teachers are in classrooms ready to learn. We can emerge from these challenging times stronger than ever," said Governor Cooper.

The Governor's early plan calls for investing federal stimulus funds along with some state resources for immediate critical needs. Governor Cooper's plan would invest the state's share of the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 which was signed into law Dec. 27. The federal appropriation totaled more than \$4 billion for North Carolina. A fuller proposed biennial budget will be presented later in the legislative session.

The new federal funding is strictly proscribed, and with General Assembly appropriation will provide vital COVID relief such as vaccines, more supplies to slow the virus spread, help for rent and utility bills, and more funding to put food on the table. Federal funds will address:

- Approximately \$2 billion for emergency assistance for public and private K-12 schools and higher education institutions.
- \$336 million for childcare and development block grants.
- Approximately \$700 million for access to vaccines and testing, tracing and prevention measures to slow the spread of the virus.
- \$546 million for emergency rental assistance, which will build on North Carolina's current work. While this is the first dedicated federal funding for rental assistance, North Carolina recognized the extraordinary need to help people stay in their homes during the pandemic and created the HOPE program to pay back rent and utilities using last year's CRF funds.
- \$258 million for Highway Infrastructure and \$65 million for airports.
- \$47 million for Community Mental Health Services.
- Funding for food assistance programs, such as SNAP and school nutrition.

In addition to the federal allocation plan, the Governor recommends investing \$695 million from the state's General Fund to address other immediate needs. Despite the pandemic, North Carolina's budget availability remains strong, with more than \$4 billion in unreserved cash in the General Fund. Among the needs facing North Carolina businesses and people, the Governor recommends addressing:

- \$50 million for continued hazard duty pay for state employees on the frontlines of COVID-19, especially law enforcement and corrections personnel who face COVID-19 every day.
- \$64.5 million for the replenishment of the North Carolina State Health Plan, which has incurred costs responding to COVID-19.
- \$468 million for bonuses for educators and school personnel in public K-12 schools, community colleges and the university system. Educators have stepped up in extraordinary ways during the pandemic but were not a part of the raises approved in the last biennium for state employees.
- \$30 million to extend high-speed internet to all corners of the state and other urgent connectivity initiatives, such as IT infrastructure, security for community colleges and enhancement of 35,000 hotspots used for education.
- \$37 million to support small businesses that have suffered during the pandemic and often don't have large cash reserves, including small business counselling, marketing for tourism and hospitality, ReTOOLNC program for historically underutilized businesses (HUBs), and the business loan program at Golden L.E.A.F.
- Expansion of state unemployment benefits, which are still among the lowest in the country. Despite the pandemic forcing thousands of people to lose their jobs - particularly in the restaurant and service industries - North Carolina's Unemployment Trust Fund remains healthy, with a balance of more than \$2.59 billion. North Carolina should increase the maximum duration of benefits to 26 weeks and increase the maximum benefit from \$350 to \$500 per week.

"I appreciate the work of legislators to quickly pass vital relief as the state responded to the pandemic last year and I believe we can work together to get the job done again. Our communities and people face serious challenges and we must come together to identify areas of common ground and help our people beat the pandemic and thrive once again," said Governor Cooper.

Presidents Day – February 15, 2021

Every third Monday of February (February 15) we celebrate Presidents' Day in all its patriotic glory. Many people relish in their day off of work, but they might be surprised to know that that was the point! It wasn't until 1971 that Presidents' Day moved in an effort to create more three-day weekends for the public. They hoped that this would inspire greater productivity nationwide. It was believed that at this point in the year, the restorative effects of the Winter holidays have begun to fade and we need another break to regain some of that lost stamina.

When is Presidents Day 2021? Presidents Day is celebrated every year on the third Monday of February - February 15 this year. All the presidents in American history are remembered and honored for their exemplary work in making America the great country it is today.

History of Presidents Day After the death of George Washington in 1799, his birthday was unofficially celebrated as a day of remembrance called Washington Day. Throughout the 1800s, people used this day to honor the man that shaped America and the legacy he left. In 1832, a resolution permitted the removal and internment of George Washington's body in the Capitol Building in Washington D.C. and the erection of the Washington Monument in 1848 caused more celebrations nationwide.

It wasn't until the late 1870s that Steven Wallace Dorsey proposed that Washington's birthday should become a national federal holiday. President Rutherford B. Hayes signed it into law in 1879 and joined the four existing bank holidays that were previously approved in 1870. Because of Abraham Lincoln's legacy and the proximity of his birthday on February 12, it's proposed that Washington Day should become Presidents' Day to celebrate both men, but that idea was rejected by Congress.

Washington's Birthday didn't officially become Presidents' Day until the late 1960s. Senator Robert McClory of Illinois concocted a plan that moved key bank holidays to Mondays to increase the number of three-day weekends for workers in what's known as the Uniform Monday's Act. The hope was that it would increase productivity and decrease employee absenteeism. Unsurprisingly, the labor union agreed with this idea and so did the private sector.

In 1971, Richard M. Nixon made the executive order to pass the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which shifted Washington's Birthday, Columbus Day, Memorial Day, and Veterans' Day to Monday. With the date landing in the middle of Lincoln's and Washington's birthday. It became known as Presidents' Day while having a simultaneous benefit for retail stores as they advertised their special sales events during this time. By the mid-1980s, Presidents' Day became the common term and continues to this day.

Presidents Day timeline

- 1800s - George Washington's Birthday. After George Washington's death in 1799 his birthday is celebrated nationwide.
- 1879 - Official Holiday. President Rutherford B. Hayes signs Washington's Birthday into law.

- 1968 - Uniform Monday Holiday Bill. Congress passes the Uniform Monday Holiday Bill and shifts four bank holidays to Monday including Washington's Birthday.
- 1980s to Present - Presidents' Day Is Official. Presidents' Day becomes the common term, honoring all presidents and a marketing boon for retailers.

Presidents Day FAQs

- **Is Presidents' Day a paid holiday?** Presidents' Day is a paid holiday for the federal government. Otherwise, it depends on the company.
- **Is Presidents' Day celebrated around the world?** Presidents' Day is a national holiday, but parts of Canada celebrate Family Day that lands on the third Monday of February. Historically, people have celebrated with parades and patriotic festivities with family and friends.
- **What are the traditions of Presidents' Day?** Historically, people have celebrated with parades and patriotic festivities with family and friends.

Presidents Day Activities

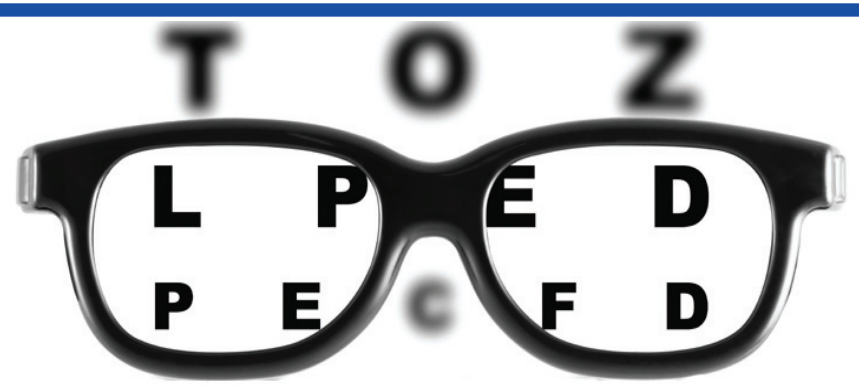
- **Take a Historical Journey** - There are plenty of historical sites and tours that you and your family can indulge in to learn about the history of the presidency. Washington D.C. is the obvious place, but if you don't live in Virginia and don't wish to travel, learn about your local government and how presidents have impacted your community. Your local history museum is sure to have documents and artifacts that are sure to enlighten.
- **Know Your Presidents** - Take this time to historically deep-dive into the presidents that aren't often spoken of. Everyone knows the names Jefferson, Lincoln, and Washington, but what about Martin Van Buren and John Tyler? While they might not be as big as the greats, their time in office is a part of the legacy as a whole and important in their own right.
- **Make It a Game** - Sometimes, we can take our history for granted, so why not create a quiz you can play at home? Split off into teams and write down questions about the presidents and the presidency. It has the dual benefit of informing everyone on American history, and as an added bonus, you can best everyone with your historical knowledge.

Five Surprising Facts About Presidents' Day

- 1) Died on the fourth of July - Both John Adams and Thomas Jefferson died on July 4th, 1826, which happened to be the 50th anniversary of the approval of the Declaration of Independence.
- 2) Presidents' Day sales - Merchants on average see a 1.2% weekly boost in sales the week of Presidents Day.
- 3) The undefeated Washington - George Washington was the only president to be unanimously elected by all of the state representatives.
- 4) In between - The "S" in Harry S. Truman doesn't actually stand for anything.
- 5) Going backwards - A pair of bills attempted to return the official name of Presidents' Day to Washington's Birthday, but it didn't receive much support.

Why We Love Presidents Day

- **Knowledge is power** - Those who don't learn from the past are doomed to repeat it. It's important to know history so that we can properly understand the state of things. All of the successes and failures have had a direct effect on our current state, and if we hope to make things better, we have to know the truth of what went on before.
- **Remembrance** - Presidents' Day allows us to pause and give respect to the legacy of those who came before. It's easy to take life for granted, and for the acts of these men seem so long ago, but the presidents have been a driving force in every aspect of life.
- **Inspiration** - While nothing is perfect, it's important to hold onto the ideals that the country stands for and allow it to inspire you to reach greater heights. Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness is meant for all people and it's up to us to make sure it happens.



Holly Allison Kiker, OD

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Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Use wool or rubber dryer balls in the clothes dryer to reduce drying time and static. Wool dryer balls can also absorb extra moisture. These are an efficient alternative to dryer sheets, which can create buildup on the dryer's filter and reduce air circulation. If you prefer dryer sheets, scrub the filter once a month to remove buildup.

Source: energy.gov