

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Appalachian State University's B.S. in Community and Regional Planning has been awarded accreditation by the Planning Accreditation Board (<https://www.planningaccreditationboard.org/>) effective January 2027. The following information is posted here in accordance with PAB requirements.

Student Achievement

Students who graduate with the B.S. in Community and Regional Planning at Appalachian State University gain a mastery of the foundation of planning—history, theory, and tools of the profession; specialized knowledge in areas of professional practice; and applied skills from collaborative client-facing studios. In the past five years, our students have partnered with organizations and agencies in the public, private, and non-profit sectors, generating a wide range of products. Examples include memos to support and later document community charrettes in small North Carolina towns (partnering with a non-profit collaborative of design and construction professionals), data collection and interpretation of housing conditions and challenges for a newly formed housing council, and 'existing conditions' summaries for a municipal planning department, among others. The students demonstrate their competency with the planning process, data analytical skills, and professionalism and communication through the successful completion of these projects.

All students in the B.S. Planning program complete a senior capstone, where they create a polished portfolio—in both electronic and print formats—to showcase their acquired skills and knowledge.

In addition to the studio and capstone that all undergraduate Planning students complete, many have been tapped as research assistants for projects funded by external (e.g., North Carolina Department of Transportation) and internal sources, gaining valuable experience in research design, data collection and analysis, and presentation.

Our students graduate ready to identify opportunities and secure employment, and to interact effectively and productively with planning professionals, community stakeholders in public and private sectors, and the general public.

2026-2027 Costs per full-time academic year*

Tuition and fees, state residents	\$8,399
Total estimated cost of attendance (including tuition and fees), state residents	\$26,099
Tuition and fees, non-residents	\$27,259
Total estimated cost of attendance (including tuition and fees), non-residents	\$45,791

Student Retention Rate

Percentage of students who began studies in fall 2023 and continued into fall 2024	100%
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Student Graduation Rate

Percentage of students graduating within 4 years, entering class of 2019	73%
Percentage of students graduating within 6 years, entering class of 2019	73%

Number of Degrees Awarded

Number of degrees awarded for 2025-26 Academic Year (including summer 2025)	11
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AICP Pass Rate

Percentage of master's graduates taking AICP exam within 3 years who pass	n/a**
Percentage of bachelor's graduates taking AICP exam within 5 years who passed	n/a***

*Source: <https://financialaid.appstate.edu/estimated-cost-attendance#2627ugrad>

*No graduate program seeking PAB accreditation

**No 2021 B.S. graduates have taken AICP exam yet; PAB accreditation not yet in force