

Alabama School of Healthcare Sciences

Student Orientation 2026–2027

Compassion. Innovation. Integrity. Service.



Orientation Day Agenda

8:00 – 8:30 AM	Check-In	Student/family check-in, photos & uniform sizing
8:30 – 9:00 AM	The ASHS Experience	Leadership welcome, mission & vision of ASHS, core values
9:00 – 9:45 AM	Community Welcome	ASHS Foundation, Mayor Collins, Whitfield Regional & more
9:45 – 10:00 AM	Break	
10:00 – 11:00 AM	Academic Experience	Staff intros, curriculum, pathways, grading & transportation, etc.,
11:00 – 11:30 AM	Student Support Services	House system, mental health & wellness, Medication
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Lunch	Catered by River City Soul
12:30 – 1:15 PM	Student Life & Culture	Life at UWA, residential overview, dress code, security
1:15 – 2:00 PM	Community Partner & Resource Fair	Library, summer reading, churches, Canebrake Players & more
2:00 – 2:45 PM	Closing Session	Key dates, August orientation preview, technology & Q&A

Have a Question?

Scan the QR code to submit



Welcome to ASHS

We're thrilled to have you join the inaugural class of the Alabama School of Healthcare Sciences. This is the beginning of something extraordinary — for you, for your community, and for the future of healthcare in Alabama.



63

9th Grade Students

20

10th Grade Students

31

Alabama counties
represented

Our Mission

Empower students to transform healthcare through an education grounded in compassion, innovation, integrity, and service, preparing them to improve the health of communities across Alabama.



Learn

Rigorous academics and hands-on healthcare training



Lead

Develop leadership, teamwork, and professional skills



Serve

Strengthen communities through compassionate healthcare



The ASHS Experience

8:30 – 9:00 AM

Our Vision

To cultivate a new generation of healthcare leaders who are driven by compassion, committed to service, guided by integrity, and empowered through innovation, transforming the health and well-being of Alabama communities through education and training.



Nursing

Patient care, clinical environments, and essential nursing skills



Pre-Med

Medical research, diagnostics, health innovation, and lab investigation



Allied Health

Surgical tech, medical lab science, and EMT

Hands-On Learning Every Year



Freshman: Awareness

Build a strong foundation in healthcare basics, core academics, and professional skills



Sophomore: Exploration

Explore healthcare careers and begin hands-on clinical learning experiences



Junior: Preparation

Advanced science coursework and clinical rotations with healthcare partners



Senior: Capstone

Complete a clinical internship — an experience rare for high school students

Why Choose ASHS



Credentials That Matter

Earn CPR/BLS certification, college credits through dual enrollment, and healthcare credentials



Clinical Experience

Every senior completes a clinical internship alongside healthcare professionals



Community of One

Live in a structured, caring residential campus with 24/7 trained staff and mentors



The House System

Join one of four houses that build friendships, confidence, and belonging from day one

What Makes ASHS Different



Residential Campus

Live, learn, and grow in a safe, structured community in Demopolis



College Credits

Earn dual enrollment credits and industry-recognized certifications



Real Clinical Experience

Train at Whitfield Regional Hospital alongside healthcare professionals



No Tuition Cost

Free, state-funded education with financial assistance available

Our Core Values



Compassion

- Understanding and responding with empathy, kindness, and respect
- Builds trust and relationships
- Keeps care patient-centered



Innovation

- Pursuing new ideas and continuous improvement
- Encourages curiosity and creativity
- Prepares students to lead change



Integrity

- Acting with honesty and accountability
- Builds trust and credibility
- Reflects character at all times



Service

- Contributing to the well-being of others
- Develops leadership through action
- Creates lasting impact

Clinical Experience

Dr. Becky Reamey

Welcome Session Speakers

9:00 – 9:45 AM

Scott Huffman

President, ASHS Foundation

Woody Collins

Mayor, City of Demopolis

Doug Brewer

CEO, Whitfield Regional Hospital

Rhae Darsey

Director, Main Street Demopolis

John Scott

Demopolis Chamber of Commerce

Break

9:45 – 10:00 AM



The Academic Experience

10:00 – 11:00 AM

Leadership & Administration

Laura Bailey

Head of School, Dean of Curriculum & Instruction

Antonio Cooper

Dean of Students

Kelly Brasher

CSFO

Nick Seale

Technology Coordinator & CS Teacher

Cierra Steen

Admissions & Family Engagement

Susanna Cooper

Director of Admissions

Kasani Bell

Director of Recruiting

Ryan Rust

Campus Administrator

Raniqua King

Director of Residential Life

Faculty & Support

Faculty & Counselors

Traci Pearson

Academic Counselor

Savanna Cannon

Mental Health Counselor

Jeanette Caddell

Nurse

Bridget Cain

ELA Teacher

Amber Emerson

Science Teacher

Morgan Houston

Health Science Teacher

Jay Smith

Mathematics Teacher

Myra Harris

Social Studies Teacher

Dorm Parents

Jayla Griffin

Dorm Parent

Amaya Pritchett

Dorm Parent

Steven White

Dorm Parent

TBA

Dorm Parent

Curriculum

Three Healthcare Pathways

Choose the path that matches your passion and career goals



Nursing

Hands-on clinical learning leading directly to in-demand healthcare careers. Graduate ready for nursing programs or immediate workforce entry.



Biomedical Sciences & Pre-Med

Advanced coursework and dual enrollment for students pursuing medicine, research, or graduate-level health sciences.



Allied Health

Explore pharmacy, respiratory therapy, radiology technology, and other essential roles in every healthcare setting.

Your 9th Grade Curriculum

Core Academics

- English Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Science
- History / Social Studies

Healthcare Foundations

- ✓ Computer Science in Healthcare
- ✓ Healthcare Leadership & Professionalism
- ✓ Medical Terminology
- ✓ Foundations of Health Science

Your 10th Grade Curriculum

Core Academics

- Algebra I or II
- Honors Pre-AP Chemistry
- DE United States History I
- AP Psychology

Healthcare & Pathway

- ✓ Medical Research & Writing
- ✓ Foundations of Health Science
- ✓ PLTW: Medical Interventions
- ✓ Computer Science in Healthcare

Enrichment

Enrichment

Each day, you'll have approximately 35 minutes dedicated to Enrichment. Here's how you can use that time:



Get Help

Ask questions, get one-on-one support, and work with your teachers on tough material



Work Ahead

Start on upcoming assignments, projects, or study for tests at your own pace



Peer Collaboration

Study with classmates, review together, and learn from each other



Personal Time

Read, journal, explore healthcare topics, or recharge for the rest of the day

Grading

Grading Scale

Letter Grades, Quality Points & Weighted Credit

Standard	Quality Points	Honors / PLTW	AP / Dual Enrollment
A 90 – 100	4.0	4.5	5.0
B 80 – 89	3.0	3.5	4.0
C 70 – 79	2.0	2.5	3.0
D 60 – 69	1.0	1.5	2.0
F 59 & below	0	0	0

ASHS Grading Framework

Gradebook Structure & Minimum Grades Per Quarter

Category	Weight
Assessments Tests, projects, presentations, research papers	40%
Applied Learning / Labs In-class assignments, labs, simulations, group work	30%
Independent Practice Reading, practice problems, reflections, prep work	20%
Professional Skills Participation, teamwork, preparedness, professionalism	10%

Category	Min / Qtr
Assessments	3-4
Applied Learning / Labs	5-6
Independent Practice	4
Professional Skills	3

School Calendar

School Calendar 2026–2027

Fall Semester

Aug. 11	Move In Day
Aug. 12	Orientation / Meet Teachers
Aug. 13	First Day for Students
Sept. 7	Labor Day Holiday
Oct. 7	First Grading Period Ends
Oct. 5-9	Fall Break
Nov. 11	Veteran's Day
Nov. 23–27	Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 14–16	Final Exams
Dec. 16	Second Grading Period Ends
Dec. 17 – Jan. 5	Winter Break

School Calendar 2026–2027

Spring Semester

Jan. 6	Students Return
Jan. 18	M.L. King Holiday
Feb. 15	President's Day
Mar. 9	Third Grading Period Ends
Mar. 29 – Apr. 5	Spring Break
May 10	No School
May 17–18	Final Exams
May 19	Last Day of School / Fourth Grading Period Ends

Transportation

Drop-Off Points



1

Birmingham

Target, Fultondale Area

2

Montgomery

Drop-off location TBD

3

Tuscaloosa

Lowe's, Highway 69 South

Additional drop-off points will be updated as confirmed

Student Support Services

11:00 AM – 11:30 AM

House System

The Four Houses



EMPATIA

Empatia

Compassion — caring for others with empathy and heart



INNOVARE

Innovare

Innovation — thinking creatively to solve tomorrow's challenges



RESOLUTIA

Resolutia

Integrity — standing firm in character and resolve



AEQUITAS

Aequitas

Service — pursuing fairness and justice for all

Mental Health & Wellness



Campus Administrator

Meets with each student individually during the school day



Director of Residential Life

Meets with each student individually after school hours



Mental Health Counselor

Meets with each student individually to discuss mental well-being

Resources & Support

We are here for you every step of the way. Families and students are partners in this journey.

Academic Tutoring

Evening study halls with tutoring support in all subjects

Healthcare Mentors

On-site professionals guide your clinical learning journey

Counseling Services

Emotional, social, and academic support from dedicated counselors

Family Communication

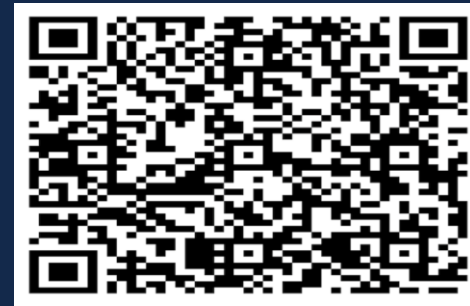
Regular updates, events, and open lines with residential staff

Medication Administration

Lunch

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Catered by River City Soul



Student Residential Life & Culture



Life at ASHS

More than a school — a community where students thrive academically and personally

Supervised Residence Halls

Safe, structured dorms that build independence and community

Dedicated Staff & Mentors

Educators and healthcare mentors provide constant guidance

Activities & Wellness

Leadership programs, hobbies, volunteering, and weekend events

Lifelong Friendships

Study, grow, and connect with like-minded peers from across Alabama

A Day in the Life

6:30 AM

Wake Up & Breakfast

Start the day with a healthy meal

8:00 AM

School Starts

Block Schedule with 4 courses each semester

11:30 AM

Lunch & Enrichment

Recharge with friends

12:30 PM

Healthcare Courses

Medical terminology, lab work, clinical skills

3:30 PM

Activities & Wellness

Study hall, clubs, sports, community service

5:30 PM

Dinner

Community meals together

7:00 PM

Study Hall

Guided study time with tutoring support

9:30 PM

Lights Out

Rest and recharge for tomorrow

What We Expect From You

ASHS students are selected for their potential, drive, and heart. Here's what we look for:



Academic Readiness

Strong foundation in STEM coursework and eagerness to learn



Teamwork & Leadership

Active in clubs, volunteer work, HOSA, or community service



Compassion for Others

Genuine interest in healthcare and serving underrepresented communities



Emotional Maturity

Ready for the experience of living away from home and growing independently

Student Life

An action-packed calendar of events for residential life!

August 2026						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 Move In Day Campus Mini-Tours Parent Send-Off	8 Getting Settled Theme: Explore & Ease Anxiety
9 Book Lover's Day Preparation & Comfort Theme: Emotional Readiness & Skills	10 First Day of Classes	11 Club and Activity Sign Ups	12 Youth Day Time Management Workshop RA Check Ins	13 Wellness Night	14 Ice Cream Social Night	15 Lake Based Team Building Intramural Field Activities Outdoor Movie Night Walk/Run Club Meet
16 Tell a Joke Day Residential Hall Meeting + Reflection Circle	17 DIY Dorm Décor Night	18 Lip Sync Battle	19 World Humanitarian Day Escape Room RA Check ins Would you Rather LIVE	20 Lemonade Day Stuffed Sleepover Photoshoot	21 Friendship Bracelet Bar Glow-Stick Capture the Flag	22 Scavenger Hunt around the Lake Intramural Tournament Minute To Win It Tournament Walk/Run Club Meet
23 Wellness + Reset Day Wellness Block Residential Hall Meeting + Reflection Circle Bucket List Wall Creation	24 DIY Slime/ Putty Lab Goal Setting Check-In Groups	25 Nutrition Workshop Journaling & Reflection	26 Study Skills Workshop RA Check Ins Trivia Night	27 Art & Creative Expression Evening Walk & Wellness Check ins	28 Movie Night + Snacks Social Hangout	29 Community Service Project Recreational Outing Theme Night (Pajama Party) Walk/Run Club Meet
30 Life Skills Olympics Wellness Block Weekly Reset & Planner Prep Residential Hall Meeting + Reflection Circle	31 Poetry Slam Prep Evening Fitness Challenge					

What About Fun?

Weekend Excursions

- Demopolis Days
- Tuscaloosa Days
- Club & Special Interest Days
- Community Engagement
- Home Visits & Dorm Maintenance

Lounge & Social Spaces

- ✓ Gaming & Entertainment
- ✓ Board Games & Socializing
- ✓ Student Interest Clubs
- ✓ Mental Wellness & Relaxation
- ✓ Mental Health Moments

Alabama School of
Healthcare
Sciences

RESIDENTIAL LIFE ORIENTATION





OUR MISSION AND VISION

Create

Create a safe, supportive, and academically focused residential community

Encourage

Encourage independence, accountability, and personal growth

Promote

Promote respect, wellness, leadership, and community engagement



RESIDENTIAL STAFF & SUPPORT

Director of
Residential Life

Dorm Parents

Mentors

On-Call staff
support

Student wellness
and behavioral
support

Open
communication
with students
and families



MOVE-IN DAY EXPECTATIONS



Check-in
procedures and
room assignments



Required forms
and
documentation



Room
inspections before
move-in



What students
should bring



Welcome activities
and orientation
sessions

ROOMMATE MATCHING PROCESS



Roommate
matching survey
was sent to students



Matches are based
on habits, routines,
interest, and
preferences



Goal is to create
compatible and
respectful living
environments



Room changes are
handled through a
formal process
when necessary



DAILY RESIDENTIAL SCHEDULE



Morning preparation and attendance expectations




Afternoon and evening routines and accountability



Quiet hours and nighttime expectations



Weekend schedules and activities



STUDY HOURS AND ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS



Mandatory study hours during designated times



Quiet and focused academic environment



Academic accountability and progress monitoring



Importance of time management and organization



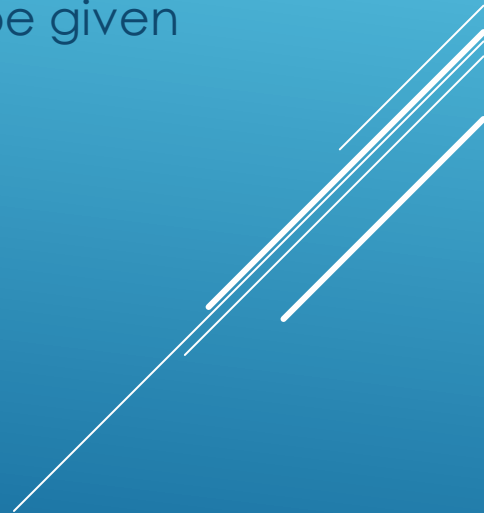
DORM RULES & COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS

- ▶ Respect for roommates, staff, and peers
- ▶ Curfew and sign-in/sign out procedures
- ▶ Technology and device expectations
- ▶ Appropriate behavior and language
- ▶ Zero tolerance for bullying, harassment, unsafe behavior or being outside of your assigned areas
- ▶ Guidelines for dating and relationships



- ▶ Secure residential facilities
- ▶ Staff supervision and monitoring
- ▶ Student wellness and mental health support
- ▶ On-call telephone number will be given to all parents

SAFETY & SECURITY PROCEDURES





STUDENT ACTIVITIES & ENGAGEMENT

Community-building activities and events

Leadership and mentorship opportunities

House communities (Empatia, Innovare, Resolutia, Aequitas)

Wellness, recreation, and educational programs

Holiday celebrations and themed events

Student involvement and connection

Day and Week in a Life examples



COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS

Open and professional
communication

Parent concerns and support
procedures

Behavioral and academic
updates when appropriate in
REACH

Emergency communication
protocols

Partnering together for student
success



**CONFLICT
RESOLUTION
&
STUDENT
SUPPORT**





HEALTH & WELLNESS EXPECTATIONS



IMPORTANCE OF
PHYSICAL AND
MENTAL WELLNESS



HEALTHY ROUTINES,
SLEEP, AND HYGIENE

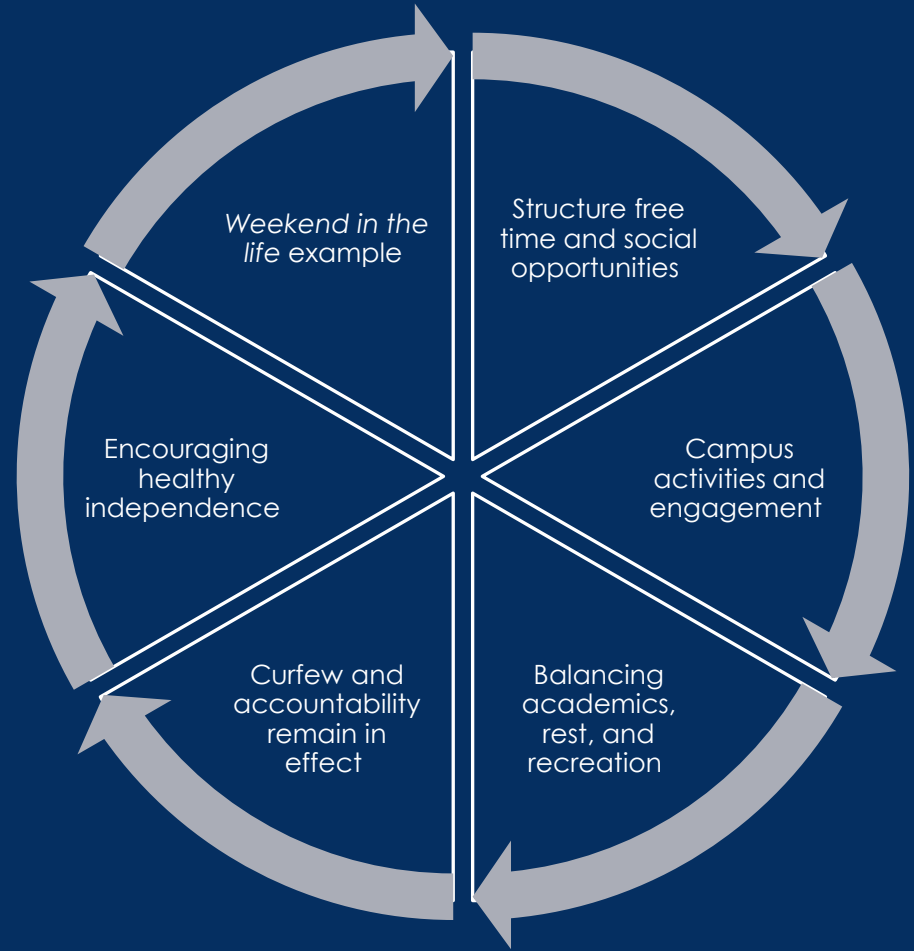


NUTRITION AND
SELF-CARE
ENCOURAGEMENT



ACCESS TO SUPPORT
RESOURCES WHEN
NEEDED

WEEKEND LIFE & STUDENT BALANCE



ASHS Residential Life Team



We are excited to support your ASHS student's success!



ASHS Residential Life is designed to promote growth, safety, and community

Student Handbook

Cell Phone Guidelines

During the instructional day, students may not use or possess any wireless communication device on their person while inside the instructional building.



ALABAMA SCHOOL OF HEALTHCARE SCIENCES

Upholding Excellence: The ASHS Demerit System

A supportive framework designed to help students maintain accountability, grow from mistakes, and prepare for professional healthcare careers.

Core Principles of our Code of Conduct



A Pathway for Growth

Our demerit system is educational and restorative, not simply punitive. The ultimate goal is to help students understand the impact of their actions and realign with core values.



House System Integration

Accountability is shared within the ASHS House System. Demerits directly impact overall House standings, encouraging students to support each other in maintaining high standards.



Professional Readiness

As future healthcare professionals, our students are trusted with clinical care. Upholding behavioral standards directly prepares them for the high trust required in medical settings.



Understanding Infraction Levels & Consequences

LEVEL 1

Minor

1 Demerit Assigned

EXAMPLES

- Dress code infractions
- Tardiness & unexcused class absence
- Curfew violation under 30 minutes
- Dorm cleanliness issues

LEVEL 2

Intermediate

5 Demerits Assigned

EXAMPLES

- Repeated Level 1 offenses
- Disrespectful behavior
- Curfew violation over 30 minutes
- Academic dishonesty (1st offense)

LEVEL 3

Major

10 Demerits Assigned

EXAMPLES

- Bullying or cyberbullying
- Leaving campus unauthorized
- Vape, alcohol or tobacco use
- Property theft or vandalism

LEVEL 4

Critical

Discipline Committee Review

EXAMPLES

- Weapons possession
- Illegal substances on campus
- Assault or violent behavior
- Chronic major infractions

Transparent Process & Family Partnership

01

Immediate Notification

Parents and guardians are notified directly by the Office of Student Life (Dean of Students Dr. Antonio Cooper) when a demerit is assigned.

02

Reflective Dialogue

Students meet with staff to reflect on the event, discuss the impact of the choice on themselves and the community, and plan next steps.

03

Restorative Action

Consequences are designed to heal trust. They may include restorative service, academic reflection, or dormitory community actions.



"As a student at ASHS, I pledge to uphold the values of compassion, innovation, integrity, and service." — The Honor Code Oath

Dress Code

Dress Code

Item	Allowed ✓	Not Allowed ✗
Tops	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collared shirts• Professional blouses (shoulders covered)• ASHS-branded polos• Scrub tops• ASHS- branded sweatshirt	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• T-shirts (except on spirit days)• Hoodies• Spaghetti straps• Tank/halter tops• Off-the-shoulder tops• Sheer or revealing tops• Midriff-exposing or low-cut tops
Bottoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Slacks• Khakis• Scrub pants• Skirts/shorts longer than mid-thigh	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leggings• Jeans (no rips, holes, tears, or frays; except on spirit days)• Athletic pants/shorts• Yoga pants• Skirts/shorts shorter than mid-thigh
Scrubs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ASHS-approved scrubs (clean, wrinkle-free, worn on designated days or during clinicals)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Non-ASHS approved scrubs• Scrubs with inappropriate logos or excessive wear
Footwear	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Closed-toe shoes• Professional sneakers• Clean sandals (non-clinical days only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Slides, slippers, flip-flops• Shoes with holes (e.g., Crocs in clinical settings)
Outerwear	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jackets and coats may be worn to school but must be removed in class	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outerwear worn in place of dress code-compliant tops

Security

Traditions & Extracurriculars



ASHS × McCollough

Mentorship Program

Ethics Course

**Individualized
Tutoring**

Social Events

Building Medical Values

Ethics Curriculum



Our Goal

Provide ASHS students with a comprehensive, unbiased overview of medical ethics to jumpstart their foundation of values as future medical professionals.

Doctor-Patient Relationship

Barriers to Healthcare

Informed Consent

Holistic Health

Vaccines

Politics of Medicine



TUTORING SCHEDULE – A/B FORMAT

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week A	In Person	Online	In Person	Online	Off Day
Week B	Online	In Person	Online	In Person	Off Day



Format

Alternating In-Person & Zoom each week



Tutors

10 McCollough tutors with rolling substitutes

How It Works



1

Step 1: Staff Feedback

Director of Tutoring reaches out to staff at the end of every week to learn which topics students are struggling with.

2

Step 2: Material Preparation

Director collects ASHS-approved study materials and resources tailored to identified student needs.

3

Step 3: Distribute to Liaisons

Curated materials are distributed to tutoring liaisons who lead the actual sessions with students.



Social Events

Building real friendships, one event at a time.

Scholar Rotation

Monthly

Weekends

Fostering genuine relationships & providing role models just a few steps ahead.



OUR SOCIAL MISSION

The social aspect of the McCollough x ASHS mentorship program aims to foster genuine relationships with students. We want to help them feel more comfortable away from home and provide them with role models who are just a few steps ahead of them on the same career path.



Genuine Connection

Real friendships beyond the classroom, built through shared experiences and fun.



Feel at Home

Helping students feel comfortable and supported away from their families.



Near-Peer Role Models

McCollough mentors are just a few steps ahead



FALL EVENTS | Aug - Oct

Aug 21



Back to School Board Night

Board games + charcuterie boards + mood boards. Introductions!

Sep 4



Pool Party

Pool games, snacks, and a waterslide!

Sep 18



TJs & PJs: Trivia Night

Cozy pajamas, Trader Joe's snacks & fun trivia battles.

Oct 2



Movie Night

Cookies, crafts & a good movie.

Oct 16



Mystery Night

Who did it?! A night of suspense and drama.

Oct 30



Halloween Party

Costumes, candy, and Halloween-themed games



HOCO SPIRIT WEEK

1

Day 1: PJ Day

Start the week off cozy, show up in your favorite pajamas

2

Day 2: Adam Sandler Day

Oversized everything. Sunglasses, baggy shorts, long t shirts

3

Day 3: Decades

Pick your favorite decade & dress to impress.

4

Day 4: Country vs. Country Club

Pick a side: boots or blazers?

5

Day 5: White-Out

Show your school spirit with custom white out shirts!

Community Partner & Resource Fair

Event Partners

Demopolis City Public Library

Canebrake Players

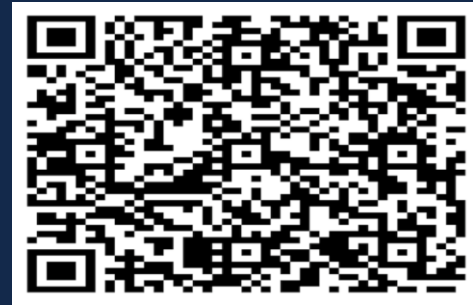
The Ratliff Center

Robertson Bank

Alabama One

Local Churches

Closing Session



Financial Obligations

Financial Aid Deadline: August 1st



Key Dates

July Student Social

Urban Air Trampoline & Adventure Park, Date & Time TBD

Biweekly "Scrubbing-In" Student Zoom Meetings

Move-In Day

August 11th at UWA

August Orientation Preview

Rotations 1 & 2

Academic Integrity & Expectations

- Honor code
- AI policies
- Plagiarism
- Study expectations
- Time management
- Tutoring/intervention supports

Schedules, Enrichment, & Student Success

- ✓ Reading schedules
- ✓ Advisory/Enrichment
- ✓ Office hours
- ✓ Clubs/HOSA
- ✓ Attendance expectations

Rotations 3 & 4

Device Distribution & Technology

- Laptop pickup
- Logins/passwords
- Blackbaud/LMS
- Student email
- Parent communication
- Acceptable Use Policy
- Printing/help desk support

Residential Life Expectations

- ✓ Curfew
- ✓ Dorm expectations
- ✓ Laundry
- ✓ Room checks
- ✓ Quiet hours
- ✓ Weekend policies
- ✓ Sign-in/sign-out
- ✓ Safety/security
- ✓ Conflict resolution

Rotation 5

Health, Wellness, & Safety

- Nurse procedures
- Medication administration
- Mental health resources
- Counseling

Safety & Preparedness

- ✓ Emergency procedures
- ✓ Reporting concerns
- ✓ Campus safety
- ✓ Wellness expectations

Technology

Student Technology



MacBook Neo

Issued to each student for the school
year



iPad

Available in every classroom

*A **Technology Policy** must be signed by each student outlining care and use of devices*

Questions & Answers



Form Collection



See you on August 11th

www.alhealthcarehs.org | Demopolis, Alabama