



# The Appalachian ChalleNGe Advantage

## KENTUCKY NATIONAL GUARD YOUTH CHALLENGE PROGRAM

APPALACHIAN CHALLENGE ACADEMY

AUGUST 2024

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**IMPORTANT DATES:**

**GRADUATION**

**CADET REWARDS DAY**

**SEPT 23-24**

# A Model for Success



## Appalachian ChalleNGE Academy Intentional In Building Success

Many think of success as an end goal in life. What our cadets experience and learn is success is those things you do daily. Those building blocks then can act not only as a firm foundation for life, but eventually build one upon another, to bring not only greater success but real victories in their life.

Some of those success points may be as simple as making their bed, basic hygiene, physical fitness, pursuit of education, drinking more water, or accepting the ChalleNGE to be better today than yesterday. Those building blocks of success are found in the application of military style customs, courtesies, and discipline and through the ChalleNGE Programs Eight Core Components which include; Employability Skills, Academic Excellence, Citizenship, Health and Hygiene, Leadership/Followership, Life Coping Skills, Physical Training, and Service to Community. This uniquely structured environment effectively ad-

resses many of the challenges these young men and women encounter today.

Our cadets have the opportunity to understand that they are responsible for their own actions and that their success or failure is their responsibility. Our staff are well trained and are ready to teach and guide them through team building, discipline, self-control, and personal responsibility to develop life long skills that can be applied throughout a cadet's life. This whole person approach of education allows these skills to be applied far beyond a cadet's residential phase at the ACA. Which means the success tools they acquire during their days at the academy don't cease to be useful upon their return home.

Cadet success comes in the mindset of the first Cadet General Order, "I am a winner! Winners never quit and quitters never win." The Appalachian ChalleNGE Academy is proud to see each of these young men and women pursue their success and ultimately victories, as they have completed acclimation, continue the residential phase and far beyond.

# The Core Components



The Eight Core Components constitute the skills and life lessons that we use to help our cadets become well-rounded, responsible, and healthy individuals that display respect for others and themselves.

<p><b>Academic Excellence</b></p> <p>Classroom studies at the ACA are designed to enhance each cadet's education skill and instill a desire to continue self-improvement throughout life.</p>	<p><b>Service to Community</b></p> <p>Cadets will develop an understanding of the benefits of assisting others in need and maintaining a clean, safe environment in which all citizens can live.</p>	<p><b>Physical Training</b></p> <p>All cadets are required to participate in physical fitness training. This training not only improves overall physical health but also promotes mental and emotional well-being.</p>	<p><b>Life Coping Skills</b></p> <p>Cadets will identify negative attitudes and values they display, and, with the help of ACA staff, explore ways to change that negative behavior into positive thinking and self respect.</p>
<p><b>Citizenship</b></p> <p>Cadets will develop a better understanding of what makes a community strong and supportive of its citizens as well as factors that cause division and controversy.</p>	<p><b>Leadership/ Followership</b></p> <p>Each cadet must learn to become a good follower. Through developing those skills, they will also develop leadership skills. All cadets will assume a leadership role.</p>	<p><b>Employability Skills</b></p> <p>Cadets will develop the necessary basic skills to obtain employment. They will develop personal goals, complete a written resume, fill out applications, and practice interviewing.</p>	<p><b>Health &amp; Hygiene</b></p> <p>It is important to understand the positive correlation between good health &amp; hygiene habits and life-long mental, physical, and emotional well-being.</p>



# Class 23

# Highlights

Class 23 Graduated their Residential Phase of the ACA on December 16th, 2024. These examples are of successes made early on and continue to pursue through many of the skills and disciplines they gained while at the ACA.



Cadet Nate Popejoy of Class 23 is starting as a freshman at the University of the Cumberland, pursuing Missions and Ministry.



Cadet Tevin Lee of Class 23 has been employed at Crispy Dairy Treat for 6 months.



Cadet Cayden Thomas of Class 23 has been working at Food City for 6 months and recently promoted to produce.

# ACHIEVEMENT UNLOCKED

## Week 3 Promotions

Cadet	Level
Anderson	1
Andrews	1
Baker	1
Brooks	1
Brown	1
Caise	1
Caudill	1
Clark	1
Dillon	1
Edwards	1
Friemoth	1
Goble	1
Gorman	1
Gray	1
Hammonds	1
Harrod	1
Hylton	1
Jackson	1
Jett D	1
Jett P	1
Klette	1
Lang	1
Mardis	1
Maynard	1
Monroe	1
Muntean	1
Murrell	1
Napier	1
Neice	1
Ollier	1
Porter	1
Ross	1
Russell	1
Shepherd	1
Smith	1
Stone	1
Tolson	1
Trent	1
Weber	1
Wood	1
Young B	1

**1**

Cadet	Level
Abney	1
Addison	1
Allen	1
Ayad	1
Bowman	1
Brown	1
Candelario	1
Corman	1
Dunn	1
Estep	1
Farris	1
Fedrick	1
Ferguson	1
Fortune	1
Gill	1
Good	1
Greathouse	1
Grozdanoff	1
Hatcher	1
Henderson-	1
Hicks	1
Johnson	1
Jolly	1
May	1
Nunn	1
Nunn	1
O'Bryan	1
Osborne	1
Poorman	1
Rose	1
Seed	1
Smith Ja	1
Smith Je	1
Thompson	1
Vanhoose	1
Veron	1
Watson	1
Wright	1
Yeager	1

**2**

A promotion ceremony is held each week in which eligible cadets will be awarded their new rank. Way to go, cadets!

Cadet	Level
Adkins A	1
Adkins L	1
Anderson	1
Baker	1
Berisha	1
Carpenter	1
Conn	1
Crawford	1
Cromer	1
Davis	1
DeLatorre	1
Dykes	1
Farquhar-	1
Fry	1
Gray	1
Gray	1
Griffin	1
Gullett	1
Hill	1
Hogan	1
Jett	1
Johnson	1
Lunsford	1
Lunsford	1
May	1
Messer	1
Morgan	1
Patterson	1
Perez	1
Provence	1
White	1
Wurts	1
Young A	1

**3**

**Level 4**  
Master Sergeant (MSG)

**Level 3.5**  
Sergeant First Class (SFC)

**Level 3**  
Staff Sergeant (SSG)

**Level 2.5**  
Sergeant (SGT)

**Level 2**  
Corporal (CPL)

**Level 1.5**  
Private First Class (PFC)

**Level 1**  
Private (PVT)

**Level 0**  
Candidate

# ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR CLASS 026



**Class 026 Begins  
January 26th, 2025**

**FOR MORE  
INFORMATION  
CONTACT: Appalachian  
ChalleNGe Academy  
1-(855)-596-4927  
admissions@challengeaca.com**

The Appalachian ChalleNGe Academy is a 22 week, quasi-military program dedicated to advancing foundational development of regional youth. With a focus on 15<sup>1/2</sup>-18 year olds, it is our goal to provide a diverse skillset through our Eight Core Components that will prepare them to successfully transition into adulthood and create the future they set their sights on. If you would like more information or are interested in joining our community of support, feel free to contact us. We look forward to hearing from you!



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**APPALACHIAN CHALLENGE ACADEMY**  
465 Grays Drive  
Gray's Knob, KY 40829  
Admin Office: 606-574-0303  
Toll Free: 855-596-4927  
admissions@challengeaca.com  
[www.2abetterme.com](http://www.2abetterme.com)