



Setting Your Compass

- ☐ Complete a [My Next Step form](#) to get personalized feedback for your journey.
- ☐ Register for a [My Next Step session](#) online or in-person with the Library to discuss your future plans.
- ☐ Participate in a College & Career Connections [program or workshop](#) at Charlotte Mecklenburg Library.
- ☐ Hit that follow button [@cmlibraryteens](#) to stay in the know! From cool programs and epic reads to resources made just for teens — there's always something happening. Don't miss out!
- ☐ Don't miss out! Learn about all of our programs, resources, and more at the [Teen Digital Branch](#).
- ☐ Get a [Reality Check](#) to help you gain perspective as you begin your journey.
- ☐ Check out *Finish High School* on [Get My Future](#) to see why you should invest in yourself.

Life Success

- ☐ Open an email account with a professional address. [Here's](#) why it's so important.
- ☐ Learn how money smart you are by playing one or more of these [games](#), including *You Can Bank On It*.
- ☐ Create your own calm with [Teen Health and Wellness](#) to learn about emotional and mental health, as well as mindfulness and meditation.
- ☐ Use [Northstar Digital Literacy](#) to assess your digital literacy skills in multiple key areas. Start by requesting your Northstar Learner Account to unlock your access!
- ☐ What do you know about budgeting? Place a hold on one or more books from this [recommended reading list](#) and start reading to learn more.
- ☐ Planning to get your driver's license? Check out [Driving Test Prep](#), so you're ready to take the wheel!
- ☐ Search for books in our [catalog](#) to help you on your journey and plan to read at least one.
- ☐ There is a lot to consider when you get a job. Learn about [Workplace Basics for Success](#) from Goodwill.
- ☐ Create a plan to help you save and budget for your future using CFNC's [Financial Literacy](#) resources.

Student Success

- ☐ Learn important Skills for School, Work, and Life using our [Teen Health and Wellness](#) resource.
- ☐ Use [LinkedIn Learning](#) to help you plan your schedule, take effective notes, and manage your time.
- ☐ Explore [Universal Class](#) and learn new skills in over 500 subjects.
- ☐ Create a [Brag Sheet](#) with a list of all your extracurricular activities and academic accomplishments to include in your applications and recommendation letter requests.
- ☐ Create a portfolio to keep track of letters of recommendation, college and career options, resumes and more.
- ☐ Prepare for testing (IB, AP, SAT/ACT etc.) using [Learning Express Library](#).
- ☐ Earn community service hours by volunteering in your community. Participate in select [Library programs](#), [become a VolunTeen](#), or create digital content for our CMLibrary Teens account on Instagram using [this form](#).

College & Career Connections Road Map Checklist

Explore College

- ☐ Create an Account with CFNC.org. They have resources to help guide you through the whole college process, such as [Plan Your Future](#) and [Apply to College](#).
- ☐ [Listen to at least 5 episodes from our College Exploration podcast series.](#)
- ☐ Take a [Virtual College Tour](#) and talk to someone about your experience.
- ☐ Looking to explore colleges and majors? Browse books from this [recommended reading list](#) to learn more!
- ☐ Complete a School Search using [Ferguson's Career Guidance Center](#) to compile a list of prospective schools that best meet your needs.
- ☐ Build a list of schools using [College Navigator](#) to do a side-by-side comparison.
- ☐ Write at least one personal essay that can be used for applying to college or a scholarship using [these strategies](#).
- ☐ Attend a College Fair.
- ☐ Complete an [online practice application](#) to help you prepare for the real thing.
- ☐ Want to find out more about financial aid and scholarships? Place a hold on one or more books from this [recommended reading list](#) and start reading to learn more!
- ☐ Learn about Financial Aid options using [Ferguson's Career Guidance Center](#).
- ☐ Search [scholarship opportunities](#) using resources from Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools.
- ☐ Find out if you qualify for [NC College Connect](#), which provides a simpler way to apply to college.
- ☐ Create an account and learn about how to file for [FAFSA](#) and financial aid.
- ☐ Check to see if the Library is hosting a [FAFSA workshop](#) near you in partnership with CMS and CFNC.

Explore Careers

- ☐ Apply to a job, internship, apprenticeship, certificate program, or post-secondary institution.
- ☐ Create a professional resume with [Resume Builder](#), using tips from [Ferguson's Career Guidance Center](#) or through a Library program.
- ☐ [Listen to at least 5 episodes from our Career Spotlight podcast series.](#)
- ☐ Prepare for career-related exams using [Learning Express Library/PrepStep](#).
- ☐ Find Internships, Apprenticeships, or Job Postings using [Ferguson's Career Guidance Center](#).
- ☐ Start planning your career with [NCcareers.org](#) and [explore occupations](#) or pathways to success with their [Career Plan Builder](#).
- ☐ Attend a Career Fair.
- ☐ Discover what career matches your skills with [Skills Matcher](#).
- ☐ Learn about unique opportunities in our community to see if any are right for you: [NCWorks NextGen](#), [Career & College Promise](#), [Road to Hire](#), [Carolina Youth Coalition](#), [Year Up](#), [Bonita Rising](#), [College Access for All](#), [LAWA](#), and [military career](#) options.
- ☐ Visit [My Next Move](#) to map out your route to the future.

Complete the Beanstack Challenge

- ☐ [Register for the Road Map to Success Challenge.](#)
- ☐ Complete at least 4 activities from each category and earn badges to be eligible to be entered into a grand prize drawing at the end of the school year.

Your Road Map to Success

Welcome to College & Career Connections at Charlotte Mecklenburg Library

Start your Journey



**COLLEGE
& CAREER
CONNECTIONS**

Learn more at cmlibrary.org/college-career-connections

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