Print

Town of Boone Student Board Application - Submission #7702

Date Submitted: 7/2/2026

Name*
Phoebe Howerton

Email:*
howertonpk@appstate.edu

Address*
144 Poplar Grove Rd, Apt 525

City*
Boone

State*
NC

Zip Code*
28607

Is this Address Your Preferred Address?*
Yes

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Phone Number*
910-596-8418

Jurisdiction of Residence*

- [x] Town of Boone (Inside Town Limits)
- [ ] Watauga County
- [ ] Other

Please Specify:*

When Is Your Expected Graduation Date?*

May 2027

Are you Familiar with Boone Next - the Town of Boone's Comprehensive Plan?*

Yes

Rate Your Support for Boone Next (1 Being Not Supportive at All and 10 Being Extremely Supportive)*

- [ ] 1
- [ ] 2
- [ ] 3
- [x] 8
- [ ] 4
- [ ] 5
- [ ] 6
- [ ] 7
- [ ] 9
- [ ] 10

Please Explain Your Level of Support for Boone Next*

I overall feel positively about Boone Next. I strongly support the efforts laid out to mitigate safety risks impacting drivers and especially pedestrians. I also appreciate the focus on housing such as preserving NOAH and diversifying housing types.

I have mixed feelings about road widenings, as I feel there may be other ways to approach traffic congestion. For example, facilitating residents' desire to walk or bike by providing safe infrastructure to do so. We can also continue to strengthen the outreach and reliability of our AppalCart system.

I love the attention to objectives like parking for out-of-town visitors, but I would have liked to see more plans related to growing tourism in Boone. A current concern is how we can balance the need for housing with the rise of Airbnbs and hotels.

A goal that was laid out but I think could also use more attention is heritage preservation. While it can feel like preservation hinders development, Boone's historic buildings are important to maintaining a sense of place and identity that appeals to both the people who have lived here for decades and tourists.

Name of Board, Commission, Task Force, Advisory Board, or Committee Appointment Sought*

Historic Preservation Commission

Please Note: Time of Meeting CANNOT be changed. Please take this into account with your school schedule.

Why Do You Wish to Obtain this Appointment?*

I have had a long-time interest in historic preservation, ultimately leading me to study anthropology and archaeology. This past year, I surveyed at the historically black cemetery, Clarissa Hill, and worked on a field excavation as part of the Junaluska Community Archaeology Project. I felt deeply fulfilled by both projects. But, it wasn't until more recently that I started thinking on the planning side of heritage. I did a study abroad course with Dr. Elizabeth Shay on community planning and regional development in Scotland. It was impactful to meet with planners and professors from the cities we visited and learn more about how they navigate preserving their very extensive heritage while continuing to develop their landscapes. I'd like to further explore heritage and city planning, and I believe I'm able to offer important perspectives with my background in anthropology.

What Skills, Education, Training, Experience or Area(s) of Expertise Would You Bring to the Appointment?*

In addition to majoring in Anthropology, I am pursuing a certificate in Cultural Resource Management. The only remaining requirement is a lab methods course. Due to this, I have great familiarity with federal heritage laws (NHPA, NAGPRA, AABGPA), NRHP eligibility, and federal agencies such as SHPO and OSA. In a course, I collaborated with three other classmates to produce an a 27 page OSA-compliant technical report offering recommendations for further actions to determine if an Indigenous heritage site in Ashe county is eligible for the NRHP.

Additional coursework pertaining to heritage preservation includes Historical Landscapes, Environmental Anthropology, Archaeological Survey, Archaeological Excavation, Archaeological Theory, North American Archaeology, and Writing in Archaeology. My departmental GPA is a 4.0.

I would consider myself highly detail-focused, passionate, and a strong communicator. I aim to be nuanced in my approach to subjects, while also maintaining ethical commitments. I have always shown great dedication to the boards I have served on. In high school, I served as the Youth Liaison for a congregation's social justice council. Throughout all of college, I have been a very involved council member of the Appalachian Popular Programming Society, including appointments as publicist and secretary.

I hereby certify that the foregoing answers are true, and that should I be appointed to the board, commission, task force, advisory body or committee, and should a conflict of interest exist or develop with regard to a specific matter, I will disclose the conflict of interest and recuse myself from the deliberations and action involved. Conflicts of interest include, but are not limited to: a direct or indirect financial interest by myself or a member of my family, and other interest which impairs my ability to participate fairly in the deliberations and actions in question.*

Phoebe Howerton

Signature

Date*

7/2/2026