

News Release

Brightspeed and NCHSAA Launch Brightspeed Bright Futures Scholarship Tour to Empower Rural North Carolina High School Seniors with Scholarships

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — September 12, 2024 — Brightspeed, along with the North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA), announce the launch of the Brightspeed Bright Futures Scholarship Tour. Brightspeed, one of the nation's largest fiber builders focused on empowering more homes with ultrafast, reliable internet, is the primary sponsor of the scholarship program that will recognize high school seniors in the rural communities it serves. Students who have demonstrated a strong academic presence, leadership and commitment to their community are eligible for a \$1,000 scholarship they can use toward furthering their education.

"The NCHSAA is pleased to partner with Brightspeed to provide additional scholarships for our young people," said NCHSAA Commissioner Que Tucker. "This partnership fits with the mission of the NCHSAA to support and enrich educational experiences of students by offering such opportunities to our students. We look forward to working with the Brightspeed team to make this partnership a success."

The Brightspeed Bright Futures Scholarship Tour is part of the company's broader commitment to social responsibility and community engagement.

"At Brightspeed, we are committed to bridging the digital divide and uplifting the communities we serve," said Steve Brewer, director, Government Affairs and Public Policy at Brightspeed. "Through this scholarship program we are helping make higher education more affordable for students in our communities — creating a path to success and a brighter future for each of the students honored."

The Brightspeed Bright Futures Scholarship tour will feature gameday set-ups, giveaways and opportunities to connect with high school communities. Selected students will be awarded the Brightspeed Bright Futures Scholarship during one of their high school's home football or basketball games. Below is the schedule, which is subject to game scheduling.

Date	Location	Game Match-Up
Sept 20	Asheboro, N.C.	Randleman High School @ Asheboro High School
Oct 11	Roanoke Rapids, N.C.	Rocky Mount High School @ Roanoke Rapids High School
Oct 25	Kernersville, N.C.	East Forsyth High School @ Robert B Glenn High School
Nov 1	Henderson, N.C.	J.F. Webb High School @ Vance County High School

The Brightspeed Bright Futures Scholarship will help make educational goals more achievable by helping lessen the financial burden of pursuing high education.

"Providing opportunity to enrich the educational experience of students is important to Brightspeed," added Tali Kulbeda, head of Local Marketing at Brightspeed. "The Brightspeed Bright Futures Scholarship Tour will allow us to help inspire students to create impact within their communities while giving them the tools to be successful in their future."

"Access to education is crucial for the growth and development of North Carolina's communities," added Tucker. "Because technology is a way of life, this partnership will hopefully equip our students with some much-needed tools."

About Brightspeed

Headquartered in Charlotte, N.C. and with assets and associated operations in 20 states, Brightspeed provides broadband and telecommunications services through a network platform capable of serving more than 6.5 million homes and businesses. Our 4,000 employees are committed to building a future where more communities benefit from a more connected life, deploying a state-of-the-art fiber network and a customer experience that makes being connected as simple as it should be. For more information, please visit www.brightspeed.com.

About NCHSAA

The mission of the NCHSAA is to provide governance and leadership for interscholastic athletic programs that support and enrich the educational experience of students.

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