

Tarheel ChalleNGe



**The Academy at
Salemberg, N.C**



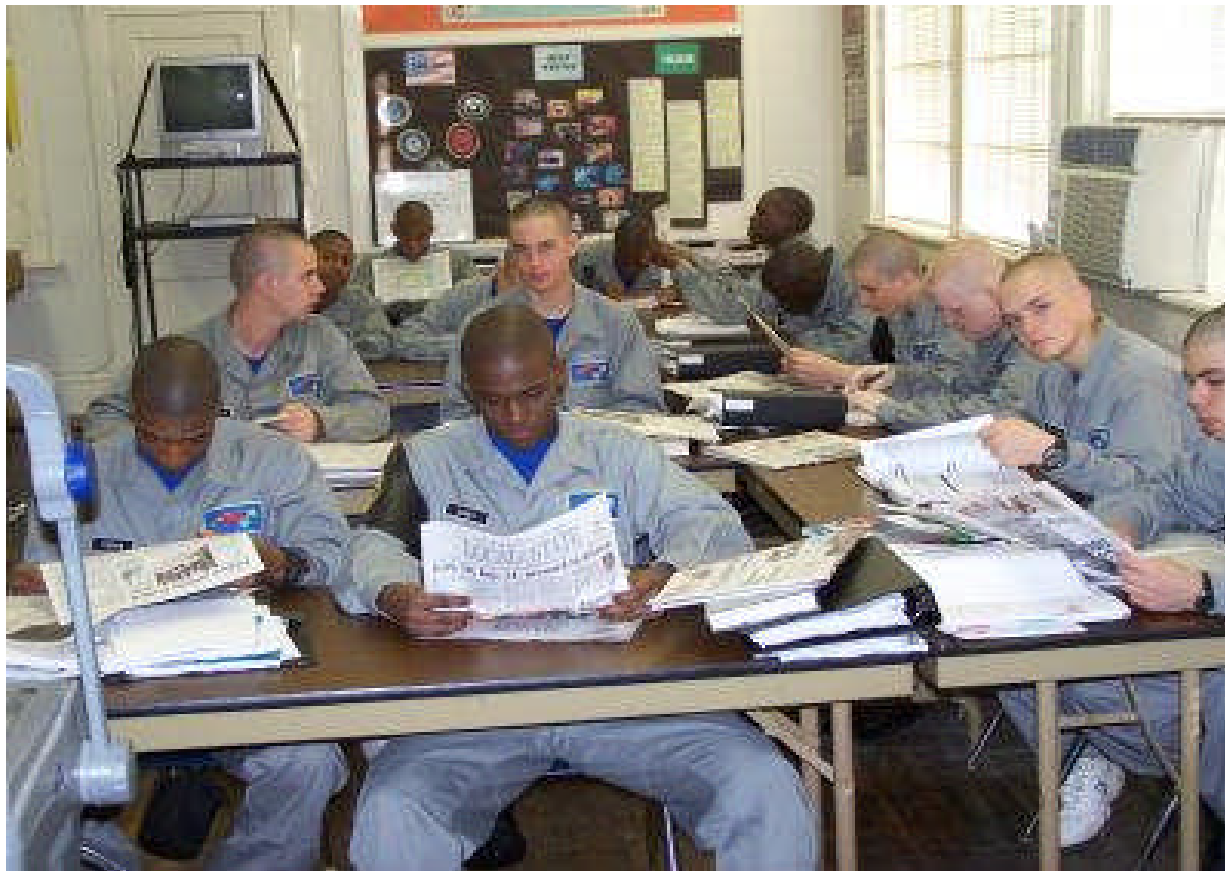
North Carolina National Guard

- Tarheel ChalleNGe Academy:
 - • Joint Federal/State program that began in 1994
 - • Focuses on High School dropouts 16-18 years old
 - • Located in Salemburg (Sampson County)
 - • Goal of 250 graduates per year
 - • 22-week in residence program followed by one year of mentorship
 - • Nearly 72% of graduates receive their GED

ChalleNGe Mission

- The mission of the North Carolina National Guard Tarheel ChalleNGe Academy is to intervene in and reclaim the lives of at risk youth to produce program graduates with the values, skills, education and self-discipline necessary to succeed as adults.

- **Two sessions per year – January and July**
- **Start with approximately 175 cadets**



Eligibility Requirements

- Applicants must volunteer and be between 16 and 18 years of age.
- No pending criminal offenses and no felony convictions.
- Drug Free
- School dropout
- North Carolina Resident
- Volunteer to Attend

Core Components

- **Academic excellence**
- **Leadership**
- **Physical fitness**
- **Service to Community**
- **Employment skills**
- **Health and nutrition**
- **Life-coping skills**
- **Responsible citizenship**



Phase I

22-week residential phase includes:

- **Structure**
- **Service to the Community**
- **Discipline**
- **Practical life skills**
- **Classroom training**
- **Physical training**



Phase II

12-month Post-Residential Phase

- **Conducted in their Community**
- **Trained Volunteer Mentor Support**
- **Tarheel ChalleNGe Management Support**



Benefits

- Youth are motivated
- 80% employed or enlisted in school upon graduation
- Academy provides a drug, alcohol and smoke-free environment



Costs

- **Cost to the state was \$5,600 per graduate; will be \$3,500**
- **Operating budget \$3.5 M total**
- **Funding:**
 - Was 60% federal and 40% state
 - Will change to 75% federal and 25% state



Recruitment

- Applications received primarily through a referral process
- Two recruiters for entire state
- Web site:

www.ngycp.org/state/nc

