

**§ 127A-221. Definitions.**

The following definitions apply for the purposes of this Article:

- (1) Academy. – Tarheel Challenge Academy, a Division of the North Carolina National Guard.
- (2) Alternative learning program. – A program offered by the Academy that provides specialized services for at-risk students outside of a standard classroom setting. Services should be designed to meet the needs of students who have not been successful in the traditional school setting.
- (3) Eligible participant. – An individual who meets all of the following criteria:
  - a. Is a minimum of 16 years of age and a maximum of 18 years of age at the time of entry into the program.
  - b. Has failed to complete or has left school for any reason before graduation or completion of a program of studies without transferring to another school and has not received a certificate from a program of equivalency or has not progressed in a traditional high school setting.
  - c. A citizen or legal resident of the United States.
  - d. Unemployed or underemployed.
  - e. Not currently on parole or probation and not accused or convicted of a crime that would be considered a felony if the individual was an adult.
  - f. Free from use of illegal drugs or substances.
  - g. Physically and mentally capable to participate in the alternative learning program. (2021-180, s. 19E.2(a).)