

## Sponsor comments



NC Business Leaders:

On behalf of the State Board, greetings from the NC Community College System.

Our system serves 700,000 students across North Carolina, producing 36,000 graduates annually with an associate degree, diploma or certificate, and preparing 75,000 students to earn industry certifications. We also assist over 700 small-business startups per year, helping to create and retain over 3,800 jobs. And in 2016-17, we trained over 34,000 employees for 922 companies through our Customized Training program.

Last November, North Carolina's apprenticeship program, ApprenticeshipNC, became part of the NC Community College System. It is a unique, flexible training system that combines job-related technical instruction with structured on-the-job learning experiences and provides workers incremental wage increases as they progress on the job. ApprenticeshipNC has helped meet the needs of a skilled workforce in North Carolina since 1939, and we are excited to have it within the Community College System. It is a perfect fit in our strategy to build our workforce and help grow the state's economy.

The mission of our system is to open the door to high-quality, accessible educational opportunities that minimize barriers to postsecondary education, maximize student success, develop a globally and multi-culturally competent workforce, and improve the lives and well-being of individuals.

It's a broad mission, but the impact is large, too. In the past 10 years, 40% of North Carolina's workforce has attended one of our 58 community colleges. We accomplish a lot with only 9% of North Carolina's education budget.

The effects of the Community College System ripple in many ways. For example, an EMSI study showed the system generates \$21.5 billion in economic impact. And for every dollar invested by North Carolina taxpayers, \$4.10 is gained.

In addition to general education, all our community colleges have specialized programs reflecting the needs and demands of their local workforce and communities. As you will see in the following pages, some of our colleges have unique offerings. I am pleased *BUSINESS NORTH CAROLINA* is featuring them in this issue, and I encourage you to visit your local community college and explore the offerings. For more information, visit [nccommunitycolleges.edu](http://nccommunitycolleges.edu).



NC COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Haygood".

Jennifer Haygood

Acting President, NC Community College System



CENTRAL PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, top, holds a job fair every March, while Wake Technical Community College in Raleigh, left, takes an active interest in helping students find employment.*

WAKE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# Jobs, jobs, jobs

**M**ore than ever, N.C. community colleges are the pathway to employment. With an increasing number of high-tech companies locating in the state, community colleges are the conduit between the employer and a highly skilled, specialized workforce, which leads to the high-paying jobs a burgeoning economy needs to thrive. A growing number of the 58 community colleges in the N.C. system are developing programs specifically for new employers in their respective regions with customized training for their particular manufacturing needs,

whether automotive, biomechanical, engineering or other high-tech skills.

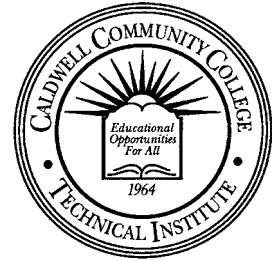
In addition, community colleges help existing workers through continuing education to update and enhance their education. Some students need help with a high-school diploma so they can continue their education or enter the workforce. And an associate degree can be valuable for either finding employment or taking that foundation to a four-year college for further experience and education. In any case, community colleges pave the way to a number of satisfying careers.



COMMUNITY COLLEGES

CALDWELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

# Taking care of business



*Jenny Little, who completed CCC&TI's Electrical Lineman program in 2017, was its first female graduate.*

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute, with campuses in Boone and Hudson, has served the education and workforce development needs of the High Country and Foothills since 1964.

Over the last decade, CCC&TI has placed a greater emphasis on its partnerships with private industry, which has resulted in new customized programs and expanded opportunities for students seeking training for high-demand jobs.

When local electric utilities warned of a looming shortage of electrical linemen, Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute responded by creating an Electrical Lineman Institute. The program was designed

with help from industry partners such as Duke Energy, Blue Ridge Energy and Pike Electric. Since 2011, more than 280 students have completed the program, some landing jobs as far away as Colorado, North Dakota and Texas.

When the trucking industry projected a need for thousands of new licensed truck drivers nationwide, CCC&TI expanded its existing Truck Driver Training program to multiple locations across North Carolina. Today, the program is offered in partnership with seven community colleges with a geographic footprint that covers half the state.

As the needs of business and industry, as well as workforce development, continue to evolve, CCC&TI will continue to respond.

2855 HICKORY BLVD., HUDSON, NC 28638 • 828-726-2200 • [www.cccti.edu](http://www.cccti.edu)

EDGECOMBE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# Connecting students to jobs



*Edgewcombe Community College offers high-tech training in modern facilities, such as this Electronics Lab.*

Whether students want to improve job skills, transfer to a four-year institution, or complete a credential and enter the workforce, Edgewcombe Community College provides the edge to help students succeed.

With campuses in Tarboro and Rocky Mount, the College offers education and training that is both relevant and life enhancing. The new Biotechnology and Medical Simulation Center, for example, provides an edge in health care education because of its unique simulated hospital environment and realistic training through the use of patient manikins.

Recent announcements of Corning Inc. and Triangle Tire Co. locating in Edgewcombe Coun-

ty are the springboard for a heightened commitment and focus on industrial programs at the College. Two construction projects looming on the horizon – the Center for Innovation and the Advanced Manufacturing Training Center – will enable the College to better develop and sustain the skilled workforce required by Corning and Triangle Tire.

The Center for Innovation will develop and train the pipeline for a skilled workforce, and the Advanced Manufacturing Training Center will meet workers' ongoing training needs.

These facilities will enable Edgewcombe Community College to cultivate, train, and maintain a skilled industrial workforce second to none in North Carolina.

2009 W. WILSON ST., TARBORO, NC 27886 • 252-823-5166 • [www.edgewcombe.edu](http://www.edgewcombe.edu)

**GUILFORD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

# Training a skilled workforce



*Guilford Technical Community College's hands-on training helps its students land aviation jobs.*

Since 1958, Guilford Technical Community College has been committed to building a talented, highly skilled workforce to meet the growing demands of industry.

This year, GTCC will further extend its mission with a new Center for Advanced Manufacturing. The 242,000 square-foot facility will house GTCC's automotive, heavy equipment and welding programs and include flex lab space for companies to install equipment to train employees. The center's welding booths, robotic welding machines and a 3-D printing lab will provide cutting-edge training resources for the area's industrial base.

The new facility complements other GTCC customized training programs, including aviation.

As a recognized leader in aviation training, GTCC continues to meet the hiring needs of county and statewide aviation employers. Students receive the necessary skills to thrive in this growing industry and are prepared for entry-level careers in manufacturing, avionics, aviation systems technology, aviation management and professional piloting. The program has a proven track record of student job placement with major employers like HAECO Americas, Honda Aircraft Company, Textron and large commercial airlines.

With more than 80 programs of study, GTCC supports success through innovative education, training and partnerships. For more information, visit [www.gtcc.edu](http://www.gtcc.edu).

601 E. MAIN ST., JAMESTOWN, NC 27282 • 336-334-4822 • [www.gtcc.edu](http://www.gtcc.edu)

**LENOIR COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

# Offering unique opportunities



*Pictured left to right are Masterbrand Plant Superintendent Jerry Mills, LCCMA CPT graduates Brian Coward, Steve Howard, and Brooks Barrett, and LCCMA instructor Duncan Daughtey.*

The Lenoir Community College Manufacturing Academy (LCCMA) is a program to develop a prepared workforce in collaboration with industry and workforce development partners. Manufacturing firms will benefit from partnering with the LCCMA through access to a pipeline of screened, trained, certified production technicians.

The LCCMA leverages the existing assets of Lenoir, Jones, and Greene counties to solve a gap between job seekers and available positions. Its innovative structure allows the Academy to deliver results in response to a rapidly-growing need for manufacturing employees with certified skills and work readiness.

The 160-hour Certified Production Techni-

cian program provides job seekers with targeted skills and knowledge that manufacturers need today. Upon completion, the program promotes workplace accountability, exemplary attendance, and four national certification exams.

The curriculum is covered in four modules: Safety, Quality Practices and Measurements, Manufacturing Process and Production, and Maintenance Awareness.

"This program will not only provide residents of Lenoir, Greene, and Jones counties the opportunity to earn a nationally recognized credential, but will also develop a pipeline of potential employees for our industry partners," said LCC Workforce Development Coordinator Dusk Stroud.

231 NC 58 SOUTH, KINSTON, NC 28502 • 252-527-6223 • [www.lenoircc.edu](http://www.lenoircc.edu)

FAYETTEVILLE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# The *smart* choice for education

Fayetteville Technical Community College is the smart choice for education, with many unique opportunities conveniently available for every student at an affordable price. A high school graduate can attend FTCC for two years and either enter the workforce after graduation or transfer to a four-year college or university to continue education, saving money on tuition. Individuals displaced from the workforce or those who realize that it may be time for a career change can turn to FTCC to receive high-quality training quickly, conveniently, and affordably.

FTCC was named No. 1 in the nation by Victory Media's *Military Friendly Colleges* for the Top 10 Gold Category representing large community colleges. FTCC recognizes the outstanding characteristics service members acquire through military service and education and rewards soldiers and veterans with flexible academic programs of study that build on prior military education and experience with academic credits.

The Transition Tech program helps soldiers by providing no-cost educational opportunities leading to workplace credentials to facilitate the transition from military to civilian life. Some Transition Tech graduates receive job offers with corporate partners upon successful program completion. FTCC is also home of the All American Veterans Center, staffed by veterans and offering a number of specialized services and educational counseling specifically for veterans.

Students can pursue FTCC's Corporate and Continuing Education programs of study to receive a high school equivalency or quickly gain the necessary job skills for career success. Stu-



*Fayetteville Technical Community College provides convenient opportunities for education at an affordable price*

dents can also pursue a personal hobby or special interest through Corporate and Continuing Education courses, such as photography, creative writing, or herb gardening—just to name a few. Corporate and Continuing Education also offers complete programs of study in areas such as Barbering, Emergency Services, and Medical Coding and Billing.

With a wide range of curriculum-level and continuing education programs to choose from—online or face to face, along with scholarship and financial aid options, FTCC truly is the *smart* choice for education. FTCC Athletics

offers men's and women's basketball and golf, so the broad reach of exciting opportunities for students at FTCC is now further expanded to include the thrill of sporting events.

Campus locations are in Fayetteville, Spring Lake, and at Fort Bragg. Discover why over 40,000 curriculum and continuing education students annually choose Fayetteville Tech as their smart choice for education.

## *Fayetteville Technical Community College*

2201 HULL ROAD, FAYETTEVILLE, NC 28303 • 910-678-8400 • [www.faytechcc.edu](http://www.faytechcc.edu)

NASH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# 50 years of excellence

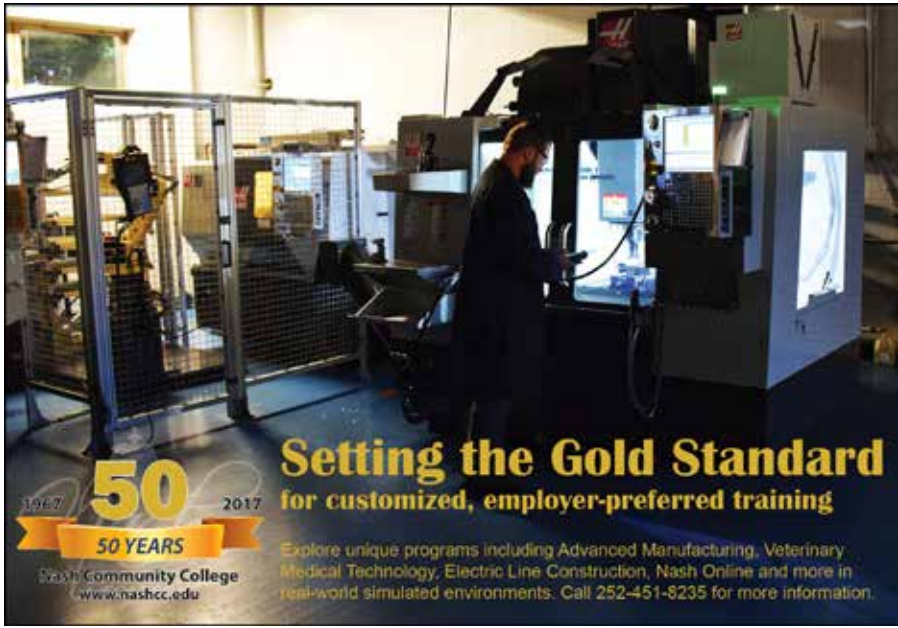
**N**ash Community College is located in Rocky Mount, N.C., near the intersection of U.S. 64 and I-95. The college is known throughout the state for its commitment to holistic student service and for addressing the region's advanced workforce training needs.

Nash Community College is expanding its campus footprint with construction underway for two new buildings. The 16,000 square-foot Advanced Manufacturing building will provide space for students enrolled in Computer-Integrated Machining, Electrical Systems Technology, Industrial Systems Technology, Welding Technology and Electronics Engineering Technology programs. The 11,000 square-foot Cosmetology building will house instructional salon areas, academic classrooms, and manicure and pedicure spaces. Both buildings are slated to open this summer as a result of North Carolinians' support of the Connect NC bond.

Nash Community College also recently launched a new Associate in Engineering degree program through which students have the opportunity to transfer to four-year engineering programs at East Carolina University, North Carolina State University, North Carolina A&T, UNC-Charlotte and Western Carolina University.

In addition, as the educational partner for eastern North Carolina's newest brewing community, Nash Community College opened a 360° Brewer classroom at the historic Rocky Mount Mills. The laboratory features state-of-the-art distillation and fermentation equipment where students prepare for careers in the growing industry of brewing.

Other new offerings include Nash Online, a program where remote learners can earn two-year degrees, certificates and course credit without commuting to



campus. And, Nash Community College is launching the Veterinary Medical Technology program - one of only several VMT programs offered in North Carolina and the only one located in the northern and eastern region of the state.

Electric Line Construction is another in-demand program. For nearly 20 years, Nash has been the only college in North Carolina to deliver the degree program. The curriculum prepares students for careers in rural and utility settings. Nash Community College students master competencies in electricity, overhead pole and electrical line construction, electric power system, transformer installation and more. Students earn OSHA, CDL and CPR certifications during training. The college is proud of its longstanding relationships with major utility employers that often visit

campus for training and recruit directly from the program.

Since 1967, the contributions of Nash Community College graduates have made an impact on the economic prosperity of North Carolina, and will continue to do so for generations to come. For more information, call 252-451-8235.



# Taking people as far as they can go

The North Carolina Community College System grew out of recognition that, following World War II, the state's economy was changing from agriculture to industry. There also was awareness that, while not everyone wanted to attend a four-year college or university, there was still a need for education beyond high school.

Acknowledging the necessity of having a skilled workforce, in 1963 state leaders created the Community College System. Today, advances in technology continue to create demand for skilled workers. By 2020, 67 percent of the jobs in North Carolina will require education beyond high school, according to a 2013 Georgetown University report. But as of 2015, the Lumina Foundation estimated that only 46 percent of adults ages 25-64 had a post-secondary degree, certification or license. Community colleges are the key to closing that gap.

With 58 colleges across North Carolina, the nation's third-largest community college system educates students through degree, diploma and certificate programs, and helps workers acquire or upgrade skills through continuing education. Our colleges assist with economic development by providing customized training to new and expanding businesses and helping small businesses grow. Colleges also help adults without a high school diploma to complete their education and acquire the skills needed to enter college or start a career.

The late W. Dallas Herring, an early champion for the community college system, once said, "We must take people where they are and carry them as far as they can go." That's what North Carolina's community colleges are all about.

**Read on to learn more.**

## CURRICULUM PROGRAMS



MARTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*At North Carolina's community colleges, students can pursue an associate's degree, diploma or certificate.*

Students in curriculum programs are working toward an associate's degree, diploma or certificate. Upon completion, they are prepared to transfer to a four-year school or enter the workforce.

*In 2016-17, over 295,000 students were enrolled in a curriculum program.*

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

Workforce continuing education programs are designed to help individuals gain new job-related skills or upgrade current skills. Programs can be delivered as a single course or bundled as a series of courses.

*In 2016-17, over 431,000 students were enrolled in continuing education or training programs at community colleges.*



MITCHELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*Students can upgrade or learn new skills, such as welding.*

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The NC Community College System plays an important role in economic development. The colleges focus on providing a talent pipeline to support new and expanding businesses in North Carolina.

The **Customized Training Program** provides education, training and support services for new, expanding and existing business and industry through the 58 community colleges, which serve all 100 counties of the state. Our goal is to foster and support three key aspects of a company's well-being: job growth, technology investment and productivity enhancement.

*In 2016-17, community colleges trained over 34,000 employees for 922 companies.*



ROWAN-CABARRUS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*Small Business Centers provide training, counseling and information to help businesses grow.*

In addition, each community college has a **Small Business Center** that supports the business development and growth by being a community-based provider of training, counseling and resource information. On average, the centers help 700 small-business startups annually.

The **BioNetwork** delivers self-support short courses, workshops and company-specific skill development in bio-manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, and food, beverage and natural products. Courses can be delivered onsite, online or at one of our four labs across the state.



NASH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*North Carolina community colleges help students learn skills for work in high-tech industries.*

**ApprenticeshipNC** works to ensure that North Carolina has adaptable, work-ready, skilled talent to meet the current and future needs of businesses. This unique, flexible training system combines job-related technical instruction with structured on-the-job learning experiences. In addition, workers earn incremental wage increases as they progress on the job.

There are many types of apprenticeship programs, and they vary in duration, level of required technical education and level of employer investment. Depending on their design, these programs may be more attractive to specific demographics, including an employer's existing workforce, veterans, high school or college students.



ASHEVILLE-BUNCOMBE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*The BioNetwork focuses on skills development in a variety of scientific fields.*





WAKE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# Wake Tech comes to The Park

Higher education and industry come together in a dynamic way at Wake Tech's new RTP Campus. Strategically positioned near Research Triangle Park, the 94-acre Morrisville campus sets the stage for innovation and collaboration.

"Innovation is really part of the DNA of this campus," says Wake Tech President Dr. Stephen Scott. "From its inception, everyone involved has been focused on creating an environment that prepares students and our region's workers for the highly-specialized workforce the future demands."

This "next-generation" learning environment is designed to serve the needs of business and industry in western Wake County and Research Triangle Park. It offers industry-inspired programs, the latest instructional technologies, and study areas that encourage collaboration.

The RTP Campus houses Wake Tech's Corporate and Business Solutions division, which provides companies with customized employee training in a variety of formats, from portable learning modules and one-day workshops to more extensive instruction and industry credentialing.

Tom Looney, retired Lenovo executive and chair of Wake Tech's Board of Trustees, says the link between education and commerce is a critical part of our region's prosperity. "Our tech companies can't thrive without qualified staff," Looney says. "Wake Tech partners with business and industry to make education and training relevant. Graduates are ready to go on 'day one,' and employers know their workforce can deliver."

Many companies – Lenovo, Cisco, NetApp, and dozens more – offer internship opportunities for Wake Tech students. Internships allow students to gain valuable work experience, and give companies a



*Wake Tech's new campus strengthens connections to RTP business and industry.*

chance to shape future employees with the talent and skill sets they need.

Academic programs at the RTP Campus have been designed to engage high-tech professionals, with specializations in Cybersecurity, Business Analytics, Data Storage and Virtualization, Network Management, and more. The campus will also offer college transfer opportunities, which allow students to complete the first two years of coursework and earn an associate's degree, for transfer to a university.

"There's nothing like it," says RTP's Chief Campus Officer, Wake Tech Senior Vice President Rita Jerman. "The RTP Campus is a model –

accessible, sustainable, and committed to meeting the needs of the community."

The campus opens summer/fall 2018 with a 109,000-square-foot classroom building. Ultimately, it will have the capacity to serve 7,000 students, with nine buildings and a full array of student resources and services. [rtp.waketech.edu](http://rtp.waketech.edu) #WakeTechRTP



VANCE-GRANVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# Meeting the changing needs of workforce

Vance-Granville Community College is educating, inspiring and supporting thousands of students across the Triangle North region each year, equipping them for the changing needs of the workforce and preparing them for lifelong learning.

Meeting the needs of business and industry across Vance, Granville, Franklin and Warren counties, Vance-Granville offers more than 40 curriculum programs — Paralegal, Pharmacy Technology, Supply Chain Management and Welding, to name a few — along with the first two years of a university degree.

“We respond to changing workforce needs by implementing new academic programs, most recently adding the Associate in Applied Science in Histotechnology and the Associate in Fine Arts,” said VGCC President Dr. Stefanie Williams, recently named the North Carolina Community College System President of the Year for 2018. “The college also meets the unique needs of our students by offering six degrees totally online.”

Two new partnerships with North Carolina Central University and North Carolina A&T State University put bachelor’s degrees in reach for more students, giving them the opportunity in some cases to complete their four-year degree without having to leave the community college campus.

Partnerships and grants have empowered the college to soar to new heights of service to meet the needs of employers.

An in-kind software grant from Siemens PLM Software, with a commercial value of \$31 million, is giving students access to the same technology that companies around the world depend on every day to develop innovative products in a wide variety of industries. The software is being used by students in the Mechatronics Engineering Technology degree program, combining electronics engineering, mechanical engineering, design and industrial maintenance.



*Students in VGCC’s Welding Technology program fabricate the frame of an electric car, designed and constructed by Mechatronics Engineering Technology and Welding students, that competed in the GreenpowerUSA Grand Prix race on the famed Indianapolis Motor Speedway in May 2017.*

A \$1 million federal TechHire grant is providing educational opportunities to help students overcome barriers to employment through information technology training courses. In this and other initiatives, VGCC works closely in partnership with area employers, creating work-based learning opportunities and apprenticeships in fields like Mechatronics and HVAC.

For its expanded registered apprenticeship efforts, VGCC has adopted a model that includes a paid-work component and an educational component. Five area employers are on board to accept apprentices for the four-year program — either as adults or as high school students starting in their junior year. The “Vanguard Apprenticeship Collaborative” got a major boost in 2018 with a \$200,000 grant from Duke Energy and Piedmont Natural Gas.

The college also has a strong track record of providing continuing education for students and employers. In 2016-17, VGCC served 19

companies and 994 workers with customized training. With an average of more than 80 clients each year, the college’s award-winning Small Business Center averages 60 seminars, serving more than 700 attendees. The newest building on the college’s expanded main campus provides a home for Emergency Medical Services, Fire/Rescue and Law Enforcement Training programs, among other public service opportunities.

VGCC students continue to succeed and graduate in record numbers, with the graduating Class of 2017 posting the largest number of associate’s degrees awarded in college history.

