NC Community College System: Education, Workforce and Economic Development

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Manteo to Murphy: Listening and Learning

“1000 in 100” Initiative: Largest face-to-face business needs survey ever conducted in NC

21 Align4NCWorks Summits engaging more than 1000 industry, workforce, education, and economic development partners
What We Heard from Employers

• 90% will hire more or stabilize number of employees over next two years
• Main barriers to finding qualified employees:
  – Technical and job-related skills
  – Soft skills (work ethic, critical thinking, teamwork)
• “Interest Gap” still a major concern
• #1 Workforce service needed: Additional training and education

Our Core Responsibility

North Carolina General Statutes
Article 1, Chapter 115D-1:

“The Community Colleges System Office is designated as the primary lead agency for delivering workforce development training, adult literacy training, and adult education programs in the State.”
Our Unique Beginnings

Key Component of N.C. Economic Development

“In the war among the states over economic development . . . in North Carolina, the secret – and often more successful – weapon is job training at community colleges.”

*Wall Street Journal*

*November 26, 1996*
Unique in Access and Scale:
- Most accessible community college system in both cost and locations
- Over 40% of NC wage earners attended NC Community Colleges in past 10 years
- Community colleges account for 46% of higher education alumni wage impact in NC
- 1 in 9 NC adults attends a NC Community College each year

Unique in Program Mix:
- 61% of students enrolled in non-degree programs (e.g. welding or IT training and certification)
- 52% of degree-seeking students enrolled in career and technical AAS degrees, diplomas, or certificates (e.g. computer networking, advanced manufacturing or health care)
Scope of Workforce Development Programs

**Degree Related:**
- Applied Associate Degree, Diploma, Certificates
- Transfer Programs to Universities
- Career and College Promise: High-school to Higher Ed

**Non-Degree Related:**
- Workforce Continuing Education
- Basic Skills and High School Equivalency
- NCWorks Customized Training
- Workforce/Economic Development Centers
  - Small Business Center Network
  - BioNetwork
  - Textile Center
  - Manufacturing Solutions Center
  - NC Military Business Center

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Workforce Development Programs by the Numbers

**Enrollment Numbers:**
- Career/Technical Degrees (AAS, Diplomas, Certs.) – 150,785
- Transfer Programs – 129,214
- Career and College Promise – 29,066

- Workforce Continuing Education – 344,513
- Customized Training – 29,299
- Basic Skills – 105,050
- BioNetwork – 6,325 (does not include Customized Training)
- Small Business Center 46,678 (Workshop Attendees); 5,796 (Counseling Clients)
Innovation

Stackable Certifications – Forsyth Technical Community College embedded third-party certifications into several manufacturing-related AAS programs. Since 2008, Forsyth has helped 384 students achieve Career Readiness Cert., 229 receive National Institute Metalworking Cert., and 30 receive Manufacturing Skills Standards Cert.

Innovation

Central Carolina Works – a partnership aimed at increasing enrollment in Career and College Promise. CCC raised matching funds from Golden LEAF to place a Central Carolina Community College Advisor in every high school within our three-county service area in an effort to increase enrollment in Career and College Promise (CCP) pathways, and increase students choosing to enroll at CCC.
Innovation

Start Now – College of the Albemarle’s “Start Now” has enabled our lower skilled adults to obtain postsecondary credentials with labor market value. “Start Now” initiatives accelerate Adult Basic Education students faster by combining basic skills and occupational training into one curriculum.

Innovation

Customized Training/Aerospace – The collaborative development of the Spirit AeroSystems training with strong partnerships helped make it possible to bring good jobs to rural, Eastern NC. This model and resources also helped community colleges work with GE Aviation and HondaJet sites around the State.