

## North Carolina Community College System

### Work-Based Post-Secondary Education Options for Students with Intellectual Disabilities

Community College(s)	Program	Number of Students per year	Practicum Experience	Cost	Certificate	Description
Alamance CC	Career College	10 – 12	Yes	\$370 for textbooks and supplies	Yes	Two-year integrative post-secondary certificate program. Provides foundation for transitioning into career or further coursework. Develops reading, math, and computer skills through Basic Skills classes. Hands-on practicum experience in: Automotive Assistant, Health and Public Services Assistant, Greenhouse/Nursery Assistant, and Animal Husbandry Program. Practicum section taught by curriculum instructors.
Alamance CC	ABLE	40 – 50	Yes	Free		Open entry classes to support transition of those with learning difficulties or challenges to Academic and Career program or Career College. Project-based and service learning opportunities. Develops career, reading, math, and computer skills through Basic Skills classes. Hands on experience with Coffee Cart (ABLE to Table), Pillows with a Purpose, and other project-based learning. Opportunities to navigate public transit and the community.
Haywood CC	Career College	8 – 10	Yes	Free	Yes	Two-year year integrative post-secondary certificate program. Provides foundation for transitioning into career or further coursework. Develops reading, math, and computer skills through Basic Skills classes. Hands-on experience in Horticulture. Integrates business and entrepreneurship skills as well as computer skills.
AB Tech CC Central Piedmont CC Robeson CC Southwestern CC	Project Search	8 – 12	Yes	Free	Yes	Combined education and internship program. Prepares students for competitive employment in the community. Work in high-status organizations and learn high-demand skill sets such as hospital settings with a variety of work opportunities. Work towards becoming more independent in areas such as employment, transportation, and daily living skills. Receive Basic Skills instruction at the employment site. <i>Note: Project SEARCH for AB Tech runs from Sept. – June and is focused on careers with Healthcare employers.</i>

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Cape Fear CC	Essentials Program	8 – 12	Yes	Free	Yes	The Essentials Program offers free academic and career readiness classes to those who function at or below the 8 <sup>th</sup> grade level and who wish to improve their reading, writing, math, and computer literacy skills. This two-year program allows students the chance to enroll in multiple pathways. Pathways have included: hospitality and tourism, computer basics, and healthcare basics.
Wake Tech CC, Central Piedmont CC, Pitt CC AB Tech	T-STEP	8 – 10	Yes	Free	Yes	The TEACCH School Transition to Employment and Postsecondary Education Program (T-STEP) was developed to support transition to employment and/or postsecondary education settings for adolescents and young adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder. The T-Step covers six transition skills modules grouped into three intervention areas: organization and executive function skills, emotion regulation skills, and social skills. Additionally, students practice these skills on a weekly basis at a volunteer internship site. Students also receive individual career counseling, higher education counseling, and self-advocacy counseling.
Mayland CC	Work Skills Academy & Life Skills	8	No	Free		Work Skills Academy is focused on assisting adult learners in mastering the skills needed for successful employment. Course content is employment-focused, including both academic and soft skills. Transition Goals: Employment, greater independence, economic self-sufficiency, community involvement, access to resources, further educational opportunities. Life Skills classes are content standards-based and focuses on employability skills and basic skills attainment.

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Pitt CC	Career Academy	45	Yes	Free	Yes	<p>This program provides students who have learning difficulties and/or challenges the opportunity to explore and develop job skills, career choices, academics in career contexts, and goals and objectives for job attainment. Career Modules: Students receive instruction and hands-on experiences in each module. Modules include: horticulture, grounds maintenance and landscaping, housekeeping, building maintenance and cleaning, food preparation and service, photography, floral design, manufacturing, customer skills and retail and sales, and biotechnology.</p> <p><i>Note: Additionally, five students have been accepted into the Eastern Vocational Center pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship program through the Career Academy.</i></p>
College of the Albemarle	A.B.E.T.O. Adult Basic Education Transitional Opportunities	10	No	Free		<p>The A.B.E.T.O. program is designed to provide a learning experience for college-aged students with intellectual learning disabilities. This program is designed to transform lives in an accessible, supportive environment that develops skills needed to transition into a career pathway. The program focuses on personal development, self-determination, and developing skills related to employment.</p>
Craven CC	Transitions Academy	15	Yes	Free	Yes	<p>The Transitions Academy is designed for students with mild disabilities (typically graduates of OCS programs from area high schools) who receive instruction to improve reading, writing, math, technology, and soft skills in the context of various career modules (two per semester) so they are better prepared for “transitioning” to other post-secondary education, workforce development certificates, or employment opportunities. Modules include hands on learning with greenhouse/horticulture, childcare/simulated infants, health programs (CPR cert, blood pressure, and other skills working with staff/students in curriculum health programs), carpentry, and future hospitality/food service in new VOLT center.</p>

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Guilford Tech	POWER Pathways	8 – 10	Yes	Free	Yes	Food Service Program: This program is designed to provide students with special needs the skills necessary to gain employment or volunteer in the Culinary and Food Supply Industry. Topics include: Principles of basic cookery, basic menu and recipe planning, intro to basic baking, basic knife skills, cooking methods, resume preparation, and interviewing techniques.
Wake Tech CC	Pathfinder Career Exploration Program	100	No	Free	Yes	Two-year program consisting of six employability skills-focused cohorts for students with disabilities to complete. The cohorts include: horticulture and landscaping, healthcare, animal care/pet retail, business/customer service, food service/culinary, and technology.

**Contact:**

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