

# CareerFocus™

## Find Your Passion

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# YOU'RE HIRED!

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## College Transfer: Celebrating 20 Years of Success

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**“We Started a  
Ripple Effect.”**  
(And you can, too!)

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# Home Court Advantage

**W**ake Tech has good reason to cheer: The college is breaking in a brand new gymnasium! The 17,000-square-foot athletic facility, which can seat up to 1,000 spectators, is part of a new physical education wing in the recently-renovated Early Childhood Education Building on main campus. The gym allows Wake Tech to host sporting events for the first time in its 50-year history. The Eagles volleyball team christened the new gym in the fall, before basketball season got started in November.

Men's head basketball coach Van Williams says being able to play in front of familiar faces is "a slam dunk" for everyone. "With the new gym, we've finally got a home court advantage," he says. "It's a win-win for the players and fans!" In addition to basketball and volleyball, Wake Tech's fall sports roster includes men's and women's soccer and – for the first time ever – men's and women's cross country. Autumn is a great time for Wake Tech sports fans, and so is the spring!



*Zach Lee*



When the weather gets warm, it's time for men's and women's golf, women's softball, and men's baseball. In fact, it was the crack of the bat that brought 19-year-old Zach Lee to Wake Tech. Zach, who plays shortstop, was a three-time all-conference star at Hunt High School in Wilson, and he's a winner off the field as well. "Zach is one of my best players," says Head Baseball Coach Chris Kiec. "He's also a good student and a young man of good character." Zach's goal is to earn an associate's degree and move on to a four-year university to study business. He says Wake Tech is a home run for him. "I love it here," says Lee. "The college is affordable, I like the small classes, and I'm thrilled to be part of the Eagles baseball team!"

For game schedules and information, visit [athletics.waketech.edu](http://athletics.waketech.edu)



## Welcome to Eagle Country!

Wake Tech's mascot is soaring with a bit more swagger these days. For years, the mascot was simply known as "the eagle," but in a college-wide contest, Wake Tech students and employees chose "Talon" as its new name. The eagle also got an "extreme makeover" with a new costume, and some new moves! Be sure to check out Talon as he shows off his Eagle pride!



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Career Focus is published by Wake Technical Community College to encourage Wake County residents to enrich their lives through lifelong learning, to provide information about careers and Wake Tech's programs of study, and to promote workforce training and economic development. Questions about the Wake Tech programs and services described in this publication should be directed to (919) 866-5000. To inquire about advertising in Career Focus, or for questions and comments about this publication, call (919) 866-5929.

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# CareerFocus™

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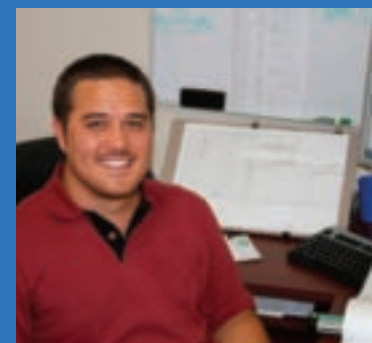
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Frank Blas graduates in May 2012 with an Associate in Applied Science degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology. Thanks to a co-op experience, he was offered a job even before he graduated!



## From the President

Welcome to Career Focus!

Inside you'll find information about Wake Tech's many courses and programs – all designed to meet your needs for education and training that are timely and relevant in today's workplace and world.

Wake Tech has provided quality educational services in Wake County for almost half a century. We've invested in the people of this community and believe wholeheartedly in their great potential. Our students and graduates are advancing knowledge and providing services in health care, computer technologies, hospitality, and so many other fields. They keep the local economy humming and improve the quality of life for everyone.

Where does your potential lie? What are your interests and passions? Where do you want to go? With classes to fit every schedule and multiple campuses spanning the region, Wake Tech can help you get there. Let's get started!

**Dr. Stephen C. Scott**  
President



# You're Hired!

## Co-op Could Be Your Career Connection

**“You’re hired!” Every job seeker wants to hear that, but with unemployment at record levels, those words are getting harder to come by. Even those who’ve gone to college and acquired valuable skills can have a tough time impressing a potential employer – and getting a foot in the door can be half the battle.**

That’s why many students embrace the opportunity to make important job connections while they’re still in school. Cooperative Education – Co-op, for short – is an arrangement between educators and employers

that allows students to work in a field of interest while earning money and academic credit. Co-op provides valuable on-the-job training, allowing students to take what they’ve learned in the classroom and

apply it to real workplace situations and challenges. In so doing they fine-tune technical skills and know-how, and they also learn important “soft” skills – communication, team building, problem solving. Co-op

offers another extremely important benefit as well: It’s often the link to future employment and a rewarding career.

“I was hired even before I finished school!” says Frank Blas, now a CAD Support Detailer at John E. Green Company in Raleigh. Frank was a co-op student with the company in the spring of 2011, and by fall semester he had been hired full time. He worked while finishing his last three classes; his new employer gave him the flexibility to attend a Monday class on campus, and he completed other coursework online.

Frank’s supervisor Bill Thornton says the growing company was looking for new talent, and co-op



Frank Blas

**Students who took part in a paid co-op were more likely to get a job offer, have a job in hand by the time they graduated, and receive a higher starting salary offer than their peers who did not (NACE 2011 Student Survey).**



**“Many employers realize it’s a great opportunity to develop future talent, contribute to the success of students in their community, and in many cases, see first-hand how a potential employee would perform on the job.”**

**– Vickie Grove  
Coordinator of Cooperative Education**

definitely gave Frank that foot in the door: “Frank has the skills we need, and after we saw his performance, we offered him a job.”

Frank’s situation is not unique: The National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) reports that students who took part in a paid co-op were more likely to get a job offer, have a job in hand by the time they graduated, and receive a higher starting salary offer than their peers who did not (NACE 2011 Student Survey). In fact, more than 40% of students with co-op experience got at least one offer after applying for a job, while only 30% without that experience got an offer.

“Employers in our area have come to rely on Wake Tech for dedicated co-op students who are honing their skills and motivated to work hard,” says Vickie Grove, Coordinator of Cooperative Education. “Many employers realize it’s a great opportunity to develop future talent, contribute to the success of students in their community, and in many cases, see first-hand how a potential employee would perform on the job.”

At Wake Tech, more than 40 programs require Cooperative Education or offer it as an elective. Baking and Pastry Arts is one of the programs that requires it, and student Karen Gray is making the

most of it. A 1980 graduate of Wake Tech’s associate degree nursing program, Karen has supported her family by working as a nurse. Now that her children are grown, she’s ready to pursue her real passion: baking. “I love cake decorating!” she says.

Returning as a student in Wake Tech’s Baking and Pastry Arts program, Karen landed a co-op job at Sweet Memories bakery in Apex in the fall of 2011. Two weeks after she started, she was offered a position upon graduation. “I’m thrilled,” she says. “It’s a wonderful place to work.



My supervisor Danielle Matroni is so encouraging and helpful.”

Not all co-op students will have jobs waiting for them when they graduate, but the experience will go a long way in today’s job market, where candidates need every edge they can get. Says Grove: “Experience in the workplace – where students’ skills are really put to the test – is an invaluable credential.”



Karen Gray


## WAKE TECH JOB PLACEMENT

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Create and post online resumes and portfolios!


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Visit [jobplacement.waketech.edu](http://jobplacement.waketech.edu)

## Feature

# Find Your Passion

## Discover What's Right for You through Career Exploration

It's important to take the time to find the career that's right for you – a career that will fulfill your passions and lead to rewarding experiences.

As you explore, consider the following:

### • Assess yourself.

Assessments can help you define your interests, preferences, values, and strengths and provide direction in your choice of careers. Find out if you're heading down the right path by visiting our Counseling Services webpage at [counseling.waketech.edu](http://counseling.waketech.edu)

### • Examine your actions.

Are your daily actions helping to fulfill your dreams? Pay attention to what drives you, highlight the positives, and learn to direct your energy and maintain focus. Awareness can lead to informed decisions about your future.

### • Explore the world of work.

Do your homework! Research career options thoroughly. The Occupational Outlook Handbook, ONET, College Foundation of NC, and America's Career Infonet, among other resources, can provide detailed job descriptions, salary ranges, and employment outlook for a wide variety of fields.

### • Ask, investigate, learn!

Connect with employers by requesting informational interviews (by phone or in person) – you'll get an inside look at trends and expectations in your field of interest. Find out what others in your area are doing as they explore careers, what they've found successful, and the obstacles they've encountered.

### • Gain a full view.

Build on your knowledge of yourself and your career interests by job shadowing. Observing professionals at work can help you understand what jobs will be best for you, and even give you a competitive edge over other job candidates. Sometimes a job-shadowing experience turns into an interview!

### • Experiment and try!

Co-op experiences are valuable work opportunities that allow you to put the skills you've learned in the classroom to the test. You may enter the experience with certain ideas and expectations and leave with completely different ones! Co-ops help you find your "niche."



### • Expand your network.

Through informational interviews, job shadowing, and work experiences, you can begin to build a network of professional contacts in your area of interest. Professional organizations, conferences, career fairs, and social gatherings can also provide networking opportunities to help you expand your circle – and ultimately, land the career of your dreams!

Remember these tips as you continue discovering your passions and use them to define a meaningful direction for your education and career.

Visit [counseling.waketech.edu/career](http://counseling.waketech.edu/career) for more information.



## Spotlight

### Angela Washington 2011 Instructor of the Year

“Keep it in the cloud!” Angela Washington’s students are familiar with this phrase, which refers to the “cloud” over a comic strip character’s head. “I teach my students that patients are often nervous and looking to you for reassurance,” Angela says. “If you’re having a bad day, you need to keep it to yourself – keep those thoughts ‘in the cloud’ and maintain your professionalism.” Wake Tech’s 2011 Instructor of the Year helps students learn how to provide the best possible patient care – what Angela regards as the most important aspect of their jobs.

**Title:** Instructor and Clinical Coordinator, Computed Tomography (CT) and Magnetic Resonance

Imaging (MRI) Programs, Wake Tech Health Sciences Division

**Background:** Ten years as an educator at Wake Technical Community College; prior career in radiography, computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, and service in the United States Air Force

**Education:** Associate’s degree in Radiography, Community College of the Air Force; bachelor’s degree and master’s degree in Radiologic Science, Midwestern State University

**Work experience:** Instructor and Clinical Coordinator at Wake Tech; CT and MRI Staff Technologist at



WakeMed (Raleigh) and Carolina Imaging (Fayetteville)

**Special honors, awards, and accomplishments:** 2011 Excellence in Teaching Award and Instructor of the Year Award, Wake Tech; Air Force Achievement Medal; co-author of “Pedagogy of Online Education,” published in Radiologic Science & Education

**Personal/Family:** I grew up in Shreveport, Louisiana, and now live in Cary with my partner, son, and two dogs.

**Hobbies:** I absolutely love the game of golf! I also enjoy bike riding, computing, and hanging out with family and friends.

**Best thing about Wake Tech is ...** The opportunity to grow, as an educator and as a person. Wake Tech provides faculty leadership, training opportunities, and encouragement. I love my job and I truly enjoy what I do!

**Advice:** Honesty, integrity, compassion, and hard work go a long way. Take a moment to remember why you do what you do, and don’t forget to laugh and enjoy life!!

### Dr. Darryl McGraw 2011 Staff Member of the Year

Students who attended Wake Tech more than six years ago likely remember a very different registration process: “It was telephone registration with one slow computer,” says Darryl McGraw. “We were one of the first community colleges in North Carolina to set up web-based registration, and now, more than 500 students can register concurrently.” Darryl is driven to keep Wake Tech ahead of the technology curve, to serve students better and to continue to lead the way in IT innovation.

**Title:** Chief Information Officer

**Background:** Originally from Columbus County, NC; 31 years of experience in information technology; military service

**Education:** Associate Degree, Southeastern Community College in Whiteville, NC; BS in computer science, NC State University; MBA, Campbell University; Doctorate (Ed.D.) in education, NC State University

**Work experience:** CIO or equivalent at three community colleges; North Carolina National Guard chief information officer for the state

**Special honors, awards, and achievements:** 2011 Staff



Excellence Award and Staff Member of the Year award, Wake Tech; recognized as one of the top 100 IT leaders in the nation, Computerworld Magazine; Authored the article, “Laptop for Every Student,” published in the Community College Journal.

**Personal/Family:** Happily married for 23 years to Roxanna McGraw.

**Hobbies:** I love to travel with my wife. We always have a bag packed, ready to go somewhere!

**Best thing about Wake Tech is ...** the wonderful and dedicated colleagues and co-workers.

**Advice:** Our time on this planet is short. Don’t miss an opportunity to let your family know that you love them.

### Melissa Reeves SGA President

When Melissa Reeves is asked why she decided on a career in counseling, her response is immediate: “I’ve been through some difficult times in my life. I want to help other people ‘walk it out’ when they’re having problems – to help them know they don’t have to remain stuck in whatever situation they’re in.”

**Current standing:** President, SGA; member, Phi Theta Kappa, Social Sciences Club, and WTCC Inspirational Choir

**Background:** Raised in Oklahoma – Go Sooners! Moved to Orlando, Florida – Go Gators! Moved to NC when my husband got a job at NCSU – Go Pack!!

**Educational plans:** Transfer to NCSU to earn bachelor’s and master’s degrees in social work

**Career plans:** To become a licensed clinical social worker and provide counseling to families, couples, children, and adolescents

**Work experience:** Teacher’s assistant in classrooms of children with hearing impairments, autism, or cerebral palsy; office manager; homeschooling mom

**Personal/Family:** Married to my best friend and the love of my life,



Larry Reeves; 10 adopted children, seven grandchildren, six horses, two dogs, and a bird. My husband and I are both ordained ministers. I survived cancer and a major auto accident, and that has given me a new love and appreciation for life!

**Hobbies:** Singing, drama, horseback riding; boating, and spending time with my husband, kids, and grandkids!

**Best thing about Wake Tech is...** The smaller class size and the way the teachers are so attentive and willing to help the students.

**Advice for prospective/current Wake Tech students:** Get involved in clubs and organizations. There are ways to make a difference – find them!

Facts and Finds

# Facts AND Finds

## Stay Connected!

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-  [www.twitter.com/waketechcc](http://www.twitter.com/waketechcc)
-  [www.youtube.com/waketechcc](http://www.youtube.com/waketechcc)

Sign up for Wake Tech’s e-News,  
[news@waketech.edu](mailto:news@waketech.edu)

## Personality and Paycheck

Your personality may have a bigger effect on your bottom line than you ever imagined.

Psychology’s so-called “big five” personality characteristics (openness, conscientiousness, extraversion, agreeableness, neuroticism) are used by professionals to describe the human personality, but a new study shows that they may also describe how we earn, spend and save money.

Chances are, if you are conscientious, even tempered and extraverted, you probably have more money in the bank than if you’re agreeable, open to experience and neurotic.

University of Michigan economist David Weir and University of Pennsylvania psychologist Angela Lee Duckworth collected data on almost 10,000 adults age 50

and older and compared their personality characteristics, their cognitive ability (IQ), wealth, and lifetime earnings records from Social Security.

Not surprisingly they found that people who score high on conscientiousness not only earn more than average, they also save more than average. Even-tempered folks who score low on neuroticism tend to earn more money—but they don’t necessarily save more. And while extraverts and introverts earn about the same, it’s the extraverts who save more. And perhaps surprisingly, people who score high on agreeableness and

openness to experience tend to earn less and save less.

So it seems personality has a real correlation with our work and money habits – as for the personality types that are more fun at parties, that’s another study.

Source: “Personality, Lifetime Earnings, and Retirement Wealth,” October 2010 University of Michigan Retirement Research Center

openness  
 conscientiousness  
 extraversion  
 agreeableness  
 neuroticism

## Majorly Important

When choosing a career path, men and women are not as far apart as you might guess. There is a lot of overlap in the choice of college majors between the sexes – but a few notable differences too. Men still choose engineering and computer careers in much larger numbers – both fields in which six-figure salaries are commonplace. Women still dominate in English, humanities and liberal arts – fields that pay far more modest salaries. Although money isn’t everything, many college freshmen state that becoming financially well off is among their life goals, and the choice of a major can make a big difference in income.

## Top College Majors

WOMEN	MEN
Business	Business
Health Professions and Clinical Sciences	Social Sciences and History
Social Sciences and History	Engineering and Engineering Technologies
Education	Visual and Performing Arts
Psychology	Computer and Information Sciences and Support Services
Visual and Performing Arts	Biological and Biomedical Sciences
Communication and Communication Technologies	Communication and Communication Technologies
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	Education
English Language and Literature/Letters	Psychology
Liberal Arts and Sciences, General Studies, Humanities	Security and Protective Services

Source: “Most Popular College Majors for Women” August 10, 2010, Forbes.com

## Raleigh: A Brain Magnet

Apparently, the smart people think it’s a smart move to live in Raleigh. That’s according to Forbes, which ranked the Raleigh area #2 on its list of America’s Biggest Brain Magnets! To come up with the list of the smartest U.S. cities of the future, Forbes studied the country’s 50 largest metropolitan areas and ranked them based on the increase in college-educated citizens compared to the population over 25 years old between 2007 and 2009. Raleigh made the top of the list,

just behind New Orleans. Coming in third place was Austin, Texas. High-dense cities like New York and San Francisco didn’t even make the top ten. Forbes says this reflects a phenomenon not often mentioned: the spreading out of intelligence!

Source: Forbes.com, February, 2011



(Photo: Courtesy: GRCVB / visitraleigh.com)



# College Transfer: 20 Years of Success and Counting!

Wake Tech's College/University Transfer program is marking a milestone: The program, designed to prepare Wake Tech graduates to pursue additional higher education, is celebrating its 20th anniversary. Over the last two decades, it has evolved from a fledgling eaglet into a soaring eagle!

Wake Tech's transfer program began in 1991. It started small, a single department with five instructors and 18 disciplines, and offered the Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees. Growth was rapid in the years that followed. Now, under the umbrella of Arts and Sciences, College/University Transfer includes eight departments, with 195 full-time instructors and 89 adjuncts, in 39 disciplines. In addition to the AA and AS degrees, the transfer program now offers the Associate of Science/Pre-Engineering degree as well as the Transfer Core Diplomas for Arts and Sciences. Enrollment growth has followed suit. Twenty years ago, the program had 300 students; by fall 2007, that number had jumped to 5,117, and in 2011, it surged to 8,430 students. "The program seems to grow exponentially every year," says Tonya Forbes, Associate Vice President of Arts and Sciences, "and so does the reputation of Wake Tech graduates who transfer to local universities."

Today's transfer graduates have an impressive array of choices, thanks to that good reputation and to the dynamic partnerships Wake Tech has formed with four-year institutions. The transfer

program operates under articulation agreements that allow students to transfer to all UNC System institutions and to private North Carolina colleges and universities as well. These agreements even offer transfer options for students enrolled in technical programs at Wake Tech. Forbes says Wake Tech students are in high demand, and the partnerships prove it. "Our four-year partners, including NCSU and UNC-Chapel Hill, actively recruit Wake Tech transfer students," she says. "They tell us our graduates come prepared for success."

Wake Tech's transfer program has indeed come a long way in 20 years, and Forbes is proud of its transformation. The goal now, she says, is planning for the jobs of the future! "We're emphasizing the importance of STEM fields (science, technology, engineering, and math) and encouraging students to earn a certification along with their associate's degree," Forbes says. "We want our graduates to get four-year degrees and beyond – and to enter the workforce earning a high wage." Aiming for success is what Wake Tech's transfer program is all about! Celebrating 20 years of success ... and counting!



*Student Success!*

## Visit us! Annual Open House

Enrollment Information • Exhibits  
Demonstrations • Campus Tours

**April 21, 2012**

Main Campus  
9101 Fayetteville Rd., Raleigh  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**April 28, 2012**

Northern Wake Campus  
6600 Louisburg Rd., Raleigh  
10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



For more information, call 919-866-5500

## Choices

Wake Tech has partnered with several four-year colleges and universities so the transfer process is seamless. Many of our partners, like East Carolina University, Campbell University and Mount Olive college, not only accept Wake Tech's AA and AS degrees, but also our Associate of Applied Science degrees, so students can begin their career while pursuing a bachelor's degree! For more information, visit [choices.waketech.edu](http://choices.waketech.edu).





## Feature

## Jerry Johnson

# From the Classroom to the Boardroom

**“Wake Tech helped me get where I am today.”**



## Creating Success

Hope • Opportunity • Jobs

Jerry Johnson is energized about energy: “We’re making renewable energy out of landfill gas!” As Vice President of Capital Projects at Waste Industries, Jerry is in charge of Black Creek Renewable Energy, a project that turns gas produced at a Sampson County landfill into electricity that powers 4,000 area homes.

Jerry’s professional life includes supervising multi-million dollar

projects, but his background is a modest one. Growing up on a farm in rural Johnston County, Jerry’s only option for higher education was a community college. “At 19, Wake Tech made sense to me – ‘dollars and cents,’” he says. “It was affordable, and I could continue to work while going to school.”

Jerry did work, as a trucker, while taking civil engineering classes at Wake Tech (then called W.W. Holding

Technical Institute). Within a few years he was designing and building recycling facilities. He joined Waste Industries in 1991 and worked his way up to the executive team. He says he owes much of his success to his Wake Tech instructors and the hands-on training he received. “Wake Tech helped me get where I am today,” Jerry says. “The college kick-started my career, and it’s the reason I’ve had 37 years of success.”

## Save the Date!



### WAKE TECH



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**Raleigh Convention Center**

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Culinary Samples from  
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# How to Enroll in Classes at Wake Tech

## Apply for Admission

1. Complete an online Application for Admission: [admissions.waketech.edu](http://admissions.waketech.edu) and follow prompts
2. Apply for Financial Aid and Veterans benefits (if applicable): [financialaid.waketech.edu](http://financialaid.waketech.edu)
3. Request transcripts: Have all high school and college transcripts, SAT scores, and/or ACT scores mailed to: Wake Technical Community College Admissions Office, 9101 Fayetteville Road, Raleigh, NC 27603-5696
4. Schedule a college placement test: [testingcenter.waketech.edu](http://testingcenter.waketech.edu)
5. Meet with an academic advisor: [advising.waketech.edu](http://advising.waketech.edu) – get help with selecting the courses you need to meet your academic goals!

## Register for Classes

Browse course offerings: You can scan and plan your classes and schedules without a User ID or a password! Just visit [webadvisor.waketech.edu](http://webadvisor.waketech.edu), click Future Students, and Search for Curriculum Sections.

When you're ready to register for classes:

6. Activate your Key Account – this is the one login that will allow you to access WebAdvisor and many other college services. Visit [my.waketech.edu](http://my.waketech.edu), click Activate Account and follow the prompts to establish your Key Account User ID and password.
7. To register for classes, visit [webadvisor.waketech.edu](http://webadvisor.waketech.edu). Click Log In, enter your Key Account User ID and password, and click Submit.
8. Select Current Curriculum Students (Credit).
9. Under the heading "Registration," click Register for Sections and follow the prompts to select your classes.

Remember to pay for your classes before the deadline, and you're ready to go!

For step-by-step, detailed instructions for WebAdvisor, visit [wainfo.waketech.edu](http://wainfo.waketech.edu). Walk-in registration is conducted on select dates, see [calendars.waketech.edu](http://calendars.waketech.edu).



### Questions about Admissions or Advising?

- Call Student Information at 919-866-5500 (Mon-Thu, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. and Fri, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.)
- Visit [admissions.waketech.edu](http://admissions.waketech.edu).
- Email [admissions@waketech.edu](mailto:admissions@waketech.edu).

### Questions about Registration?

- Call Registration Information at 919-866-5700 (Mon-Thu, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. and Fri, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.)
- Visit [wainfo.waketech.edu](http://wainfo.waketech.edu).
- Email [registrar@waketech.edu](mailto:registrar@waketech.edu).

### Key Dates – Spring 2012 Semester

Semester Dates	01/04/2012 – 05/07/2012
Registration period*	10/24/2011 – 01/03/2012
Last day to add a Second 8-Week Mini-mester class	03/13/2012

\*Students register by assigned priority

### Tuition payment deadlines: If you register:

11/08/2011 – 12/16/2011, payment is due 12/16/2011 -  
12/17/2011 – 01/03/2012, payment is due 01/03/2012 -

## 2012 Wake Tech Summer Camps

Photoshop  
Drama  
Entrepreneurship  
Biotech  
French  
Spanish

Game Design  
Character Creation  
Robotics  
Creating Cool Websites  
Young Filmmakers  
...and more!

**Wake Tech's Summer Camps are held selected weeks during June & July. They are open to all rising 7th, 8th, and 9th graders in Wake County.**

**Registration begins March 1, 2012**



**Call 919-866-5820 or visit [summercamps.waketech.edu](http://summercamps.waketech.edu)**





# Get to work!

**G**et to work! Wake Tech offers the education and training you need to land the job you want.

Prepare yourself for a rewarding career and enter the job market with confidence – whether you’re just starting out or starting over!

Take a look at our diploma, certificate, and degree programs and find the one that’s right for you. Learn new skills, earn credentials, and build a powerful resume that will open doors to new opportunity. Start now! **CF**



Credentials Key:		
<b>AA</b> = Associate in Arts	<b>AS</b> = Associate in Science	<b>AAS</b> = Associate in Applied Science
<b>AGE</b> = Associate in General Education	<b>D</b> = Diploma	<b>C</b> = Certificate

## Wake Tech Community College A-Z

Area of Study	Credentials offered	Prepares you for	*Salary Median/ Range
Accounting*	AAS, D, C	Careers that entail analyzing, processing, and communicating information about financial operations; workplaces include accounting firms, businesses, banks, hospitals, school systems, and government agencies.	28,000 - 36,500
Advertising and Graphic Design	AAS, C	Occupations in graphic design; job opportunities found in advertising agencies, graphic design studios, printing companies, department stores, manufacturing industries, newspapers, and businesses with in-house graphics operations.	26,100 - 74,700
Air Conditioning, Heating, & Refrigeration	AAS, D, C	Employment as a technician trained to design, install, and service air conditioning, heating, and refrigeration equipment; work with residential and light commercial systems, including start-up and preventive maintenance.	32,080 - 53,660
Architectural Technology	AAS, C	Positions that involve the preparation of construction documents, including environmental and structural systems, materials and methods, and building codes; employment in the architectural, engineering, and construction professions.	25,000 - 40,000
Associate in Arts*	AA Transfer Degree	Transfer to a senior institution; Completion of course work is equivalent to the general education requirements for a bachelor's degree; awarded upon successful completion of 64 hours, including the minimum required in specific curriculums.	N/A
Associate in General Education*	AGE	General education with emphasis on intellectual growth and personal enrichment; can be tailored to student interests rather than to specific technical or professional requirements.	N/A
Associate in Science	AS Transfer Degree	Transfer to a senior institution; Completion of course work is equivalent to the general education requirements for a bachelor's degree; awarded upon successful completion of 64 hours, including the minimum required in specific curriculums.	N/A
Associate in Science – Pre-Major: Engineering	AS Transfer Degree	Transfer to a senior institution; Completion of course work is equivalent to the general education requirements for a bachelor's degree; Awarded upon successful completion of 64 hours, including specific courses in science and mathematics required for the engineering curriculum.	N/A
Automotive Systems Technology	AAS	Employment as an automotive services technician; workplaces include car dealerships, repair shops, and other automotive service organizations; eligibility to take Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) exam.	32,291 - 46,701
Baking & Pastry Arts	AAS, D, C	Occupations including baking/pastry assistant or assistant pastry chef in restaurants, hotels, independent bakeries and pastry shops; opportunities in entrepreneurship or for advancement to pastry chef, cake designer, or bakery manager.	24,349 - 41,459
Basic Law Enforcement Training	C	Employment as an entry-level law enforcement officer with state, county, or municipal governments, or with private enterprise.	34,410 - 56,360
BioPharmaceutical Technology	AAS, C	Careers in pharmaceutical manufacturing, chemical quality assurance, microbiological quality assurance, product inspection, documentation review, manufacturing, and product/process validation.	24,500 - 62,300
Business Administration	AAS, C	Professions in business settings involving marketing, sales, customer service, finance, human resources, and/or business management in small, medium, and large organizations in a global economy.	29,300 - 66,300
Business Administration/ Human Resources Management*	AAS, C	Positions in human resources departments including recruitment, training, and human resources development; work in public, private, profit and non-profit organizations in a global economy.	27,800 - 36,700
Civil Engineering Technology	AAS, C	Computer planning technician career designing subdivisions, transportation systems, buildings, bridges, dams, and water treatment facilities; workplaces include public or private engineering, construction, and surveying companies.	26,800 - 66,700
Computed Tomography - CT	C	Occupations involving skilled use of specialized equipment to visualize cross-sectional anatomical structures and aid physicians; eligibility for the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists testing. (Advanced-Level)	40,000 - 62,000
Computer Engineering Technology	AAS, C	Jobs consisting of installing, servicing, and maintaining computers, peripherals, networks, and computer-controlled equipment; specialties include electronics technology, computer networks, server maintenance, and programming; graduates may qualify for certification in electronics, computers, or networks.	26,600 - 70,800

\* Also available online    \*\* Also available as hybrid  
Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, [www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov); [www.salary.com](http://www.salary.com), [www.cbsalary.com](http://www.cbsalary.com), [www.naceweb.org](http://www.naceweb.org), and employer surveys. Salaries may vary based on experience, education, and location.



Area of Study	Credentials offered	Prepares you for	*Salary Median/ Range
<b>Computer Information Technology**</b>	AAS, C	Careers in systems maintenance, troubleshooting, support, training, business applications design and implementation; opportunities for advancement and skill building, often through employer-sponsored training.	22,300 - 54,400
<b>Computer Programming**</b>	AAS, C	Employment as a computer programmer, analyst, software developer, computer operator, systems technician, database specialist, software specialist, or information systems manager in business, industry, or government agencies.	40,100 - 69,600
<b>Construction Management Technology</b>	AAS, C	Job opportunities including construction project manager, superintendent, foreman, or estimator in the residential or commercial construction industry.	34,253 - 53,257
<b>Cosmetology</b>	AAS, D	Careers in cosmetology, providing professional imaging, hair design, chemical processes, skin care, and nail care in salons and spas; graduates qualify to sit for the State Board of Cosmetic Arts exam.	24,060 - 47,909
<b>Criminal Justice Technology</b>	AAS, C	Professions in law enforcement, corrections, and security fields; positions include police officer, deputy sheriff, county detention officer, state trooper, parole surveillance officer, correctional officer, and loss prevention specialist.	32,508 - 56,319
<b>Criminal Justice Technology/Latent Evidence</b>	AAS, C	Employment as a crime scene technician/processor (first responder) with skills in collection and preservation of evidence, sketching crime scenes with CAD software, and analysis, lifting, classification, and preservation of fingerprints.	34,410 - 56,360
<b>Culinary Arts</b>	AAS, D, C	Employment as a trained professional in food service; entry-level positions with potential advancement to sous-chef, executive chef, or food service manager in restaurants, hotels, resorts, and catering companies, or business owner; American Culinary Federation certification is available to graduates.	22,277 - 42,182
<b>Database Management</b>	AAS, C	Jobs in administrative, development, or data warehousing; positions include database analyst, specialist, administrator, .NET developer, or web application developer.	39,900 - 69,700
<b>Dental Assisting</b>	D	Career classification as a DA II by the NC State Board of Dental Examiners, eligibility to take the Dental Assisting National Board Examination to become a Certified Dental Assistant (CDA); employment in dental offices, public health dental clinics, and dental school settings.	29,226 - 42,328
<b>Dental Hygiene</b>	AAS	Professions involving the assessment, planning, and implementation of dental hygiene for individuals; eligibility to take the state/ regional and national examinations for licensure; workplaces include dental offices, clinics, public health agencies, industry, and professional education.	50,713 - 69,413
<b>Diploma in Arts*</b>	AA Transfer Diploma	Transfer to a senior institution; Completion of course work is equivalent to the core general education requirements for a bachelor's degree; awarded upon successful completion of 44 hours.	N/A
<b>Diploma in Science</b>	AS Transfer Diploma	Transfer to a senior institution; Completion of course work is equivalent to the core general education requirements for a bachelor's degree; awarded upon successful completion of 44 hours.	N/A
<b>Early Childhood Education</b>	AAS, D, C	Professions working with children in learning environments including family child care homes, preschools, public and private schools, recreational centers, Head Start programs, child development programs, and programs for school-aged children.	20,300 - 45,300
<b>Electrical/Electronics Technology</b>	AAS, D, C	Positions in the electrical/electronics profession, assisting in the layout, installation, and maintenance of electrical/electronic systems; work in residential, commercial, and industrial facilities.	33,363 - 52,146
<b>Electronics Engineering Technology</b>	AAS, C	Occupations designing, building, installing, testing, troubleshooting, and repairing electronic components and systems; positions include electronics engineering technician, field service technician, maintenance technician, or production control technician.	32,500 - 78,600
<b>Emergency Medical Science</b>	AAS	Employment as a paramedic, with knowledge and skills in basic and advanced life support; eligibility for both state and national certification exams; workplaces include fire and rescue agencies, air medical services, hospitals, urgent care centers, and physician's offices.	33,900 - 49,989
<b>Environmental Science Technology</b>	AAS	Professions involving environmental testing/consulting and related work, including chemical analysis, biological analysis, water/ wastewater treatment, EPA compliance inspection, or hazardous materials handling.	26,600 - 68,500
<b>Esthetics</b>	C	Performing skin care, makeup application, scientific manipulations, and electrical applications; work environments include day spas, salons, medical practices, cruise ships and destination resorts.	24,300 - 36,000
<b>Fire Protection Technology</b>	AAS, C	Careers in fire protection and safety, with governmental agencies, industrial firms, insurance rating organizations, and municipal fire departments. Program also serves as a basis for continued education toward management positions.	30,000 - 40,000
<b>Global Logistics Technology</b>	AAS, C	Logistics careers including entry-level purchasing, logistics analyst, distribution supervisor, export coordinator, transportation scheduler; employers include government agencies, manufacturing, retail, and service organizations	31,000 - 50,000
<b>Heavy Equipment and Transport Technology</b>	AAS, D, C	Jobs in vehicle repair businesses; entry-level troubleshooting and repair of medium- and heavy-duty vehicles, including repair of engines, electrical and hydraulic systems, transmissions, brakes, and steering/suspension systems.	26,215 - 43,160
<b>Heavy Equipment and Transport Technology: Agricultural Systems</b>	AAS	Occupations involving troubleshooting and repair of agricultural equipment, including farm tractors, planters, sprayers, and harvesters; entry-level employment in agricultural systems equipment repair businesses.	23,808 - 38,450
<b>Heavy Equipment and Transport Technology: Construction Equipment Systems</b>	AAS, D, C	Employment in construction equipment systems troubleshooting and repair; work on equipment including dozers, scrapers, loaders, and forklifts; entry-level employment in construction equipment repair businesses.	23,485 - 39,582
<b>Hospitality Management</b>	AAS, D, C	Careers in the food and lodging industry including front office, reservations, housekeeping, purchasing, dining room, and marketing; entry-level, supervisory and managerial employment in hotels, motels, resorts, inns, restaurants, and clubs.	28,640 - 51,030
<b>Human Services Technology</b>	AAS, C	Entry-level positions in institutions and agencies that provide social, community, and educational services, including mental health, child care, rehabilitation, and education.	20,255 - 33,694
<b>Human Services Technology/Substance Abuse</b>	AAS, C	Employment as substance abuse counselors, DWI counselors, halfway house staff, residential facility employees, and substance abuse education specialists in facilities that provide these services.	24,485 - 34,426

\* Also available online    \*\*Also available as hybrid

Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, [www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov); [www.salary.com](http://www.salary.com), [www.cbsalary.com](http://www.cbsalary.com), [www.naceweb.org](http://www.naceweb.org), and employer surveys. Salaries may vary based on experience, education, and location.



Area of Study	Credentials offered	Prepares you for	*Salary Median/ Range
<b>Industrial Engineering Technology*</b>	AAS, C	Positions developing and improving integrated systems involving people, materials, equipment, and information; employment in industrial engineering technology, quality assurance, supervision, team leadership, and facilities management.	29,126 - 75,586
<b>Information Systems Security</b>	AAS, C	Employment as security administrator who utilizes networking technologies, intrusion detection, security administration, and industry best practices to protect data communications; eligibility to pursue security certification.	40,700 - 75,200
<b>Interior Design</b>	AAS	Careers in commercial and residential interior design, set design, and/or showroom design, with training in professional practices, aesthetic principles, computer-aided design, color theory, and business practices.	20,000 - 40,000
<b>Landscape Architecture Technology</b>	AAS, C	Occupation as a landscape architecture technician in landscape design, construction, and architecture businesses; opportunities for advancement in large-scale site design, supervision, and in residential landscape design.	20,000 - 40,000
<b>Lateral Entry Teaching</b>	C	Lateral Entry Teaching in NC Public Schools at the middle- or high-school level; program consists of coursework needed to become licensed by the NC Department of Instruction. Applicants have a Bachelor's Degree and meet additional criteria.	37,710 - 41,760
<b>Machining Technology</b>	C	Positions involving the use of power machinery, computerized equipment, and sophisticated precision inspection instruments; employment opportunities in manufacturing industries, government agencies, and machining job shops.	26,707 - 42,286
<b>Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)</b>	D	Employment as an MRI technologist who uses magnetic energy fields to produce images of the human body; eligibility to take the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) examination for certification and registration; employment in hospitals, physicians' offices, and research facilities.	39,500 - 56,500
<b>Mechanical Drafting Technology</b>	AAS, D, C	Careers involving the use of computer applications to produce drawings of mechanical parts, mechanisms, and components of mechanical systems; employment in mechanical manufacturing, fabrication, research and development, and service industries.	29,532 - 51,139
<b>Mechanical Engineering Technology**</b>	AAS, C	Employment as a mechanical technician, assisting in the design, development, testing, and repair of mechanical equipment for manufacturing, fabrication, research and development, and service industries.	31,978 - 71,482
<b>Medical Assisting</b>	AAS, D	A career as a health care professional qualified to perform administrative, clinical, and laboratory procedures; employment in physicians' offices, health maintenance organizations, health departments, and hospitals. Graduates may be eligible to sit for the American Association of Medical Assistants Certification Examination.	24,353 - 32,626
<b>Medical Laboratory Technology</b>	AAS	Jobs performing clinical laboratory procedures used in the diagnosis and treatment of disease; eligibility for National Certification examination by the Board of Certification of the American Society for Clinical Pathology; employment in hospitals, medical offices, reference laboratories, industry and research facilities.	36,500 - 55,500
<b>Medical Office Administration*</b>	AAS, D, C	Medical administrative support positions including medical records clerk, insurance specialist, and transcriptionist; workplaces include healthcare facilities, insurance billing offices, labs, and manufacturers of medical equipment.	25,000 - 36,400
<b>Networking Technology</b>	AAS, C	Positions supporting local- and wide-area networks; employment as local-area network manager, network operator, network analyst, or network technician; eligibility to take certification examinations for various network products.	41,000 - 66,300
<b>Nursing, Associate Degree</b>	AAS	A career as a registered nurse upon successful completion of licensure exam; workplaces include hospitals, long-term care facilities, clinics, physicians' offices, industry, and community agencies.	46,007 - 69,421
<b>Office Administration*</b>	AAS, D, C	Professions in entry-level to middle management administrative support, responding to the demands of a dynamic, computerized workplace; employment opportunities in business, government, and industry.	28,500 - 43,430
<b>Office Administration/ Legal*</b>	C	Administrative positions in private legal practices involving real estate and estate planning, corporate legal departments, and city, state, and federal government offices.	28,500 - 35,000
<b>Pharmacy Technology</b>	AAS, D	Employment in the health care and pharmaceutical industry; settings include hospitals, outpatient clinics, retail pharmacies, pharmaceutical wholesale companies, research laboratories, and pharmaceutical manufacturers.	19,502 - 32,889
<b>Phlebotomy</b>	C	Careers in the field of phlebotomy, obtaining and transporting blood and other specimens for the purpose of laboratory analysis; eligibility for national certification as a phlebotomy technician; work in hospitals, clinics, laboratories, and other health care settings	17,500 - 27,000
<b>Plumbing</b>	D,C	Jobs assisting with the installation and repair of plumbing systems in residential and small commercial buildings; employment with maintenance companies, plumbing contractors, and parts suppliers.	26,095 - 42,393
<b>Radiography</b>	AAS	Employment as a health care professional who uses radiation to produce images of the human body; work in hospitals, clinics, physicians' offices, or industrial settings; eligibility to take the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists' national exam for certification.	43,649 - 63,610
<b>Simulation and Game Development</b>	AAS, D, C	Careers as designers, artists, animators, programmers, testers, quality assurance analysts, engineers or administrators in the entertainment industry, health care, education, corporate training, and government agencies.	40,100 - 69,600
<b>Surgical Technology</b>	D	Employment as a skilled member of a surgical team; job opportunities in labor and delivery, emergency, inpatient/outpatient surgery centers, dialysis units, and physicians' offices.	33,925 - 43,807
<b>Surveying Technology</b>	AAS	Positions including survey party chief, surveying technician, highway surveyor, mapper, GPS technician, or CAD operator; graduates are prepared to complete requirements to become a Registered Land Surveyor in North Carolina.	29,600 - 53,000
<b>Therapeutic Massage</b>	D	Occupations providing client care through therapeutic massage; workplaces include hospitals, athletic settings, spas, and private practices; eligibility to take the NCE or the MBLEx and apply for a North Carolina license.	23,339 - 51,876
<b>Web Technologies*</b>	AAS, D, C	Careers using distributed computing to disseminate and collect information via the Web; employment as designers, administrators, or developers in web applications, websites, and related areas of distributed computing.	40,700 - 75,200
<b>Welding Technology</b>	D,C	Jobs in the welding and metalworking industry; employment as an entry-level technician in construction, manufacturing, fabrication, sales, and quality control environments.	31,904 - 45,897

\* Also available online

\*\*Also available as hybrid

Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, [www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov); [www.salary.com](http://www.salary.com), [www.cbsalary.com](http://www.cbsalary.com), [www.nacweb.org](http://www.nacweb.org), and employer surveys. Salaries may vary based on experience, education, and location.

# “We Started a Ripple Effect!” (And you can, too!)

– Julian and Liz Clay Bradley

Sometimes in life, you have to take a chance. That’s exactly what 43-year old M’Shiela Salvador did when she enrolled at Wake Tech in 2010. At the time, this single mother of four wasn’t sure how she’d pay for college, but felt confident it would ultimately pay off for her and her family. “In order to support myself and my kids, I knew I needed a degree,” she says.

Fortunately, there’s a Wake Tech scholarship designed especially for students like M’Shiela: The Second Chance Endowed Scholarship provides \$1,000 to up to four students over the age of 34 each year, to help with the cost of tuition, books, and fees. It was established in 2004 by Julian and Liz Clay Bradley of Raleigh. “When I was working as a financial advisor, I met a client who loved working with computers, but couldn’t afford to go to college to get a degree,” says Liz. “That’s when I decided to set up a scholarship to help older citizens go back to school.”

The Second Chance Endowed Scholarship is for students ages 35-50 who are enrolled in a degree program for the purpose of training or retraining for the job market. Applicants must have demonstrated

financial need and maintain a grade point average of 3.0. M’Shiela Salvador met all the criteria, and she’s now on her way to earning an accounting degree. “The Second Chance Scholarship has taken so much stress out of going back to college while supporting my family,” she says. “It’s made it possible for me to pursue the degree I always wanted!”

Every year, the Bradleys get letters of thanks from scholarship recipients like M’Shiela, describing what a difference the scholarship has made. “The importance of contributions like the Bradleys’, and those of other donors like them, cannot be overstated,” says Mort Congleton, executive director of the Wake Tech Foundation. “These scholarships truly do start a ripple – one that has a far-reaching effect, helping deserving students and in the process changing the equation for families and the entire community. Investing in Wake Tech in this way has a profound impact on our region’s economic well-being for years to come.”

The Bradleys contribute yearly to the Second Chance endowment using some of the proceeds from Julian’s hobby of landscape painting, and know the return on their investment goes far beyond its four annual recipients. “We feel so good that we’re helping people pursue their passion,” says Liz. “When their children see how well their parents are doing, and then their grandchildren see it, they’re inspired to do the same. That’s a ‘ripple’ that keeps on going!”

Want to start a ripple effect?  
Visit [foundation.waketech.edu](http://foundation.waketech.edu).



M’Shiela Salvador



## Wake Tech Alumni



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