

# CareerFocus™



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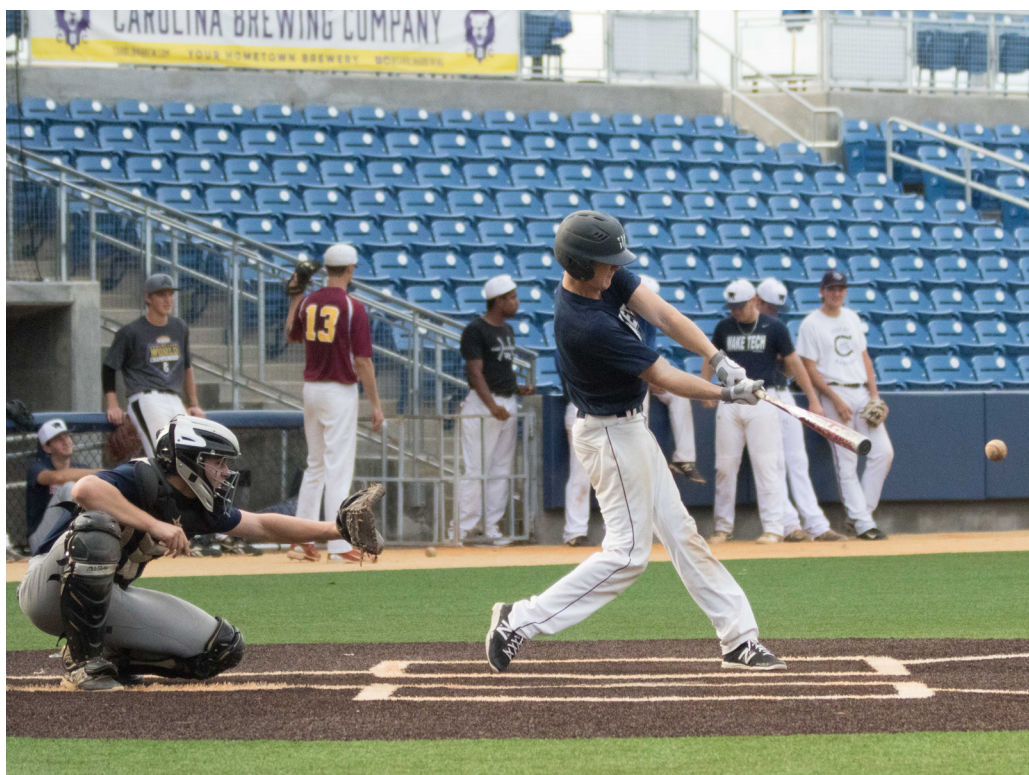
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# On Deck: Coach Sibrizzi Ready for the Spotlight

As the Eagles take the field for the spring 2017 baseball season, they're under the direction of first-year head coach Eric Sibrizzi. Coach Sibrizzi is no stranger to Wake Tech; he served as an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator for two seasons before ascending to the head coaching job.



Coach Sibrizzi is embracing his chance to make an impact on the lives of his players. "Overall we expect excellence – on and off the field," said Sibrizzi. "We've spent the last few years building a fantastic program and balancing athletics with competitive GPA standards."

Athletic Director Barry Street is encouraged about the direction of the program: "Coach Sibrizzi has the drive to take the baseball program to the next level. We were in good hands with Chris Kiec for seven seasons, but Eric is already demonstrating the commitment to excellence we expect at Wake Tech."

All home games are played at the North Main Athletic Complex in Holly Springs. Stay up to date on their schedule by visiting [waketechsports.com](http://waketechsports.com), and come out to a game! Springs sports at Wake Tech include women's softball, and men's and women's golf. It's an exciting season for Wake Tech sports, and we want you to be a part of it! #GoEagles



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# CareerFocus™

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### On the cover:

Austin Truelove is a junior at Vernon Malone College and Career Academy. When he graduates next year, he'll have a high school diploma **and** a certificate in Simulation and Game Development from Wake Tech – and be well on his way to an associate's degree!



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## From the President

Welcome to CareerFocus!

What's your passion? At Wake Tech, you can zero in on what inspires you and prepare yourself for career success and satisfaction. Our degree, diploma, and certificate programs – and career pathways – offer a world of options.

Whether you're eager to enter the workforce or hoping to transfer to a university for further study, Wake Tech can help you get ready. You may be working and hoping to advance – or ready for a career makeover! If you're in high school, you can enroll in Wake Tech's Career and College Promise program and earn college credits! Whatever your goal, Wake Tech can help you reach it.

We offer multiple locations, evening and Saturday classes, and online options – plus resources and support designed to meet your unique needs. Let us help you find success.

Find your passion. Find your focus. Find yourself at Wake Tech.

**Dr. Stephen C. Scott**  
President



"I love it! The class has sparked my interest in this field."

Alex Blanton

"It's more like the college experience and makes me feel more responsible."

Leila Abu-Hassan

# YOU CAN

## Earn College Credit in High School

### *That's a Promise!*

It's no surprise that people with a college degree or certificate earn more and have greater opportunities than those with a high school diploma alone. The good news is that students don't have to wait until they graduate from high school to start earning college credit! Wake Tech's Career and College Promise (CCP) program, sometimes referred to as dual enrollment, provides "seamless" ways for eligible high school students to get a jumpstart on college courses – or to build basic skills for their first job – by taking college courses while still in high school. And perhaps best of all, the college courses high school students take through CCP are tuition free!

CCP offers students three pathways: College Transfer, Career and Technical Education, and Cooperative Innovative High Schools.

**THE CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PATHWAY** allows eligible high school juniors and seniors to earn tuition-free course credits toward a job credential, certificate, or diploma in a technical career. Students can choose biopharmaceutical technology,

business intelligence, electrical systems, hospitality, introduction to law enforcement, plumbing, simulation and game development, or many others. (See the complete list at [ccp.waketech.edu](http://ccp.waketech.edu).) Classes for these programs are taught on Wake Tech campuses, at certain Wake County public high schools, and online!

Alex Blanton and Leila Abu-Hassan are among dozens of students taking Wake Tech's Introduction





**"This will give me a head start on my career."**

Olivia Slack

**"I love how interactive the teachers are."**

Austin Truelove



**"CCP has been great for me."**

Trevis McCullough

to Criminal Justice course at Fuquay-Varina High School. Neither had made a definitive career choice before enrolling in the course, but Alex says, "I love it! The class has sparked my interest in this field." Leila says it's "more like the college experience and makes me feel more responsible." The program is also taught at Middle Creek and Knightdale high schools.

**THE COLLEGE TRANSFER PATHWAY** allows college-ready high school juniors and seniors to get started on a bachelor's degree. This pathway offers tuition-free course credits toward the Associate in Arts (AA), Associate in Science (AS), or Associate in Engineering (AE) degrees that transfer seamlessly

to participating colleges or universities, public and private.

Home-schooled student Olivia Slack loves animals and wants to be a veterinarian someday. She's taking several courses on Wake Tech's Main Campus. By the time she earns her high school diploma she'll also have an Associate in Science degree, and be able to enter a four-year college or university as a junior! "It's great that I have this opportunity," she says. "This will give me a head start on my career."

Trevis McCullough jumped at the opportunity to take college courses in his senior year at East Wake Academy in Zebulon. He took an online economics course first semester, and three additional CCP courses in the spring. He's now a full-time student at Wake Tech, studying engineering and working as an apprentice at GlaxoSmithKline, through the NCTAP program. "CCP has been great for me," he says. "I think all high school students should look into it."

**THE COOPERATIVE INNOVATIVE HIGH SCHOOLS PATHWAY** is a collaboration between Wake Tech and Wake County Public Schools that offers high school students the opportunity to take courses for college credit at two unique local high schools. The Wake Early College of Health and Sciences focuses on health care careers, while the Vernon Malone College and Career Academy offers nine technical programs. Soon, students will have a third option: The North Wake College and Career Academy will open in Wake Forest in fall 2017, offering five additional technical programs.

Austin Truelove is having a great experience at Vernon Malone College and Career Academy, where he's a junior, studying Simulation and Game Development. He'll graduate from high school with an academic certificate for that program and be well on his way to an associate's degree when he enters Wake Tech to complete the program. "I love how interactive the teachers are," he says. "I feel like I'm learning a lot and getting ahead!"

The number of CCP students at Wake Tech has more than doubled in the past two years, as more families learn about these options. Michelle Lair, Director of Admissions Services, calls it an economically-smart way to begin earning college credit. "Once parents and students see that they can take advantage of tuition-free college classes, they're eager to

## GETTING A JUMP ON COLLEGE

By 2020, approximately **35%** of job openings will require at least a bachelor's degree, and another **30%** will require at least an associate's degree or some college.

More than **1.4 million** high school students nationwide take courses offered by a college or university for credit through dual enrollment.

Research suggests that **participation in dual enrollment can** lead to improved academic outcomes.

(Source: [www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov))

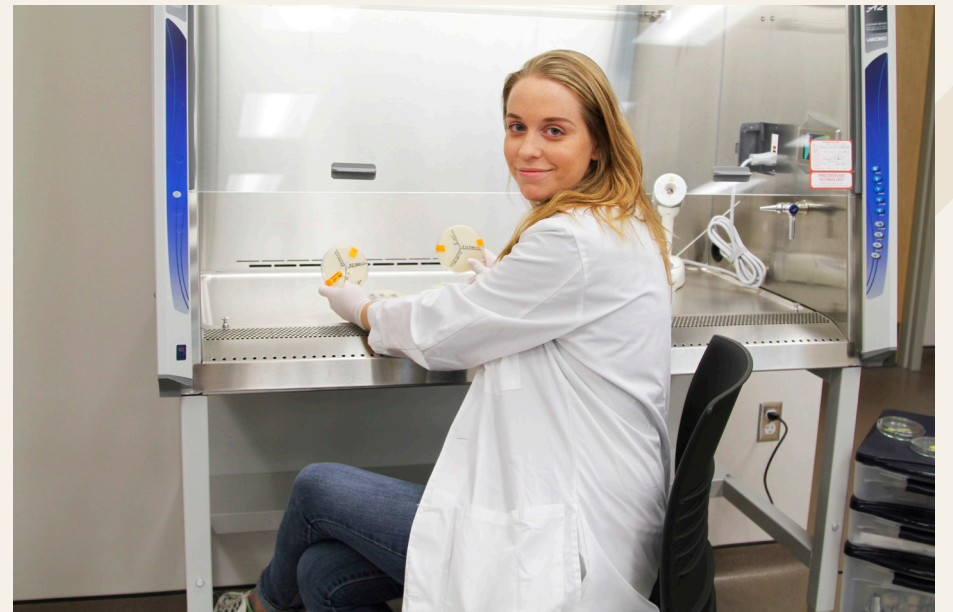
enroll. Students love earning college credits, and some complete a pathway and earn a credential that enhances their resume and makes them more competitive in the job market."

A CCP class can also strengthen a college application – and help an undecided student zero in on a career option, says Sandy Dietrich, Wake Tech's Chief Academic Officer. She says students should be aware of the impact grades can have on college transcripts – but that "students who are responsible and self-motivated will have no problem succeeding in college classes."

Sound enticing? You can get started by attending a required information session at your convenience. Register for one at [ccp.waketech.edu](http://ccp.waketech.edu). You'll get more details about options, eligibility, and the application process, along with approval forms to take back to your high school. Once you're accepted to the CCP program, you'll be invited to an orientation for the upcoming semester. It won't be long before you're earning college credit, and well on your way to a future that's full of promise!

[ccp.waketech.edu](http://ccp.waketech.edu)





# Sparks Fly in STEM Lab:

## Unique Facility Fuels Passion for the Field

Interest in science, technology, engineering, and math is growing at Wake Tech, “stemming” from a new lab on the Northern Wake Campus. The lab gives students an opportunity to conduct research and get a feel for what a career in STEM might be like. It’s a new venture for Wake Tech, and something of a rarity for a community college.

The unique new STEM lab is designed with biology, geology, chemistry, mathematics, physics, and engineering in mind. It features state-of-the-art equipment that includes a chemical fume lab, a bio-safety cabinet, an orbital shaker, centrifuges, microscopes, and 3D printers. Students can work independently or collaboratively, with instructor guidance, or with research partners from NC State, NC Central, and other universities.

Wake Tech student Laura Boyette is excited about the opportunity for hands-on experience: “This lab is invaluable! It really helps me understand what I’m learning in class.”

Student researchers are exploring biofuels, algae, fruit fly behavior, organic and non-organic garden soil, the effect of artificial sweeteners on intestinal bacteria, and a variety of other topics in the lab. The goal is to give students research experience and inspire them to pursue a career in STEM.

“We want students to be able to touch their dreams,” says Dr. Jackie Swanik, Associate Dean, Mathematics, Sciences, & Engineering. “The STEM lab allows them to see what scientists and engineers do in the real world.”

STEM careers are trending! Both U.S. News and World Report and Forbes report that for 2016, nine of the top 10 jobs and eight of the 10 highest-paying jobs are in STEM fields. Laura hopes to join that growing number. She’s pursuing an

Associate in Science degree and plans to become a medical researcher. “I chose a STEM career because I want to be fulfilled – and I want to make an impact.”

Dr. Swanik says that’s what the STEM lab is designed to do: “We want to inspire students to pursue their passion for STEM. We know the research experience will keep them competitive for internships, university transfer opportunities, and the job market.”

The STEM lab is open to all students, although they must be paired with an instructor to conduct research. For more information on STEM education at Wake Tech visit **[STEM.waketech.edu](http://STEM.waketech.edu)**.

## Campus Growth

### Northern Wake Campus

Technical programs are coming to Wake Tech’s Northern Wake Campus!

- Spring 2017 – Air Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration: Building J
- Summer 2017 – Baking & Pastry Arts, Health & Fitness Science: Building K
- Fall 2017 – Other Skilled Trades programs: Building J

### RTP Campus

New campus will open soon! Construction is underway at Wake Tech’s RTP Campus in Morrisville. This next-generation learning environment will focus on advanced, highly-technical programs and customized workforce training. #WakeTechRTP





## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

### Donna Dixon

2016 Student of the Year



**Current standing:** Spring 2016 graduate of Wake Tech's Human Services program; currently taking four additional classes to prepare for a university transfer; member of the National Society of Leadership and Success, Phi Theta Kappa, and the Human Services department's advisory board.

**Background:** I'm a Jersey girl – born and raised. I moved to Raleigh a little over five years ago. The rest of my family still reside in New Jersey.

**Special honors and awards:** Dwight O. Ryan Student Achievement Award, Outstanding Student of the Year 2016, NC Community Colleges 2016 Academic Excellence Award.

**Educational plans:** Transfer to a four-year university in spring 2017 to obtain a Bachelor of Social Work degree with a minor in nonprofit studies. Then, I'd like to obtain a Master of Social Work degree.

**Career plans:** To become a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and become an executive director of a nonprofit organization.

**Work experience:** Currently, I work at a local nonprofit as an Employment Counselor helping individuals who have various barriers to gaining permanent employment. I have volunteered with numerous organizations in which I served diverse populations—providing meals to the elderly and homeless men, empowering women who are incarcerated, and mentoring young adults. Earlier this year, I was able to gain some experience by working as an intern for a Wake County Human Services site that offers a wide variety of services for homeless women and men.

**Personal/Family:** I'm looking forward to life changes. I don't have any children right now, however, I'm looking forward to having a couple in a few years.

**Hobbies:** Singing, dancing, watching NBA basketball and movies

**Best thing about Wake Tech is ...** the wide range of resources available to help students succeed professionally and personally. At Wake Tech, students do not have to figure things out on their own; whether someone needs help with writing skills, building a resume, choosing a career path, paying for college, or just simply learning how to make new friends. Someone is available and willing to walk alongside you. Truly, I have felt supported by staff, colleagues, and classmates.

**Advice for prospective/current Wake Tech students:** Be open to trying something new. Don't be afraid to stand out and do something different from the crowd. Ask for help when you need it and do your best.

## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

### Lori Dees

2016 Instructor of the Year



**Title:** Associate Professor of English

**Background:** Eight years as an educator at Wake Tech. Prior teaching experience at Durham Tech and Rowan Cabarrus Community College.

**Education:** Bachelor's degree in English from James Madison

University, Master's in English from UNC-Charlotte, Master's in Adult Education with a focus on Community College Teaching from NCSU.

#### Special honors, awards, and

**accomplishments:** Co-leader of the P.R.O. Project at Wake Tech, facilitator at the Wake Tech Great Teachers Seminar, Co-creator of WTCC's Reading and Writing MOOC, presented at both local and national conferences, served as Lead Instructor for DRE, member of the WTCC Faculty Senate and Council of Excellence, recipient of three Applied Benchmarking grants and a SAS grant, completed phases of Lead the Way and On Course training, co-authored an article published in the peer-reviewed NADE Digest, 2016 Excellence in Teaching Award for Pre-curriculum and Instructor of the Year Award, Future Forward faculty, committee member of The Wake Tech Way and Common Book initiatives, and Community College Research Center (CCRC) faculty liaison for the ASDER project.

**Personal/Family:** I grew up in Lynchburg, Virginia, started my family in Charlotte, and then moved to Holly Springs. I have an amazing husband, 13-year-old son, and 10-year-old daughter. My children keep me busy with gymnastics, soccer, theater, and horseback riding. We have two dogs, Max and Midnight.

**Hobbies:** Reading and writing have always been my passion, hence, the reason I teach English. I also enjoy working out and watching movies.

**Best thing about Wake Tech is ...** it is full of supportive people who encourage you and help you grow not only in your career, but also as a person. The professional development I have received and the personal relationships I have developed are irreplaceable. When you are able to learn, grow, and enjoy what you do, all the benefits spread to the students, and they nourish me as well. I am always proud to say I work at Wake Tech, and I believe my accomplishments would be small if it weren't for the wonderful colleagues and students I work with every day.

**Advice:** Live life with positivity and passion. If you're positive and passionate about what you do, everything else will fall into place.

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT

### Michael Penry

2016 Staff Member of the Year



**Title:** Chief of Police

**Background:** I grew up in Kenersville, NC, in a home of public servants. My father was the chief of the Kenersville Rescue Squad, and my brothers were firemen. It was instilled in me from an early age that there is great satisfaction in helping people. I worked for the Rescue Squad

for about seven years, but I was always more interested in becoming a police officer. After moving to Raleigh I became the chaplain for the Wake County Sheriff's Office, and eventually a deputy. I spent several years working as a school resource officer. All those experiences helped prepare me for the position I hold today.

**Education:** Basic Law Enforcement Training, Johnston Comm. College; BA in World Religions, High Point Univ.; MA in Intercultural Studies, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

**Industry Credentials:** Held EMT credentials in NC for seven years. First Class Deputy, Master Deputy, and School Resource Officer certification at the Wake County Sheriff's Office. Treasurer for the NC Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators.

**Work experience:** EMT, Kenersville Rescue Squad; Dep. Sheriff, Wake County Sheriff's Office; Police Chief, Wake Tech Campus Police; Missions Consultant; Pastor, The Revolution Church

**Special honors, awards, and accomplishments:** 2016 Excellence in Service Award and Staff Member of the Year Award at Wake Tech. I also had the privilege of serving on the Board of Trustees of the International Mission Board for eight years.

**Personal/Family:** I have been blessed to be married to Ginny Penry for 22 years. We have two teenage daughters, Alaina and Holly.

**Hobbies:** I enjoy cooking with my family, and we often cook international dishes to try our hands at something different. I enjoy traveling, and one of my favorite places on earth is Ocracoke Island.

**Best thing about Wake Tech is ...** that it is a school that truly makes a positive impact on people's lives.

**Advice:** Not to sound cliché, but I love the saying, "Live, Laugh, Love." Live – to make a difference. I want Wake County to be a better place because I lived here and made some small difference in someone's life. Laugh – life is too short to be angry and bitter. Find people you enjoy being around and a job you get satisfaction from. Love – people. Make a difference in someone's life, whether a family member, a fellow Wake Tech'er, or a total stranger.



# Training Tech Talent

## New Opportunity to Get into IT


Interested in an IT or cybersecurity job, but not sure you have the necessary training and experience? Good news! High-tech jobs are not just for those with advanced degrees. Thanks to a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor – the largest grant in Wake Tech’s history – qualified students can prepare for in-demand tech jobs with their **expenses covered – tuition, books, registration, and testing fees.**

The TechHire: Project SECURE grant can accept up to 350 students, and funding is available through 2020. Students between 17 and 29 who have not had education or work experience in cybersecurity are eligible. Wake Tech will prepare them for high-skill, high-demand occupations along a career pathway requiring progressively more advanced training and certifications. Students can choose from two specialty skills tracks: The CompTIA track trains students to repair computers, and offers industry-recognized certifications that include CompTIA A+, Server+, Network+, and CompTIA Security+. The CISCO track prepares students to troubleshoot network systems, and offers CCNA, CCNA Security, and Linux+ certifications, among others. Both tracks can lead to advanced training in cybersecurity, and students can become Certified Ethical Hackers.



Austin Barclift is starting his TechHire path in the CompTIA IT Fundamentals class. “I’m joining this program so I can transition out of the business field and into IT. I chose the IT industry because technology is always changing, and I know the job market for IT will continue to grow.”

Wake Tech’s Workforce Continuing Education Division is partnering with the NC Works Career Center to provide career readiness services and job placement support, and local employers including SAS, IBM, and HCL Technologies are eager to hire trained talent.



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IT and Cybersecurity training  
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NC Median Wage	Course Training and Certifications	Months to Course Completion
\$57,970 to \$100,800	CISCO	7.25 months
\$57,970 to \$124,420	CISCO CyberSecurity	9.75 months
Starting at \$46,670	CompTIA	10.5 months
\$46,670 to \$100,800	CompTIA CISCO	17 months
\$84,640 to \$124,420	CompTIA CISCO CyberSecurity	20.25 months

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100% of the TechHire Project SECURE grant is financed by the US Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration grant project # HG-29368-16-60-A-37, which provides a total of \$3,965,670.00 in funding. Additional resources valued at \$1,558,233 have been leveraged by project stakeholders as contributions to ensure program success.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Carisa Thomas

**“I wouldn’t have received this level of support at another college or university.”**

- Carisa Thomas, Class of 2013

When Carisa Thomas lost her customer service job in a layoff a few years ago, she needed a new career option. She learned about Wake Tech’s Hospitality Certification Program and decided she was ready to take her experience into the hospitality field.


The non-credit program, offered through Wake Tech’s Workforce Continuing Education Division, is a concentrated introduction to the restaurant and lodging industry. It gives students the skills and credentials to work in front desk service, reservations, housekeeping, property management, and more.

“My experience at Wake Tech was awesome!” said Carisa. “Whenever I struggled, my instructor was there to push me forward. I wouldn’t have received that level of support at another college or university.”

Carisa completed the program in 12 weeks and began working at a Hyatt House hotel, where she continues to use what she learned. She’s moved up from breakfast attendant and front desk host to visitor ambassador, where she assists extended stay guests with everything the hotel has to offer. She’s been doing so great that she even won the 2016 Isaac Hunter Award for Excellence in Service from the Greater Raleigh Convention & Visitors Bureau! Co-workers nominated her for the award, which she says was “a great honor, and quite a shock!”

Sameer Pawa, coordinator of the Hospitality program, says the award is “a testament to Carisa’s ability to exceed expectations and deliver outstanding service.”

What’s her philosophy? “Treat other people better than they treat you.” She considers no job too small and always goes above and beyond to help customers – and colleagues. Carisa’s thankful for her new career and encourages others to explore the field of hospitality.

 For more information, visit [starthospitality.waketech.edu](https://starthospitality.waketech.edu)





# Facts and Findings

## A watchful eye on a digital-age hazard

Protecting your eyes at work usually involves wearing special goggles or safety glasses that shield against chemicals and particles. Industrial and healthcare workers take routine precautions to avoid eye injury. But desk jobs can affect your eye health as well, and so can your after-hours activity.

The American Optometric Association has identified "digital eye strain," also called "computer vision syndrome," as a growing cause of vision problems in the workforce. In fact, the average American worker spends seven hours a day staring at a computer.

Symptoms of computer vision syndrome include eyestrain, headaches, blurred vision, dry eyes, and neck and shoulder pain. Some factors that contribute to the problem include poor lighting, screen glare, poor posture or sitting at the wrong distance from your screen, or working with uncorrected vision problems.

The AOA offers a simple "20/20/20 Rule" of advice to help prevent digital eye strain: Take a 20-second break every 20 minutes by looking at something 20 feet away.

More tips and information can be found here: [aoa.org/patients-and-public/caring-for-your-vision/protecting-your-vision/computer-vision-syndrome](http://aoa.org/patients-and-public/caring-for-your-vision/protecting-your-vision/computer-vision-syndrome)



## Best Cities for Jobs

Looking for a great place to start your career after college? You've found it! According to Forbes.com, the Raleigh metropolitan area ranks third on its list of Best Places for Business and Careers. Raleigh is bested only by Denver, Colorado and Provo, Utah. And that's the just latest accolade for the City of Oaks. ZipRecruiter ranks the Raleigh-Cary metro ranks second in the U.S. among up-and-coming cities for tech jobs, and CareerBuilder says Raleigh is third-best U.S. city to find a job.



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**WAKE TECH**  
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## It's a New Generation

Millennials are now the largest share of the American workforce. Adults ages 18 to 34 represent more than a third of the labor pool, and they are redefining the way work gets done, according to Deloitte.com. Its survey of nearly 8,000 global millennials found that young workers' attitudes toward work are different than Gen Xers and Baby Boomers. They care more about technology and innovation than profit, for example. And their most important factor when choosing a job: a good work-life balance.

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# Oh, The Places You'll Serve!

## A New Take on Spring Break



For many college students, spring break means fun in the sun, beaches, and parties. But Wake Tech students have discovered an alternative – one that's about helping others instead of focusing on themselves. Wake Tech's Office of Volunteerism and (Student) Leadership, or OVAL, sponsors Alternative Spring Break trips as a way to help students learn how to serve their communities. This spring, OVAL is partnering with the United Way on an Alternative Spring Break in New York City, where students will focus on hunger and homelessness and have opportunities to work in soup kitchens, food pantries, and homeless shelters. The goal is to educate students about civic engagement and help them gain awareness and skills for becoming more involved at home.

"These trips are a great way for students to learn the systemic causes that lead to food insecurity, homelessness and a variety of social justice issues, and to understand the importance of getting involved," says Melody Henderson, Coordinator of Volunteerism and Student Leadership. "The hands-on experience never fails to have an impact, and a lasting one."

OVAL started offering Alternative Spring Break trips five years ago, when a small group of students and staff went to New Orleans to assist in recovery efforts after Hurricane Katrina. The group found that there was still a great need for help, and that the city had actually created an infrastructure to support volunteers and their efforts. The students also learned about the damage to the levies and got to witness the problems caused by contractors who took money but failed to complete work.

Since that first trip, the Alternative Spring Break program has grown significantly. In 2016, 14 students traveled with two staff members to Selma, Alabama, to help children in the city schools, which are still racially segregated. The students wanted to be a positive influence in the children's lives, playing with them and helping them with schoolwork. This service learning trip also included history lessons, tours, and training adapted from Dr. King's principles of nonviolence.

Wake Tech student Mohammed Lafi had never volunteered before the Selma trip but said, "Once you get a taste of helping people, it makes you want to come back." The trip had such an impact that Mohammed entered a summer





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internship with Something New, OVAL's partner organization in Selma. "When I started at Wake Tech, I was in my own bubble with my own group of friends," Mohammed says. "Getting to know other students on this trip really opened my eyes to people from different backgrounds – people I never thought I'd get to know. We all shared a common goal to help others." Mohammed will be a leader on the trip to New York City. His co-leader will be Manny Gracia, who also went to Selma. "We're products of our environment," Manny adds. "If you're never exposed to the diversity of people, cultures, and challenges, you may never know what's out there."

OVAL expanded the program last fall with its first Alternative Fall Break, to Asheville, NC. OVAL partnered with the YMCA of Western Carolina Youth Nutrition Program to provide fresh produce and nutrition education in low-income neighborhoods. Volunteers also delivered fresh produce to families in low-income areas, assisted with food pantry maintenance efforts onsite, and visited one YMCA afterschool program to teach children how to make healthy, fun snacks at home.

These trips are among a variety of initiatives OVAL sponsors throughout the year. Volunteer opportunities are available weekly at the Wilmington Street Men's Shelter, Read & Feed, the Inter-Faith Food Shuttle, and Habitat for Humanity. Students are encouraged to track their service hours on Wake Tech Xtra for a Co-Curricular Transcript they can use when applying for a job or university transfer. For more information about the Office of Volunteerism & Leadership and Wake Tech's Alternative Break programs, visit [oval.waketech.edu](http://oval.waketech.edu).



# Steps to Enroll at Wake Tech



New Student Orientation leaders

- 1 Apply online [admissions.waketech.edu](https://admissions.waketech.edu)
- 2 Request financial aid and veterans benefits [financialaid.waketech.edu](https://financialaid.waketech.edu)

- 3 Request transcript(s)  
Have high school/high school equivalency and college transcripts, SAT scores, and/or ACT scores mailed to: Wake Technical Community College Admissions Office, 9101 Fayetteville Road, Raleigh, NC 27603 or sent electronically to: [admissions@waketech.edu](mailto:admissions@waketech.edu)

- 4 Schedule a placement test [testingcenter.waketech.edu](https://testingcenter.waketech.edu)
- 5 Meet with an advisor [advising.waketech.edu](https://advising.waketech.edu)
- 6 Attend New Student Orientation [orientation.waketech.edu](https://orientation.waketech.edu)

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- Select Current Curriculum Students (Credit)
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- Advising: Visit [advising.waketech.edu](https://advising.waketech.edu) or email [advising@waketech.edu](mailto:advising@waketech.edu)
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## Credentials Key:

**AAS** = Associate in Applied Science

**D** = Diploma

**C** = Certificate

## Wake Tech Community College A-Z

Area of Study	Credentials Offered	Prepares you for:	Entry- to mid-level salary range*
<b>Associate degrees for college transfer</b>		Transfer to a senior institution: Associate in Arts (AA), Associate in Engineering (AE), Associate in Fine Arts – Art (AFA), or Associate in Science (AS)	
<b>Accounting</b>	<b>AAS, D, C</b>	Careers that involve analyzing, processing, and communicating information about financial operations; workplaces include accounting firms, businesses, banks, hospitals, school systems, and government agencies.	\$30,250 - \$44,000
<b>Advertising and Graphic Design</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	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
<b>Agricultural Systems Technology</b>	<b>AAS, D</b>	Occupations involving troubleshooting and repair of agricultural equipment, including farm tractors, planters, sprayers, and harvesters; entry-level employment in agricultural systems equipment repair businesses.	\$24,645 - \$47,598
<b>Air Conditioning, Heating &amp; Refrigeration Technology</b>	<b>AAS, D, C</b>	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.	\$29,472 - \$46,964
<b>Architectural Technology</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	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.	\$26,434 - \$47,319
<b>Automotive Systems Technology</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	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.	\$27,740 - \$50,980
<b>Baking &amp; Pastry Arts</b>	<b>AAS, D, C</b>	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.	\$25,000 - \$51,000
<b>Biopharmaceutical Technology</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	Careers in pharmaceutical manufacturing, chemical quality assurance, microbiological quality assurance, product inspection, documentation review, manufacturing, and product/process validation.	\$24,568 - \$45,082
<b>Business Administration</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	Professions in business involving marketing, sales, customer service, finance, or business management in public, private, profit, and nonprofit organizations.	\$37,000 - \$83,700
<b>Business Administration/ Global Business Management</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	A career focused on managing and leading in a global economy to include positions in public, private, profit and non-profit organizations.	\$37,000 - \$85,400
<b>Business Administration/ Human Resources Management</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	Positions in human resources departments, including recruitment, staffing, training, compensation, and human resources development; work in public, private, profit, and non-profit organizations.	\$38,040 - \$57,400
<b>Business Administration/ Marketing</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	A career in marketing to include opportunities in advertising, sales, social media marketing, marketing research and application; working in public, private, profit and non-profit organizations.	\$31,200 - \$55,680
<b>Business Analytics</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	A career as a business analyst with the ability to analyze and propose methodologies which help firms increase profitability in diverse industries, including health care, marketing, information technology, and finance. Graduates qualify to sit for SAS certification exams.	\$35,000 - \$60,000
<b>Civil Engineering Technology</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	A position as an office or field technician involved in construction management, site planning, construction layout, site inspections or materials testing; employment in public and private sectors of the engineering and construction industry.	\$26,892 - \$59,321
<b>Collision Repair and Refinishing Technology</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	Employment as an entry level collision repair technician, workplaces include car dealerships, repair shops, and other automotive service organizations; eligibility to take Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) exam.	\$32,020 - \$54,660
<b>Computed Tomography - CT</b>	<b>C</b>	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)	\$54,184 - \$67,600



Area of Study	Credentials Offered	Prepares you for:	Entry- to mid-level salary range*
<b>Construction Equipment Systems Technology</b>	<b>AAS, D, C</b>	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.	\$25,000 - \$45,000
<b>Construction Management Technology</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	Job opportunities including construction project manager, superintendent, foreman, or estimator in the residential or commercial construction industry.	\$34,253 - \$43,210
<b>Cosmetology</b>	<b>AAS, D</b>	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.	\$15,962 - \$47,383
<b>Criminal Justice Technology</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	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>	<b>AAS, C</b>	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>	<b>AAS, D, C</b>	Employment as a trained professional in food service with potential advancement to sous-chef, executive chef, or manager in restaurants, resorts, or as a business owner; American Culinary Federation certification is available to graduates.	\$23,000 - \$55,000
<b>Dental Assisting</b>	<b>D</b>	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, clinics, and dental schools.	\$35,390 - \$50,544
<b>Dental Hygiene</b>	<b>AAS</b>	Professions involving the assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation of dental hygiene services; eligibility to take the state/regional and national exams for licensure; work in dental offices, public health agencies, and dental schools.	\$57,200 - \$74,526
<b>Diesel and Heavy Equipment Technology</b>	<b>AAS, D, C</b>	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.	\$29,261 - \$54,105
<b>Early Childhood Education</b>	<b>AAS, D, C</b>	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 Systems Technology</b>	<b>AAS, D, C</b>	Positions in the electrical profession, assisting in the layout, installation, and maintenance of electrical systems in residential, commercial, and industrial facilities.	\$28,000 - \$49,282
<b>Electronics Engineering Technology</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	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 - \$66,470
<b>Emergency Medical Science</b>	<b>AAS</b>	Employment as a paramedic, with knowledge and skills in basic and advanced life support; eligibility for state and national certification exams; workplaces include fire and rescue agencies, air medical services, urgent care centers, and physician practices.	\$25,625 - \$37,585
<b>Esthetics</b>	<b>C</b>	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>	<b>AAS, C</b>	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>Geomatics Technology</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	A position as a survey crew chief, instrument operator, or office technician/CAD operator; involved in construction, GPS, boundary, and topographic surveying and mapping; employment in the surveying, engineering, or construction industry.	\$33,483 - \$48,913
<b>Health and Fitness Science</b>	<b>AAS</b>	Positions in health and wellness programs in commercial fitness clubs, business, industry, YMCAs/YWCAs, parks, recreation, and other organizations with exercise and fitness programs.	\$24,960 - \$41,600
<b>Heavy Equipment Operator</b>	<b>D, C</b>	Jobs that require driving, maneuvering, or operating heavy equipment, including backhoes, excavators, and dozers, which are used to construct roads, bridges, and buildings; employment in the construction industry or with government agencies.	\$34,750 - \$48,480
<b>Hospitality Management</b>	<b>AAS, D, C</b>	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>	<b>AAS</b>	Entry-level positions in institutions and agencies that provide social, community, and educational services, including mental health, child care, rehabilitation, and education.	\$25,140 - \$34,750
<b>Human Services Technology/ Mental Health</b>	<b>AAS</b>	Entry level positions including treatment assistant, community liaison, or behavioral disorder counselor; work in mental health settings assisting a treatment team or implementing treatment plans.	\$28,850 - \$38,520
<b>Human Services Technology/ Substance Abuse</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	Employment as substance abuse counselors, DWI counselors, halfway house staff, residential facility employees, and substance abuse education specialists in facilities that provide these services.	\$25,140 - \$40,400
<b>Information Systems Security</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	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.	\$43,113 - \$100,510
<b>Information Technology - Computer Programming and Development</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	Careers in the design and development of desktop and web applications, proficient in Java, MVC, REST, unit testing, server-side JavaScript, and SQL; positions include programmer, software developer, and quality assurance specialist; work settings include healthcare, manufacturing, and software publishing.	\$50,000 - \$107,000
<b>Information Technology - Data Science and Programming Support Services</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	The design and development of desktop and web applications with an emphasis on business logic and data-driven applications; proficient in Python, SQL, XML, JavaScript; occupations include database specialist, programmer/analyst, and quality assurance specialist in a wide variety of work settings.	\$60,000 - \$129,000
<b>Information Technology - Healthcare Business Informatics</b>	<b>AAS</b>	Positions supporting healthcare organizations that implement, deploy, and support healthcare IT systems in U.S. clinical settings; eligibility to take certification examinations for various healthcare network environments.	\$33,087 - \$68,680
<b>Information Technology - Mobile Applications Developer</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	Positions involving the design of mobile applications for Android and iOS mobile devices; proficient in HTML, CSS, JavaScript, jQuery, Java, Swift, and UI/UX; work as a programmer, software developer, mobile application developer, programmer/analyst, technical support specialist, software tester.	\$43,000 - \$94,000
<b>Information Technology - Network Management</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	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 environments.	\$36,318 - \$77,935
<b>Information Technology - Software and Web Development</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	A career as a software developer, web developer, programmer/analyst, software architect, technical support specialist, software tester, technical writer, proficient in C#, .NET, MVC, HTML, JavaScript, and SQL; work in healthcare, manufacturing, insurance, finance and software publishing.	\$50,000 - \$104,000



Area of Study	Credentials Offered	Prepares you for:	Entry- to mid-level salary range*
<b>Information Technology - Storage &amp; Virtualization</b>	<b>AAS</b>	Industry-specific certification exams; Careers in computer technology involving datacenter technologies, virtualization methods, and large volume storage centers; work as designers, testers, developers, or support technicians in organizations which rely on computer systems to design and manage information.	\$33,906 - \$74,643
<b>Information Technology - Technical Support</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	Careers in systems maintenance, troubleshooting, support, training, business applications design and implementation; opportunities for advancement and skill building, often through employer-sponsored training.	\$33,087 - \$68,680
<b>Information Technology - Web Designer</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	The ability to develop and maintain professional, high-quality websites; proficient in HTML, CSS, JavaScript, web analytics; occupations include webmaster, user experience specialist, web designer, analyst, and support specialist; work in a wide variety of industries or as a freelance web designer.	\$50,000 - \$70,000
<b>Information Technology - Web Developer</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	The development of high-quality websites, including web application components; proficient in HTML, CSS, JavaScript, jQuery, ASP.NET, PHP, web analytics, content management systems; careers include programmer, web developer, web content developer, webmaster, and web analyst.	\$50,000 - \$85,000
<b>Interior Design</b>	<b>AAS</b>	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.	\$23,691 - \$44,862
<b>Lateral Entry Teaching</b>	<b>C</b>	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 must have a bachelor's degree and meet additional criteria.	\$37,710 - \$41,760
<b>Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)</b>	<b>D</b>	Employment as an MRI technologist who uses magnetic energy fields to produce images of the human body in health care facilities; eligibility to take the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) examination for certification and registration.	\$54,184 - \$67,600
<b>Mechanical Engineering Technology</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	Employment as a mechanical technician, assisting in the design, development, testing, and repair of mechanical equipment for manufacturing, fabrication, research and development; careers involving skills to design, invent, and troubleshoot products.	\$34,155 - \$47,036
<b>Medical Assisting</b>	<b>AAS, D</b>	A career as a health care professional who performs administrative, clinical, and laboratory procedures in physicians' offices and hospitals; eligibility to sit for the American Association of Medical Assistants Certification Examination - CMA (AAMA).	\$27,758 - \$34,652
<b>Medical Laboratory Technology</b>	<b>AAS</b>	Careers performing laboratory procedures used in the diagnosis and treatment of disease; work in hospitals, laboratories, and research facilities; eligibility for National Certification exam by the Board of Certification of the American Society for Clinical Pathology.	\$35,692 - \$57,720
<b>Medical Office Administration*</b>	<b>AAS, D, C</b>	Medical administrative support positions including medical records clerk, insurance specialist, and patient services representative; workplaces include healthcare facilities, insurance billing offices, labs, and manufacturers of medical equipment.	\$25,000 - \$36,400
<b>Mission Critical Operations</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	Performing repairs and maintenance of mechanical and electrical equipment for critical data storage, manufacturing, and information processing; careers involving skills to recognize, diagnose, and troubleshoot threats to critical operations of 24-hour facilities and operations.	\$36,700 - \$51,000
<b>Nursing, Associate Degree</b>	<b>AAS</b>	A career as a registered nurse, upon successful completion of the National Council Licensure Exam (NCLEX); workplaces include hospitals, long-term care facilities, clinics, physicians' offices, industry, and community agencies.	\$43,347 - \$68,430
<b>Office Administration</b>	<b>AAS, D, C</b>	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>	<b>C</b>	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>	<b>AAS, D</b>	Employment as pharmacy technicians who assist licensed pharmacists; work in medication compounding, specialty and medication therapy management pharmacies, and hospitals; eligibility to take the national Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam.	\$20,640 - \$54,932
<b>Phlebotomy</b>	<b>C</b>	Careers in the field of phlebotomy, obtaining and transporting blood and other specimens for laboratory analysis; eligibility for national certification as a phlebotomy technician; work in hospitals, clinics, laboratories, and other health care settings.	\$26,728 - \$34,049
<b>Plumbing</b>	<b>D,C</b>	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.	\$29,076 - \$48,682
<b>Radiography</b>	<b>AAS</b>	A career as a radiographer, who uses radiation to produce images of the human body; work in hospitals, clinics, or physicians' offices; eligibility to take the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists' national exam for certification.	\$40,684 - \$60,944
<b>Simulation and Game Development</b>	<b>AAS, D, C</b>	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 - \$78,000
<b>Supply Chain Management/ Distribution Management</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	Logistics positions that include warehousing, distribution, materials management, transportation, and logistics analysis; employers include government agencies, manufacturing, retail, and service organizations	\$31,000 - \$50,000
<b>Supply Chain Management/ Global Logistics Technology</b>	<b>AAS, C</b>	Careers involving the production, movement, and distribution of materials and goods around the globe; employers include government agencies, manufacturing, retail, and service organizations	\$31,000 - \$50,000
<b>Surgical Technology</b>	<b>D</b>	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.	\$34,049 - \$44,824
<b>Therapeutic Massage</b>	<b>D</b>	Occupations providing client care through therapeutic massage; workplaces include medical practices, athletic settings, spas, and private practices; eligibility to take the MBLEx and apply for a North Carolina license.	\$30,534 - \$54,600
<b>Welding Technology</b>	<b>AAS, D, C</b>	Jobs in the welding and metalworking industry; employment as an entry-level technician in construction, manufacturing, fabrication, sales, and quality control environments.	\$30,447 - \$40,255

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



# Matters of the Heart

## How Foundation Scholarships Change Lives

The Wake Tech Foundation serves students by providing scholarships that help them continue with their education – and realize their dreams.



Christine Bonaventure is a 41-year-old mother of three who enrolled in Wake Tech's nursing program in 2014 in pursuit of a new career. She was working as a science teacher but wanted to enter the medical field. Wake Tech offered the nursing education she sought along with affordable tuition and flexible scheduling: "Wake Tech had what I needed!"

**Foundation scholarships provide crucial support for students in need as well as for those with outstanding academics. The scholarships offset tuition costs and can relieve the considerable stresses of managing school, work, and family.**



Wake Tech has more than 71,000 students and a great many of these students depend on scholarships to make it through. That's where your support can make a real difference! Your gift to the Wake Tech Foundation can help a student graduate, start on a career pathway, and become a contributing member of our community.

Help make dreams come true.  
Give a scholarship gift today!

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She dedicated herself to Wake Tech's nursing program, but balancing life as a working mother and student was a struggle that became overwhelming. Christine reached her lowest point and even tried to end her life before finding help. With counseling, Christine got better. She thought withdrawing from college was the only way to get back on her feet financially and avoid greater debt. Then, an advisor told her about the Wake Tech Foundation. "I just went for it," Christine says. "I thought scholarships were just for younger people!"

Foundation scholarships provide crucial support for students in need as well as for those with outstanding academics. The scholarships offset tuition costs and can relieve the considerable stresses of managing school, work, and family. Christine received two scholarship awards – enabling her to focus on the education she needed to change her life. Christine tells others, "It's okay to cry and feel frustrated. Be human – know when you have to take a step back and re-focus. But go ahead and see what you can get done. Wake Tech doesn't want you to fail!"

Christine is a health professional now! She graduated in May 2016 and quickly found a job as a cardiac nurse at Duke Raleigh Hospital. Christine plans to continue her education at UNC-Chapel Hill. She already has a bachelor's degree in environmental science; now she wants to pursue a master's in nursing. Her goal is to work as a Family Nurse Practitioner in an ER or trauma center.

She reached another milestone when she was invited to tell her story on a national stage – as she introduced former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, during a presidential campaign visit to Wake Tech! The experience, she says, was "surreal." Clinton was impressed and met with Christine and her children after the rally. Christine says several women from the audience also lined up to speak with her backstage. "I was humbled and honored," she says. "Hillary came to me with open arms and was very warm. I wasn't expecting that!"

Christine is thriving now, and looking forward to her future. Her friends and family are incredibly proud of all that she's accomplished.

Foundation scholarships can indeed be life changing. To learn more about scholarship opportunities, or to establish a scholarship for a deserving student, visit [foundation.waketech.edu](http://foundation.waketech.edu).

**"It's okay to cry and feel frustrated. Be human – know when you have to take a step back and re-focus. But go ahead and see what you can get done. Wake Tech doesn't want you to fail!"**



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# FIND yourself.

*"I could have been just another high school dropout. Wake Tech gave me the confidence and skills to pursue the career I've always wanted. My dreams are coming true!"*

*-Heather Leah, Class of 2007*

Heather wanted to save the world but was told her goals were unrealistic. After dropping out of high school, she came to Wake Tech and found the support she needed. Now she's a graduate, a successful published author, and the co-founder of a nonprofit that connects young people to community service.

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#FindYourself



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