# NCCareers.org

# Let's go exploring, Career Exploring!

Chi Wong

NC Department of Commerce, LEAD



What does the Labor and Economic Analysis

Division Do?

Data Collection & Production (incl. Unemployment Rates)

Industry Establishments & Jobs

Occupational Employment & Wages

Labor Market Data Production Economic & Policy Analysis

**Employment Projections** 

Star Jobs

LMI Tools & Publications

Economic Development Reports (e.g. County Tier Designations)

Big Data Analysis

**Program Evaluation** 

Common Follow-up
System (NCTOWER.com)

Big Data
Analysis &
Research

Publications & Websites

Online & Print Publications

Dashboards

(Analytics.NCcommerce.com)

Data Access Tools (D4.Nccommerce.com,

NCcareers.org)



# Career Exploring and Planning

... a series of steps to help clarify and determine shortand long-term career goals.





## Reasons to Explore & Plan

- Provides flexibility, motivation and accountability.
- Prepare to take advantage of an opportunity.
- Understand Options.
- Something to refer to when a setback occurs.

## **Excuses not to Explore & Plan**

- I don't have time.
- I know what I want to do.
- That's for students? I am in the workforce!
- I want to be able to take advantage of any opportunities that arise.
- I don't know how.



# Why create NCcareers?

- Multiple sources for Career Information
  - Much time spend bouncing between sources
  - Expense
- Alignment of education and occupations
- Capture information for future use
  - For educators
  - For students/job seekers
- Unequal access





























## Reach for the stars!



Discover the latest data on nearly 800 occupations



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Privacy Policy | Terms Of Use

#### **Governance Committee**









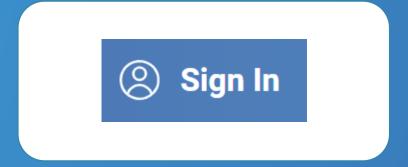




**Advisory Board** 







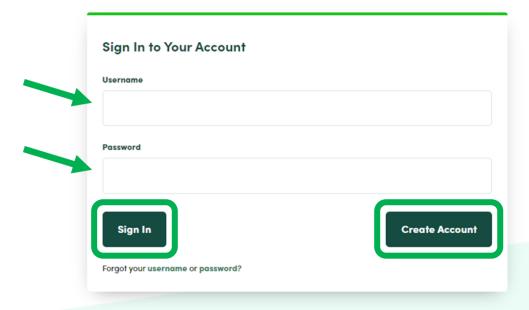
# Create a free account

Not required for access!





### CFNC NCcareers org



Your CFNC login will give you access to our full family of resources to plan, apply, pay, and save for college.







# **Account Creation**

- Powered by CFNC
- Use current CFNC credentials
- Not required for access!
- Free for all users
- Save
  - Assessment Results
  - Favorite Occupations and more!



# **CFNC Professional Tools**



Features vary depending on permissions, but include:

- Identify students connected to your school.
- Career Reports for reviewing NCcareers and CFNC career assessment results
- Custom Reports
- Administration for creating bulk accounts and managing permissions

http://Protoolshelp.CFNC.org



# Log in with NC Works

Two ways to sign in. Use your CFNC account or NCWorks account to sign into NCcareers.org





Choose this to sign in using your CFNC account or to create a new account. You will be redirected to CFNC to sign in.



Choose this to sign in using your NCWorks account.

















What skills are your strongest

Identify Holland Codes

Which Career Clusters match activities, interests and academic



Are you ready to "Be Your Own Boss"

**EY** 

What do you truly value in a job















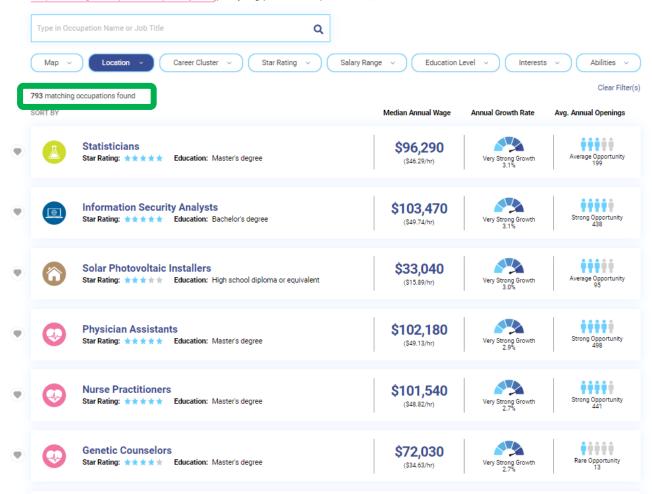
# **Explore Occupations Table**

793 Occupations



#### **Occupations**

Search for an occupation from nearly 800 job titles or browse the fastest growing jobs in North Carolina. Filter and sort results by: location, career cluster, star rating (a composite rating of occupations computed by LEAD), salary range, education level, interests and/or abilities.



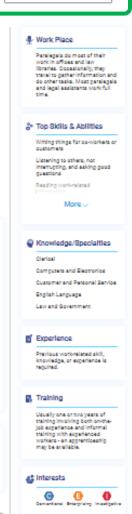


# **Occupation Profile Page**

- All data in one place
- Links to additional information
- Can mark as a favorite or print
- Can change geography



Paralegals and Legal Assistants \*\*\*\*\*



Hickory



# Why is Geography important?

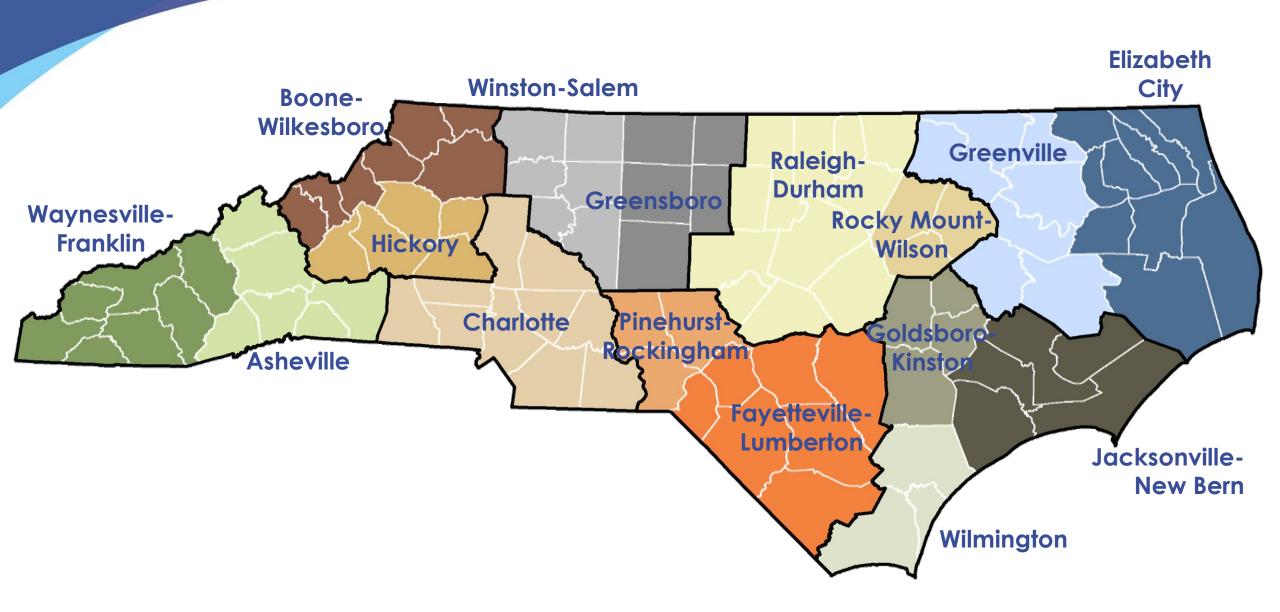
Understand what is going on in your area!

Economies are regional:

- Wages
- Demand
- Growth



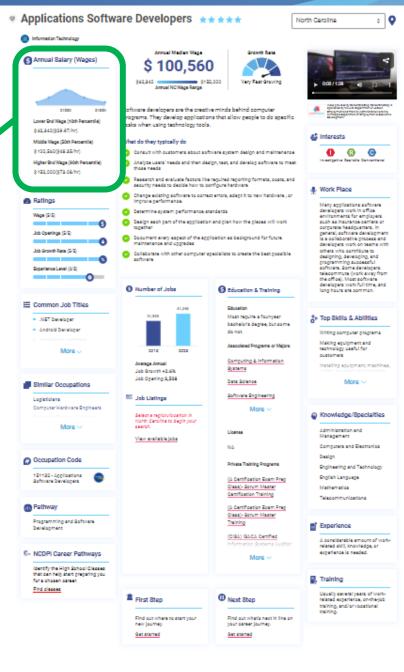






# How much does it pay?





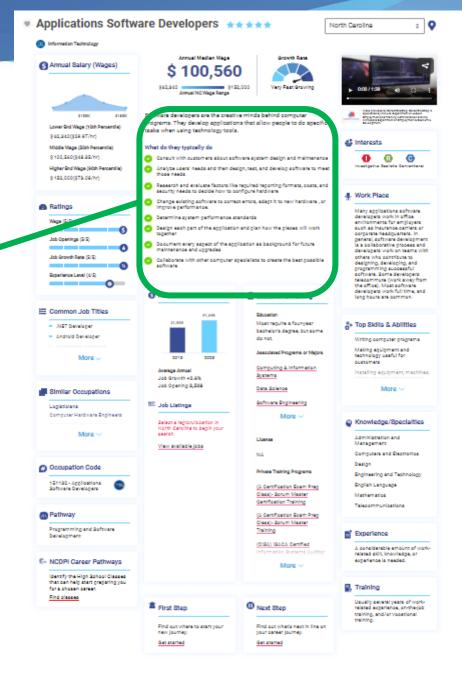


# What does this occupation do?

Software developers are the creative minds behind computer programs. They develop applications that allow people to do specific tasks when using technology tools.

#### What do they typically do

- Consult with customers about software system design and maintenance
- Analyze users' needs and then design, test, and develop software to meet those needs
- Research and evaluate factors like required reporting formats, costs, and security needs to decide how to configure hardware
- Change existing software to correct errors, adapt it to new hardware, or improve performance.
- Determine system performance standards
- Design each part of the application and plan how the pieces will work together
- Document every aspect of the application as background for future maintenance and upgrades
- Collaborate with other computer specialists to create the best possible software





Is this a good long-term prospect?





Information Technology

Lower End Wage (10th Percentile)

Middle Wage (50th Percentile)

Higher End Wage (90th Percentile) 8192,000(979.09/hr)

9 60 940/929 97/hrt

8 100,560(968.95/hr)

Ratings

Job Openings (S/S)

Job Growth Rana (S/S)

Experience Level (6/2)

Common Job Titles

NET beveloper

North Carolina

₫\$ Interests

Work Place

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Many applications software developers work in office

environments for employers

auch as insurance carriers or corporate headquarters. In

others who contribute to

designing, developing, and programming audoessful software. Some developers

the office). Most software developers work full time, and

long hours are common.

🏞 Top Skills & Abilities

outtomers.

Writing computer programs Making equipment and technology useful for

Installing equipment, machines,

More 9

general, coftware development is a collaborative process and developers work on teams with

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(Mages) \$ 100,560



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- Collaborate with other computer appointing to greate the best gozelble



Number of Jobs

Average Armuel Job Growth +2.6%

Similar Occupations

More v

Logisticians Computer Hardware Engineers

More ~

Occupation Code

Software Developers

Pathway Programming and Software Development

6- NCDPI Career Pathways Identify the High School Classes that can help start preparing you for a chosen career.

Find placeas

#### @ Education & Training

Job Opening 9,588

III Job Listings

Salact a region/location in North Carolina to begin your

View available jobs

Most require a four-year bachelor's degree, but some

> Associated Programs or Majore Computing & Information

Systems Data Solence

Software Engineering

More ~

Private Training Programs

(à Certification Exam Prep Class)- Sorum Master Certification Training (A Certification Exam Preg Class)-Sorum Master

Training (CISS) ISSCS Certified

More ~

#### Knowledge/Specialties

Management Computers and Electronics Design

Engineering and Technology English Language

Mathematics

Telepommunications

#### Experience

A considerable amount of workexperience is needed.

#### Training

Usually several years of work-related experience, on-the-job training, and/or vocational

First Step

Find out where to start your new Journey.

Senaramed

(I) Next Step Find out what's next in line on your career journey.

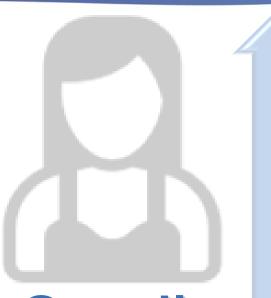
Gen started





# Average Wage

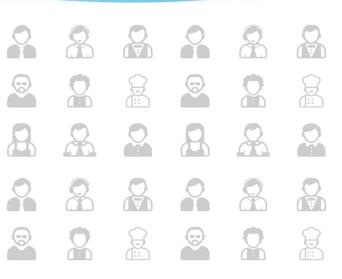




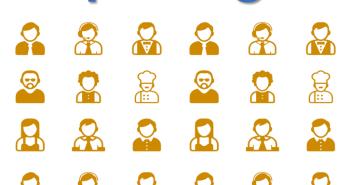
Growth Rate







# # of Job Openings





## Is this a good long-term prospect?







#### Applications Software Developer

Information Technology (Mages)

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Middle Wage (50th Percentile)

Higher End Wage (90th Percentile) 8192,000(979.09/hr)

9 60 940/929 97/hrt

8100,560(948.95/hr)

Job Countings (S/S)

Job Growth Rate (S/S)

Experience Level (6/2)

Common Job Titles

NET beveloper

North Carolina

÷ 0

Very Fast Growing



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\$ 100,560

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- Document every aspect of the application as background for future
- Collaborate with other computer appointing to greate the best possible

Average Armuel Job Growth +2.6% Job Opening 9,508

Logisticians Computer Hardware Engineers

More ~

Occupation Code

191199 - Applications Software Developers

Programming and Software Development

Pathway

6- NCDPI Career Pathways Identify the High School Classes that can help start preparing you for a chosen career.

Find placeas

#### G Education & Training

Most require a four-year

bachelor's degree, but some

Associated Programs or Majore

Computing & Information

Software Engineering

More >

Systems

Data Solence

Select a region/location in North Carolina to begin your

View available jobs

Private Training Programs (à Certification Exam Prep

Class)-Sorum Master Certification Training (A Certification Exam Prep Class)-Sorum Master

Training (CISS) ISSCS Certified

More >

(I) Next Step

Find out where to start your new Journey. Get started

First Step

Find out what's next in line on your career journey Get started



#### ₫\$ Interests





#### Work Place

Many applications software developers work in office environments for employers auch as incurance carriers or corporate headquarters. In general, software development is a collaborative process and developers work on teams with others who contribute to designing, developing, and programming successful software. Some developers telecommute (work away from the office). Most software developers work full time, and long hours are common.

#### 🏞 Top Skills & Abilities

#### Writing computer programs

Making equipment and technology useful for ougramers

Installing equipment, machines,

#### More >

#### Knowledge/Specialties

Management

Computers and Electronics Design

Engineering and Technology

English Language Mathematics

Telepommunications

#### Experience

A considerable amount of workexperience is needed.

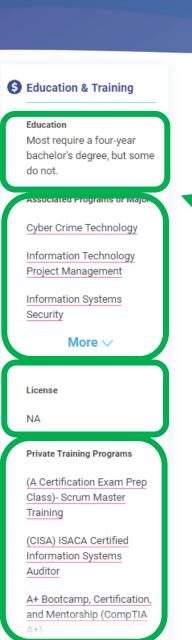
#### Training

Usually several years of work-related experience, on-the-job training, and/or vocational



## What education do I need?

## Where can I go for it?



More ~

■ Information Security Analysts ★★★★★ Ratings Wage (5/5) Pathway

Information Technology (Wages) Lower End Wage (10th Percentile) \$61,450(\$29.55/hr) Middle Wage (50th Percentile) \$103,470(\$49.74/hr) Higher End Wage (90th Percentile) \$151.500(\$72.84/hr) Job Openings (4/5) Job Growth Rate (5/5) Experience Level (4/5) ■ Common Job Titles More V Similar Occupations Health and Safety Engineers Industrial Engineering Technicians Claims Adjusters, Examiners, and @ Occupation Code Network Systems MCDPI Career Pathways Identify the High School Classes that can help start preparing you for a chosen career. Find classes

Information security analysts plan and carry out security measures to protect an organization's computer networks and systems. Their responsibilities are continually expanding as the number of cyberattacks increase. What do they typically do Research the latest information technology (IT) security trends Monitor organizations' networks for security breaches and investigate a violation when one occurs Recommend security enhancements to management or senior IT staff Conduct penetration testing, which is when analysts simulate attacks to Develop security standards and best practices for their organization Prepare reports that document security breaches and the extent of the Help plan and carry out an organization's way of handling security Install and use software, such as firewalls and data encryption programs Number of Jobs **™** Job Listings Select a region/location in View available jobs Tirst Step

Very East Growing

North Carolina

# Conventional Investigative Realistic

Work Place Many information security analysts work with other members of an information technology department, such as network administrators or computer systems analysts. Very few information security analysts are self-employed. sometimes have to be on call outside of normal business hours in case of an emergency

at their work place. Top Skills & Abilities Writing computer programs Making equipment and technology useful for customers

Knowledge/Specialties

Computers and Electronics

Education and Training Engineering and Technology

Public Safety and Security

A considerable amount of work-

related skill, knowledge, or experience is needed.

Telecommunications

English Language

Customer and Personal Service

Administration and

Associated Programs or Majors Figuring out what a product or

Cyber Crime Technology

Most require a four-year

bachelor's degree, but some

S Education & Training

Project Management

Information Systems Security

Private Training Programs

(A Certification Exam Prep Class)- Scrum Master

(CISA) ISACA Certified Information Systems Auditor

A+ Bootcamp, Certification, and Mentorship (CompTIA

More >

Next Step

Find out what's next in line on your career journey

Get started

Experience

Hsually several years of workrelated experience, on-the-job training, and/or vocational



# How can I prepare to work in this occupation?

#### Con Top Skills & Abilities

Writing computer programs

Making equipment and technology useful for customers

Installing equipment, machines, wiring, or computer programs

Figuring out what a product or service needs to be able to do

Figuring out what is causing equipment, machines, wiring, or computer programs to not work

Measuring how well a system is working and how to improve it

Figuring out how a system should work and how changes in the future will affect it

Using scientific rules and strategies to solve problems

Using math to solve problems

Testing how well a product or service works

#### Knowledge/Specialties

Administration and Management

Computers and Electronics

Design

Engineering and Technology

English Language

Mathematics

Telecommunications



















# What Can I do with My Education? What occupations did your education prepare you for?









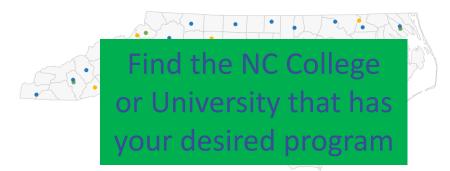






# Find additional training opportunities

### **Program Locator**

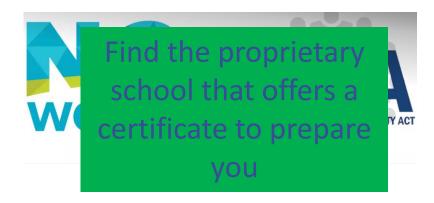








## **Find Private Training**



















# How can an adult use NC careers to identify a potential career path?

4ge: 28

# John

Situation:

John has been working as a pharmacy technician for the last seven years. Through radio advertisements and flyers, he has been informed that commercial truck drivers can make upwards of \$100,000 shortly after hire, if not immediately. He is interested in changing careers as soon as possible.

How can he use NCcareers.org to help plan for his future?





# "What does it take to be a truck driver?"



Find My Interests



Explore Occupations



Plan My Career



Education & Training

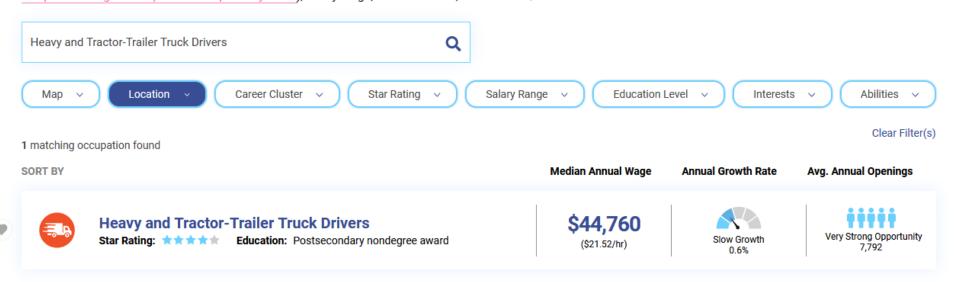


Job Search



#### **Occupations**

Search for an occupation from nearly 800 job titles or browse the fastest growing jobs in North Carolina. Filter and sort results by: location, career cluster, star rating (a composite rating of occupations computed by LEAD), salary range, education level, interests and/or abilities.



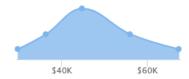
Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers transport goods from one location to another. Most of them are long-haul drivers whose trucks can carry more than 26,000 pounds. These drivers deliver goods between cities and sometimes between states.

#### What do they typically do

- Keep a log of their activities
- Drive long distances
- Secure cargo for transport, using ropes, blocks, chain, binders, or covers
- Inspect their trailer before and after the trip, and record any defects they find
- Keep their truck and associated equipment clean and in good working order
- Follow all applicable traffic laws
- Report serious mechanical problems to the appropriate personnel
- Report to a dispatcher any incidents encountered on the road

# Learn about the Occupation

#### S Annual Salary (Wages)



Lower End Wage (10th Percentile)

\$29,710(\$14.28/hr)

Middle Wage (50th Percentile)

\$44,760(\$21.52/hr)

Wigner End Wage (90th Percentile)

\$67,460(\$32.43/hr)

#### 4

#### **Work Place**

Working as a long-haul truck driver is a major lifestyle choice because these drivers can be away from home for days or weeks at a time. They spend much of this time alone. Truck driving can be a physically demanding job too. Driving for many hours in a row can be tiring, and some drivers must load and unload cargo. Drivers may not work more than 14 straight hours with no more than 11 hours of that time spent driving. Between working periods, drivers must have at least 10 hours off duty. Truck drivers often work nights, weekends, and holidays.



#### Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers ★★★★



# Good opportunity?



#### Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers

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naportation, Distribution, and Logistics

Lower End Wage (10th Percentile)

Middle Wage (50th Percentile)

Higher End Wage (90th Percentile)

\$29,710(\$14.28/hr)

\$ 64,760(\$21.52/hr)

\$67,460(\$32.43/hr)

Ratings

Ween (2/5)

Job Countries (5/5)

Job Growth Rate (2/5)

Experience Level (2/5)

O Annual Salary (Wages) \$ 44,7



between cities and sometimes between states.



Growing Growing

North Carolina

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What do they typically do

Keep a log of their activities
 Drive long distances

Secure cargo for transport, using ropes, blocks, chain, binders, or covers

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Keep their truck and associated equipment clean and in good working

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can carry more than 26,000 pounds. These drivers deliver goods

Follow all applicable traffic laws

Report serious mechanical problems to the appropriate personnel

Report to a dispatcher any incidents encountered on the road

Number of Jobs

2018

Average Annual

Q Job Listings

First Step

new Journey.

Get started

Select a region/location in North Carolina to begin your

View evallable jobs on indeed

WE View evallable jobs

#### COMMON SOS TRACES

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Alrcroft Refueler

Auto Corrier Driver

Job Growth +0.6% Job Opening 7,792

Similar P upations

and Dragline Operators

Rail Car Repairers

More V

Occupation Code

Tractor Trailer Tr Drivers

Pathway

Transportation Operations

6 NCDPI Career Pathways

Identify the High School Classes that can help start preparing you for a chosen career.

Find cleases

#### Education & Training

Education

These occupations usually require a high school diplome.

Associated Programs or Majora

Truck Oriver Training (Certificate)

.....

Motor Cerrier's: Of Exemption To Transport Household Goods

Commercial Driver License (Class A, 8 or C)

House Movers

More ∨

Private Training Programs

COL Class A Truck Oriver Training

CDL Class & Truck Driver Training

Troller

More ∨

Find out where to stort your Fin

Find ou your co

(B) Next Step

Find out what's next in line on your career journey.
Get started

Work Place

Interests

6

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🖧 Top Skills & Abilities

Repairing machines or systems using the right tools

Pleaning and doing the deal

Using equipment or systems

More 🗸

Knowledge/Specialties

Customer and Personal Service
Machanical

Public Sefety and Security Transportation

Experience

Some previous work-related skill, knowledge, or experience to usually needed.

Training

Anywhere from a few months to one year of working with experienced employees - on apprenticeable may be evel able.

## Where to get training?

#### Education & Training

#### Education

These occupations usually require a high school diploma.

#### Associated Programs or Majors

Truck Driver Training (Certificate)

License

Motor Carrier's- Of Exemption
To Transport Household
Goods

Commercial Driver License (Class A, B or C)

House Mover

More V

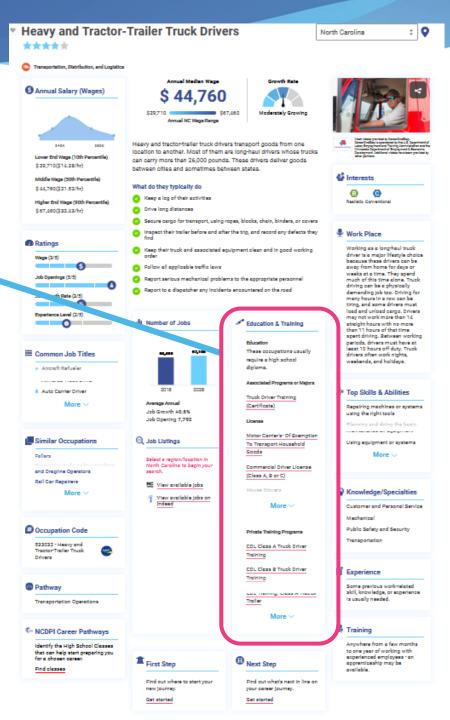
#### Private Training Programs

CDL Class A Truck Driver Training

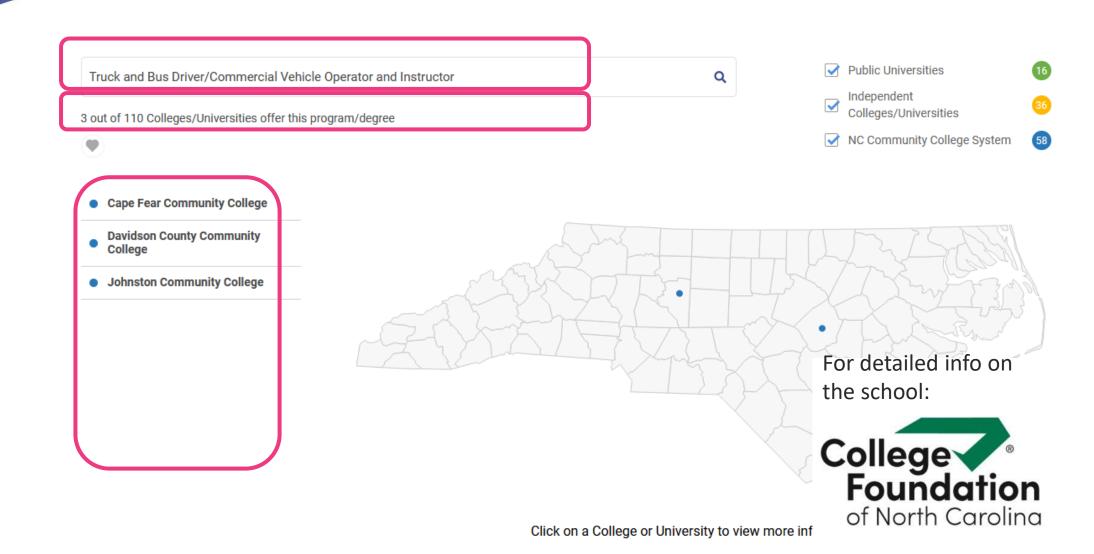
CDL Class B Truck Driver Training

Trailer Class A Tractor

More ~

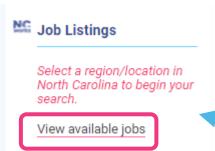








## Who is hiring?

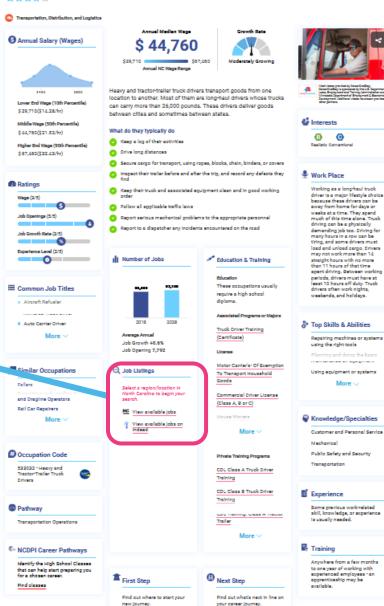




North Carolina

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#### Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers

Find classes



Find out where to start your

new journey.

Get storted

: Q

evelleble.

Find out what's next in line on

your career journey.

Get started



### "What else could I consider?"



Find My Interests



Explore Occupations



Plan My Career



Education & Training



Job Search



Start Planning Next Step First Step What Can I Do With My Education?





Find out what's next in line on your career journey, or find out where to start your new journey.

Pharmacy Technician

Q

**Pharmacy Technicians** 

This tool can help you understand a next step in your career journey. The circle at the bottom left represents your current job. The circles on the right of the chart are jobs that have similar job skills and job duties but typically pay more. They may also require you to gain additional education or skills.



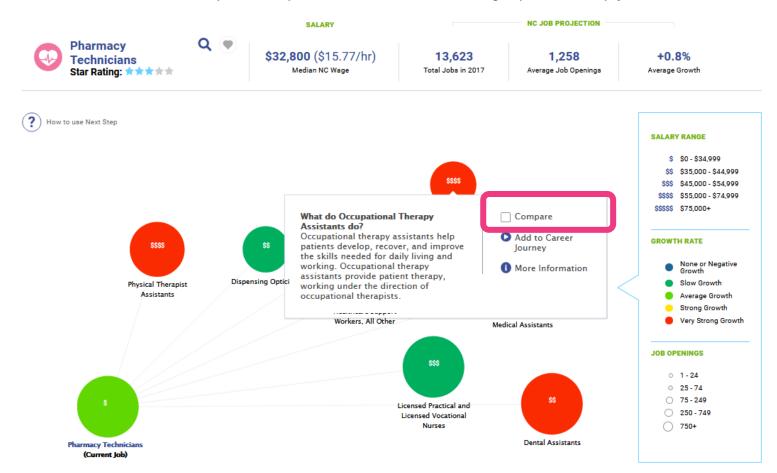
Click on a bubble to learn more about an occupation or to compare it to others. Additional information including comparison data are displayed in a table below.



**Compare Occupations** 



Click on a bubble to learn more about an occupation or to compare it to others. Additional information including comparison data are displayed in a table below.



**Compare Occupations** 



## To view Occupation Profile

#### **Compare Occupations**

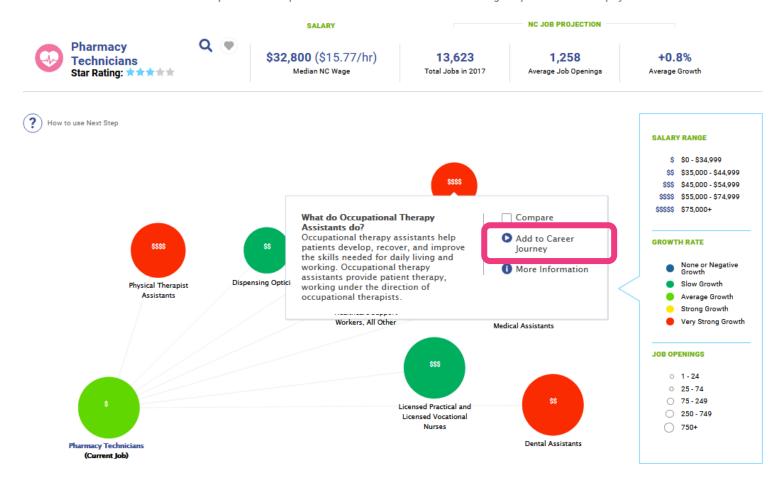








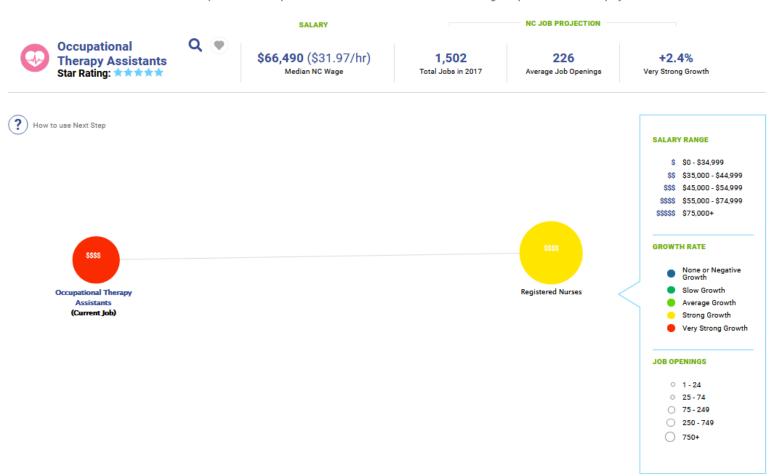
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**Compare Occupations** 



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### "What else could I consider?"





Explore Occupations



Plan My Career



Education & Training



Job Search



Reality Check

Interest Finder

Career Cluster Match

Be Your Own Boss

Skills Matcher

Work Values Sorter



GET STARTED

Uncover which Career Clusters match your combination of work, skill, and academic interests.

Estimated completion time: 10 - 20 minutes.

#### **About Career Cluster Match**

The National Career Clusters Framework identifies 16 career clusters and related career pathways that are designed to grow career awareness and exploration. Career Clusters are groups of occupations in the same field of work that require similar skills. Each cluster contains several smaller groups called career Pathways that connect to educational programs, industries, and jobs. While a Career Cluster paints a broad picture of a group of occupations, a Pathway helps you focus on and develop a clear, more informed, educational plan over time.

The Career Cluster Match was adapted and produced with permission from the Career Academic Connections Division of the Oklahoma Department of Career Tech. This survey does not make any claims of statistical reliability and has not been normed. It is intended for use as a guidance tool to generate discussion regarding careers and is valid for that purpose.

## Identify favorite Career Clusters



Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources



**Education & Training** 

Hospitality & Tourism





Architecture & Construction





**Human Services** 





Arts, A/V Technology & Communications



**Government & Public** Administration



Information Technology



Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics



**Business Management &** Administration



**Health Science** 

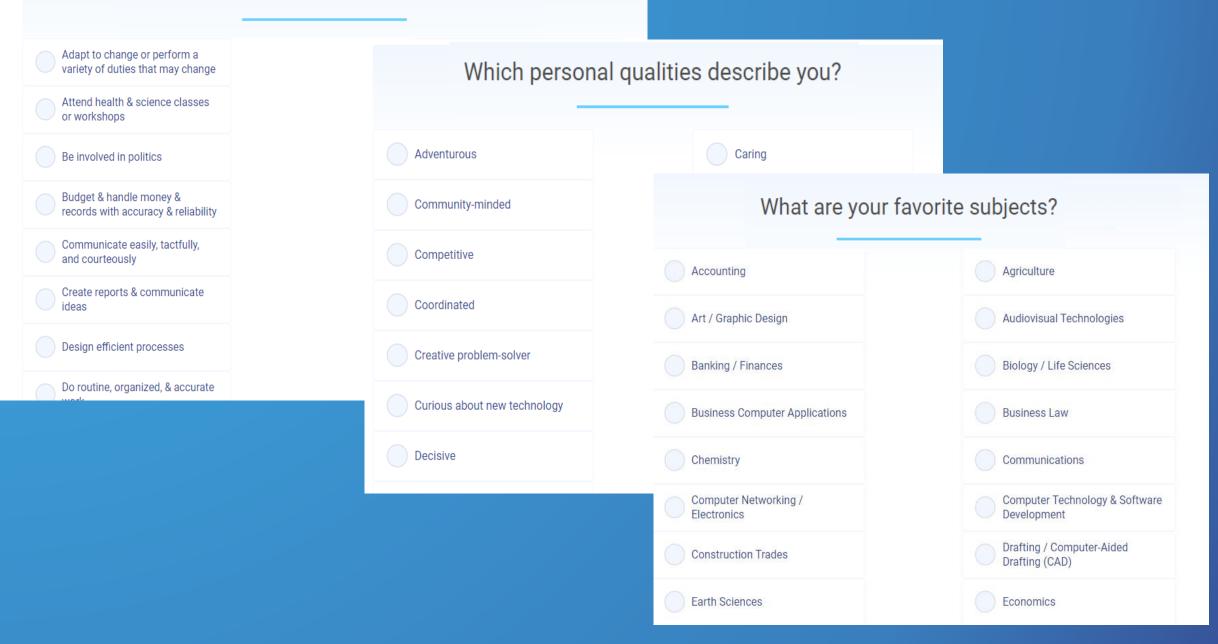


Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security



Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

#### What activities do you like to do?





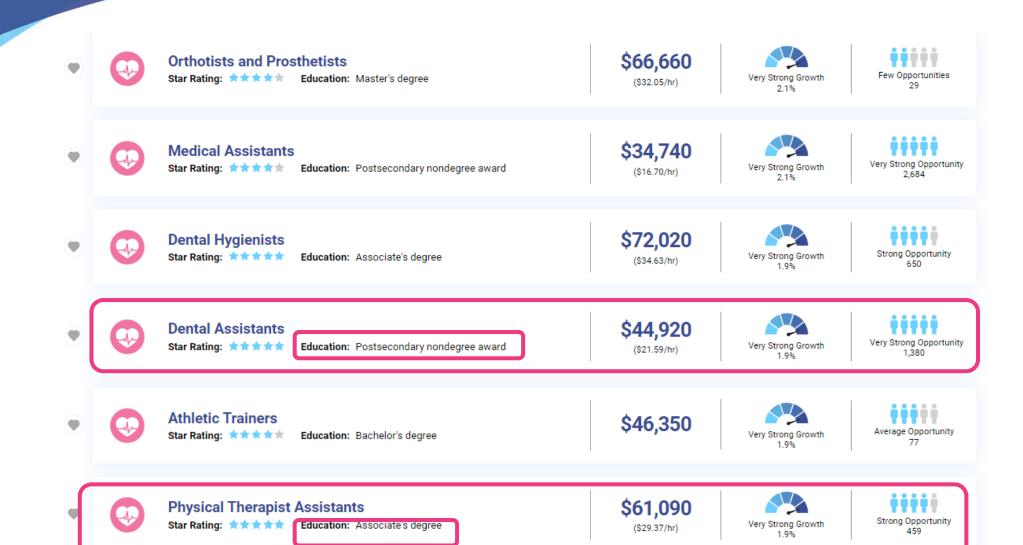
#### **Cluster Match Results**



Select a Career Cluster below to learn more about that cluster. Select a pathway to view the occupations in that field, their wages,growth potential, and job requirements.

SCORE	CAREER CLUSTER	CAREER PATHWAY	
14	Health Science	Support Services     Diagnostics Services     Biotechnology Research and Development	<ul><li>Therapeutic Services</li><li>Health Informatics</li></ul>
7	Government and Public Administration	Governance     Planning     Regulation	<ul><li>National Security</li><li>Public Management and Administration</li><li>Revenue and Taxation</li></ul>
7	Human Services	Early Childhood Development and Services     Counseling and Mental Health Services     Personal Care Services	Consumer Services     Family and Community Services
7	Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security	Security and Protective Services     Emergency and Fire Management Services     Legal Services	Correction Services     Law Enforcement Services
7	Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics	Transportation Operations Logistics Planning and Management Services Transportation Systems/Infrastructure Planning	<ul> <li>Facility and Mobile Equipment Maintenance</li> <li>Sales and Service</li> </ul>
6	Information Technology	Network Systems     Programming and Software Development	<ul><li>Information Support Services</li><li>Web and Digital Communications</li></ul>





# How can I help my faculty/staff bring NCcareers into the curriculum?



## Career Development Lesson Plans

- 66 Unique lesson plans and activities
- Download and edit for your needs
- Written for grade levels:
  - Late Elementary/Middle School
  - High School
  - Post Secondary





## Career Development Lesson Plans

Click on Educator Resources link in Footer





#### Lesson Plan Topics include:

- Overview
- Reality Check
- Interest Finder
- Career Cluster Match
- Be Your Own Boss
- Skills Matcher
- Work Values Sorter
- I didn't know this existed
- O What Can I do with that Education?
- Common Job Titles
- Similar Occupations
- What's the Future of my Occupation?
- Career Planning Resources
- Getting a Job

#### By Topic By Grade About the Lesson Plans

Ψ)

Click on a link to download the Microsoft PowerPoint (.pptx) or PDF file.

#### Overview of Site

Lesson Plan	Activity # 1	Activity # 2		
Conversation Starter (4-12 Grade)				
Overview (4-5 Grade)	WebQuest Fillable Worksheet	WebQuest Printable Worksheet		
Overview (6-8 Grade)	WebQuest Fillable Worksheet	WebQuest Printable Worksheet		
Overview (9-12 Grade)	WebQuest Fillable Worksheet	WebQuest Printable Worksheet		
Overview Post Secondary	Exploratory Questions Post Secondary Worksheet			

#### Reality Check

Lesson Plan	Activity # 1	Activity # 2	
Reality Check (4-5)	Reality Check Worksheet		
Reality Check (6-8)			
Reality Check (9-12)	Venn Diagram Worksheet		
Reality Check Post Secondary			
Reality Check Results (4-8)	Reality Check Results Percentage Worksheet	Reality Check Results Percentage Worksheet	

#### Interest Finder

Lesson Plan	Activity # 1	Activity # 2		
Interest Finder (4-5)	The Holland Codes Worksheet			
Interest Finder (6-8)				
Interest Finder (9-12)				
Interest Finder Post Secondary				



**N**Ccareers

45-60 min

Grades PS

#### Overview

#### LEARNING OUTCOMES

Provide a broad overview of the NCcareers.org site so students understand and are able to apply:

- . The information that is housed on the site
- . The ways that the information can be used in their career search

#### INTRODUCTION

Instructor allows time (10 minutes) for students to explore the NCcareers site. After, students should only note what stands out and what they question. Instructor leads a whole class discussion about the importance of utilizing career sites as part of the planning process.

#### **ACTIVITY**

Unpack NCcareers Overview. Create a discussion forum (Moodle, Canvas, or other Learning Management System) discuss each section with review questions.

Sample questions

#### WRAP UP/DISCUSSION/REFLECTION

Instructor will have students reflect on the activity. The notes that students took will be used throughout the semester in career planning and other related projects.

#### DIRECTIONS

Explore how targeted career planning can assist in planning future endeavors (academic, internships, and job search)?

#### **How to Access NCcareers**

Step 1: Go to NCcareers.org

Step 2: Go through links to see what information is housed on the

Step 3: Makes notes of interesting information and outstanding questions

Sign in and save results: CFNC



## What if my students have limited/no internet access?

### NCcareers.org

## North Carolina Career Exploration Guide



Your Resource for Career Clusters, Pathways and Occupations to help grow your future.

#### How to Use This Guide

Congratulations, you are taking the first step on a career exploration journey. This is a process for defining the next step in your work life.

Where you start a career journey varies depending on several factors like past work experience, knowledge of careers, and more. You can also go through the process several times throughout your working life as the job market changes or you develop new skills.



If you don't know a lot about jobs or are unsure of what you want to do, start by **Finding Your Interests**. During this self-assessment phase, use tools to understand your interests, values, salary needs and more. The results from these assessments can narrow potential occupations to a manageable number.



The Explore Occupations phase requires you to review information about individual occupations. This information addresses the long-term job outlook, salary, typical duties, minimum educational requirements, and more.



The third phase of your career journey is to **Plan Your Career**. This requires you to think about what job you want and how to get there. Within these pages you will find important resources to map out a career plan, discover information necessary for understanding the knowledge, experience, and skill requirements to get hired and build upon those to advance your career.



The next step is to act on that plan. This almost always means assessing your **Education & Training** options to meet job requirements or give you an advantage over other candidates. Here you will learn about higher education degrees and credentials offered at NC colleges and universities and options offered by private training providers.



The final step is to put this knowledge to use and start a **Job Search**. The job search section of this guide will tell you how to prepare for work. If you need help writing a resume, preparing for an interview, or tips to help you stand out as a candidate, you can find it in this section.



#### **Health Science**

Where do medical technologies and human touch intersect? They meet within the Health Science career cluster, which is a North Carolina and national growth industry. As the number of Americans over age 65 has grown and as more people survive serious injuries and other health issues, the need for healthcare has increased. If you want to work in a cluster that has strong job growth, this cluster may be for you. It is expected to include the greatest number of new jobs in North Carolina over the next 10 years and about one-third of the state's "hot jobs."

Hospitals or doctors' offices usually come to mind first when we think about healthcare workplaces, but home health care organizations and nursing homes also employ workers in this cluster. Some employees in this industry have 8-to-5 schedules, while others work less traditional shifts.

If you're thinking about a healthcare career, many jobs require good math and science skills. Jobs in this industry include a wide variety of educational backgrounds, ranging from medical degrees to many jobs that require less than four years of college.

#### CAREER RESEA

- · Council on Educati cephora
- · Academy of Nutriti eatright.org
- Johnson & Johnson Nursing discovernursing.co
- Association of Unix Health Administrati aupha.org/resourc futurestudents
- HOSA Future Heat hosalorg

Find more Science Occupations:

## CAREER PATHWAYS Health Science **Health Informatics Pathway**

#### CORE SKILLS

- Science
- · Service Orientation
- Social Perceptiveness
- Instructing

- Active Learning
- · Reading Comprehension
- Learning Strategies
- Active Listening

- Writing
- · Judgment and Decision Making

#### 25





#### Seham Alimusleh

Alamance Community College Dental Assistant

#### ng some patient. As

A: I have always loved going to the dentist as a kid and everyone was so nice. I have been a patient at the orthodontist for 3 years wearing braces. I have seen a lot and it was something I enjoyed.

Q: How did you decide to pursue your occupation?

#### Q: Why is the work you do important?

e with the information re the oviders.

#### cation?

am. I also r for my ir passing. perience. I

A: Most people have insecurities about their smile and I think helping them with these insecurities is important.

#### Q: What would interest others about your career choice?

A: Seeing the smile on your patients face after their appointment or after a big change they made to their

#### Q: What kind of training and education do you need

A: Hands-on training and practice at private practices.

#### **Setting Goals?**

Now that you have found your interests and explored occupations in the first two sections, the next step is to set some career goals.

Goals should not only be about identifying the job you want. but about how you plan to achieve it. Ultimately, this requires an understanding about how to grow your career. Growing in your career can be defined in several ways, including taking on additional

where you want to go. Setting goals has several benefits including: constantly giving guidance and direction, facilitation planning, motivation and inspiration as well as allowing for evaluation.

#### Where to get help with Goal Setting

No matter where you are in your career journey, there's someone here to help you.

#### Middle School or High School Students

Talk to your School Counselor or Career Development Coordinator (CDC).



SCHOOL COUNSELOR

Visit your school's career center.

Community College or

**University Students** 



COMMUNITY COLLEGE CAREER CENTER

Not Enrolled in School Visit your local NCWorks Career Center.



UNIVERSITY CAREER CENTER





#### **Education and Training**

North Carolina has a strong education and training system, which is important given how employers often seek to hire individuals with a certain level or type of education or training.

After high school, there are a variety of education and training options:

- North Carolina community colleges (58 public postsecondary institutions that offer education and training that generally takes two years or less to complete).
- Public UNC System colleges or universities (16 colleges/ universities offering four-year bachelor's degrees and a variety of advanced and professional degrees).
- Independent colleges or universities (private) postsecondary institutions that offer two-year degrees, four-year degrees, and/or advanced or professional. degrees).
- Other training providers.

It is important to have in mind what kind of careers you may want to pursue as you consider the postsecondary education or training path that is right for you.

Note that there are pathways between types of postsecondary education. For example, certain associate's degrees at community colleges are designed for students to transfer easily to a four-year college or university for their junior and senior years to earn a bachelor's degree. Also, some people who earn an academic degree (such as a bachelor's degree) may later obtain more specialized training or credentials for their chosen career in another postsecondary education or training program, at the same or another type of institution.

#### Community Colleges

Community colleges offer many different kinds of education and training options.

Here are some examples:

- · Academic programs leading to an academic credential (Certificate, Diploma,
- Some are designed to lead a student directly into the workforce after completion, such as Career and Technical Education programs.
- . Some associate's degree programs are designed for "College Transfer" to be able to transfer to another college or university, often to be able to complete a bachelor's degree.
- · Short-term workforce training (weeks or months of job training) to prepare for specific jobs, usually not for college credit, but often students earn an industry-recognized credential.
- Programs for those who have not yet earned their high school diploma to earn their high school diploma as an adult or take tests to earn their high school equivalency.
- · Programs for English Language Learners to learn English in order to pursue further education or training, or to have the language skills for the workplace.
- Entrepreneurship courses and business counseling.
- Apprenticeship programs, work-based learning courses, and other workbased or simulated work opportunities to understand what it is like to work in a specific field.
- · Dual enrollment programs (such as Career and College Promise) that enable high school students to take community college courses while still in high school.

On the following pages, several types of community college program areas are highlighted.

#### HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE TO EARN A CREDENTIAL?

Typical time to earn an academic credential from a Community College, if you're studying as a fulltime student:

- Certificate
- One semester
- Diploma

Two semesters plus summer session

Degree

- Associate in Applied Arts/ Science to prepare for employment
- OR
- Associate in Arts/Science to transfer to a four-year college/ university.



## **Career Exploration Guide**

Click on Educator Resources link in Footer



By Topic By Grade About the Lesson Plans

**Printables & Tools** 



#### **Printables**

Mini-Career Cluster Handbook

Career Cluster Re-Entry Guide

Career Cluster Military Guide

2018 NC Career Clusters Guide

**NCcareers At-A-Glance** 

2021 Star Jobs Brochures by Region

2021 Star Jobs Posters by Region (Small)

2021 Star Jobs Posters by Region (Large)

Educators can access student accounts with a ProTools account through CFNC.



### Why should I use NCcareers with clients and students?

- Access to reliable & NC specific information, all in one place.
- Ability to save information for later access.
  - For Students and Counselors
- Better alignment of education and occupational goals.
- Ability to be proactive, but also reactive.
- Access to online and offline resources.

