

Eastern Carolina WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, INC.



Serving the North Carolina Counties of Carteret, Craven, Duplin, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico and Wayne

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Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board Allocates \$3 million in Workforce Investment Act funds

Approximately 1,500 individuals will participate in training programs across the region in the high growth industry sectors

The Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, Inc. recently approved the use of over \$3 million in Workforce Investment Act funds in the region. The programs began on July 1, and funds will be used to pay for education and skills training for about 1,500 eligible residents within the nine-county region.

Applicants who qualify will receive training with funds allocated under the Workforce Investment Act and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and distributed by the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board. "Training proposals were selected based upon the service provider's experience and effectiveness in delivering high-quality employment and training opportunities that result in employment, job retention, and good earning potentials for jobs in demand in Eastern North Carolina", stated Tammy Childers, Executive Director of the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board. "Training needs and skill shortages have been identified in the high growth/demand areas of health care, education, child care, construction/skilled trades, emerging green jobs, aviation/aerospace, and advanced manufacturing", said Tammy Childers, Executive Director. There are a variety of training options available from employer delivered On-the-Job training programs, to training programs leading to a two-year college degree. For those individuals who are seeking training in a shorter timeframe, WIA funded training opportunities exist through the Governor's "JobsNOW 12 in 6" initiative. Local community colleges offer a variety of short-term training programs in several of these high demand clusters to include:

Nursing Assistant, Phlebotomy, Healthcare Billing/Coding, Office/Clerical Support, Masonry/Tile Cutting, Plumbing, Carpentry, Welding, Food Service, Auto Body Repair, Manufacturing, and HVAC/Industrial Maintenance.

"WIA training programs also include services to address the needs of our economically disadvantaged youth who may need additional assistance staying on track to meet high school graduation requirements, or for youth who have dropped out of school, or who desire to enroll in the community colleges' basic skills or GED programs," added Childers. "We want our citizens to know that employment and training opportunities are available to them through the network of local JobLink Career Centers, which operate in all counties", commented Mona Padrick, Chairman, of the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, Inc. Padrick is also the President of the Jacksonville/Onslow Chamber of Commerce. She added, "That while unemployment rates are high, as a region, we are better off than other parts of the State. This is attributed to the growth of the military installations, recent announcements of emerging high tech manufacturing plants, such as Spirit Aerospace Systems, and a strong tourism economy. Preparing our citizens for these job opportunities are a high priority for our Board".

In addition to the programs recently funded, we also have a \$900,000 Veterans Initiative grant funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. This grant provides training opportunities for eligible veterans and military

spouses. "Our goal is to provide as many training opportunities as possible for those in need of our services, and we are well on our way," said Padrick.

Source: ECWDB

Contracts were awarded as follows:

Adult Programs

Carteret Community College \$61,761
Coastal Carolina Community College \$134,631
James Sprunt Community College \$231,715
Lenoir Community College \$197,784
NC Employment Security Commission \$58,261
Pamlico Community College \$12,825
Wayne Community College \$126,209
Total Adult Funds Awarded \$823,186

Dislocated Worker Programs

Lenoir Community College \$397,860
NC Employment Security Commission \$561,772
Pamlico Community College \$50,000
Wayne Community College \$344,846
Total DW Funds Awarded \$1,354,478

Youth Programs

Carteret County Schools \$93,193
Craven County Schools \$123,865
Greene County Schools \$52,392
Greene Lamp, Inc. \$292,007
Lenoir Community College \$97,490
Total Youth Funds Awarded \$658,947



Officers

Joseph Wiggins, *Chief Elected Official*

Mona Padrick, *Chair*

Mike Kraszeski, *Vice Chairman*

Carteret County

Mike Kraszeski, *Atlantic Veneer, Vice President*

Dave Incoe, *Carteret County Economic Development, Executive Director*

Dwayne Oglesby, *Fleet Readiness Center East, Organization & Workforce Planner & Analyst*

Craven County

Tom Taylor, *Aflac Insurance, Retired Executive*

Kimsey Welch, *Vocational Rehabilitation, Retired*

Ronald Knight, *Communications Workers of America, Labor Rep.*

Duplin County

Alex Asbun, *Duplin Gen. Hospital, Director of Health Care Programs*

Dr. Lawrence Rouse, *James Sprunt Community College, President*

Thomasina Williams, *RASS, Business Owner*

Greene County

Bud May, *Greene Lamp, Inc., Executive Director*

Judy Darden, *Darden Bookkeeping, Owner*

Jones County

Frank Emory, *Emory Construction, Owner*

Thelma Simmons, *Jones County DSS, Executive Director*

Dr. Norma Sermon-Boyd, *Jones County Partnership for Children, Director*

Lenoir County

Dr. Brantley Briley, *Lenoir Community College, President*

Bruce Parson, *Economic Developer*

Debbie Beech Burrell, *FACILITATE, CEO*

Onslow County

Don Harris, *Stanadyne Diesel, Retired*

Ralph Leeds, *Employment Security Commission, Manager*

Mona Padrick, *Jacksonville-Onslow Chamber of Commerce, President*

Dr. Kathy Spencer, *Onslow County Schools, Superintendent*

Pamlico County

Jason Hannah, *Hannah Service Center, Owner*

Carla Byrnes, *B & B Yacht Designs, Owner*

Wayne Brackin, *Tideland EMC, Job Training and Safety Director*

Wayne County

Fletcher Bizzell, *Excell-Linde, HR & Safety Manager*

Steve Hicks, *Wayne County Chamber of Commerce, President*

Tara Myers, *Vocational Rehabilitation, Manager*

Vision

Our vision for the eastern counties of North Carolina is a highly skilled workforce with an educational attainment level that meets the needs of the 21st Century workplace, so that local firms can compete in a technologically advanced global economy.

Mission

Our mission is to ensure that our workforce development system is customer focused, demand-driven and accountable in preparing our current and future workforce to meet the changing needs of a highly-competitive global economy.

Value Added

We add economic value to our communities by ensuring that quality education, job training, and employment opportunities are available for job/training seekers and employers alike, thereby improving the quality of life for our citizens throughout eastern North Carolina.

Key Strategies

- Engage business and community leaders in addressing workforce issues and promote strategies to improve education levels & basic workplace skills.
- Strengthen alliances with economic development to identify and address the workforce needs of current and future industries.
- Implement a community awareness plan that promotes the WDB, JobLink Career Centers, and partner services.
- Identify and implement effective employment and training strategies that result in employment opportunities for all citizens.



www.ncvisioneast.org

Director's Corner

Dear Colleagues,

What a busy time in workforce development! With the implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act programs and the activities with our current Workforce Investment Act programs, our JobLinks and WIA service providers have been busy enrolling new customers into training programs and assisting with job search activities resulting in record numbers of customers being served.

The men and women who represent our local workforce development system understand the critical role they play in preparing today's workforce for tomorrow's highly skilled jobs. No matter the position, all of us in workforce development are critical to the success of building a highly-skilled, productive workforce that is prepared to compete in a global economy.

Workforce Development Professionals represent a wide range of organizations, including: community colleges, universities, the K-12 school systems, industry and trade associations, state and federal workforce agencies, community based and youth service organizations, advocacy groups, and the local One-Stop system, known in North Carolina as the JobLink Career Center. They represent a group of individuals who possess the knowledge, skills, and unique ability to motivate, challenge, inspire, and help young and old alike to achieve their dreams of a better life. Their contributions are significant because our local, State, and National economies are dependent on a highly skilled workforce.

This newsletter highlights only a small sample of the successes that occur in our Workforce Development system on a daily basis. To all of our JobLink partners, educators, career counselors, case managers, employment specialists, administrators, policymakers, board members and elected officials who represent this important sector, we appreciate all that you do on a daily basis for the citizens of our region. Your commitment and dedication to helping others achieve their career and employment goals is needed now more than ever.

Thank you for all you do!

Tammy Childers

SAVE THE DATE!



State of the Workforce Congress

Sponsored by the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board,
Region Q Workforce Development Board, Turning Point Workforce Development Board and the North
Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Workforce Development

THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2010

Lenoir Community College Waller Auditorium
231 Hwy 58 South - Kinston, NC 28502-0188

10:00am – 1:30pm

Lunch to be provided at 12:30 p.m.

**Celebrate Workforce Professionals' Month
at the Eastern Region's State of the Workforce Congress**

Now more than ever, workforce and economic development professionals are called upon to ensure North Carolina's ability to compete in the global economy. Focused on Eastern North Carolina, the Workforce Congress will highlight the State of the Workforce as presented by Dr. Jim Kleckley, East Carolina University, and Mr. Roy Vanderford, Thomas P. Miller and Associates. Followed by a panel discussion, representing experts in workforce and economic development, Ms. Linda Fowler, Founder and President of Regionerate, a nationwide consulting service dedicated to regional collaboration and innovation, civic networking, technology acceleration and economic development, Mr. Roger Shackelford, Executive Director, North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Workforce Development, and Mr. John Chaffee, President/CEO, North Carolina's Eastern Region. Ms. Mona Padrick, Chairman of the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board and President of the Jacksonville/Onslow Chamber of Commerce will serve as the Master of Ceremonies for this event.

Mark your calendars and join us in identifying priorities for action to ensure a skilled and competitive workforce for Eastern North Carolina. Attendees will receive a copy of the recently updated Eastern Region State of the Workforce Report.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Ellen Sink sink@ecwdb.org by May 17th.



Region Q
Workforce Development Board



Eastern Carolina
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, INC.



One Region—One Workforce

Veterans Initiative Project Off to A Great Start

198 Veterans and Military Spouses Enroll in VIP

The Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, Inc.'s VIP staff continues to provide support and technical assistance for both Veterans Initiative Project (VIP) service providers, as well as attend and facilitate information briefs to cultivate outreach opportunities. For example, recent outreach efforts were launched in collaboration with North Carolina's Eastern Region Military Growth Task Force.

The focus of this effort was on the smaller counties, such as Duplin, Jones, and Pamlico where the target population of veterans and military spouses exists, but in smaller numbers. The goal is to make sure that these individuals are aware of the VIP and are afforded the opportunity to participate in this program. To this end, the VIP Coordinator and VIP Counselor from Coastal Carolina Community College traveled to Duplin County in order to present information on the project to a veteran's outreach group, the Sanctuary Project. Additionally, VIP has been featured on the local cable networks, in several local newspapers, the local news channel, as well as on a local radio station, as a public service announcement.

Please see the following links to view newspaper articles and the television news story:

<http://capefearnewspapers.com/veterans-and-military-spouses-should-take-advantage-of-vip/>

<http://www.jdnews.com/news/coastal-73655-underemployed-community.html>

<http://news14.com/coastal-news-110-content/623449/program-helps-veterans--spouses-retrain-for-workforce>

VIP enrollments continue to increase, as word of the program spreads throughout the region. Both VIP service providers - Coastal Carolina Community College and the Employment Security Commission, were excited to learn that the VIP deadline was recently extended to June 15, 2011. The extension will allow VIP enrollees additional time to complete training and participate in job placement activities. VIP staff from the Wayne County and Craven County JobLink Career Centers spend time each week in alternate JobLink locations

throughout the region, as well as visiting the military installations in order to accommodate VIP participants. Whether it is meeting new applicants to discuss eligibility requirements or conducting counseling sessions with current participants, the staff is open and willing to do whatever is necessary to make sure needs are met.

Recently VIP staff was invited to provide an information brief to the Family Readiness Support Council aboard Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point and to key personnel aboard Seymour Johnson Air Force Base. Such invitations are a direct result of these influential groups recognizing the importance of a project such as VIP to military spouses and veterans. It is also indicative of the VIP staff's success in building credibility and maintaining close contact with local military installations. The VIP Coordinator was also asked to provide an overview of the project to the Craven Community College Basic Skills Advisory Board and attended a Veterans Information Fair with the Wayne County VIP Consultant, in order to get the word out to more eligible participants.

Additionally, the VIP Coordinator and VIP Representatives from Coastal Carolina Community College and the Craven County JobLink Career Center updated the Exiting Military Advisory Council on the VIP activities. The update was provided to the Council at their meeting co-hosted by the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development and Jacksonville/Onslow Chamber of Commerce. The Council is comprised of representatives from Marine Corps Community Services, Economic Development, Elected Officials, Coastal Carolina Community College, NC Military Business Center, Chamber of Commerce, Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, Employment Security Commission, and local Businesses.

VIP continues to sponsor training and skill certification opportunities in high demand, high growth sectors. In addition to community college curriculum programs, currently we have nearly 60 veterans and military spouses enrolled in

training through the Governor's JobsNOW initiative; an initiative aimed at providing short-term training in order to create successful employment opportunities. Through the JobsNOW effort, project participants are enrolled in programs such as Medical Office Administration, Certified Nurses Assistant, Phlebotomy, Pharmacy Technology, Health Care Billing and Coding, Welding, HVAC, and Emergency Medical Technician. Veterans and military spouses are benefiting greatly from the VIP by receiving valuable training to assist them in reaching their employment goals.

Along with the Governor's JobsNOW initiative, the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board and the VIP service providers support and regularly promote the North Carolina Military Business Center's IHIREMILITARY initiative. IHIREMILITARY works to inform employers of the benefits of hiring veterans and military spouses and uses its website, IHIREMILITARY.ORG to connect employers with skilled veterans and military spouses who are seeking employment. Governor Perdue launched the IHIREMILITARY initiative appropriately on Veteran's Day in Jacksonville. The I Hire Military campaign fits seamlessly with our efforts to further ensure that the overall goal of job placement is attained for all VIP participants.

Following is a breakdown of enrollments as of March 26, 2010:

Coastal Carolina Community College 94

[Veterans 53, Military Spouses 41]

Craven County ESC/JobLink 63

[Veterans 50, Military Spouses 13]

Wayne County ESC/JobLink 41

[Veterans 35, Military Spouses 11]

Total Served 198

[Veterans 139, Military Spouses 59]

For more information, contact Wendy Walker-Fox, VIP Coordinator 252-636-6901 wwalkerfox@ecwdb.org

Source: ECWDB

Onslow County Holds Fourth Annual Trades Day Event

On March 27, over 100 high school students from Jones Senior High School and Onslow County Schools competed for prizes at the fourth annual Trades Day - Champions at Work competition on the campus of Coastal Carolina Community College.

"The competition, which allows vocational students to showcase their real life job skills, continues to rise in popularity," said Marianne Herring, division chair of Industrial and Applied Technology at Coastal Carolina Community College.

"This is economic development right here," said Mona Padrick, Chair of the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, and President of the Jacksonville/Onslow Chamber of Commerce. "Trades Day came about after a request several years ago by the local construction industry, which was experiencing difficulty in finding skilled workers," Padrick said. "With the growth we are experiencing and expecting, we are going to need skilled workers," she said.

"Trades Day is a way to focus on

that and show potential employers what these new workers can do."

Judges for the event were local employers. This was an opportunity for the students to demonstrate their skills and abilities. Last year, several participants were hired as a result of the competition, and the same is expected from this year's event.

"This is a rewarding experience, not only for the students, but for the parents and grandparents to watch," said Padrick. She said that trades are vital to the local and national economy. Students who learn a marketable skill will always have something to fall back on even if they chose a different career path. The students who enter the job market with vocational skills will earn a good living and help build the nation, she said.

Representatives from local businesses, various trades-related vendors, Jacksonville/Onslow Chamber of Commerce, Onslow County Schools, Coastal Carolina Community College, along with the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board spon-

sored the event which was estimated at over \$15,000 through in-kind contributions.

Students representing Onslow and Jones County schools competed in the areas of construction technology, electrical trades, automotive technology, small engine repair, technical drafting, CAD drafting, masonry, and welding.

The event ended with a luncheon provided by W.T. Humphrey Heating and Cooling, followed by awards and prizes presented by Senator Harry Brown.

Source: jdnews.com

"People forget how fast you did a job, but they remember how well you did it"

-Howard Newton



N.C. Number One in Nationally Board Certified Teachers

State Leads the Nation for the 14th Consecutive Year

Gov. Bev Perdue recently announced that North Carolina once again leads the nation in the total number of teachers who have earned certification by the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards with 15,695 teachers now certified. This group of teachers accounts for nearly 19 percent of all the 83,359 National Board Certified teachers in the nation. North Carolina also ranked first in the nation in the number of newly-certified teachers, as the state is home to 1,509 of the 8,874 educators nationwide who earned the recognition this year.

"National Board Certified teachers are essential to helping transform North Carolina's schools," said Gov. Bev Perdue. "Fifteen years ago our state saw its first group of teachers achieve National Board Certification. We continue to be the nation's leader as nearly 16,000 have earned this hallmark distinction. Throughout the years, I have seen first-hand how these outstanding educators have changed the culture of teaching and learning in their classrooms and their schools. Most importantly, research shows that National Board Certified Teachers can be a valuable learning resource to all students, especially students who need them the most."

Three North Carolina school districts are among the nation's top 20 in terms of the number of teachers who achieved National Board Certification in 2009. They include: Charlotte-Mecklenburg-2nd (221), Wake County-3rd (197) and Guilford-9th (69). Five North Carolina school districts are among the nation's top 20 in terms of the number of teachers who achieved National Board Certification over time. They include: Wake County-2nd (1,702), Charlotte-Mecklenburg-5th (1,439), Guilford-11th (592), Forsyth-18th (413) and Buncombe-20th (371).

"National Board Certified teachers bring a high level of enthusiasm, experience and skills to the classroom that benefits not only their students, but also their fellow teachers," said State Superintendent June Atkinson. "For that reason, North Carolina is committed to encouraging and supporting all those who seek this valuable certification."

North Carolina supports teachers' efforts to achieve National Board Certification in the following ways:

Payment up front of the \$2,500 assessment fee. (Teachers are obligated to teach in the state the following year whether or not they achieve certification.)

Three paid release days from normal teacher responsibilities to develop their portfolios.

A 12-percent salary supplement to the teachers' regular salary, good for the 10-year life of the certification.

15 continuing education units (CEUs) awarded to the individual for completing the National Board Certification process.

The State Board of Education awards a North Carolina teaching license to out-of-state teachers who possess National Board Certification.

"The certification process requires educators to complete hundreds of hours of work outside the classroom in which they reflect on their personal talents, instruction techniques and the subject they teach," said State Board of Education Chairman Bill Harrison. "When teachers work this hard to build their skills and knowledge, our students reap many rewards from their efforts."

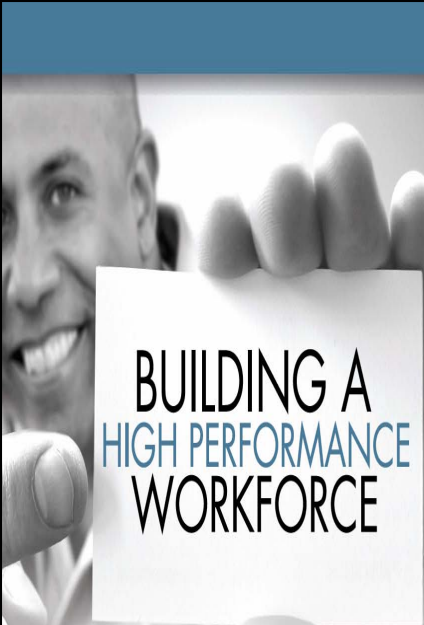
National Board Certification, the highest credential in the teaching profession, requires an extensive series of performance-based assessments including

teaching portfolios, student work samples, videotapes and thorough analyses of the candidates' classroom teaching and student learning. Teachers also complete a series of written exercises that probe the depth of their subject-matter knowledge, as well as their understanding of how to teach those subjects to their students.

National Board Certification was first offered in 1994, when eight North Carolina teachers achieved this professional credential. Since then, the number of teachers in the state receiving the certification has continued to grow. North Carolina has led the nation in the number of National Board Certified teachers for 14 years. The other states in the top three this year are Florida, with 13,281 and South Carolina, with 7,293 certified teachers.


For more information on National Board Certification, go to www.nbpts.org. For more information about North Carolina's national board certified teachers, contact the NCDPI's Information and Communications division at 919.807.3450.

Source: www.nbpts.org

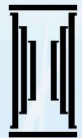


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Gov. Perdue Submits "Race to the Top" Application

Achieves 100% Participation from Local Partners

Gov. Bev Perdue submitted North Carolina's completed application for funds from the federal "Race to the Top" initiative. As part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Race to the Top is a federal \$4.5 billion competitive grant fund that rewards states for educational innovation and achieving significant improvements in student performance. North Carolina's application requests approximately \$469.5 million in federal funds to be spent over four years.

"As a national leader in educational innovation, I'm confident that North Carolina is in a good position to receive Race to the Top funding," said Perdue. "I'm excited about the opportunities this funding will create toward reaching my goal of preparing every stu-

dent to graduate high school ready for a career, college or technical training."

North Carolina's application, as required, assessed the state's current education reform efforts and presented a comprehensive plan for improving student outcomes in four areas:

- Internationally-benchmarked standards and assessments;
- Development of data systems that measure success and improve instruction;
- Supporting effective teachers and leaders; and
- Turning around low-performing schools.

Gov. Perdue's Career and College – Ready, Set, Go! agenda has North Carolina already working on higher standards,

better curriculum, new diagnostic assessments to help keep students achieving at or above grade level, developing great teachers and school leaders, and improving low-performing schools.

According to the National Governors Association, Gov. Perdue is the first governor in the nation to direct state educational governing boards to adopt the National Common Core standards, so that they may work together to reach the goal of preparing every student to graduate from high school ready for a career, college or technical training.

The U.S. Department of Education is expected to award the first Race to the Top grants this spring.

Source: governor.office

\$13 Million in Dropout Prevention Grants Awarded

Eleven Local Grants funded totaling \$1,620,742

The North Carolina General Assembly's Committee on Dropout Prevention has awarded grants totaling \$13 million to 83 organizations in 63 counties. The grants, which range in size from \$17,710 to \$175,000, were awarded to school districts, schools, nonprofit organizations and government entities. The grants are to be used to focus attention and resources on innovative programs and initiatives that promote keeping students in school. The Committee on Dropout Prevention selected the grant recipients through a competitive application process. The committee was created by the General Assembly to help improve high school graduation rates in North Carolina.

Local Grant recipients and amounts totaling \$1,620,742 of those funds are as follows:

- Communities In Schools of Carteret County (Carteret County) - \$134,686
- Craven County Schools (Craven County) - \$120,324
- Duplin County Schools (Duplin County) - \$175,000
- Onslow County Schools (Onslow County) - \$157,200
- City of Greenville Police Department (Pitt County) - \$175,000
- Communities In Schools of Pitt County (Pitt County) - \$88,169
- Pitt County Schools (Pitt County) - \$101,902
- Dillard Academy (Wayne County) - \$148,344
- Getting Ready Inc. (Wilson County) - \$170,800
- Opportunities Industrialization Center (OIC) of Wilson Inc. (Wilson County) - \$175,000
- Wilson County Schools (Wilson County) - \$174,317

Source: dpi.gov



12 and 6 Update

The North Carolina Community College System received training plans from 57 of the 58 colleges. Most colleges chose three-eight training pathways from the 12 in 6 list. Based on local labor market demand, colleges added 45 occupational training pathways to the list. All colleges have integrated "green" technology into their plans.

Funding is used for the following purposes: expanding course offerings, hiring additional instructors, developing short-term curricula, providing additional student support services, and promoting the JobsNOW program.

Workforce Boards committed WIA and ARRA resources to the JobsNOW

Program to pay tuition, fees, books, transportation, and related instructional materials for eligible WIA and ARRA participants. The colleges have a great relationship with local boards and appreciate their support and participation in this initiative.

"12 in 6" Training Pathways

Nursing Assistant
Phlebotomy
Healthcare Billing/Coding
Office/Clerical Support
Masonry/Tile Cutting
Plumbing
Carpentry
Welding
Food Service
Autobody Repair
Manufacturing/Materials
HVAC/Industrial Maintenance

Expenditures thru February: \$ 3,794,871

10,808	Students Enrolled
3,837	Completers
1,524	Courses Offered
249	New Courses or New Curriculum Developed
554	New Positions Filled (full and part-time)
457	State-Regulated Credentials Earned
237	Industry-Regulated Credentials Earned
2,663	Career Readiness Certificates Issued
4,778	Students Receiving Assistance (WIA, TAA, VR, etc.)

Source: NCCCS

Employment Solutions to Meet Your Needs—It's All in One Place!



Call your local JobLink Career Center today!

Carteret County JobLink Career Center

Phone: (252) 726-7151

Craven County JobLink Career Center

Phone: (252) 514-4828

Craven County JobLink Information Site

Phone: (252) 444-6005

Duplin County JobLink Career Center

Phone: (910) 296-1478

Greene County JobLink Career Center

Phone: (252) 747-5689

Jones County JobLink Career Center

Phone: (252) 448-4791

Lenoir County JobLink Career Center

Phone: (252) 527-7320

Onslow County JobLink Career Center

Phone: (910) 347-2121

Onslow County JobLink Information Site

Phone: (910) 938-6309

Pamlico County JobLink Career Center

Phone: (252) 745-9934

Wayne County JobLink Career Center

Phone: (919) 731-7950

- ♦ Tax Credit and Hiring Incentive Information
- ♦ Resource for Job-Ready Candidates
- ♦ Employee Recruitment & Retention Assistance
- ♦ Rapid Response Consultations for Business Layoffs or Plant Closings
- ♦ Customized Training for Employees
- ♦ Workplace Literacy

NC's JobLinks are an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids & services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

(TTY) 1-800-735-2962

(Voice) 1-800-735-8262

CCC JobsNOW Program Opens Doors to New Careers

Jeffrey Batson had worked at Hatteras Yachts in New Bern for almost four years when he was laid off in 2008. Like many people knocked by the recession, Mr. Batson dusted himself off and began looking for ways to improve his job skills and become more attractive for future employers.

Today, he is enrolled in the five-month Facilities Maintenance Training Program offered through Carteret Community College's Corporate and Community Education division in Morehead City. "This is not my first class at CCC," Mr. Batson said. "I have taken veterinary assistant, wastewater operator and residential facilities maintenance. But this has been the best, so far."

A retired Marine, Mr. Batson 53, is looking for a second career that he enjoys. "This training opens so many doors related to facilities maintenance, such as being able to qualify for entry-level positions in carpentry, electrical, HVAC, plumbing, welding and pool and spa maintenance. It's a great way to start out," he said.

Others enrolled in the program are displaced workers who have qualified for financial assistance to help make ends meet while they attend training. Gary Chandler of Morehead City was laid off from his job recently, as well.

"I've worked most of my life," he said. "I was depressed after losing my job, but this training has given me confidence, and I know the job market is tuning up and I'm tuning up with it. The training in carpentry, HVAC, and electrical should get my feet in the door."

While enrolled in the program, students attend class Monday through Thursday for seven hours a day. The hands-on program is broken into six areas of concentration that include: carpentry, electrical, heating and air conditioning, pool and spa operator certification, plumbing and welding. "It is a challenging program in which students learn some very practical skills," said Robin Rice, instructor in the heating, ventilation and air conditioning portion of the program. "They learn applied math, reading for information, how to find information, and of course the technical skills they learn in component."

When he is not teaching students, Mr.

Rice is also a master refrigeration technician with SPX Flow Technology in Newport. The college is currently running two groups of students through the facilities maintenance courses. "I think people realize that the economy is cyclic and that Carteret County is poised to recover along with the fact that it already has many medium-sized facilities and complexes that require skilled personnel to keep them going," said Perry Harker, vice president of CCC Corporate and Community Education.

Students take the NC Career Readiness Certification Assessment, which validates that they have a work skills foundation valuable for any occupation. They also take the NC State Board of Refrigeration EPA/CFC examination for individuals employed in the HVAC field.

"The Career Readiness Certificate is a portable, nationally recognized certificate the graduates take with them anyway," said Susan Bailey, coordinator of the facilities maintenance training program at the college. Nick Dessellier, 25, of Beaufort, worked at Subway until he was laid off recently. And then he heard about the program. "I knew a little about carpentry, but this has enabled me to find out about what type of job I might like," Mr. Dessellier said. "Eventually, I would like to get my contractor's license." Mr. Dessellier is one of the students receiving support from the Workforce Investment Act, a federal grant program that provides funds for retraining dislocated workers.

"More than half of the class is being sponsored by the WIA program," said Wanda Glosson, coordinator of the WIA program for the college. "If they qualify, WIA may assist with tuition, fees, supplies, books, and certification fees."

For more information, please call the Carteret Community College Corporate and Community Education Division at 252-222-6200.

Source:ccc

Lenoir County JobLink Sponsors 25th Annual Job Fair

Job seekers had an opportunity today to visit with prospective employers at the 25th annual career fair at Lenoir Community College. Hundreds of job seekers poured into Lenoir Community College's career fair held March 18, with hopes of finding employment with local and regional businesses. With unemployment rates reaching nearly 10 percent for Lenoir County, displaced workers pursued employers' information booths.

"There is a need for new jobs," Lenoir County Economic Development Director Mark Pope said. Some employers at the career fair - including Lenoir County Schools - had information booths at LCC but didn't have any current job openings available. Lenoir County Schools organization development specialist Kim Hazelgrove said several job candidates asked if there were custodial, bus driver or teaching jobs open in the school district. Hazelgrove said budget cuts have limited the number of employees the school district can currently hire. However, she said the career fair was a good tool for the district to reach out to future employees.

Lenoir County and Kinston has seen some recent gains in job announcements with Sanderson Farms and Spirit Aero-Systems. During the same period, several companies have closed or downsized their operations. The Lenoir County Sheriff's Office, Kinston Public Works, the Greenville Police Department and the Ruby Tuesday restaurant chain were among the employers at the career fair. Each agency said they were looking for new employees this month. The Greenville Police Department is seeking four new officers to hire while the Lenoir County Sheriff's Office has open positions for both detention officers and sheriff deputies. Nearly 800 job seekers had attended the fair before 10 a.m., according to LCC officials. There were nearly 100 employers set up inside the college's gym for the 25th annual career fair held at LCC.

LCC spokeswoman Frances Gaskins said both students and the public attended the fair, which surpassed last year's attendance figures.

Source: Kinston.com

March 2010 Regional Snapshot

Quick Facts

Announced Business Closings And Layoffs For 12 Months Ending March 2010*

Closings	35
Layoffs	14

Source: Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS), LMID
*Totals are not comprehensive, representing
only the totals reported.

Gender of Individuals Filing Initial Claims March 2010

Male	57%
Female	43%

Source: ES-UI Reporting Unit, LMID

Age Range of Individuals Filing Initial Claims March 2010

16-19	2%
20-24	12%
25-34	25%
35-44	23%
45-54	23%
55-64	12%
65 or Older	3%

Source: ES-UI Reporting Unit, LMID

Duration of Unemployment Insurance Benefits For 12 Months Ending March 31, 2010*

Carteret	17.6
Craven	18.3
Duplin	16.6
Greene	17.2
Jones	17.6
Lenoir	18.2
Onslow	17.3
Pamlico	18.7
Wayne	16.9

*Duration is the number of weeks
compensated for the year divided by the
number of first payments.

		March 2010	Feb. 2010	March 2009
Carteret	Labor Force	33,141	32,751	33,571
	Employed	30,050	29,331	30,548
	Unemployed	3,091	3,420	3,023
	Rate %	9.3	10.4	9.0
Craven	Labor Force	43,459	43,224	44,728
	Employed	38,970	38,447	40,531
	Unemployed	4,489	4,777	4,197
	Rate %	10.3	11.1	9.4
Duplin	Labor Force	24,986	24,878	25,565
	Employed	22,686	22,395	23,072
	Unemployed	2,300	2,483	2,493
	Rate %	9.2	10.0	9.8
Greene	Labor Force	9,343	9,219	9,138
	Employed	8,296	8,159	8,224
	Unemployed	1,047	1,060	914
	Rate %	11.2	11.5	10.0
Jones	Labor Force	4,865	4,869	4,984
	Employed	4,325	4,267	4,499
	Unemployed	540	602	485
	Rate %	11.1	12.4	9.7
Lenoir	Labor Force	27,647	27,599	28,273
	Employed	24,489	24,179	25,055
	Unemployed	3,158	3,420	3,218
	Rate %	11.4	12.4	11.4
Onslow	Labor Force	66,518	66,148	63,094
	Employed	61,183	60,445	57,916
	Unemployed	5,335	5,703	5,178
	Rate %	8.0	8.6	8.2
Pamlico	Labor Force	5,537	5,533	5,706
	Employed	5,010	4,943	5,211
	Unemployed	527	590	495
	Rate %	9.5	10.7	8.7
Wayne	Labor Force	52,996	52,533	52,815
	Employed	48,129	47,331	48,118
	Unemployed	4,867	5,202	4,697
	Rate %	9.2	9.9	8.9
Eastern Carolina WDB	Labor Force	268,492	266,754	267,874
	Employed	243,138	239,497	243,174
	Unemployed	25,354	27,257	24,700
	Rate %	9.4	10.2	9.2
North Carolina	Labor Force	4,555,083	4,526,680	4,538,125
	Employed	4,058,349	3,991,545	4,058,017
	Unemployed	496,734	535,135	480,108
	Rate %	10.9	11.8	10.6
United States	Labor Force	153,660,000	153,194,000	153,728,000
	Employed	137,983,000	137,203,000	139,833,000
	Unemployed	15,678,000	15,991,000	13,895,000
	Rate %	10.2	10.4	9.0

March 2010 data are preliminary, while February 2010 data are revised and March 2009 data are benchmarked.

Total Registered Applicants Active 7/01/2009-3/31/2010

	Carteret	Craven	Duplin	Greene	Jones	Lenoir	Onslow	Pamlico	Wayne
Prof., Tech. & Managerial	1,476	1,842	688	330	223	902	2,430	188	1,721
Clerical	992	1,415	568	251	133	872	2,170	116	1,642
Sales	449	537	172	75	45	317	852	38	564
Domestic Sales	44	85	19	4	4	21	82	8	50
Other Services	1,288	1,493	829	270	136	1,309	2,332	126	2,067
Ag., Forestry & Fishery	116	158	290	32	25	114	173	31	303
Processing	48	148	730	79	21	294	112	33	721
Machine Trade	263	462	434	149	61	436	367	61	631
Benchwork	86	405	134	102	53	651	245	36	283
Structural Work	943	1,181	588	222	171	751	1,441	167	887
Motor Freight & Transp.	175	251	267	50	32	218	382	41	426
Pkg. & Material Handling	304	384	457	135	51	602	296	38	869
Miscellaneous	38	60	21	5	4	23	78	5	46

Active Applicants YTD for the period 7/1/09 - 6/30/10

Unemployment Insurance Claims*

	March 2010		March 2009	
	Initial Claims	Benefits Paid	Initial Claims	Benefits Paid
Carteret	401	\$1,320,641	482	\$1,416,142
Craven	682	\$1,562,529	1,064	\$1,965,490
Duplin	320	\$803,563	994	\$1,232,569
Greene	151	\$319,159	243	\$393,482
Jones	96	\$202,053	155	\$191,911
Lenoir	446	\$1,172,932	756	\$1,444,678
Onslow	646	\$1,452,349	842	\$1,605,822
Pamlico	98	\$154,798	111	\$185,081
Wayne	694	\$1,620,337	1,226	\$2,013,207

*ES/UI, Labor Market Information Division, Employment Security Commission of North Carolina.

Individuals Receiving Checks

	March 2010	March 2009	Yearly Change
Carteret	1,507	1,476	31
Craven	1,783	2,113	-330
Duplin	889	1,258	-369
Greene	418	460	-42
Jones	269	252	17
Lenoir	1,249	1,526	-277
Onslow	1,760	1,861	-101
Pamlico	209	209	0
Wayne	1,690	2,079	-389

*ES/UI, Labor Market Information Division, Employment Security Commission of North Carolina.

Average Industry Employment and Weekly Wages For 3rd Qtr. 2009

	Avg Qtr. Empl	Avg Weekly Wage
Natural Resources & Mining	6,337	\$520.23
Construction	10,080	\$624.53
Manufacturing	20,065	\$667.68
Trade, Trans. & Utilities	40,082	\$514.00
Information	2,528	\$600.53
Financial Activities	6,372	\$667.71
Prof. & Business Services	18,764	\$628.25
Ed. & Health Services	50,007	\$641.77
Leisure & Hospitality	24,515	\$261.09
Other Services	4,887	\$401.01
Public Administration	20,901	\$843.99

Source: NAICS Employment and Wages, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) Unit, LMI Division, Employment Security Commission of North Carolina

New Corporations*

	March 2010	March 2009
Carteret	19	24
Craven	33	28
Duplin	16	12
Greene	7	0
Jones	0	5
Lenoir	13	12
Onslow	43	27
Pamlico	4	8
Wayne	23	32

*NC Department of the Secretary of State

Data provided by:

Labor Market Information, Employment Security Commission of North Carolina
P.O. Box 25903, Raleigh NC 27611
Phone: 919-733-2936 Fax: 919-733-8662
E-mail: esc.lmi.inquiries@ncmail.net Web site: www.ncesc.com

For additional information, please contact:

Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board Inc.
1341 S. Glenburnie Road, New Bern, NC 28562
Phone: 252-636-6901 Fax: 252-638-3569
E-mail: childers@ecwdb.org Web site: www.ecwdb.org

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ECWDB Staff:

Tammy Childers, Executive Director

Robert Kehres, Assistant Director

Lisa Harvey, WIA Coordinator

Trina Hale, Accounting Technician

Joe McCarthy, Youth Coordinator

Debbie Simpkins, Fiscal Monitor

Ellen Sink, Administrative Assistant

Wendy Walker-Fox, Veterans Initiative Project Coordinator

Communicate with Us!

1341 South Glenburnie Road

New Bern, NC 28562

Telephone: (252) 636-6901 or (877) 916-6901

Fax: (252) 638-3569

E-mail: admin@ecwdb.org

www.ecwdb.org

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

JobLink Committee

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern

April 8, 2010, 6:00 pm

WIA/ARRA Oversight Meeting

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern

April 15, 2010, 6:00 pm

Executive Committee Meeting

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern

April 22, 2010, 6:00 pm

Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern

May 6, 2010, 6:00 pm

Youth Council Meeting

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern

June 8, 2010, 6:00 pm

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