



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Carolina Institute for Developmental Disabilities

North Carolina Post-Secondary Education Programs for Young Adults with I/DD

The Carolina Institute for Developmental Disabilities

and

North Carolina Postsecondary Education Alliance

Revised November 2024

Community College/University and Program Name	Description	Number of Students Per Year	Internship Opportunity	Certificate or Award	Contact Information	Program Website
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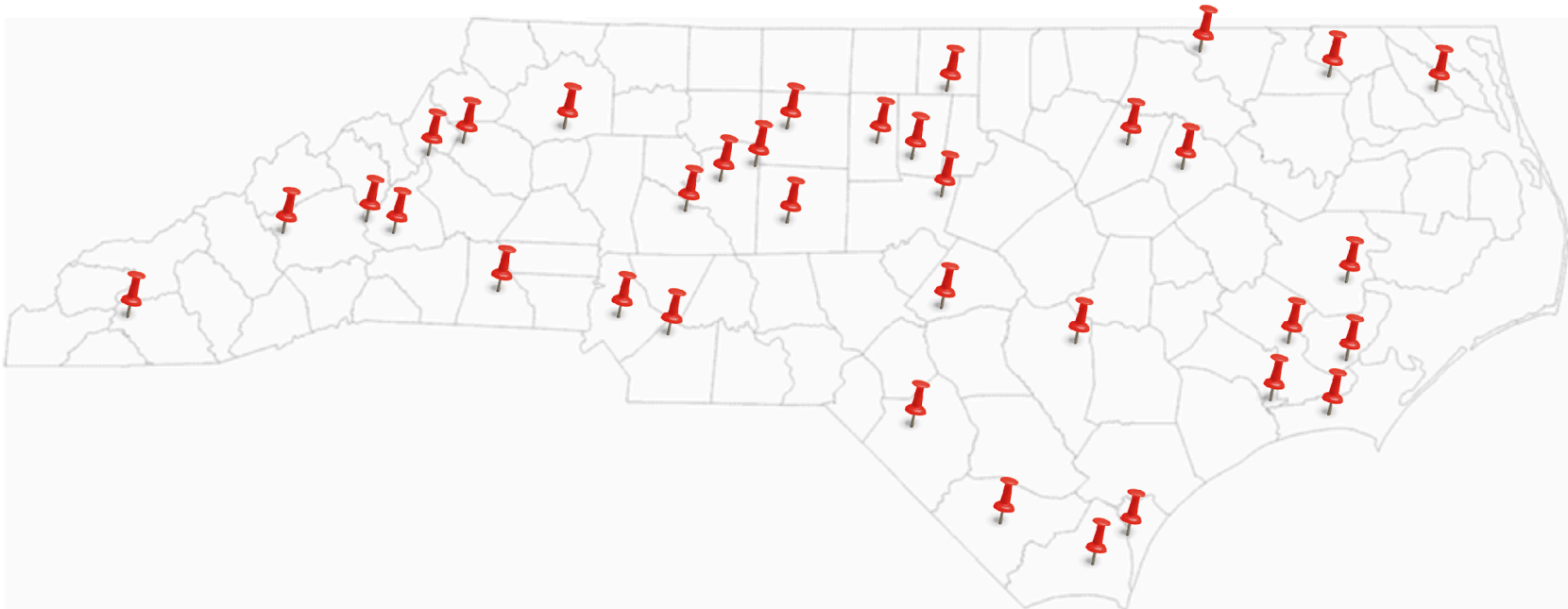


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University Programs

University and Program Name	Description	Number of Students Per Year	Internship Opportunity	Certificate or Award	Contact Information	Program Website
Appalachian State University <i>Scholars with Diverse Abilities</i> (2-4 years)	For students with ID—completely integrative courses related to career and personal interests and service-learning opportunities	20	✓	✓	Dr. Susan Hedges: hedgessh@appstate.edu	https://sdap.appstate.edu/
University of North Carolina Greensboro <i>Integrative Community Studies</i> (4 years)	For students with ID and DD—integrative community studies on self-determination, life planning, and career development	15-25	✓	✓	Ryan Milligan: rpmillig@uncg.edu	https://ics.uncg.edu/
Western Carolina University <i>UP</i> (2 years)	For students with ID—fully integrated experience building skills in personal development, community participation, vocational preparation, social participation and	12	✓	✓	Alex Mathis: araxter@wcu.edu 828-227-3318 Kelly Kelley: kkelley@wcu.edu	https://www.wcu.edu/learn/departments-schools-colleges-ceap/stl/special-education-programs/universi

Community College Programs

Community College and Program Name	Description	Number of Students Per Year	Internship Opportunity	Certificate or Award	Contact Information	Program Website
	learning, and course auditing				828-227-3298	ty-participant-up-program/
<p>Central Piedmont Community College, Southwestern Community College, and Asheville-Buncombe Community College</p> <p><i>Project SEARCH</i> (1 year)</p>	<p>For students with ID and/or DD—daily living skills and preparation for competitive employment through internship programs at high-status organizations. It is an aspirational internship experience for transitioning neurodivergent adults.</p>	8	✓	✓	<p>Lisa Hailey: lisa.hailey@cpc.edu</p> <p>Devonne Jimison: devonnej@southwesterncc.edu</p> <p>Tim Blekicki: tblekicki@arcnc.org OR 828-674-8957</p>	<p>https://www.cpc.edu/programs/independence-and-literacy-education-adults-disabilities-i-lead</p> <p>https://www.southwesterncc.edu/college-and-career-readiness/project-search</p> <p>https://www.arcnc.org/programs-and-services/west/project-search</p>

Community College Programs

Community College and Program Name	Description	Number of Students Per Year	Internship Opportunity	Certificate or Award	Contact Information	Program Website
Alamance Community College <i>Career College</i> (2 years)	For students with ASD, ID, and DD—reading, math, and computer skills with hands-on practicum experiences as Automotive Assistant or Health & Public Services Assistant	8-10 per pathway	✓	✓	Tim Haith: tthaith717@alamancecc.edu	https://www.alamancecc.edu/services-for-students-site/disability-services/career-college-2/
Alamance Community College <i>ABLE</i> (self-paced)	For students with ASD, ID, and DD—reading, writing, math, and computer literacy skills with a goal of further academic study and/or employment	35			Aimee Gordon: argordon399@alamancecc.edu	https://www.alamancecc.edu/adult-literacy-site/able/
College of the Albemarle <i>ABETO</i> (self-paced)	For students with ID and DD—reading, math, and other life skills to aid transition into the workforce	not restricted			Denise Lane: denise_lane87@albemarle.edu	https://www.albemarle.edu/programs-classes/noncredit/courses/intellectual

Community College Programs

Community College and Program Name	Description	Number of Students Per Year	Internship Opportunity	Certificate or Award	Contact Information	Program Website
						-disabilities-education/
<p>A-B Technical Community College</p> <p><i>SOAR Successful Occupational Achievement (2 year)</i></p>	<p>SOAR is a vocational and literacy training program for adults with IDD. -develops students' academic, social, and workforce skills through projects and contextualized lessons and activities. -Students must commit to attendance Monday-Thursday 9:00-2:00 and be motivated to begin on a career path with support from Vocational Rehabilitation.</p>	20	✓	✓	<p>Barbara Fedock barbarafedock@abtech.edu or adulthood@abtech.edu 828 398-7131</p>	<p>http://www.abtech.edu/SOAR</p>
<p>A-B Technical Community College</p>	<p>Project SEARCH serves people with IDD. Students must have a desire to achieve</p>	8-10	✓	✓	<p>Tim Blekicky tblekicky@arcnc.org</p>	

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<i>Biltmore Project SEARCH</i> (9 months + placement)	competitive employment. Interns must also be eligible for NC Vocational Rehabilitation services and have reliable daily transportation to the program.					
Brunswick Community College <i>Brunswick Interagency Program</i> (self-paced)	For students with ID and/or DD— contextualized learning, money management, technology, career exploration, and supported employment	not restricted		✓	LeAnn Cecil: cecill@brunswickcc.edu 910-755-7381	https://www.brunswickcc.edu/home/find-a-program/brunswick-interagency-program-bip/
Cape Fear Community College <i>Essentials Program</i> (self-paced)	For students with ID and/or DD— reading, writing, math, computer literacy skills, and career pathway classes	not restricted		✓	Kathy Martinez: kmartinez@cfcc.edu 910-362-7457	https://cfcc.edu/academic-career-readiness/essentials-program/

Community College Programs

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<p>Catawba Valley Community College</p> <p><i>ABE Academy</i> (2-4 years)</p>	<p>For students with ASD, ID, and DD— basic academic instruction that is vocationally contextualized for career exploration with opportunities to enroll in multiple career pathways and specific vocational training classes at departments across campus</p>	<p>40</p>				<p>https://www.cvcc.edu/CCE/Learning And Personal Enrichment/Basic Skills/adult-basic-education.cfm</p>
<p>Central Piedmont Community College</p> <p><i>I-LEAD</i> (2 years)</p>	<p>For students with ID, DD, and/or TBI— math, science, professional development, creative writing, print shop, book club, theater, and digital literacy</p>	<p>not restricted</p>		<p>✓</p>	<p>Lisa Hailey: lisa.hailey@cpc.edu</p>	<p>https://www.ccc.edu/programs/independence-and-literacy-education-adults-disabilities-i-lead</p>

Community College Programs

Community College and Program Name	Description	Number of Students Per Year	Internship Opportunity	Certificate or Award	Contact Information	Program Website
Coastal Carolina Community College <i>Career and Life Skills</i> (self-paced)	For students with ASD, ID, DD, TBI, CP, and more—work readiness, reading, writing, math, and technology	10-20			College and Career Readiness: CCR@coastalcarolina.edu	https://www.coastalcarolina.edu/academics/con-ed/ccr/
Craven Community College <i>Transitions Academy</i> (2 years)	For students with ASD—math, reading, writing, technology, and soft skills including modules on horticulture, government, health programs, childcare, carpentry, and food preparation/safety	30		✓	Sandy Bayliss-Carr: bayliss-carrs@cravenc.edu	https://cravenc.edu/transitions-academy
Davidson-Davie Community College <i>Occupational Network</i> (self-paced)	For students with ASD, ID, and DD—reading/language arts, community living, math, consumer education, health, vocational	15-18			Jill Storey: jill_storey@davidsondavie.edu	https://www.davidsondavie.edu/academics/college-and-career-readiness/occupational-n

Community College Programs

Community College and Program Name	Description	Number of Students Per Year	Internship Opportunity	Certificate or Award	Contact Information	Program Website
	education, and social science					etwork-abe-classes/
Edgecombe Community College <i>Adult Basic Education I (self-paced)</i>	For students with ID and/or DD—reading, math, writing, digital instruction, vocational skills, and community-based service learning project	not restricted	✓	✓	Contact number: (252) 618-6704	https://edgecombe.edu/programs/college-and-career-readiness/adult-basic-education-i/
Fayetteville Technical Community College <i>College and Career Readiness (self-paced)</i>	For students with ASD, ID, and DD—academic advancement and immediate improvement in employability skills	not restricted			Ginger Strickland: stricklg@faytechcc.edu	https://www.faytechcc.edu/college-career-readiness/
Guilford Technical Community College	For students with ID and/or DD—basic reading, math, computer and writing skills, as well as	not restricted		✓	Eduardo Garcia: egarcia7@gtcc.edu	https://www.gtcc.edu/academics/adult-education/power-pat

Community College Programs

Community College and Program Name	Description	Number of Students Per Year	Internship Opportunity	Certificate or Award	Contact Information	Program Website
<i>POWER Pathways</i> (self-paced/ 1 yr)	employability skills and career preparation. Pathways in Food Service and Customer Service					hways/power-pathways.php
Halifax Community College <i>Students with Disabilities</i> (self-paced)	For students with ID and/or DD— classes for academic and personal improvement and increased opportunities for gainful employment in new or existing industries in the Roanoke Valley and beyond	20			Phyllis Chavis: pchavis@halifaxcc.edu	https://halifaxcc.edu/WED/CCR/disabilities.php
Haywood Community College <i>Career College</i> (2 years)	For students with ID and/or DD— reading, math, and computer skills as well as hands-on practicum experience within a specific program of study	not restricted		✓	Jessica Honeycutt - jhoneycutt@haywood.edu	https://www.haywood.edu/programs/college-career-readiness.php

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Community College and Program Name	Description	Number of Students Per Year	Internship Opportunity	Certificate or Award	Contact Information	Program Website
<p>Mayland Community College</p> <p><i>Life Skills and Work Skills Academy (self-paced)</i></p>	<p>For students with ASD, ID, DD, and TBI— build independent living and workforce skills, make connections with local employers, master specific job tasks, and develop an Interview Portfolio</p>	<p>30</p>			<p>(<i>Work Skills</i>) Virginia Alverado: valvarado@mayland.edu</p> <p>(<i>Life Skills</i>) Carol Holden: lifeskills@mayland.edu</p>	<p>https://www.mayland.edu/continuing-education/pre-colleged-esl/work-skills-academy/</p>
<p>Nash Community College</p> <p><i>Foundation Adult Basic Education (self-paced)</i></p>	<p>For students with ASD, ID and DD— academics (math and language arts) as well as coursework in specific career pathways for hospitality and food service, gardening and lawn maintenance, commercial cleaning, and retail sales</p>	<p>not restricted</p>	<p>✓</p>		<p>Roslyn Pemberton: rapemberton859@nashcc.edu</p>	<p>https://nashcc.edu/academics/continuing-education-programs/college-and-career-readiness/</p>

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<p>Pitt Community College <i>Career Academy</i> (2 years)</p>	<p>For students with ID, DD, and ASD—develop job skills, career choices, academics in career contexts, and goals and objectives for job attainment in partnership with Pitt County Vocational Rehabilitation Services</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>Melissa Morlock: mwmorlock745@my.pittcc.edu</p>	<p>https://pittcc.edu/academics/academic-programs/transition-studies/career-academy/</p>
<p>Randolph Community College <i>ABLE</i> (self-paced)</p>	<p>Provides a supportive academic setting for adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities as they prepare for more independence and opportunities. The program focuses on academic, social, vocational, and life skills to create a foundation that can help students</p>	<p>not restricted</p>		<p>✓</p>	<p>Shaneka Jones smjones@randolph.edu 336-633-0009</p>	<p>https://www.randolph.edu/academics/college-and-career-readiness-programs.aspx</p>

Community College Programs

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	transition smoothly into college or the workforce.					
<p>Robeson Community College</p> <p><i>ABET</i> (self-paced)</p>	<p>For students with ID and/or TBI— basic skills and abilities needed to become more independent and self-directed and meet and manage community, social, work, and personal adult responsibilities</p>	<p>not restricted</p>			<p>Banessa McCormick: bwilliams@robeson.edu</p>	<p>https://www.robeson.edu/ccr/</p>
<p>Rowan-Cabarrus Community College</p> <p><i>SOAR</i> (2 years)</p>	<p>For students with ASD, ID, DD, and TBI— classes on functional academics, community living, health and safety, leisure activities and humanities and participation in campus and community activities</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>Bridget Henderson: bridget.henderson@rccc.edu or Mandy Thacker: mandy.thacker@rccc.edu</p>	<p>https://www.rccc.edu/precollege/about-the-soar-program/</p>

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Sampson Community College <i>ACE</i> (self-paced)	For students with ID—reading, writing, math and vocational training through Project Discovery	not restricted			Allie Turner: aturner@sampsoncc.edu	https://www.sampsoncc.edu/wdce/academy-of-continuing-excellence/
South Piedmont Community College <i>Compass Education</i> (self-paced)	For students with ASD, ID, DD, TBI, CP, and more—math, reading, writing, soft skills, and occupational pathways in food service and heritage arts	not restricted			Nikki Myers: nmyers@spcc.edu	https://spcc.edu/areas-of-study/adult-basic-skills/compass-education/
Wake Technical Community College <i>Pathfinder Career Exploration Program</i> (2 years)	For students with ASD, ID, DD, TBI, CP, and more—six employment-focused cohorts in horticulture and landscaping, health care, animal care/pet retail, business/customer service, food	40 per cohort		✓	Julia Tennant: jatennant@waketech.edu 919-334-1545	https://www.waketech.edu/programs-courses/non-credit/strengthen-basic-skills/adult-basic-education/abe

Community College Programs

Community College and Program Name	Description	Number of Students Per Year	Internship Opportunity	Certificate or Award	Contact Information	Program Website
	service/culinary, and technology as well as career pathway opportunities in hospitality and barista/café training. They offer online only and hybrid options.					
<p>Wilkes Community College</p> <p><i>Career Step (self-paced)</i></p>	<p>For students with ASD, ID, DD, TBI, CP, and more— basic academics, liberal arts, employability skills, workplace readiness, and computer skills, concluding with hands-on training for a chosen career pathway (e.g., culinary)</p>	<p>not restricted</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>DeeAnna Parker: dcparker538@wilkescc.edu</p>	<p>https://www.wilkescc.edu/ccr/</p>
<p>Central Carolina Community College</p>	<p>For adults (at least 18 years old) with intellectual/developmental disabilities who have</p>	<p>not restricted</p>		<p>✓</p>	<p>?</p>	<p>https://www.cc.cc.edu/news/story.php?story=9574</p>

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<i>BELL Academy</i> (2 years)	been referred - emphasis is on improving reading, writing, math, and computer skills; helping adults become more independent					
<p>Cleveland Community College</p> <p><i>ConneXions PostSecondary Program</i> (2-years)</p>	Mission is to encourage students with disabilities to: achieve post-secondary education and employment goals, become responsible learners and workers, improve communication skills, increase self-advocacy skills, etc.	38	✓	✓	Haley Blanton or Jennifer Wall: connexions@clevelandcountyschools.org	https://sites.google.com/a/clevelandcountyschools.org/transition/connexions

Abbreviated Programs

Community College/University and Program Name	Description	Number of Students Per Year	Internship Opportunity	Certificate or Award	Contact Information	Program Website
Pitt and Wake Tech Community Colleges <i>T-STEP</i> (12 weeks)	For students with ASD—organization and executive function skills, emotion regulation skills, and social skills through the classroom, counseling, and volunteer internships	8-15		✓	Rashad Carlson: TSTEPinfo@med.unc.edu	https://teach.com/cllc/t-step-teach-school-transition-to-employment-and-postsecondary-education/
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill <i>HEELS 2 Transition</i> <i>HEELS Prep</i> (4 weeks Summer)	For students with ID and/or DD—hybrid in-person and virtual experience building skills in self-management, life skills, career development, mental health, and community safety	10			Dara Chan: heels2transition@med.unc.edu	https://www.med.unc.edu/healthisciences/outreach/heels2transition/heels2sprep/
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill	For students with ID and/or DD—supported participation in social opportunities	7-13			Brianne Tomaszewski: brianne_tomasz	https://www.med.unc.edu/healthisciences/outreach/heels2

Abbreviated Programs

Community College/University and Program Name	Description	Number of Students Per Year	Internship Opportunity	Certificate or Award	Contact Information	Program Website
<i>HEELS 2 Transition HEELS UP (5 weeks Summer)</i>	and a summer course at UNC Chapel Hill through a person-centered plan				ewski@med.unc.edu	transition/heelsup/
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill <i>HEELS 2 Transition HEELS UP (Year round program)</i>	An inclusive post-secondary education program at UNC Chapel Hill preparing for a two-year, year-round program launch for young adults with disabilities beginning Spring 2025.	3-7		✓	Hayden Loeb heels2transition@med.unc.edu (919) 966-4761	https://www.med.unc.edu/healthsciences/outreach/heels2transition/heelsup/
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill <i>LEND (1 year)</i>	For students with IDD— Inclusive Leadership Program. Students need to be interested in Disability Advocacy work	4			Anna Ward: anna.ward@cid.unc.edu	http://www.cid.unc.edu/Education/LEND/Default.aspx
Stanly Community College	For students with self-identified I/DD - educational and career pathway opportunities.	30			Alia King aking9402@stanly.edu 704-991-0394	https://www.stanly.edu/college-career-readiness/human-res

Abbreviated Programs

Community College/University and Program Name	Description	Number of Students Per Year	Internship Opportunity	Certificate or Award	Contact Information	Program Website
<i>Access to achievement</i> (planned program length varies from student to student)	Also offer classes through the HR Development program such as literacy, interview skills, resume writing, life skills, financial literacy, budgeting, basic computer skills, and much more.					ources-development.html
<p>Richmond Community College</p> <p>Next Steps (2 years)</p>	<p>Next Steps is an individualized, job-focused instruction and workforce preparation activities for adults 18 years of age and older with intellectual disabilities. The multi-step program provides inclusive opportunities for students to earn</p>	<p>not restricted</p>	<p>✓</p>		<p>Nicole Worley</p> <p>ndworley@richmondcc.edu</p> <p>9104101863</p>	<p>https://richmondcc.edu/nextsteps</p>

Abbreviated Programs

Community College/University and Program Name	Description	Number of Students Per Year	Internship Opportunity	Certificate or Award	Contact Information	Program Website
	micro-credentials, certifications, and/ or college credit in preparation for employment.					
<p>North Carolina State University Elevate (4 year)</p>	<p>Administratively housed in NC State’s College of Education, Elevate is an inclusive postsecondary education program (IPSE) that provides a person-centered campus experience for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) opportunities to ‘think nad do’ in order to enrich academic knowledge, transform career, and occupational skills, and advance</p>	<p>not restricte d</p>	<p>✓</p>		<p>Tamira White Email: elevateprogram@ncsu.edu</p>	<p>https://elevate.ced.ncsu.edu/</p>

Abbreviated Programs

Community College/University and Program Name	Description	Number of Students Per Year	Internship Opportunity	Certificate or Award	Contact Information	Program Website
	personal and social development.					
<p>University of North Carolina at Wilmington Inclusive Future Program (IFP) - 2 year</p>	<p>The Inclusive Futures Program (IFP) is a two-year comprehensive postsecondary certificate program for individuals with intellectual disability at the University of North Carolina Wilmington. The IFP focuses on growth in the areas of career development, academics, independent living, campus and community engagement, and self-determination.</p>	<p>Not restricted</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>Karl Wennerlind email - wennerlindk@uncw.edu</p> <p>Ali Arostegui email - arostegui@uncw.edu</p>	<p>https://uncw.edu/academics/beyond-the-classroom/inclusive-futures/#:~:text=The%20Inclusive%20Futures%20Program%20%28IFP%29%20is%20a%20two-year%2C,the%20Inclusive%20Life%20Skills%20and%20Career%20Development%20Certificate.</p>

Abbreviated Programs

Community College/University and Program Name	Description	Number of Students Per Year	Internship Opportunity	Certificate or Award	Contact Information	Program Website
<p>Wingate Julia's Learning (2 years)</p>	<p><i>Julia's Learning</i> is a living, learning, exploring, and working program which enables persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities to have a Wingate University college experience, leading to independence, autonomy, self-worth and meaningful lifelong employment. Julia's Learning students work toward earning a two-year certificate and will take part in inclusive</p>	<p>4</p>		<p>✓</p>	<p>Dr. Melanie Keel email: m.keel@wingate.edu</p>	<p>https://www.wingate.edu/admissions/julias-learning</p>

Abbreviated Programs

Community College/University and Program Name	Description	Number of Students Per Year	Internship Opportunity	Certificate or Award	Contact Information	Program Website
	classes, live on campus and participate in the full sweep of student life, in other words, they'll be <i>Bulldogs</i> .					

Note: This list is not all inclusive.