

# CareerFocus



Wake Technical Community College

Fall 2021 • Volume 14 • Number 2

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# "THIS SEASON IS SPECIAL"

## EAGLES BASEBALL BRINGS RENEWED HOPE, EXCITEMENT

Wake Tech student-athletes know a thing or two about overcoming adversity. Challenges come in all forms, whether it's a one-run deficit heading into the ninth inning or staying up late to study for a final exam, handling hardship with poise is a soft skill that's sharpened through hard work, practice, and determination. Typically, every challenge has a sense of closure, a proper ending.

The 2020 baseball season provided no such conclusion. One day you're in the batters' box, taking your best swing. The next day, you're home due to the Covid-19 pandemic, with no hope of being able to come back and finish what was started.

"When we were put on hold and eventually the season canceled, the guys were devastated," said Robert Dudley, head baseball coach. "But they worked hard in the



classroom and stayed in shape so that when we got the green light they would be ready."

And then it happened. At the beginning of 2021, confidence started to build as players began to practice. Finally, after an entire year, the Eagles were able to return to the baseball diamond.

"Our players were given an opportunity other student-athletes at Wake Tech were not," said Coach Dudley. "They have friends and classmates in other sports that have not come back yet, so they're reminded that this season is special because we could be sidelined as well."

Nudging back to normal comes with a heightened sense of responsibility. "We have daily screenings and weekly COVID testing to help identify any potential issues," said Brian Anweiler, Wake Tech's Athletic Director. "The team is also required to wear face coverings during games when not engaged in play."

The Eagles play their home games at Ting Park in Holly Springs. Per North Carolina COVID-19 procedures, attendance is limited to 700. Wake Tech's inaugural season of esports started this spring, and other sports will come back as health and safety protocols permit. Wake Tech is a member of the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA).

► Keep up with all the action at [waketechsports.com](http://waketechsports.com).



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Career Focus is published by Wake Technical Community College to provide information about careers and inform Wake County residents about educational opportunities that transform lives through economic mobility and personal fulfillment. Questions about the Wake Tech programs and services described in this publication should be directed to 919-866-5000. For questions or comments about this publication, call 919-866-5929.

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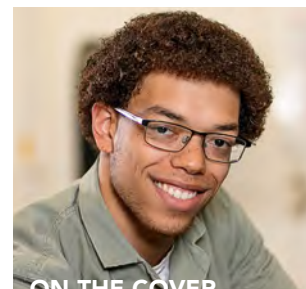
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Justin Skillern is enrolled in Wake Tech's Biopharmaceutical Technology AAS degree program, and is also enrolled in the short-term, non-degree BioWork certificate program, which serves as a gateway to an entry-level position in biotechnology manufacturing.

### ON THE GO?

Read CareerFocus anytime on your mobile device, computer or tablet at



waketech.mycareerfocus.org

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to *CareerFocus*!

... and back to Wake Tech campuses! Faculty and staff have been busy preparing for your return this fall. We're all looking forward to having students back on campus and seeing classes, workshops, student activities, sports, and special events resume.

The past year has indeed been challenging, but we've all worked together to find solutions and maintain our standard of excellence.

We want to help you continue to work toward your goals, whether you're looking to earn your degree, return to the job market, or make up for time lost to the pandemic. Take a look at all that's available here and find what's right for you. Remember, a great "comeback" starts at Wake Tech!!

Dr. Scott Ralls  
Wake Technical Community College



# BIOTECH SUCCESS IN THE LAB – AND BEYOND

## Wake Tech Meeting the Needs of a Booming Industry

**T**he race to develop vaccines during the COVID-19 pandemic has focused a spotlight on the booming biotechnology industry – and the critical work being done in labs here in the Triangle and around the globe. Biotechnology, the use of living organisms to develop and create products, is very big business in North Carolina, and Wake Tech is committed to meeting the demand for a highly-skilled workforce.

The college was a vital part of the equation for FUJIFILM Diosynth Biotechnologies when the company chose Holly Springs, NC, for its \$2 billion biomanufacturing facility. Wake Tech will lead new employee training for the site and has offered FUJIFILM temporary space at the RTP campus, in Morrisville, for hiring and training.

FUJIFILM's announcement is part of a rapidly growing trend. According to the NC BioNetwork, the state has experienced a 31% increase in bioscience jobs since the year 2000 – four times the national growth rate. Many Triangle companies are focused on manufacturing as well as pharmaceutical research and development.

That's why Wake Tech now offers two biotechnology degrees as well as a variety of short-term training programs to meet the needs of industry and offer students valuable career tracks. The programs emphasize good manufacturing and laboratory practices, and instructors bring experience in chemistry, microbiology, manufacturing, engineering, quality control, and other areas.

### Biopharmaceutical Technology, AAS degree

Wake Tech's Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree in Biopharmaceutical Technology focuses on the manufacturing of medicines.

### Biotechnology, AAS degree

Wake Tech's newest program is the AAS degree in Biotechnology. It focuses on the skills required for work in local laboratories. This work requires attention to detail along with an appreciation of chemistry, microbiology, genetics, and other traditional sciences.

### BioWork, non-degree

Wake Tech's non-degree training programs in biotechnology offer short-term classes and certificates. BioWork, for example, is a certificate program that prepares students for entry-level process technician jobs in the chemical, pharmaceutical, or biopharmaceutical fields. This is one of 21 WakeWorks Propel programs currently being offered free of charge to those who qualify.

BioWork serves as a foothold into an entry-level position, and through prior learning credit can serve as a foothold into Wake Tech's Biopharmaceutical Technology degree program. Justin Skillern is enrolled in both simultaneously. The 25-year-old student says he likes learning the skills and processes needed to manufacture products in a safe and clean environment. Skillern, a U.S. Army veteran, chose biotechnology as a career because he wants to help people. "I feel like I am taking on a new 'fight,'" said Skillern. "This is



Justin Skillern



giving me a new sense of purpose – helping others in need.” His goal is to work as a quality control manager while he continues his education.

When Skillern graduates, he’ll have the option to continue his education by transferring into the Bachelor of Science in Industrial Technology degree program at East Carolina University. And then, when future skills-focused lifelong learning is needed, he may pursue future training at the NC BioNetwork Capstone Center, operated by Wake Tech on NC State’s Centennial Campus. The Capstone Center features a simulated biomanufacturing environment, state-of-the-art classrooms, industrial-grade equipment laboratories, and a certified cleanroom suite.

This scenario is an example of how Wake Tech focuses on all of the rungs of the career ladder.

“We have a real opportunity to serve the community and move biotechnology education and training to new heights,” said Leslie Isenhour, newly-named head of Wake Tech’s Biotechnology Department and director of the BioNetwork Capstone Center. “I look forward to building relationships with industries, collaborating with other educational institutions, and seeing our students succeed,” she says.

Wake Tech’s commitment to biotechnology is also evident in the expansion of the RTP campus: The campus’s second building will be a new biotechnology center. The 66,000 square foot facility, opening this fall, will have classrooms and science labs, an aseptic cleanroom suite, an apprenticeship hub, and an area designed for a future Early College partnership with Wake County Public Schools. The \$33.4 million project is supported by Wake County bond funds.

Wake Tech President Dr. Scott Ralls believes the new biotech building will be an incredible asset for Wake Tech and the entire region.

“Some of the best-trained biotechnology students in the country will come out of this building,” said Dr. Ralls. “Students who want opportunity can come here for education and training and walk right into jobs that are just around the corner.”

## Potential jobs in Wake County with AAS Biotechnology Degree:

Biological Technician:  
Entry level **\$37,420**/Experienced **\$58,440**

Chemical Technician:  
Entry level **\$44,060**/Experienced **\$64,040**

Cytogenetic Technologist:  
Entry level **\$37,420**/Experienced **\$58,440**

## Booming Biosciences Industry in NC

★ **3** in the nation in pharmaceuticals

★ **\$56.4 billion** in annual economic activity/132,500 jobs

★ Biomanufacturing industry **doubled in size** from 2003 to 2018

Source: North Carolina Biotechnology Center

Training for jobs now, and for jobs of the future! Wake Tech is meeting the demands of our region’s growing biotechnology industry while serving students like Justin Skillern with world-class teaching, state-of-the-art facilities, and a focus on every vital rung of his career ladder. “I chose Wake Tech because it offers the programs I need to build a successful career doing something I love!”

► For more information, visit [biotechnology.waketech.edu](http://biotechnology.waketech.edu).

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Skills and credentials for the Triangle’s technology industry. Internship opportunities plus options to transfer to a university to advance your education.

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- Data Storage
- Networking
- Programming
- Mobile App Development
- Simulation & Game Development
- Web Development



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# BECOME A LEADER IN PUBLIC SAFETY



Every time our community is faced with a crisis, public safety officials are called on to manage the front lines, make decisions, and determine an appropriate course of action. Wake Tech is launching a new degree to prepare graduates for leadership roles in public safety.

The Associate in Applied Science degree (AAS) in Public Safety Administration provides knowledge and skills in the technical and administrative aspects of public safety. It prepares students and practitioners for entry-level and advanced positions in both public and private agencies.

Graduates will be skilled for employment in fire and police departments, emergency management organizations, government agencies, correctional facilities, private industries, and more. The program is completely online and is currently accepting applications for the fall 2021 semester.

**"I'VE ALWAYS  
WANTED TO GET  
INVOLVED IN  
THE EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT  
ASPECT OF  
PUBLIC SAFETY."**

**-STEVEN SEELEY**

"This program is for students who have a passion for keeping their communities safe and truly want to effect positive change," Slaughter said. "Our instructors have been leaders in many public safety arenas, including law enforcement and emergency management. They bring valuable experience from real-life situations."

The program includes courses in diverse areas, including crisis leadership, agency finances, incident management, public safety education, and administration. Students who already have public safety experience will be able to receive academic credit for previously-earned skills and credentials.

Steven Seeley is excited to start the new degree program. "I've always wanted to get involved in the emergency management aspect of public safety," he says. Seeley has more than 20 years of front-line public safety experience as a volunteer firefighter, career paramedic, and corrections officer. He says he's ready to be an administrator and believes this degree will help him build the skills he needs for a leadership role in emergency management. "I enjoy being knee-deep in disaster preparedness, response and recovery, so employment opportunities with FEMA and state and local emergency management are exciting to me."

Seeley is also excited that he will be able to complete the program online. "That's very beneficial," he says. "My work schedule changes every week, so being able to fit my classes and assignments around work is very helpful."

Some public safety administration careers require a bachelor's degree – and a bilateral agreement between Wake Tech and NC State University offers that opportunity. Wake Tech graduates can transfer seamlessly to NC State's Leadership in the Public Sector program, also online.

► Learn more at [publicsafety.waketech.edu](https://publicsafety.waketech.edu)

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# FIND YOUR COMFORT ZONE

## Building Automation Careers are Hot!



When it comes to the thermostat in your home or office, what's your comfort zone? 70 degrees? 72? When your system can't maintain your preferred setting, it's an HVAC technician to the rescue – and quite often, it's one trained at Wake Tech! For years, Wake Tech has been a leader in Air Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration (AHR) training, and the college is now expanding into the high-tech world of building automation.

"Building automation technicians are the experts that the industry is dying for because of all the 'smart' technology," says Wake Tech AHR Department Head James Freeman. "They know the equipment, but work mostly on the programming and controls."

Thanks to a \$455,000 grant from the National Science Foundation, Wake Tech is developing North Carolina's first associate degree program in Building Automation Technology (BAT), with five specialized courses. The grant funds will also cover the upfitting of a special

lab with the equipment the program will require.

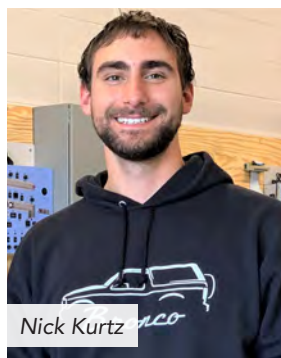
In their first year, BAT students learn the principles and mechanics of heating and air conditioning. Year two includes advanced, in-depth instruction on the electrical and IT components of the controls. Students will learn to wire sensors, connect equipment to the computer, and write sequences to make everything work together to deliver the desired comfort levels. New courses include Logic and Programming, Networking, Integration, and Controls.

"Think about your house. It might have one, two, or even three systems, with a thermostat for each one," says Instructor Andy Smart. "Commercial buildings have multiple systems and pieces of equipment, and the controls tie all those components together.

Building automation is also a key to energy efficiency, and one of the reasons specialized technicians are in high demand.

"We're building smart buildings, but there are not enough technicians who know how to work on them," says Freeman. "We're spending money on technology that we're not yet able to take full advantage of."

Freeman says the ideal student for BAT is one who is tech-savvy. Graduate Nick Kurtz has already been hired as a maintenance technician but would love to learn more.



"This is one of the least understood aspects of this field," says Kurtz. "This type of training will definitely open more doors."

Building Automation is one of three new specialized AHR pathways at Wake Tech. Commercial Air Conditioning has been added to the college's traditional program, preparing graduates to work in residential or commercial settings. Commercial Refrigeration prepares graduates to work in supermarkets, big box stores, and restaurants.

AHR students train in the new Center for Building Technologies on the Southern Wake Campus, one of the most advanced facilities in the state. It offers a unique opportunity to train on equipment from three major manufacturers: Daikin, Mitsubishi (donated by Brady Trane), and LG (donated by Faulkner Hanes). WakeWorks Apprenticeship opportunities are available. Learn more at [HVAC.waketech.edu](http://HVAC.waketech.edu).

*This project is supported by the National Science Foundation under Grant #2000190.*



# A WEALTH OF KNOWLEDGE CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE

## Students Learn About Money Management

The coronavirus pandemic took its toll on so many lives – and livelihoods, as people found themselves suddenly out of work. That was the case for Wake Tech student Pablo Torres Correa, who lost his part-time job at the same time that his father lost his. The family struggled to make ends meet, but it was not the first time.

“My parents are Columbian immigrants who have never really understood the monetary system here in the U.S.,” Pablo says. “I grew up thinking that financial instability was normal.”

Everything changed when Pablo attended a Student Money Management workshop at Wake Tech. Very few – if any – higher education institutions in North Carolina have a financial expert on staff to help educate students about money management. Wake Tech’s Student Money Management program coordinator LaTonya Parsons offers workshops and one-on-one counseling, to help students learn about money and overcome financial barriers to success. She is committed to giving students the tools, resources, and financial education they need to be fiscally responsible now – and in the future.

“Everyone, at some point, has to make financial decisions,” LaTonya says. “Many college students haven’t been exposed to concepts such as budgeting, banking, or credit and how it works.”

Pablo picked up some valuable tips in that first workshop and followed up with LaTonya for some personalized coaching. They met often, and



Pablo Torres Correa

Pablo says he learned a lot. “In one meeting,” he says, “she helped me get approved for my first credit card so that I could start establishing credit. She has helped me with budgeting, and getting my taxes organized.”

“There’s no shame in asking for help,” LaTonya says. “I am humbled that students trust me to share in their

financial journey. Success, for me, is seeing stories like Pablo’s unfold.”

Pablo says LaTonya inspired him to take control of his finances. He now has a job and owns a car, and he knows how to make informed financial decisions. “Ms. Parsons taught me that I could achieve any financial goal with a little bit of planning and a whole lot of knowledge.”

Best of all, he says, he has been able to share his knowledge with his parents, and that has made a difference for the whole family. He’s now on track to

make a down payment on a condo. He plans to attend NC State after he graduates from Wake Tech, with the goal of going to law school someday.

“I realize now that I can dream bigger!” Pablo says. “The student money management program gave that to me.”

The Wake Tech Student Money Management Program is supported in part by Truist.

► To learn more, visit [moneymanagement.waketech.edu](https://moneymanagement.waketech.edu).

### STUDENT MONEY MANAGEMENT PILLARS

**INFORM** students by providing tools and resources

**EMPOWER** students to take control of their finances

**INSPIRE** positive financial habits that will last a lifetime

**SUPPORT** students through workshops and coaching

# FACTS and FINDS

## LET'S GRAB LUNCH

Millions of people were forced to work and learn from home over the past year. While there have been some upsides, like reduced commute times, a recent study found that Americans are spending over 45 extra minutes a day working than before the pandemic. Even before they started working from home, nearly two-thirds of Americans either worked through lunch at their desk or skipped their lunch break altogether. Practicing mindfulness around real breaks throughout the day can boost your mood, productivity, and overall happiness—starting with lunch!



*Resources: National Bureau of Economic Research, Collaborating During Coronavirus: The Impact of COVID-19 on the Nature of Work, 2020. The New York Times Magazine Work Issue, 2016.*

## SOCIAL MEDIA IN MODERATION

How much time do you think you're spending on social media? Recent statistics may surprise you. The average time spent on social media every day is just under 2 ½ hours for all users between the ages of 16 and 64 across the world. If the average user continued this trend—not taking into account that the time spent on social media increases year after year—they would spend 5.7 years of their life on social media!

There are certainly benefits to being connected. It's easier than ever to stay in touch with friends and family. You can leverage social media to network and find jobs. You can curate your interests and likes on a single platform.

Of course, it's always best to keep all things in moderation. If you feel hooked, less productive than usual, or maybe you just want to take a social



media breather, there are plenty of resources to help.

Try monitoring how much time you're spending on social media. Apps like Moment and Offtime are free and can help you set and stick to boundaries by notifying you once you've exceeded your chosen time limit. Some platforms such as Instagram have implemented internal features to track and share how much time you're really spending, browsing, and swiping.

*Resources: Data Report Digital 2020 Report; Backlinko Social Network Usage and Growth Statistics 2021.*

## YOU'RE WORTH IT!

Ever wonder whether it would be worth it to go back to school for a degree? Consider this. Statistics show that the average salary for someone with an associate degree is \$46,124, while someone with only a high school diploma will earn an average of \$36,782. Over the course of their career, a person with an associate degree will make about \$300,000 more than someone without!

*Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).*

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**WAKE TECH**

# BACK IN BUSINESS

## A Plan for Returning to the Workforce

BY KATIE DUNN



Returning to work after a career break is a major life transition! Here is a plan to help you re-enter the paid workforce:

- **Shift your mindset** from stay-at-home-parent to working parent. Regain your professional confidence by recalling past work accomplishments. Redistribute duties at home: Chores teach kids responsibility!
- **Explore Your Strengths.** Write down your top 3 skills/strengths and develop a personal brand statement around them. Example: I'm an accountant with keen attention to detail and the ability to develop strong client relationships.
- **Develop a target company list** where your skills are needed. Note the keywords that appear often and use these in your resume and LinkedIn profile.
- **Write your resume.** Fill your career gap by including volunteer activities or courses you've taken in your Experience section. Include a profile statement that acknowledges your career break and quickly moves on to talk about being ready and excited to return to work - draw from your brand statement (step 2) to write this. Make your resume bullets about professional accomplishments, not a list of job duties.
- **Network, network, network!** Invite people to virtual coffees, attend virtual Meet-Ups, join professional associations and enlist the help of everyone you know. Make it a social activity! Use the network you already have and expand it to include new people who can advocate for you. Work down your list of target companies, doing informational interviews with people who work there.

- **Practice your interview skills.** Use the STAR format to respond to interview questions that begin with "Tell me about a time...". To use the STAR format, provide the Situation to give context to your answer, the Task you had to do, the Action you took and the Result you achieved. Use [www.salary.com](http://www.salary.com) so you're ready when asked about your salary expectations.

Katie Dunn is the founder of Back to Business, a Raleigh company on a mission to help women return to work after a career break. [BackToBusinessConference.com](http://BackToBusinessConference.com)

  
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- ★ Activate your Wake Tech account
- ★ Apply for financial aid
- ★ Meet with an advisor

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Website: [admissions.waketech.edu](https://admissions.waketech.edu)

### Advising

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Website: [advising.waketech.edu](https://advising.waketech.edu)

### Registration

Email: [registrar@waketech.edu](mailto:registrar@waketech.edu)  
Website: [registrar.waketech.edu](https://registrar.waketech.edu)



## VISIT WAKE TECH



There are lots of ways to  
visit Wake Tech –  
on campus and online!

**CAMPUS TOURS**

**VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE**

**VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSIONS**

- College Overview
- Admissions Process
- Student Experience
- Live Q & A

We look forward to seeing you!



[visit.waketech.edu](https://visit.waketech.edu)

# A CUT ABOVE!

**W**hen it comes to putting people back to work or preparing them for university transfer, no one does it like Wake Tech. We have quick, specialized programs to sharpen your skills, industry connections that can shave time off your job search, and university partnerships for a smooth transition.

Check out all your options below and then join us! Let Wake Tech be a part of your great comeback!

## University Transfer

Associate in Arts (AA)

Associate in Science (AS)

Associate in Engineering (AE)

Associate in Fine Arts (AFA)



## Career Programs

### Credentials Key:

AAS = Associate in Applied Science

D = Diploma

C = Certificate



## APPLIED ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGIES

Career Path	National Median Salary
Air Conditioning, Heating & Refrigeration - Building Automation Technology (AAS, C)	\$44,629-\$62,964
Air Conditioning, Heating & Refrigeration - Commercial Air Conditioning (AAS, D, C)	\$29,472-\$46,964
Air Conditioning, Heating & Refrigeration - Commercial Refrigeration (AAS, C)	\$29,472-\$46,964
Architectural Technology (AAS, C)	\$26,434-\$47,319
Biopharmaceutical Technology (AAS, C)	\$24,568-\$45,082
Biotechnology (AAS, C)	\$37,420-\$64,040
Civil Engineering Technology (AAS, C)	\$26,892-\$59,321
Construction Management Technology (AAS, C)	\$34,253-\$43,210
Electrical Systems Technology (AAS, D, C)	\$28,000-\$49,282
Electronics Engineering Technology (AAS, C)	\$32,500-\$66,470
Facility Maintenance Technology (AAS, D, C)	\$30,427-\$41,854
Geomatics Technology (AAS, C)	\$33,483-\$48,913
Interior Design (AAS, C)	\$23,691-\$44,862
Mechanical Engineering Technology (AAS, D, C)	\$34,155-\$47,036
Plumbing (D,C)	\$29,076-\$48,682
Welding Technology (AAS, D, C)	\$30,447-\$80,050



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



## TRANSPORTATION TECHNOLOGIES

Career Path	National Median Salary
Agricultural Systems Technology (AAS, D)	\$28,650-\$53,250
Automotive Systems Technology (AAS, C)	\$27,740-\$50,980
Collision Repair and Refinishing Technology (AAS, C)	\$32,020-\$54,660
Construction Equipment Systems Technology (AAS, D, C)	\$25,000-\$45,000
Diesel and Heavy Equipment Technology (AAS, D, C)	\$29,261-\$54,105



## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Career Path	National Median Salary
Advertising and Graphic Design (AAS, C)	\$31,720-\$93,440
Business Analytics (AAS, C)	\$46,400-\$157,120
Cloud Infrastructure (AAS)	\$52,830-\$134,970
Computer Programming and Development (AAS, C)	\$51,440-\$146,050
Cybersecurity (AAS, C)	\$60,060-\$163,300
Data Science and Programming Support Services (AAS, C)	\$52,950-\$165,230
IT Support and Service (AAS, C)	\$32,830-\$88,940
Medical Office Administration - Medical Office Professional (AAS, D, C)	\$27,000-\$54,600
Medical Office Administration - Medical Billing and Coding (AAS)	\$29,480-\$64,460
Medical Office Administration - Healthcare Administration (AAS)	\$27,000-\$54,600
Network Management (AAS, C)	\$52,830-\$134,970
Office Administration - Legal Office (AAS, C)	\$29,620-\$82,270
Office Administration - Office Professional (AAS, D, C)	\$22,890-\$61,620
Simulation and Game Development Art and Modeling (AAS, C)	\$42,390-\$142,750
Simulation and Game Development Programming (AAS, C)	\$42,390-\$142,750
Web Designer (AAS, C)	\$40,750-\$146,430
Web Developer (AAS, C)	\$51,440-\$146,050



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



## BUSINESS AND PUBLIC SERVICES TECHNOLOGIES

Career Path	National Median Salary
Accounting and Finance (AAS, D, C)	\$30,250-\$44,000
Baking & Pastry Arts (AAS, D, C)	\$30,000 - \$55,550
Business Administration/General Business (AAS, C)	\$37,000-\$55,000
Business Administration/ Human Resources Management (AAS, C)	\$38,040-\$57,400
Business Administration/Marketing (AAS, C)	\$30,000-\$53,000
Business Administration/ Project Management (AAS, C)	\$42,000-\$60,000
Cosmetology (AAS, D)	\$15,962-\$47,383
Criminal Justice Technology (AAS, C)	\$32,508-\$56,319
Criminal Justice Technology/Forensic Science (AAS, C)	\$34,410 - \$64,000
Culinary Arts (AAS, D, C)	\$28,000 - \$67,000
Early Childhood Education (AAS, D, C)	\$20,300-\$45,300
Esthetics (C)	\$24,300-\$36,000
Hospitality Management (AAS, D, C)	\$29,900-\$58,120
Public Safety Administration (AAS, C)	\$42,000-\$64,000
Supply Chain Management/ Distribution Management (AAS, C)	\$31,000-\$50,000
Supply Chain Management/ Global Logistics Technology (AAS, C)	\$31,000-\$50,000



## HEALTH SCIENCES

Career Path	National Median Salary
Computed Tomography - CT (C)	\$61,317-\$74,110
Dental Assisting (D)	\$37,630-\$53,130
Dental Hygiene (AAS)	\$57,200-\$74,526
Electroneurodiagnostic Technology (AAS)	\$45,900-\$71,900
Emergency Medical Science (AAS)	\$21,880-\$56,990
Health and Fitness Science (AAS, C)	\$24,130-\$59,830
Healthcare Simulation Technology (AAS, C)	\$22,734-\$45,011
Human Services Technology (AAS)	\$25,140-\$34,750
Human Services Technology/Gerontology (AAS, C)	\$28,850-\$38,520
Human Services Technology/Mental Health (AAS, C)	\$28,850-\$38,520
Human Services Technology/Substance Abuse (AAS, C)	\$25,140-\$40,400
Licensed Practical Nurse (D)	\$40,000-\$59,000
Mammography (C)	\$64,378-\$77,844
Magnetic Resonance Imaging MRI (D)	\$66,801-\$80,441
Medical Assisting (AAS, D)	\$27,580-\$38,340
Medical Laboratory Technology (AAS)	\$35,692-\$57,720
Nursing, Associate Degree (AAS)	\$61,330-\$79,000
Pharmacy Technology (AAS, D)	\$20,580-\$42,400
Phlebotomy (C)	\$27,350-\$38,800
Radiography (AAS)	\$40,684-\$60,944
Sonography (AAS)	\$69,613-\$76,868
Therapeutic Massage (C)	\$27,640-\$57,280

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

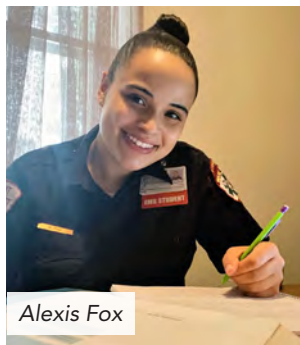
# LIFE-CHANGING GIFTS

## Scholarships Lessen Tuition Challenge for Students



Instead of worrying about paying for college, Alexis Fox is well on her way to becoming a paramedic, thanks to a scholarship made possible by generous donors to the Wake Tech Foundation.

Fox is the recipient of the Phyllis Moriarty Decker Endowed Scholarship, which supports a second-year student in nursing, radiography, emergency medical science or medical laboratory technology. "I've always had to work full time to support myself," she says. "Because of this scholarship, I can work less and focus on my education."



owned engineering firm in Raleigh. Another exciting new opportunity is the Garner Economic Development Corporation Endowment for Education, which provides scholarships to Garner Magnet High School and South Garner High School graduates who wish to further their education at Wake Tech.

The Scott Scholarship, named in honor of President Emeritus Stephen Scott, is Wake Tech's most prestigious and sought-after honor. Kevin Flack, a current Scott Scholar, says the time he invested in completing the application was well worth it. Once he graduates from Wake Tech, Flack is transferring to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to study mathematics.

"It's low risk for high reward," he says. "I tell other students they should just do it and apply. It was an easy process, and if you have trouble with writing, the Writing Center at the Individualized Learning Center is there to help you."

Hailey Berg, also a Scott Scholar, learned about Wake Tech Foundation scholarships from a financial aid staff member: "I love that you only complete one application to be eligible for so many different scholarships." Berg is a single mother who says the scholarship allowed her to focus on her goal of becoming a registered nurse. "Childcare is a financial strain in and of itself," she says. "This scholarship allowed me to spend more time learning and growing and less time working and stressing." She will be the first woman in her family to graduate from college.

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

Wake Tech Foundation scholarships can ease the financial strain of college and help students avoid having to sacrifice their education. Fox says she's very appreciative because she lives on her own: "This allows me to direct my income toward rent and other expenses instead of tuition and books."

The Wake Tech Foundation manages a wide array of financial and in-kind resources that are essential to the success of the college and its 70,000+ students. The Foundation leverages these resources to help Wake Tech meet instructional and institutional needs and make quality education accessible to all.

Thanks to the generosity of corporate and individual donors, scholarships were awarded to more than 350 students in 2020-21, totaling \$470,000.

"Businesses and individuals know that supporting our programs, especially during a time of crisis, can have a deep impact on our community," says Wake Tech Foundation Executive Director Matt Smith. "We continue to work hard to make sure everyone in this county who wants an education can get one!"

Scholarships may be designated to assist students in any diploma, certificate, or associate degree program. They are competitive and are awarded on academic merit, financial need, program of study, or other criteria, as directed by the donor. The scholarship application, accepted between March 1 and April 30 of each year, consists of general information questions and one essay question.

One of the newest scholarships is the SEPI Mentor Scholarship for women in science and engineering. It's made possible by a generous donation from SEPI, Inc., a woman-

A photograph showing two students, a man and a woman, working on a car engine. The man is wearing a blue shirt and the woman is wearing a black shirt with a "Wake Tech" logo.

### GEAR UP for WAKE TECH'S TRANSPORTATION TECHNOLOGIES

At the all-new...

#### Hendrick Center for Automotive Excellence

A photograph of the Hendrick Center for Automotive Excellence building, a modern structure with large glass windows and a dark facade.

The Wake Tech logo, featuring a stylized sunburst icon above the text "WAKE TECH".

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