### **About Project SEARCH**

Project SEARCH is a national initiative that seeks to teach students with significant intellectual disabilities important employability skills by connecting them to available internship opportunities in the marketplace. This real-world experience gives individuals an opportunity to:

- receive valuable post-secondary training and FREE internship experience.
- work in high-status organizations and learn highdemand skill sets.
- develop their strengths.
- work toward becoming more independent in areas such as employment, transportation, daily living and more.

At CPCC, our Project SEARCH students discover fulfilling careers, working with our partnering organizations to develop marketable and transferable skills that may lead to competitive employment.

Our Project SEARCH internship sites are designed to meet each student's strengths, creating meaningful learning environments that empower students with disabilities to learn, achieve and succeed.



Project SEARCH was developed at Cincinnati Children's Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio, by Erin Riehle and Susie Rutkowski. Project SEARCH is a copyright-protected, fidelity-based service model and cannot be replicated without the express permission of the program founders. In North Carolina information about NC Project SEARCH is available through PatKeul@yahoo.com. www.projectSEARCH.us

This project is funded by a sub-contract from Western Carolina University's University Participant Program, a program partially funded by the U.S. Department of Education.

### TO GET STARTED

To learn more about our quality programs or to begin the admissions process, contact April Root at 704.330.6219 or april.root@cpcc.edu.

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# **OCCUPATIONAL STUDIES**



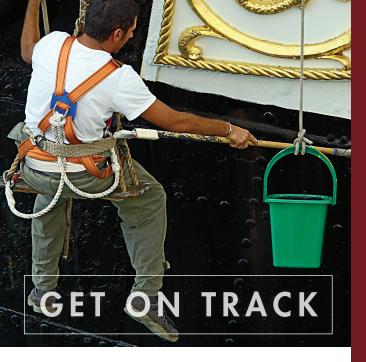




# Occupational Studies

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At Central Piedmont Community College's (CPCC) Community Development Department, we take our students' career aspirations seriously. For students who graduate with a diploma following the occupational course of study, our new academic options provide an opportunity to find personal and professional success. Our staff works in partnership with the College's Counseling Services to assist students who may need specialized curriculum instruction, auidance and mentoring.

### The enrollment process is as easy as one, two, three.

- 1. The College will evaluate your CPCC placement test score and determine which of our three program options best meet your needs - traditional Adult Basic Education, Compensatory Education or Pathways to Employment. Students may enter Pathways to Employment through the Adult Basic Education program.
- 2. CPCC's qualified faculty and staff will collaborate with students to customize the curriculum to their aptitude and abilities
- 3. Each student's hard work can translate into certifications in various areas in as few as two semesters. Students can get on track at CPCC and discover academic options that may lead them to a better and brighter future.

### **OPTION 1: Pathways to Employment**

This short-term training program combines basic academic and job readiness classes with training for jobs where skilled workers are in high demand. Students may complete up to 32 weeks of course work in 12-14 weeks. Certificate programs cover many various fields, such as:

- Welding technology
- Heating and air conditioning Medical billing
- Customer service
- Information systems
- Office administration

## **OPTION 2: Human Resources Development**

Students may participate in job-seeking skills classes and learn valuable employability techniques that may make them attractive candidates to prospective employers. During the program, participants may develop a positive self-image and enhance their communication, problem solving and computer skills.

### **OPTION 3: Adult Basic Education (ABE)**

ABE is a classroom program designed to help students boost their reading, writing and math skills. Students are given a schedule and course options based on their appropriate level. After completing this program, students may enter Human Resources Development, Compensatory Education or a curriculum based on each student's individual situation. The skills learned in ABE may contribute to success in each student's career, community and life.

\*Please note that students must be eligible to participate in certain programs offered.

# **OPTION 4: Compensatory Education**

The Compensatory Education program provides adult education classes for individuals who have special learning needs due to an intellectual disability or traumatic brain injury. Classes are offered on the Central Campus and at local community agencies around the Charlotte area that provide job training and employment.

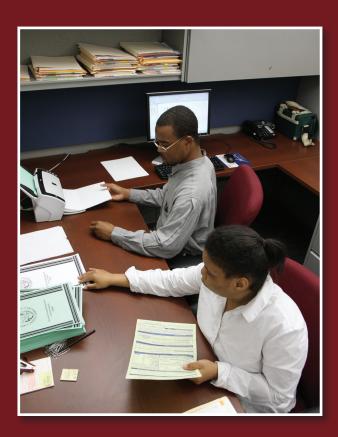
The program's classes are free, with all course materials provided by CPCC. Classes give students the opportunity to make new friends and gain valuable knowledge that may allow them to one day transition from instructional classes to more community-based services and employment.

Program participants learn from instructors who understand their learning needs and design classes focused on areas such as:

- · reading and writing
- math and money management
- consumer education
- community awareness
- computer skills

### **Project SEARCH**

For students who qualify, they may wish to transition from Compensatory Education into an internship option such as Project SEARCH. That's why we have incorporated Project SEARCH into our compensatory education program; because we understand students at all levels of learning should be equipped with the professional skills necessary to find success in today's economy.



<sup>\*</sup>Please note that students must be eligible to participate in certain programs offered.