



State Certifies Two New Career Pathways in Piedmont Triad

By

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The [NCWorks Commission](#) recently certified two new career pathways for the Piedmont Triad region: Advanced Manufacturing and Aviation. The certifications were issued to [TriadWorks](#), a consortium of four workforce development boards (WDB) that serve 14 counties including Davidson, Forsyth, Guilford, and Randolph Counties. A third pathway in Nursing was certified last fall. A fourth – Transportation & Logistics – will be submitted for certification in September.

[Certified Career Pathways](#) provide a roadmap for career-seekers to better understand the education, credential, and soft skills requisites for all levels of employment within the industry sector. The requirements for certification are rigorous, beginning with demonstrating demand for jobs in the given industry. Next, pathways must be employer-driven, and work-based learning opportunities must exist at employer sites. The Commission also requires that pathways promote career awareness and collaboration between high schools and colleges. Pathways also must provide on- and off-ramps for dislocated workers, veterans and students.

What does it mean to the region to have certified pathways? It indicates we have the capacity to train people for careers in high-demand industries, which encourages companies to locate here, ultimately lowering unemployment and improving the quality of life for our citizens.

Certification is just the first step. We still need employers to join our implementation teams! Call the team lead for your industry sector to learn how you can become involved:

Advanced Manufacturing Pathway – James Bain, Regional Partnership WDB, (336) 629-5141

Aviation Pathway – Melissa Smith, Guilford County WDB, (336) 373-3005

Nursing Pathway – Tammy Caudill, Northwest Piedmont WDB, (336) 904-0300

Transportation & Logistics Pathway – Tim Maness, DavidsonWorks WDB, (336) 242-2970

Dislocated workers, veterans and students can call or visit your local NCWorks Career Center to learn about Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) scholarship funds to eligible applicants to cover training costs, like those available to [nursing](#) students through a special grant opportunity.