

Edgecombe Community College
from A-Z. See page 17.

Fall 2007

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CareerFocus™



Fire, Law Enforcement, and Rescue Classes Keep Local Personnel Up-to-Date

See page 2

CareerFocus
Edgecombe Community College
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CareerFocus

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On the cover

Fire, rescue, and law enforcement personnel from Edgecombe County and surrounding areas participate in ECC training programs throughout the year. From left are (front row) Edgecombe County Sheriff James Knight; Jesse Webb (kneeling), Tarboro Police Department K-9 officer, with Cisqo; M.J. Boykin, Tarboro Police Department; Chief Karen Johnson, Edgecombe County Rescue Squad; Toni Lewis, Edgecombe County Rescue Squad; Chief William Whitaker, Tarboro Fire Department; Robert Tinder, Edgecombe Sheriff's Office; (middle) Chief Bo Thompson, Heartsease Volunteer Fire Department; Kermit Perkins, Tarboro Fire Department; Joe Haislip, Heartsease Volunteer Fire Department; Brittany Carter, Heartsease Volunteer Fire Department; (back) Chief Gary Fox, Princeville Fire Department; W.E. Jones, support services division chief, Rocky Mount Fire Department; and Butch Beach, director, Edgecombe County Emergency Services.

Fire, Law Enforcement, and Rescue Classes Keep Local Personnel Up-to-Date

by Charles Kinnin

Marion Proctor is a living history of Edgecombe County emergency services.

The walls of his office in Edgecombe Community College's Arts, Civic and Technology Center are plastered with pictures from his law enforcement career; his computer screensaver cycles through images such as fire trucks and ambulances; and another wall displays a photographic account of the birth of the county's 911 system.

After 38 years in the fire, law enforcement, and rescue fields, Proctor is helping current personnel train for anything and everything.

"I have the most fun job out here," says Proctor, coordinator of the college's fire, EMS, and law enforcement programs.

Throughout the year, ECC offers training in many aspects of the fire, emergency medical services, and law enforcement fields. The courses are open to departments and agencies in the Edgecombe County area.

Scores of classes available

The Fire Service program gives full-time and volunteer firefighters opportunities to gain knowledge, practical skills, and certification in modern firefighting, rescue, officer development, and fire department management skills.

For April through October, the following classes are scheduled: ladders; first responder; pediatric trauma/pediatric shock; water supply; national incident management system; LP gas

emergencies; fire investigations/explosives detection and robot; fire control; fire prevention, education, and cause; adult, child, and infant CPR; fire hose appliances and streams; rescue; and scene assessment.

The EMS and Rescue program gives full-time and volunteer rescue squads opportunities to gain knowledge and practical and advanced skills based on pre-hospital emergency situations. A variety of certification classes are available.

These classes were scheduled in April, May, and June: American Red Cross shelter management, N.C. Department of Insurance plumbing code inspector updates, N.C. Department of Insurance mechanical code inspector updates, and adult, child, and infant CPR and first aid.

The Advanced Law Enforcement Training program gives sworn credentialed law enforcement officers, detention officers, and communication personnel

opportunities to gain knowledge and skills based on new and existing technology.

Classes in multi-entry domestic violence, gang awareness, and cell extraction were offered in April and May.

Relevant and high tech

ECC's programs – taught by state-credentialed instructors – specialize in teaching skills that are necessary for today's society, says Proctor, a former Edgecombe County EMT, deputy, firefighter, fire marshal, and nurse.

"We try to figure out what programs we need now," he says. "A lot of this is cutting-edge technology. Fire departments are expected to do more now than 15 years ago."

For example, firefighters have to deal with situations such as hazardous gasses, and they are often first responders to a rescue situation.

The courses can range from two hours of training in one day to 54 hours over two months. Courses are sometimes planned well in advance and sometimes on the fly. Earlier this year, for example, Proctor and several fire officials were talking about the need for training on detecting explosives.

Proctor called the State Bureau of Investigation, and an instructor, equipment, and class time were secured.

At such a point, Proctor will make fliers, "and you've got a class."

Also, a security guard course has been offered. It is not state-mandated. "We offered it because it's going to be mandatory," Proctor says.

Such strategies for scheduling classes are vital to ensure that firefighters, emergency medical personnel, and law enforcement officers receive the best training at

"It's a community effort. Everything we do is the best we can make our community the best place to live."



Members of the Princeville Fire Department receive LP gas training.



Members of the Rocky Mount Fire Department receive high angle rescue training.

the most appropriate times, Proctor says.

“We try to offer programs to broaden people’s exposure. What might be good for New York City might not be good for little-bitty Tarboro,” he says. “Times have changed quite a bit. We’ve had to rethink a lot of issues.”

“We’re defining those issues that are coming up. That’s one of the things I am proud of.”

Flexibility is key

An advantage of ECC’s programs is that classes are held at a range of times in a variety of locations, from the college’s Tarboro and Rocky Mount campuses to the Edgecombe County Sheriff’s Office to volunteer fire departments around the county.

That type of flexibility is important, Proctor said, as many firefighters and emergency medical personnel work part time.

“Firefighters at a volunteer fire department have a regular job,” he says. “We try to catch a lot of departments during swing shift.”

In 2006, 185 fire, EMS and law enforcement classes were completed. More than 2,400 students received 18,736 hours of training.



Edgecombe Community College sponsored and organized a K-9 training program for the southeastern United States in fall 2006. Shown from left are a regional law enforcement officer and a K-9 instructor from Florida.

More than 40 classes were scheduled for April through October of this year. Programs planned include gunsmithing, police K-9, fire investigations, first responder, basic fire school,

EMT recertification, and private protective services.

Part of the need for up-to-date training for a variety of skills is state regulations, Proctor says. In recent years, the state has increased the amount of required yearly training hours.

In law enforcement, sworn officers must receive at least 24 hours of

training – up from 12 – and each detention officer and communicator must get at least 16 hours.

Firefighters must receive at least 36 hours a year – up from 26 – and some require between 75 and 100.

Rescue workers must train for a minimum of 36 hours a year, and most of them get well over 100 hours per year per person.

“They actually go through more than that,” Proctor says. “You’re going to have to go to school from now on.

Although most of the college’s fire, EMS, and law enforcement programs are intended for current firefighters, emergency medical personnel, and law enforcement officers, the public can take advantage of other offerings.

For example, the college offers a two-year associate’s degree in criminal

justice technology. The curriculum provides excellent academic training for those who plan to go into law enforcement, security, or corrections. Also, the degree provides an individual with an advantage when it comes to advancement and promotion.

Beginning fall semester, high school students can enroll in ECC’s new Criminal Justice Academy. Courses can be taken the junior or the senior year and include criminal law, introduction to criminal justice, criminalistics, and criminology. Upon completion of the courses, students will receive a criminal justice certificate. These courses count toward the college’s criminal justice degree.

Keeping Edgecombe safe

The college’s programs combined with the expertise of Edgecombe County’s fire departments, EMS teams, and law enforcement agencies help make the county a safer place to live, Proctor says.

“We have a broad base to respond to all types of emergencies,” he says. “We’re evolving into a pretty good force out here.”

“It’s a community effort. Everything we do is the best we can to make our community the best place to live.” **CF**



The college’s Criminal Justice, Fire, and Rescue Advisory Board members are (from left) J.H. Koonce, chair of criminal justice technology; Marion Proctor, coordinator of fire, EMS, and law enforcement; James Knight, Edgecombe County sheriff; and John Simms, president of the Edgecombe Fire and Rescue Association. Academic advisory boards inform, advise, and assist with planning, implementing, and evaluating college programs.

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Continuing Education Promotes Lifelong Learning

by Mary Tom Bass

The focus of this issue of CAREERFOCUS is the college's continuing education programs. In a nutshell, if it's not a degree, diploma, or certificate program, it lives under the very broad umbrella of continuing education.

Continuing education programs and services are designed to meet the needs and interests of adults, regardless of their educational background. Some courses and services are offered on a continuing basis while others begin as a result of specific requests by individuals or professional or civic groups.

Courses are customized to prepare individuals for work, strengthen job skills, and provide personal enrichment.

"The continuing education and workforce development divisions at ECC play a vital role in the economic development in Edgecombe and surrounding counties," says J. Lynn Cale, associate vice president of instruction. "These divisions act as economic engines that help employees and their families enjoy a quality of life that might not otherwise be realized."

From fall 2005 through summer 2006, 8,128 students received training through the continuing education division. More than 900 courses were offered in 2006.

Classes vary in length according to complexity, and tuition is nominal.

Courses can be developed on or off campus, day or night, whenever or wherever there is an interest expressed by a sufficient number of people.

The broad areas of continuing education are Basic Skills, Hispanic/Latino Initiatives, Human Resources Development, Special Programs, and Workforce Development.

Basic Skills

The mission of Basic Skills is to offer adults the opportunity to improve their literacy skills and acquire the necessary knowledge

for success in employment, self-sufficiency, higher education, and the family.

Basic Skills assists interested adults 18 years or older who have not completed high school. Non-high school graduates 16 and 17 also may enroll with special permission.

Basic Skills programs include adult basic education, GED, adult high school (see related story on page 12), compensatory education development, and English as a second language.

Classes are taught on the Tarboro and Rocky Mount campuses, and off-campus classes are located at various sites throughout Edgecombe County. Students work at their own pace.

Hispanic/Latino Initiatives

Hispanic/Latino programs help smooth the transition of our Hispanic/Latino students from their culture and language to our American culture and language. Among these initiatives are ESL classes for Spanish-speaking students and Spanish classes for the English-speaking community (see related story on page 9).

Human Resources Development

Human Resources Development (HRD) is a state-funded program administered by the N.C. Community College System.

HRD focuses on the development of basic workplace skills by providing skill assessment services, employability skills training, and career development counseling to unemployed and underemployed adults. Each of the state's 58 community colleges has an HRD program.

HRD courses are free to qualified participants.

Special Programs

Special Programs creates classes for diverse populations based on need (see related story on page 8). These courses reflect the needs of business,



James Coppedge (second from left), a Basic Skills instructor assistant, works with students in the learning lab on the Rocky Mount campus. Both campuses have learning labs, which are open Monday through Friday for students who are in the college's GED, adult high school, compensatory education, and adult basic education programs, or for adults who simply wish to improve their reading and math skills.

industry, professional and public service agencies, and community services.

Classes are grouped according to these topics:

- Health Occupations
- Community Services
- Ed2Go – Online Continuing Education Courses
- CEU Courses for Professional Recertification
- Custom-Designed Occupational Extension Courses

Workforce Development

Edgecombe Community College is the county's major provider of workforce training and retraining. Whether it is new and expanding industry training or customized training, ECC is able to meet a wide range of customer needs (see related story on page 15).

Our instructors have 37 industrial training program certifications – which is unique for a mid-sized community college – including Six Sigma, Yellowbelt, Greenbelt, and Blackbelt; Kepner-Trego®; Total Quality Transformation, Vital Learning, and Achieve Global.

Throughout the year, ECC offers training in fire, emergency medical services, and law enforcement. The courses are open to departments and agencies in the Edgecombe County area (see related story on page 2).

The Small Business Center is part of a statewide network designed to support and promote small business growth. The center provides prospective and current small business owners with a central point of contact for information, education, and assistance (see related story on page 11).

The Workforce Development and Training Center operates three training programs with federal funds from the Workforce Investment Act: Dislocated Worker Program, Adult On-the-Job Training Program, and Youth Training and Education Program. **CF**

For more information:

Continuing Education

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A Community College Should Be Your First Choice.

HERE'S WHY!



"ECC is better than a four-year school," says nursing student Erika Trevathan. "I have more one-on-one time with my instructors, and I don't feel lost in the crowd." Shown with Trevathan is Michael Jordan, vice president of student services.

You can connect to lots of help when you go to college. Edgecombe Community College makes it easy for you to attend and achieve your goals.

Starting your education at ECC has big advantages compared to a four-year college or university.

- Convenient locations close to home
- Average class size of less than 15 students
- Personal attention
- Financial aid options
- Student/instructor ratio of 17:1
- Day and evening classes
- Early College program
- Dual enrollment for high school students
- Choice of taking courses that lead to certificates, diplomas, and degrees – on campus or online

And for all this – you pay a quarter of what you would at a nearby university.

Where do I start?

ECC offers many points of connection for you and even more help once you enroll. Take advantage of the many services offered, including helpful new-student orientation, mentoring programs that provide you with a personal mentor, and testing for correct placement in classes. There also are specialized services if you need them, such as financial aid, veterans' services, and services for students with disabilities.

How will I decide what I want to do?

Finding an educational path is important. Counseling and career services provide job and career information that can help you decide. You can talk to a career counselor, use career search software programs, and take interest surveys to help you select a career goal. You don't have to decide right away, either. You can start now by taking the basics required for almost any degree or certificate.

How will I know what classes to take?

Friendly academic advisers can help you customize an educational plan to get you started on a plan for achieving your ultimate goal if you've chosen one. If your goal includes a university degree, advisers can help you design a course of study so that you take classes that transfer directly to your university program.

Can I get study help if I need it?

Connecting with those who can help you is easy. ECC offers professional tutoring, peer tutoring, writing and math assistance, and orientations for new students.

Who do I contact if I need help?

Edgecombe Community College has academic advisers on staff to help you with any questions you may have. Contact Student Services at (252) 823-5166, ext. 255, to get started.

A College Education Is Worth It!

Is a college education worth the investment? The answer is undeniably, yes. Education increases lifetime earnings.

ECC graduates with an associate's degree can expect to earn approximately 36% more over their lifetime than a high school graduate. ECC graduates with a one-year certificate can expect to earn 16% more over their lifetime than a high school graduate.



\$\$\$ and Sense

Which college is right for you? Much like buying a car, it helps to shop around before committing to years of payments.

Annual full-time* tuition and fees for in-state students:

N.C. Wesleyan College \$18,900

Barton College \$17,654

N.C. State University \$5,117

UNC-Chapel Hill \$5,033

East Carolina University \$4,003

Edgecombe Community College \$1,114



*approximately 12 hours per semester

Life 101

You finished high school. Now what?

by Cathy J. Smillie and Mary Tom Bass

Numerous career opportunities are available after high school. For this reason, every student should set career goals and use the classes they take in high school to explore career possibilities and prepare for college.

Yeah, right.

With jobs, friends, family, sports, hobbies, parties, and schoolwork, during exactly which part of the day do high school students stop and think about their careers?

Teenagers understand work, and they plan for college, but Lesley Wirt, career counselor and recruiter at Edgecombe Community College, says the path from high school to college, then college to a career, is as distant to them as mortgages and retirement plans.

“I try to help students become more aware of their career options, then help them get started down that path,” Wirt says. “We have so many offerings at ECC; the possibilities are endless.”

Wirt has experience as a recruiter at ECC as well as at N.C. State University. She pays regular visits to Edgecombe high schools, and local companies and hospitals often ask her to attend their education fairs for employees. She also makes presentations at Fountain Correctional Center for Women.

One of her favorite programs at ECC is Career Fest, an event held each spring that brings Edgecombe County 7th graders to campus to attend career sessions led by ECC instructors. Each student attends four different sessions of their choice. In spring 2007, more than

450 7th graders participated in Career Fest, the most ever. Programs like this help familiarize students with their career options.

It's never too late

Even if students dream of going to college, they might not have taken college prep classes or they discover their grades are too low. They begin to see reality after they've applied to a number of colleges, but don't get in.

“I tell them to start here at ECC, take a few classes, and learn as they go,” Wirt says. “This often gets them in the front door; it gets them used to coming to school; it gets them

familiar with the registration process. Some students have to get comfortable with these things before the classroom becomes a learning experience.”

A good GPA from Edgecombe Community College is a much better credential than any high school rank or ACT score. The best indicator of college ability is a successful college record. In fact, *U.S. News and World Report* reported that community college students perform better academically than the native university students.

Also, four-year schools look more favorably on students who have

completed an associate's degree than students who have taken only a semester or year's worth of credits.

How do you begin?

“If you want a four-year degree, it doesn't matter which degree, there are certain general education courses you have to take – English, math, natural science, social science, arts and humanities,” Wirt says. “So while you're taking these classes at Edgecombe Community College, you're not wasting time. Our classes transfer, and at most four-year colleges, you don't have to declare a major until your junior year.” That's a powerful message because it buys students time, and in many cases, that's what they need.

Edgecombe Community College has a Comprehensive Articulation Agreement with constituent institutions of the University of North Carolina that will take your associate degree credits from us with no strings attached. ECC is a great place to begin a four-year degree. First, with campuses in Tarboro and Rocky Mount, we're located right in your backyard.

Second, ECC is a lot less expensive than any of the nearby four-year schools. At ECC, tuition and fees for two semesters for a student taking 12 hours each semester is \$1,114. At East Carolina University, tuition and fees for two semesters will cost \$4,003. What a difference!

Attending ECC for two years gives you two years to save money, and that could give you the opportunity to go away to a four-year college or university without going into debt for the next 10 years.



Fifty colleges and divisions of the armed forces attended Edgecombe County College Day in October 2006 on the ECC campus. Edgecombe juniors and seniors participated in the event. College Day is an ECC and Edgecombe County Public Schools collaboration. Shown above is a Mount Olive College representative talking with students.

Parents, you can help



Your kids may be ambivalent about their post-high school plans, but most parents are anxious to see their teenagers moving forward. Try to remain supportive and enthusiastic, even if your teen seems to shrug off making choices or frequently changes his or her mind.

This is a time for your kids to develop decision-making and problem-solving skills. If they are struggling to make choices, let them take the time to find options that will fit their individual personalities, capabilities, and needs.

According to Steven Dowshen, M.D., and Barbara P. Homeier, M.D., (The Nemours Foundation, kidshealth.org), here are some things parents can do:

- **Let your kids talk openly about their plans.** If you want them to go to college but they feel they aren't ready or that college isn't right for them, listen to their reasons and respect them.
- **Encourage them to do research.** Guidance counselors, college nights, and talking to their friends all can provide ideas and inspiration. But

when they need specific information, direct them to the library or the Internet to research colleges, careers, job opportunities, and even skills and interest assessments.

- **Help them network.** Do you have friends or family members who are accountants, nurses, or salespeople? Encourage your child to talk with these people and others about their careers and how they got into them. In addition, local or national professional associations can provide a wealth of information and contacts in specific fields. **CF**

What if college isn't the next step?

There are other options for students who aren't ready for more studies or who feel that higher education is not right for them.

• Work

According to *Get a Jump: What's Next After High School* (Peterson's 2002), good job opportunities are out there in areas such as sales, hospitality, business, and the trades. Many industries offer on-the-job training and apprenticeships to high school grads. Talk to your school counselors or teachers about the job market in your area. Scour the classified ads in the newspaper and do some Internet research.

• The military

Many military occupations are comparable to professional careers (medicine, computers, or engineering), so the military is one place to start a career. It can provide training, educational opportunities, and job security. Be careful and be prepared if you choose the military, however. Once you have enlisted, you can't change your mind.



Lesley Wirt, career counselor and recruiter at ECC, explains how the college's ID badges are used to check out materials in the library during student orientation in August 2006.

• Take some time off

If you're not ready for college or the workforce and you just aren't sure about your future, you might want to take a year off to pause and regroup. But taking time off doesn't mean sitting around the house surfing the Internet or watching TV. What it might mean is getting a part-time job so you can take classes in an area that interests you, traveling around the country (or world) to gain a wider perspective on your life, or volunteering for an organization whose mission matches your interests.

Taking time off doesn't mean you should forget about applying to college, either. In fact, you may want to consider making some college plans before you become involved in other activities. Then, once you do become inspired, you're ready for the next step. **CF**

For more information:

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The Hottest Jobs

Listed are occupations with the most new jobs for individuals with an associate's degree or post-secondary vocational awards, according to collegeboard.com.

- 1 Registered nurses
- 2 Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants
- 3 Preschool teachers, except special education
- 4 Automotive service technicians and mechanics
- 5 Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses
- 6 Computer support specialists
- 7 Hairdressers, hairstylists, and cosmetologists
- 8 Dental hygienists
- 9 Paralegals and legal assistants
- 10 Medical secretaries

Source: United States Bureau of Labor Statistics

Community Enriched Through Special Programs

by Spaine Stephens

Special Programs, a division of continuing education at Edgecombe Community College, is enriching lives, expanding education, and promoting a unique kind of learning within the community.

Special Programs creates community services classes for a variety of populations based on need and interest and offers opportunities for business, industry, and professional and public service agencies. People of every age, from every walk of life, and with many different interests enjoy the programs through ECC.

The college works to identify community needs and gathers resources at the college and other agencies to create new educational opportunities as the needs arise. There are few facets of the communities surrounding ECC that are left untouched by Special Programs.

“We want the community using the college as much as the college wants its employees out in the community doing things,” says Marie Inscore, director of Special Programs.

One of the most popular areas is the community services aspect. Through grants from the state, ECC offers classes that are created when enough need and interest are voiced by the community. Some of the classes include woodworking, small-engine repair, flower arranging, basic sewing and knitting, simple computers, upholstery, and guitar, which is one of the most popular and diverse classes.

“Students in the guitar class range from 20 to 80 years old,” says Inscore.

Seniors make great students

Many of those taking advantage of the classes are senior citizens, and the classes give them a chance to visit ECC’s campus, get to know



Simple computers is a very popular class among senior adults. Shown from left are Instructor Kimbo King, Faith Little, and Dazzerine Pitt. Seniors 65 years of age or older can take most Special Programs classes free of charge.

other people, and hone skills they have had for years or develop new ones.

“Our classes get people on the campus and allow them to socialize and have fun,” says Inscore. “They enjoy the camaraderie, and they can bring projects from home and use our saws and other equipment you wouldn’t have in your home.”

The classes, she says, get a group dynamic going that inspires learning for everyone involved and keeps participants’ minds active.

“The classes are very popular with seniors,” she says. “We just began an arts and crafts course at Dunbar

Senior Community Center. About 12 seniors, mostly over the age of 70, are taking the course. They are sewing, making quilts, and latch-hooking.”

All community services classes cost \$20 per student, except for those classes that are self-supporting. Seniors 65 years of age or older can take the non-self-supporting classes free of charge.

The community services classes are formed when enough people, typically around 20 or 30, approach ECC to inquire about a certain topic or want to connect with others interested in that subject.

“When we can see a need, then we make a connection and go from there,” Inscore says.

Several classes in topics like woodworking and small-engine repair have been meeting and working together on different projects for nearly 10 years. Inscore says the participant response to the community services programs is enthusiastic from every perspective.

Courses meet business needs

Special Programs also serves a critical role in business, industry, health care, and professional services for the community.

In-service training courses in the health occupations field are available in CPR, home companion aide, medication aide, and nurse assistant. By providing these courses, ECC is helping address the demand for health services as the state faces a shortage of health personnel.

ECC also offers online continuing education courses, called Ed2Go courses, for those pursuing continuing education units, vocational training, or personal enrichment.

“There are more than 100 course topics out there for online classes,” Inscore says, “and that’s growing.”

Professionals gain CEUs

Also offered through Special Programs are continuing education units (CEU) for professional recertification. CEUs provide continuing education for professionals who want to improve their competency and skill levels in their chosen fields. Professional standards set by the governing agencies for CEUs are met and courses have prior approval before being offered. Some of the professionals being recertified at ECC include teachers, cosmetologists, real estate brokers and appraisers, notary publics, and CPR technicians.

Special Programs offers custom-designed occupational extension courses as well, which can be created to fit specific needs of a business, group, or individual. Some courses housed under this area include food service, computers, customer service, sign language, and workforce development.

The wide variety of people active in Special Programs speaks volumes to the community’s involvement with ECC and to the college’s value to the Edgecombe area.

“The college is very community-oriented,” Inscore adds. **CF**



Marie Inscore, director of Special Programs

For more information:

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ESL Program Opens Doors for Hispanics

E

dgecombe Community College is helping some community members begin new lives with skills and confidence.

ECC offers adult classes in English as a Second Language (ESL), which teach non-English-speaking members of the community to speak, read, and write English.

The courses, which include beginner, intermediate, and high intermediate levels, open doors for these students, including Hispanics and Latinos, to find resources, secure employment, pursue education, and succeed in their new communities. The ESL courses have attracted a special type of student, one who is aware of specific challenges but eager to work hard to excel.

“This population is very motivated,” says Maria Ortega, Hispanic-Latino coordinator for ECC. “They really want to learn the language, and these courses are helping them to move forward.”

The classes, which are free of charge and held at different sites across Edgecombe County, begin with a placement assessment of each student interested in learning English. Students then begin classes based on their assessment; most students start at the beginner level and work up to the next class as they successfully complete requirements.

“Many of the students are very limited in language skills when they begin,” Ortega says, “so they take one class after another.”

After completing a class, the students take another assessment test to mark their progress and ensure that they are ready to continue to the next class.

Numbers are growing

Interest in the classes is still growing rapidly, she says. With the number of students requesting entry to the program, the number of courses offered is expanding as well. This semester, about 100 students have



Instructor Don Allison works with ESL students (from left) Amalyris Rodríguez, Maria Cabrera, and María López. About 100 students took ESL classes in spring 2007.

taken advantage of the program, and with classes' maximum capacities set at 20 students, more are waiting to get involved.

Students who participate in ESL classes are balancing many life goals at one time, Ortega says. Many are seeking education and employment and learning how to adapt to

American ways of life.

“They get these basic skills, and many of them decide to go further,” Ortega says. “It’s a decision for them from learning the language to earning a certificate.”

Many of the students taking ESL courses have children, and finding child care has been a challenge for

them. While ECC does not offer child care, the Community Enrichment Organization has stepped in to provide child care at G.W. Carver Elementary School in Pinetops while Tarboro students attend ESL classes. The organization also has helped

care for children of Rocky Mount students at Down East Partnership for Children in Rocky Mount. Some parents will take turns caring for children at home while the other parent attends ESL classes, which is another innovative way that students balance life and learning, says Ortega.

Learning more than language

The ESL classes go deeper than simply teaching English. Hispanic-Latino initiatives provide access to resources around the community that will help students more easily begin life in their new community. Community representatives visit the classes periodically to provide information on legal services, banking information, migrant programs, driver license regulations, library access, and other services students need to know about.

The initiatives even offer computer classes taught in Spanish so students can learn basic computer skills.

With these classes and initiatives within reach, the students are growing more confident and comfortable reaching out themselves.

Ortega says she has noticed that those students who have children in Edgecombe schools are more likely to get involved with their child’s education now that they can communicate better.

“They can more easily find out how their kids are doing in school, and that’s helping them a lot,” she says. “They are learning about some of these services and making improvements in their lives. They’re gaining a lot of confidence.”

Not surprisingly, the personal growth that comes from these classes and opportunities has spurred an unmatched enthusiasm among ESL students and potential students, she adds.

Spanish classes offered, too

Hispanic and Latino members of the community are not the only ones who are benefiting from the ESL classes and initiatives.

Through the Hispanic-Latino initiatives, ECC offers a variety of Spanish classes for English-speaking community members. Some of the courses offered include conversational Spanish and Spanish for customer service, educators, fire and EMS, health care professionals, human resources, landscapers, law enforcement personnel, restaurant and food services, and manufacturing.

The ESL program and the Hispanic-Latino initiative offerings continue to expand, something Ortega says shows promise for the community.

“We’re getting more and more students who want to come here,” she says. **CF**



Maria Ortega, Hispanic-Latino coordinator

For more information:

**ESL or Spanish Classes
Hispanic-Latino Initiatives**

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Be Your Own Boss

Do you have what it takes?

Do you dream of owning your own business – of reaping the financial rewards, of strolling in at 10 a.m. and ducking out for appointments without having to explain? Do you long to feel a sense of excitement and pride at running your own show? Of course, there are downsides to being your own boss – no guaranteed income, no health insurance or pension perks, and no one else to politely suggest you get back to work when you're distracted or to take responsibility when something runs amok.

Not everyone is cut out for the job of entrepreneurship – and not everyone wants to be. But if you dream of being your own boss, take the following quiz to see if you have the right stuff.

By Kimberlee Roth

1 When it comes to self-confidence,

- I have faith in my abilities, but I also know when to seek help.
- my ego is my guide.
- I often second-guess myself.

2 I tend to see the metaphorical glass as half full

- almost always – things have a way of turning out for the best.
- occasionally – sometimes you get lucky.
- very rarely – I'm a pessimist and proud of it.

3 I sleep easier knowing

- there will be a few surprises – good or bad – waiting for me at work.
- exactly what tomorrow's workday will bring.
- that I don't have to go to work tomorrow at all.

4 To reach a goal I've set, I

- am willing to devote as much time as it takes – 70-hour work weeks don't scare me.
- am willing to take a stab at it and see what happens.
- get discouraged and change course when obstacles arise.

5 When it comes to handling pressure from work or other responsibilities, I

- get down to business – pressure is a great motivator.
- procrastinate – I get overwhelmed, and I'm not sure what to do first.
- buckle – I make choices based on how to best avoid pressure.

6 My ideal vacation is

- a trip somewhere I've never visited before – I love to explore new places.
- to somewhere I've been before – I like knowing my way around and what to expect.
- a day trip at most – I don't really like to travel.

7 When I fail at something, I

- figure it's part of life but think about what I can do differently next time.
- feel ashamed for not being good enough to do what I attempted.
- figure out whose fault it was for preventing me from achieving what I set out to do.

8 When I'm passionate about an idea, hobby, or cause,

- I stop at nothing to devote time to it; you have to make sacrifices in life.
- feel ashamed for not being good enough to do what I attempted.
- figure out whose fault it was for preventing me from achieving what I set out to do.

9 I deliver what I promise

- always – if I make a commitment, I follow through on time.
- sometimes, unless I run into a problem.
- rarely – I seem to have trouble meeting deadlines.

10 When it comes to patience,

- delayed gratification is fine – sometimes good things take time.
- I need to see results soon, otherwise I lose interest.
- it's not one of my virtues – I want things yesterday.

11 I'm disciplined

- most of the time – it takes a lot to knock me off a task when I'm focused.
- as long as there are relatively few distractions and interruptions.
- Hey, did you see the game last night?

12 Among my group of friends,

- I tend to be the one who takes charge and decides what we do.
- I add my two cents about things, but I don't care whether I take the reins.
- whatever everyone else wants to do is fine with me – I'm happy going with the flow.

Scoring

Give yourself five points for each "a" answer, three points for each "b" answer, and one point for each "c" answer you chose.

If you scored between 54 and 60, you probably have business-owner blood running through your veins. Talk to other entrepreneurs to hear their stories; see what inspires you.

If you scored between 36 and 53, you may not be a natural, but that doesn't mean business ownership should be out of the question. Consider taking

entrepreneurship classes and talking with successful business owners to see if it's right for you.

If you scored below 36, self-employment may not be the best option. Instead, channel your energy into finding a job that's right for you, one that holds your interest and offers a sense of security and good compensation.

Small Business Center Can Help Forge Dreams

by Mary Tom Bass

Thinking about opening your own business? Let the Edgecombe Community College Small Business Center help you get started.

The SBC is part of a statewide network designed to support and promote small business growth. The center provides prospective and current small business owners with a central point of contact for information, education, and assistance.

Trudy Lynn, director of the Small Business Center, has been with the center for seven years. "We're a valuable resource to people," she says. "They can get paperwork to set up their tax ID number and register their name with the Register of Deeds office. We help with loans and business plans. We have a good network of resources."

Occasionally, the smartest decision is not to start a business. "After talking to me, some people decide that they don't want to go into business for themselves," Lynn says. "It's better to learn this sooner rather than later."

Lynn says the greatest Small Business Center success story is Brenda Cook. In the late 1980s,



Trudy Lynn (right), director of ECC's Small Business Center, works with client Pattie Collins.

Cook lost her job and wasn't sure what direction to take. She consulted the Small Business Center. Marie Inscore, who led the center then and now directs Special Programs for ECC, helped her develop a business plan for a new mailing services business.

Cook began PAGAS Mailing Services from her home – at her kitchen table – and 10 years later she moved into a 12,000-square-

foot building and added on another 10,000 square feet. PAGAS is now one of the largest advertising mailing services in the country. Cox Publications bought the business in 1997 for an undisclosed sum.

The Small Business Center sponsors low- and no-cost seminars, workshops, and continuing education courses on a variety of topics that are of interest to entrepreneurs and their employees.

In 2006, some 1,250 individuals attended an ECC Small Business Center seminar.

A sampling of the sessions regularly offered include Starting Your Own Business, Writing a Business Plan, Financing a Small Business, Advertising and Marketing Your Business, and Bookkeeping. Customized programs can be designed for business and industry upon request.

A resource center with periodicals, tapes, and books is housed in Building H on the Tarboro campus. Business planning software and access to personal computer systems with

Internet connection is available for clients who wish to conduct research or develop a business plan.

Free one-on-one counseling is provided by appointment on either the Tarboro or Rocky Mount campus or at the business location. In 2006, about 80 individuals met one-on-one with Lynn.

Lots of area businesses have benefited from Lynn's counsel and the Small Business Center resources, including Sunshine Hair Designs, W & W Restaurant & Catering, Pac House Two, and Angela's Haven. **CF**

REAL program equips entrepreneurs

Rural Entrepreneurship through Action Learning (REAL) is an enterprise program at Edgecombe Community College that teaches students how to become entrepreneurs.

REAL is an international non-profit organization that is in partnership with selected participating community colleges and high schools in rural and economically distressed areas.

The program is offered over 12 weeks, one night each week, or over five weeks meeting two nights a week. It introduces hands-on techniques and procedures for planning and opening a small business, including the personal qualities needed for entrepreneurship. Emphasis is placed on market research, finance, time management, and day-to-day activities of owning and operating a small business.

Upon completion, students will have a viable business plan and can begin seeking funding. The program can be offered for continuing education or for curriculum credit. No previous business knowledge or business experience is necessary for entry into the REAL I class.

For more information on the REAL program, contact Trudy Lynn at 823-5166, ext. 220, or lynnt@edgecombe.edu.

For more information:

Small Business Center

Trudy Lynn
Director
823-5166, ext. 220
lynnt@edgecombe.edu

Online GED and Adult High School Programs Are Gaining Momentum

by Charles Kinnin

After only two years in operation, Edgecombe Community College's online GED and Adult High School programs are among the college's most popular.

"We get calls every day about both programs," says Samantha Phillips, basic skills/staff development coordinator.

The online GED program began in the summer of 2005 and so far has 25 graduates. Course work prepares students for the Official GED Test. All reading, writing, social studies, science, and math courses are available online.

The online AHS program began in the spring of 2006 and has five graduates. It is an accredited high school program, and students who earn 20 units of credit in English, math, history, science, health/PE,



Samantha Phillips, basic skills/staff development coordinator, says the option for students to study from home or anywhere is the selling point of the college's online GED and Adult High School programs.

high school, Phillips says.

"The online curriculum is parallel to the same curriculum students would receive in high school."

Enrollment has grown since the online GED and AHS programs were first offered, and future plans call for more exposure and hopefully, more students. In the spring, Phillips and Troy Winstead, basic skills/adult high school coordinator, along with several GED and AHS students, taped a segment for WHIG-TV, a Rocky Mount-based station.

"We're spending a lot of time on marketing," Phillips says. "We're continually trying to boost the number of students who are enrolled."

In the future, she would like to see the Basic Skills program and Student Services working together to offer more "transition services" for GED and AHS graduates who want to enroll in curriculum courses.

"This fall, we hope to create a committee and begin focusing more on this collaboration," she says. **CF**

"Students don't have to be tech savvy," she says. "With just basic computer skills, they can be successful in online programs."

The programs are offered year-round, and students can work at their own pace. The online aspect of the programs allows flexibility.

"That's been one of our big selling points," she says. "It's students having the option to work from home or wherever."

A graduate of ECC's programs will come away having mastered the same course work that he or she would have taken in a traditional

"The online curriculum is parallel to the same curriculum students would receive in high school."

and electives receive a diploma from Edgecombe Community College in conjunction with Edgecombe County Public Schools.

The AHS program is offered through an Internet software program called NovaNet, which is approved by the N.C. Department of Public Instruction.

The requirements for enrollment in both programs include being a North Carolina resident, being 16 years of age or older, and having officially withdrawn from the last public high school attended.

Those who complete the college's GED and AHS programs participate in ECC's graduation ceremony; they wear caps and gowns, just like other graduates.

Both programs will help a student take the next step in his or her academic career, Phillips says, including applying to any of the college's curriculum programs.

"Everyone tends to think that one program is more 'official' than the other," she explains. "They're both launching pads for students who want to continue their education."

Programs' convenience draws students

As of March, 90 students were taking GED and AHS courses online, evenly split between the programs.

Many students are what Phillips calls "hybrid students," meaning that they choose to complete course work both at home and in the college's computer labs.

For more information:

GED and Adult High School

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Nursing Assistant Graduates in High Demand

by Charles Kinnin

Changes in state and federal laws have placed new importance on Edgecombe Community College's nursing assistant program.

Marie Inscore, director of Special Programs/Continuing Education, says some health care roles are now required to be performed by nursing assistants.

"Federal and state legislation are creating opportunities for personal care assistants to become nursing assistant Is," she says.

The Nursing Assistant I program introduces basic nursing skills required to provide personal care for patients, residents, or clients in a health care setting. Topics include communications, safety, patients' rights, personal care, vital signs, elimination, nutrition, emergencies, rehabilitation, and mental health.

The course involves 142 hours in the classroom with lab and 50 hours of clinical training in a hospital and long-term care facility. Prerequisites for the Nursing Assistant I program include a passing score on ECC's reading assessment test.

The Nursing Assistant II program teaches more complex nursing skills. The course involves 96 contact hours in class with lab and 96 hours in a clinical setting at a

hospital and long-term care facility. Prerequisites for the Nursing Assistant II program include a high school diploma or equivalent and listing on the Nursing Aide Registry.

Inscore says ECC students have a passing rate on national exams of more than 90 percent. "We're doing very well in our passing rate," she says. "I think that speaks well of our faculty." Job prospects are good for nursing assistants, she adds.



Chiquinta Dickens (left), nursing assistant instructor, covers the basics of nursing care in her class. Shown with her are students Monique Jenkins (center) and Tamara Everette.

Graduates of both programs will be eligible to sit for national exams required for listing on state nursing assistant registries. They may work in homes, hospitals, doctor's offices, clinics, nursing homes, and long-term care facilities.

For the 2006 calendar year, 91 students completed the Nursing Assistant I program, and 32 students finished the Nursing Assistant II program. "Our graduates find jobs," she adds.

Nursing assistant Is are more common in nursing homes than hospitals. They perform basic care roles, including bathing, feeding, and moving patients.

"They deal with making sure the patient is comfortable," Inscore says.

Nursing assistant IIs spend more of their time in hospitals or long-term care facilities.

"Nursing assistant IIs get hired immediately," Inscore says. "Nursing assistant IIs do a lot of work on the floor. They are important in the medical field."

Earlier this year, the college successfully passed a state site visit, which included inspections, sitting in on classes, and examining certain records.

"We have a good program here," Inscore assures. **CF**

For more information:

Nursing Assistant I & II

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New Medication Aide Program Fills Need

by Charles Kinnin

Edgecombe Community College's medication aide program provides training for a critical function in the health care field.

"This program targets a very specific need," says Marie Inscore, director of Special Programs/Continuing Education. "It enables individuals to administer medicine in a long-term care facility."

The medication aide program began in July 2006. It is a state-mandated program requiring 24 hours of training.

State law limits enrollment to 10 students per class, and those enrolling must be a registered nursing assistant I.

The course covers the six rights of medication administration for non-licensed personnel. Topics include medication administration via oral, topical, and instillation routes; medical asepsis; hand hygiene; terminology; and legal implications.

Students completing the course should be able to take the competency exam required for listing on the N.C. Medication Aide Registry.

Thirty students completed ECC's medication aide program in 2006. The demand for entrance into the program is high, Inscore says.

"We have a waiting list of people who want to get into the class." **CF**

For more information:

Medication Aide

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Afternoon College Developed for High School Students

by Mary Tom Bass

Edgecombe high school students can take advantage of an extensive and diverse slate of offerings at Edgecombe Community College beginning fall 2007.

ECC will offer an afternoon college for high school students during the third and fourth periods of a typical high school day, from 12:30 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. High school students who are at least 16 years of age will earn tuition-free college credit.

“We already have good programs with the high schools and good relationships with instructors and administrators,” says Dr. Kristi Snuggs, vice president of instruction. “Our new afternoon college is a way to strengthen and improve what we have in place.”

Public school buses will transport students to and from the Tarboro campus. The afternoon college begins on Friday, August 17, about six days earlier than the start of public schools. As a result, the school district has agreed to provide transportation for those students who wish to participate.

Students may take the academy classes, which earn both college and high school elective credits, and they also may take college transfer courses, with each course earning college credit in addition to one unit of honors high school elective credit.

The afternoon college includes 13 academies, leading to a possible 16 certificates.

The 13 academies and their respective certificates are:

Autobody Repair Academy
Non-Structural Damage Certificate
Painting and Refinishing Certificate

Automotive Technology Academy
Automotive Technology Certificate

Business Administration Academy
Small Business Management Certificate
Business Law Certificate

Cosmetology Academy

Criminal Justice Academy
Criminal Justice Certificate

Early Childhood Academy
Early Childhood Certificate

Health Sciences Academy
Students who complete the Health Sciences Academy are eligible for two available slots that are set aside for high school students in the college's health sciences programs.

Mechanical Drafting Academy
Mechanical Drafting Technology Certificate

Electronics Academy
Wiring Technology Certificate
Electronics Technology Certificate

Engineering Academy
This academy is available only to Edgecombe Early College High School students.

Facility Maintenance Academy
HVAC Certificate
Construction Building Certificate

Manicuring/Nail Technology Academy
Manicuring/Nail Technology Certificate

Information Technology Studies Academy
Linux Certificate
Windows Certificate
PC Troubleshooting Certificate

Let's take a closer look at the Autobody Repair Academy, for example.

In fall 2007, the high school student would take two autobody courses – non-structural damage and plastics & adhesives. In spring 2008, the student would take two additional autobody courses – non-structural damage II and autobody MIG welding. Upon completion of these four courses, the student may earn an autobody non-structural damage certificate.

In fall 2008, the high school student would take two autobody courses – painting & refinishing I and automotive detailing. In spring 2009, the student would take two additional autobody courses – painting & refinishing II and special finishes. Upon completion of these four courses, the student may earn an autobody painting & refinishing certificate.

All of these courses count toward the college's autobody diploma, which would require an additional 11 courses.

Interest is high

In April, high school students received their high school curriculum guide along with a college supplement which listed all the courses and academies.

“There is lots of interest among our high school students and parents,” says Kathy Webb, college liaison/high school coordinator. “I have received numerous phone calls regarding

our new academies as well as our college transfer courses.”

The college transfer courses will be offered at ECC at either 8 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. for the fall 2007 and spring 2008 semesters. Students provide their own transportation to these classes. The courses are:

- [General Psychology \(PSY 150\)](#)
- [World Religions \(REL 110\)](#)
- [Intro to Sociology \(SOC 210\)](#)
- [Anatomy and Physiology I \(BIO 168\)](#)
- [Anatomy and Physiology II \(BIO 169\)](#)
- [College Algebra \(MAT 161\)](#)
- [Precalculus \(MAT 175\)](#)
- [Calculus I \(MAT 271\)](#)
- [Technology and Society \(HUM 110\)](#)
- [Critical Thinking \(HUM 115\)](#)

In addition, students may select from other college-level courses offered in the day and evening that meet their specific educational and career plans. Students also have the option of taking college classes online.

All college classes are listed in the fall class schedule at www.edgecombe.edu. **CF**

For more information:

High School Programs

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webbk@edgecombe.edu



Far left: The Edgecombe Early College High School is a model school that has been praised by community colleges and school systems nationwide. Shown (from left) are Early College student Dustin Doughtie; Kathy Webb, college liaison/high school coordinator; and Early College students Adam Torres, Ciara Warren, and Tianna Harrison.

Left: Automotive technology courses have long been popular with high school students. Instructor Robert Bynum (left) teaches students how to change oil.

College Offers First-Rate Training for Industry

by Mary Tom Bass

Edgecombe Community College is the county's largest provider of workforce training and retraining.

In 2006, the college's Continuing Education divisions served more than 8,500 students. One of those divisions – Workforce Development – spends far more time off campus than on, delivering training at industry sites.

In Workforce Development, classes are made to order. “We can get creative,” says Dan Grimsley, dean of Workforce Development. “Take welding, for example. If a student takes a welding course as part of the industrial systems certificate program, that student is required to complete a set amount of class hours studying a set amount of knowledge about welding. If an industry wants me to train a group of workers in welding, I find out exactly what's needed and teach just that, nothing more, nothing less. The course might run for a day, it might run for 10 weeks – it all depends on what the industry needs.”

Grimsley was among the first Certified WorkKeys Profilers in the state's community college system. WorkKeys® is a job skills assessment system. Considered a national expert, he has performed WorkKeys profiles across the United States as well as in The Netherlands and Germany.

“Our workforce development instructors have credentials that are highly unusual for a mid-sized community college,” notes ECC President Dr. Deborah Lamm.



Dan Grimsley, dean of the Division of Workforce Development, holds 19 industrial training certifications.

“Both Grimsley and Joy Dalton-Robinson, director of our NEIT, FIT, and CIT programs, have achieved the top credentials in a number of industrial training programs. We are fortunate to have them in Edgecombe County.”

Together, Grimsley and Dalton-Robinson have accrued 37 industrial training program certifications, including Six Sigma, Yellowbelt, Greenbelt, and Blackbelt; Kepner-Trego®; Total Quality Transformation; Vital Learning; and Achieve Global.

The Division of Workforce Development assists business and industry through three initiatives: new and expanding industry training (NEIT), focused industrial training (FIT), and customized industrial training (CIT).

NEIT promotes expansion of existing industries and often helps attract new industry. Grimsley is in the midst of numerous NEIT projects, including projects at Headway Corporate Staffing, Keihin Carolina System Technology, Air System Components, Farmtrac, and Blue Hawaiian Fiberglass Pools.

“We're very pleased with all of the training the college is giving us,” says Gary Hoover, general operations manager at Blue Hawaiian Fiberglass Pools. Based in Largo, Florida, Blue Hawaiian opened a plant in Rocky Mount in March of this year. The plant currently employs 37.

Grimsley has provided training to Blue Hawaiian Fiberglass Pools from the beginning. “We utilize the college to pre-train our employees

in safety and other areas that aren't directly related to composition manufacturing,” Hoover explains.

“We hired 25 people in February and ran them through training at the college. Then we trained them at the plant for two weeks, and we began production on March 1,” he says.

Hoover expects that Blue Hawaiian Fiberglass Pools' relationship with ECC will be “ongoing, at least over the next year or two. The training our employees are receiving is much more comprehensive than what we've got here in Florida.”

FIT is designed to serve the special needs of existing North Carolina industry. FIT's focus is on critical skills that change as technology changes. Customized instruction is directed toward skilled and semi-skilled production workers, industrial maintenance workers, and leaders of personnel who perform industrial processes.

In addition, through a statewide program, ECC provides free customized training to new employees of companies creating 12 or more new jobs in a one-year period. **CF**

For more information:

Industry Training

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Dean of Workforce
Development
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How to Apply to ECC

- Complete an ECC application (you'll find one in the back of this publication) and submit it to Students Services on the Rocky Mount or Tarboro campus or apply online at www.edgecombe.edu.
- Submit an official high school transcript or GED scores. Submit official transcript(s) of any college(s) previously attended.
- Complete placement tests if needed.
- Contact Student Services for a personal interview with a counselor.
- Students applying to ECC may also be asked to complete a separate residency status application if deemed necessary by college officials.
- Complete the FAFSA for financial aid.
- Call 823-5166 if you have questions.



Guess Who's Turning 40?

Of course you already know all there is to know about Edgecombe Community College, right? It's where your brother took a class, your best friend earned her degree, your neighbor across the street learned how to crochet, and your cousin with the Ph.D. started her college education. That's the great thing about ECC – we're adaptable and accessible to all kinds of different people at different stages in their lives.

But there's more you probably don't know. The college has been around for a long time now, but like you, we've been changing. In fact, during the 2007-2008 academic year, ECC will celebrate 40 years of building futures in and around Edgecombe County.

In 1968, 64 students began classes at what was then known as Edgecombe County Technical Institute. Auto mechanics, cosmetology, welding, and a handful of other courses were offered. Today the college serves about 2,400 students each semester and offers 78 programs of study, including degree, diploma, and certificate programs.

Add those students who are taking advantage of about 900 continuing education courses, and we will serve roughly 10,500 individuals this year.

The times they are a changin'

Over the past 40 years, advances in technology have radically changed the landscape of education. ECC now offers flexible scheduling and a variety of online courses not available to students in the early years.

Online courses are based on the same course content and materials that serve as

the foundation for our on-campus classes. However, students rely on the Internet and email to supplement textbooks for much of the instruction. Online courses and courses that meet in a classroom have the same rigor. Only their delivery system and the method in which students interact with the instructor are different.

Many of our programs include online course offerings. The specific offerings are identified in the online class schedules developed each semester. If you are a dedicated student with some computer literacy, online course completion may be right for you. To preview ECC's online courses, visit [http://www.](http://www.edgecombe.edu/showschd.htm)



From left are Thornton Meeks, Foy Bradshaw, and Brian Whitford in a woodworking class in the mid-1970s.



Billie Bass Ellwanger (right) completed the radiography program in 1976. She returned to ECC in 1984 as an instructor and taught radiography for many years.



[edgecombe.edu/showschd.htm](http://www.edgecombe.edu/showschd.htm) and go to "Click here to see only online and telecourse courses."

The list of online offerings is expanding rapidly. In 2005, the college offered 43 online courses, and 518 students took online classes. In 2006, these figures had increased to 79 online courses with 705 students enrolled in them.

New programs with high schools

Officials at the college and Edgecombe County Public Schools have been meeting for months to tweak the current dual enrollment program at ECC. Through the program, students have an opportunity to take college courses while they are still in high school. Students receive both high school and college credit for completing these courses, and the courses are free.

Afternoon College, a new program for high school students at ECC, will begin this fall (see related story on page 14). The afternoon college will include 13 academies, leading to a possible 16 certificates, and 10 college transfer courses.

The Autobody Repair Academy, for example, requires that students take a computer course in the 10th grade and four autobody repair courses in the 11th and 12th grades, one course per semester. At the end of the senior year, students could earn two certificates in autobody repair: a non-structural damage certificate and a painting and refinishing certificate.

Students leave with real-world skills that will help them get a job, and if they want to continue at ECC or at a four-year school, they're a step ahead of the pack.

Online course offerings and more partnerships with Edgecombe schools are just two of the ways in which ECC is changing higher education in Edgecombe County. The college is well-positioned to maintain a leadership edge in the way students of the future access and use post-secondary education.

40 years of building futures

In 1968, few people would have envisioned what ECC has become in 2007.

Classes began in an old prison building west of Tarboro. The Tarboro campus now comprises eight buildings on 120 acres, with another building under way. Ground was broken in early 2007 for a new facility for the cosmetology program. The 7,000-square-foot structure is being built south of the Arts, Civic and Technology Center, and it will include classroom and lab space for some 90 students.

The Rocky Mount campus has two buildings on one city block. Discussions and plans are under way to construct a \$12 million ECC Community Health Education Center. The 46,400-square-foot, four-story center will house five of the college's nine allied health programs, as well as a primary care clinic, a mental health and rehab unit, a simulated hospital, and possibly a dental clinic, contingent upon available resources.

Remaining true to the institution's mission of "fulfilling the educational, training, and cultural needs of the community" will require a combination of leadership and innovation, not to mention respect for the past and an enthusiasm for the future.

Luckily, ECC already has 40 years of experience doing just that. **CF**

Searching for something better in life?

Do you know how or where to start?

Gain a new perspective by evaluating where you are professionally. Maybe new skills or a career shift is what you need. If so, begin to make it happen at Edgecombe Community College. ECC has lots of programs to put you on a great career path.

Our outstanding faculty and committed team of academic and career counselors are ready to assist you in developing the plan to fulfill your dreams. Each of the following areas of study specifies whether a degree, diploma, or certificate can be earned – meaningful credentials that make sense to employers and four-year colleges.

Associate degrees provide instruction in general education, as well as in-depth career preparation.

Diplomas are generally completed in one year. Diploma programs focus primarily on job skills but include some general education courses.

Certificates are typically short-term programs that emphasize job training. Only those classes required to perform the job are included in the curriculum.

A broad range of personal enrichment and continuing education courses also are available through the

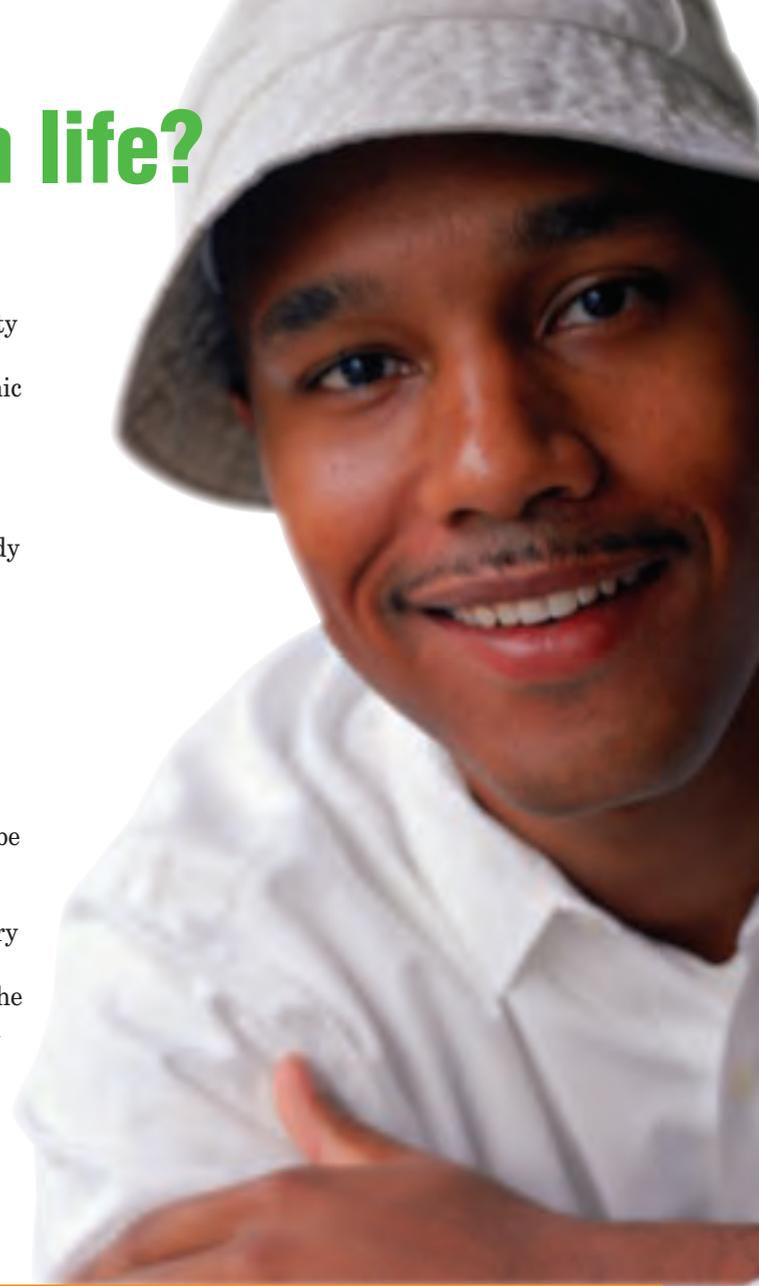
College's Division of Continuing Education. A variety of seminars and workshops are offered throughout the year by the Small Business Center. Also, dynamic business and industry workshops and training programs help new and expanding industries by teaching employees new skills.

We understand that education has to fit your already busy lifestyle. We offer classes in the evening and online. And, as always, hundreds of courses are available on our campuses in Tarboro and Rocky Mount.

Take a look at the following listing. After you find some areas that interest you, call us at (252) 823-5166 or visit us online at www.edgecombe.edu. Let us know how we can help. Get started today, you'll be glad you did.

Note: Average Yearly Earnings: The first (top) salary number (followed by "e") represents the average entry wage. The second salary number represents the average rate of pay for the majority of employees in their occupation.

Source: North Carolina State Occupational Information Coordinating Committee; 2006-2007 *Career Choices in North Carolina* **CF**



Edgecombe Community College A-Z

What follows is an alphabetical listing of programs and areas of study offered by Edgecombe Community College. Call (252) 823-5166, ext. 255, for more information, or visit ECC on the Web at www.edgecombe.edu.

Associate in Arts Degree

Associate in Fine Arts Degree

Associate in General Education Degree

Associate in Science Degree

Associate in Science/Pre-Engineering Degree

This program of study is a college transfer curriculum.

This program of study is a college transfer curriculum.

This curriculum is designed for the academic enrichment of students who wish to broaden their education.

This program of study is a college transfer curriculum.

Pre-engineering major prepares students to enter four-year engineering program at North Carolina State University.

Area of Study	ECC Program	Prepares you for:	Average Yearly Earnings
Accounting	Associate in Applied Science Degree	Accounting positions in many types of organizations, including accounting firms, small businesses, manufacturing firms, banks, hospitals, school systems, and government agencies.	\$31,130e
	Diploma		\$49,220
Automotive Body Repair	Diploma	Employment in the automotive body and refinishing industry.	\$24,247e
	Non-Structural Damage Certificate		\$47,042
	Painting & Refinishing Certificate		
Automotive Systems Technology	Diploma	Positions as automotive service technicians in dealerships and repair shops.	\$21,588e
	Basic Automotive Servicing Certificate		\$43,150



Area of Study	ECC Program	Prepares you for:	Average Yearly Earnings
Biotechnology	Associate in Applied Science Degree (offered through a collaborative program agreement with Pitt Community College)	Positions as research assistant to a biologist or chemist, laboratory technician/instrumentation technician, or quality control/quality assurance technician.	\$26,866e \$42,259
Business Administration	Associate in Applied Science Degree Diploma Business Law Certificate Small Business Management Certificate	Employment opportunities in government agencies, financial institutions, and small to large businesses or industries.	\$20,000e \$49,000
Computed Tomography & Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technology	CT/MRI Diploma CT Certificate MRI Certificate	Positions that use specialized equipment to visualize cross-sectional anatomical structures. This curriculum is a specialty for radiographers.	\$35,753e \$50,307
Computer Information Technology	Associate in Applied Science Degree Diploma Applications Certificate Databases Certificate Linux Certificate PC Troubleshooting Certificate Windows Certificate	Employment with organizations that use computers to process, manage, and communicate information.	\$27,715e \$50,355
Cosmetology	Diploma	Employment in beauty salons and as skin/nail specialists.	\$14,042e \$32,713
Cosmetology Instructor	Certificate	Positions teaching cosmetology.	\$24,700e \$38,500
Criminal Justice Technology	Associate in Applied Science Degree Certificate	Employment in a variety of local, state, and federal law enforcement, corrections, and security fields.	\$25,856e \$35,447



Area of Study	ECC Program	Prepares you for:	Average Yearly Earnings
Dental Assisting	Diploma (offered through a collaborative program agreement with Martin Community College)	Positions that assist the dentist in the delivery of dental treatment.	\$24,667e \$36,564
Dental Hygiene	Associate in Applied Science Degree (offered through a collaborative program agreement with Halifax Community College)	Employment in dental offices, clinics, schools, public health agencies, industry, and professional education.	\$46,002e \$63,070
Early Childhood Education	Associate in Applied Science Degree Diploma Certificate	Positions working with children from infancy through middle childhood in diverse learning environments.	\$14,014e \$21,133
Early Childhood Education, Teacher Associate Concentration	Associate in Applied Science Degree Diploma Certificate	Positions working with children from infancy through middle childhood in diverse learning environments.	\$14,014e \$21,133
Education, Lateral Entry Teaching	Certificate	The lateral entry curriculum was developed for teachers who hold lateral entry license and leads to teacher certification.	\$28,112e \$42,326
Electric Lineman Technology	Associate in Applied Science Degree (offered through a collaborative program agreement with Nash Community College)	Employment in the electrical utility field.	\$30,080e \$41,920
Electrical/Electronics Technology	Diploma Electrical Wiring Certificate Motors & Controls Certificate Industrial Electronics Certificate	Entry-level positions assisting in the layout, installation, and maintenance of electrical/electronic systems.	\$34,265e \$52,281



Area of Study	ECC Program	Prepares you for:	Average Yearly Earnings
Esthetics Technology	Certificate	Employment in beauty salons and cosmetic/skin care salons.	\$14,042e \$32,713
Facility Maintenance Worker	Diploma Air Conditioning, Heating, & Refrigeration Certificate Construction Building Certificate Facility Maintenance Certificate	Positions in maintaining and repairing physical structures and systems of commercial and industrial establishments.	\$22,349e \$37,958
Funeral Service Education	Diploma (offered through a collaborative program agreement with Fayetteville Technical Community College)	Employment as embalmers and/or funeral directors.	\$16,000e \$24,000
General Occupational Technology	Associate in Applied Science Degree Diploma Certificate	Positions that require effective workers. This curriculum is individualized for students according to their occupational interests and needs.	\$16,500e \$26,000
Health Information Technology	Associate in Applied Science Degree Coding Diploma Coding Certificate Protected Health Information Certificate	Positions that process, compile, analyze, maintain, manage, and report health informatics and information.	\$20,590e \$31,570
Healthcare Management Technology	Associate in Applied Science Degree (offered through a collaborative program agreement with Pitt Community College)	Employment in healthcare business and financial operations.	\$20,500e \$34,570



Area of Study	ECC Program	Prepares you for:	Average Yearly Earnings
Human Services Technology	Associate in Applied Science Degree	Positions in mental health, child care, family services, social services, rehabilitation, correction, and educational agencies.	\$18,813e \$28,339
Industrial Systems Technology	Certificate 	Industrial settings that need individuals to service, maintain, repair, or install equipment.	\$24,600e \$46,750
Interventional Cardiac and Vascular Technology	Diploma (offered through a collaborative program agreement with Fayetteville Technical Community College, Johnston Community College, and Wake Technical Community College)	Employment as an entry-level Intervention Cardiac and Vascular Specialist. This curriculum is a specialty for radiographers.	\$35,753e \$50,370
Manicuring/Nail Technology	Certificate 	Positions in beauty salons and nail salons.	\$14,042e \$32,713
Manufacturing Technology	Associate in Applied Science Degree	Positions as manufacturing technicians, quality assurance technicians, CAD/CAM technicians, team leaders, or research and development technicians.	\$24,500e \$45,500
Mechanical Drafting Technology	Computer Design Certificate	Employment in mechanical areas such as manufacturing, fabrication, research and development, and service industries.	\$32,537 \$53,303
Medical Assisting	Associate in Applied Science Degree 	Positions as health care professionals qualified to perform administrative, clinical, and laboratory procedures.	\$18,900e \$27,654



Area of Study	ECC Program	Prepares you for:	Average Yearly Earnings
Medical Transcription	Diploma	Employment as a medical language specialist.	\$23,316e \$32,118
Networking Technology	Associate in Applied Science Degree Diploma Cisco Certificate Linux Certificate PC Troubleshooting Certificate Windows Certificate	Employment supporting network infrastructure environments.	\$37,850e \$58,780
Nursing	Associate Degree	Positions that provide nursing care to clients and groups of clients throughout their lifespan in a variety of settings.	\$39,839e \$58,034
Office Systems Technology	Associate in Applied Science Degree	Positions in administrative support careers.	\$24,897e \$57,851
Practical Nursing	Diploma	Positions that provide nursing care under the direction of doctors or registered nurses.	\$28,999e \$37,906
Radiography	Associate in Applied Science Degree	Employment as a radiographer, who uses radiation to produce images of the human body.	\$35,753e \$50,370
Respiratory Therapy	Associate in Applied Science Degree	Employment as a respiratory therapist, who specializes in the evaluation, treatment, and care of patients with heart and lung diseases.	\$35,668e \$47,439
Surgical Technology	Diploma	Employment as a surgical technologist, who assists in the care of the surgical patient and functions as a member of the surgical team.	\$26,338e \$35,878



Employment Status

Full-time
 Part-time
 Unemployed, not seeking employment
 Unemployed, seeking employment
 Retired

Educational Background of Parents

Check the highest level attained.

Educational background of father:

High School: High School Graduate
 GED Completion
 Adult High School Graduate
 Non-High School Graduate
 College: Vocational Diploma
 Associate Degree
 Bachelor's Degree
 Master's Degree
 Doctorate

Educational background of mother:

High School: High School Graduate
 GED Completion
 Adult High School Graduate
 Non-High School Graduate
 College: Vocational Diploma
 Associate Degree
 Bachelor's Degree
 Master's Degree
 Doctorate

Emergency Information

In case of an emergency contact:

Name: _____
 Relationship: _____
 Phone: (H) _____ (W) _____

Name: _____
 Relationship: _____
 Phone number: (H) _____ (W) _____

Required Signature

1. Information supplied on this application is in no way used as criteria for admission. It is used for institutional purposes and is held in strict confidence. It is the policy of Edgecombe Community College not to discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, handicap, gender, religion, age, or national origin in the recruitment and admission of students. If there are any changes in the information provided on this application, please notify the Student Services Office.

2. Edgecombe Community College is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

3. The completion/graduation rate information is available upon request in the Student Services Office. The Crime Awareness Security Information is available upon request in the Business Office.

I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION ON THIS APPLICATION IS CORRECT AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE. I UNDERSTAND THAT SUBMITTING FALSE INFORMATION MAY BE GROUNDS FOR DISMISSAL. I UNDERSTAND THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS APPLICATION AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE COLLEGE.

Applicant's signature

_____/_____/_____
month / day / year

Programs of Study

For full-time students, the approximate amount of time required for program completion is listed below. For part-time students, completion of your program will take longer. Many students take developmental classes in Reading, English, and Math. These developmental courses are in addition to the program course work.

Degree – two years, Diploma – one year, Certificate – less than a year

SPECIAL STUDENTS

- T90990 Special Credit
- T90970 Huskins Bill
- T90980 Dual Enrollment

ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

- A25100 Accounting
- A20100 Biotechnology*
- A25120 Business Administration
- A10100 College Transfer
(Associate in Arts)
- A10300 College Transfer
(Associate in General Education)
- A10400 College Transfer
(Associate in Science)
- A1040D College Transfer
(Associate in Science/Pre-Engineering)
- A55180 Criminal Justice Technology
- A45260 Dental Hygiene*
- A55220 Early Childhood
- A5522B Early Childhood
(Teacher Associate Concentration)
- A35210 Electric Lineman Technology*
- A55280 General Occupational Technology
- A45360 Health Information Technology
- A25200 Healthcare Management Technology*
- A45380 Human Services Technology
- A45410 Information Systems
- A25260 Interventional Cardiac and
Vascular Technology*
- A50320 Manufacturing Technology

- A45400 Medical Assisting
- A25310 Medical Office Administration
- A25340 Networking Technology
- A45100 Nursing (Associate Degree Nursing)
- A25360 Office Systems Technology
- A45700 Radiography
- A45720 Respiratory Therapy

DIPLOMA PROGRAMS

- D25100 Accounting
- D60100 Autobody Repair
- D60160 Automotive Systems Technology
- D25120 Business Administration
- D45200 CT/MRI
- D55140 Cosmetology
- D45240 Dental Assisting*
- D55220 Early Childhood
- D5522B Early Childhood
(Teacher Associate Concentration)
- D35220 Electrical/Electronics Technology
- D50170 Facility Maintenance Worker
- D55260 Funeral Service Education*
- D55280 General Occupational Technology
- D45360 Health Information Technology
(Coding Option)
- D25260 Interventional Cardiac and
Vascular Technology*
- D50340 Mechanical Drafting Technology
- D25320 Medical Transcription
- D45660 Nursing (Practical)
- D45740 Surgical Technology

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

- C45200 CT/MRI
- C55160 Cosmetology Instructor
- C55220 Early Childhood
- C5522B Early Childhood
(Teacher Associate Concentration)
- C35220 Electrical/Electronics Technology
- C55230 Esthetics Technology
- C50170 Facility Maintenance Worker
- C55280 General Occupational Technology
- C45360 Health Information Technology
(Coding Option)
- C45360 Health Information Technology
(Protected Health Information Option)
- C50240 Industrial Systems Technology
- C55430 Lateral Entry Teaching
- C55400 Manicuring/Nail Technology
- C50340 Mechanical Drafting Technology
- C25340 Networking Technology

* Collaborative program with another N.C. community college

Edgecombe Community College

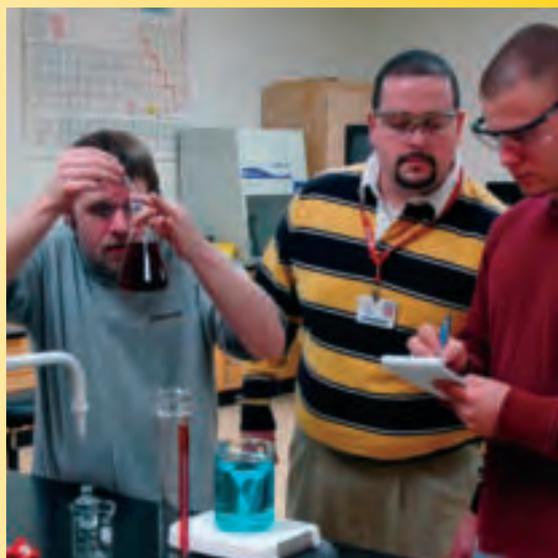
Tarboro Campus
 209 W. Wilson St., Tarboro, NC 27886
 Rocky Mount Campus
 225 Tarboro St., Rocky Mount, NC 27801

Edgecombe Community College

Academic Programs

Division of Arts & Sciences

Associate in Arts
Associate in Fine Arts
Associate in General Education
Associate in Science
Associate in Science/Pre-Engineering
Biotechnology *
Criminal Justice Technology
Early Childhood Education
– Teacher Associate Concentration
Human Services Technology
Lateral Entry Teaching



Continuing Education Programs

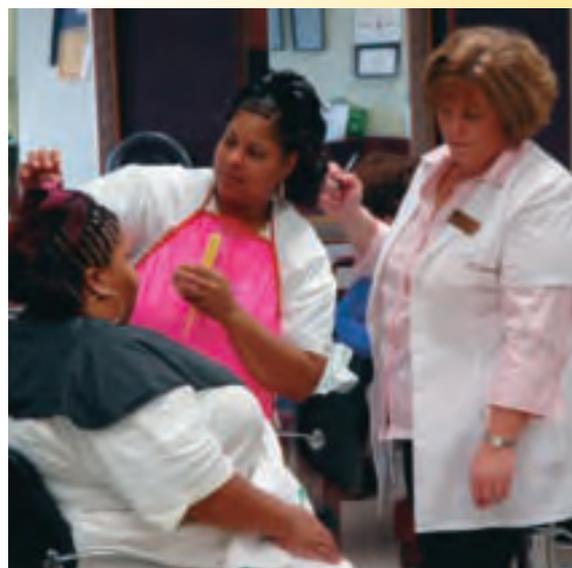
Basic Skills
Adult Basic Education (ABE)
General Education Development (GED) Program
GED Online
Adult High School (AHS)
Adult High School Online
Compensatory Education Development (CED)
English as a Second Language (ESL) Program

Hispanic/Latino Initiatives

Human Resources Development (HRD)

Special Programs

Health Occupations
Community Services
Ed2Go – Online Continuing Education Courses
CEU Courses for Professional Recertification
Custom-Designed Occupational Extension Courses



Division of Business & Technologies

Accounting
Automotive Body Repair
Automotive Systems Technology
Business Administration
Computer Information Technology
Cosmetology
Cosmetology Instructor
Electric Lineman Technology *
Electrical/Electronics Technology
Esthetics Technology
Facility Maintenance Worker
Funeral Service Education *
Industrial Systems Technology
Manicuring/Nail Technology
Manufacturing Technology
Mechanical Drafting Technology
Networking Technology
Office Systems Technology

Division of Health Sciences

CT/MRI
Dental Assisting *
Dental Hygiene *
Health Information Technology
Healthcare Management Technology *
Interventional Cardiac and Vascular
Technology *
Medical Assisting
Medical Transcription
Nursing
Radiography
Respiratory Therapy
Surgical Technology



Workforce Development Programs

New and Expanding Industry
Focused Industrial Training
Customized Training
Fire, EMS & Rescue, and Law Enforcement
Advanced Law Enforcement Training
Business and Industry Public Course Offerings
Small Business Center
Workforce Development and Training Center

* Collaborative program with another N.C. community college



Edgecombe Community College Academic Calendar

Fall 2007 – Spring 2008

Fall Semester 2007

July 9	New Student Orientation
July 10-12	Fall Registration
July 16-19	Fall Registration
August 15 & 16	Final Fall Registration
August 17	Classes Begin
September 3	Labor Day Holiday
September 4	Classes Resume
October 8 & 9	Fall Break
October 10	Classes Resume
November 5	New Student Orientation
November 6-16	Spring Registration
November 21-23	Thanksgiving Break
November 26	Classes Resume
December 14	End of Fall Semester

Spring Semester 2008

January 1	New Year's Day Holiday
January 3 & 4	Final Spring Registration
January 7	Classes Begin
January 21	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
January 22	Classes Resume
March 21-28	Easter Spring Break
March 31	Classes Resume
April 7-11	Summer Registration
May 6	End of Spring Semester
May 9	Graduation

Fall Registration
July 10-12 July 16-19

Final Fall Registration
August 15 & 16



Tarboro campus: (252) 823-5166 • 2009 West Wilson St., Tarboro NC 27886
 Rocky Mount campus: (252) 446-0436 • 225 Tarboro St., Rocky Mount NC 27801

www.edgecombe.edu