

# NCWORKS CERTIFIED CAREER PATHWAYS

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NCWorks Certified Career Pathways are a key strategy to strengthen the workforce and increase the percentage of North Carolinians with education and training beyond high school. Certified Career Pathways are integrated, seamless systems of education and workforce development programs developed by engaged employers, workforce development boards, high schools and colleges.

The two newest pathways to be recognized are the **AEROSPACE AND AVIATION CAREER PATHWAY** and the **CONSTRUCTION AND SKILLED TRADES CAREER PATHWAY**, from the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, which covers the following nine counties: Carteret, Craven, Duplin, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico and Wayne.

## **Aerospace and Aviation Career Pathway:**

- This area has become a growing region for Aerospace and Aviation manufacturing, maintenance, repair and overhaul and logistics with the major hub being the North Carolina Global TransPark (GTP) in Kinston
- The GTP is home to several Aerospace and Aviation businesses as well as the Spirit-Lenoir Community College Composite Center of Excellence
- Highway 70, which is a major corridor through Wayne, Lenoir, Craven and Carteret Counties, connects aerospace businesses and military installations to shipping routes with easy access to the Port of Morehead City
- This area boasts 3 community colleges that offer robust programs in Aviation Systems Technology, Aircraft Structural Training, Aviation Maintenance (airframe/power plant), and Aerostructure Manufacturing and Repair
- This industry offers employees a competitive and family sustaining wage with the average worker earning an annual wage of \$48,000

## **Construction and Skilled Trades Career Pathway:**

- Residential, industrial and highway construction are all increasing and there is a consistent need for skilled workers
- Hurricane Florence caused \$24B in damages to homes and businesses
- Fleet Readiness Center-East, which will be expanding its footprint due to the arrival of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter squadron and vertical lift fan repair facility, will dramatically increase the need for skilled trades workers
- Military Corridor Transportation Improvement Act, which improves highway infrastructure and will allow for convenient transportation of military equipment and personnel along Highway 70
- With the tight labor market in the Construction Industry and retirement rate of construction workers, combined with the increase in projects, there is a need to build and maintain a robust pipeline of skilled workers