

COUNTY/REGIONAL WORKFORCE

Perquimans County is located within a one-hour drive of 250 marine industry contractors with over 60,000 employees. Furthermore, it is estimated that over 350 Perquimans County and neighboring Pasquotank County residents work at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard and over 750 Northeast North Carolina residents work at the Newport News Shipbuilding facility.

The Perquimans County Schools (PCS) partners with NC Works to develop certified career pathways for its students. PCS is certified in the Health Science pathway and early in 2018 is scheduled to be certified in the Advanced Manufacturing pathway. Two other pathways—Business and Biotechnology—are currently under review for gaining certification.

In 2017, Perquimans County was certified as an NC Works Certified Work Ready Community by the North Carolina Chamber Foundation Board of Directors. This initiative supports economic development by providing a workforce with documented foundational and technical skills necessary for talent pipeline development. High School students who are considered Career Technical Education Concentrators (4 courses in a career pathway) qualify for the WorkKeys assessment and earn Career Readiness Certification (CRC). This credential can be used to indicate the skill set of an individual in workplace competencies. To date, PCS High School students have earned 228 CRCs.

The College of the Albemarle (COA) located in Elizabeth City offers a NC Works Customized Training Program. This Program is tailored to meet a company's specific needs to train new hires or upgrade the skills of longtime employees. COA offers a range of Customized Training classes in five crucial areas:

- Reliability and Productivity
- Quality
- Leadership and Management
- Operator/Mechanic Skills
- Safety