



# Central Carolina Works

## Career & College Promise

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September 2017

### Student Spotlight: Cameron Owle, Lee County High School



**CCP Advisor:** As a senior, what advice would you give to new Juniors who are just starting out as dually enrolled students taking both high school and college classes? What advice would you give to freshman or sophomores thinking about taking CCC classes while in high school?

**Student:** Stay on top of your course work, try and work ahead and do not procrastinate. It's a good opportunity that you should definitely do, especially since it is free college.

**CCP Advisor:** What do you believe has made you so successful in the CCP Program?

**Student:** Being motivated to do well to transfer classes, and staying on top of due dates to complete the work on time. Also having a good support system as well as using outside web sources such as Khan Academy to help me understand some of the work since my classes were online. Taking and finishing high school core classes early allowed me to focus on college classes while taking high school electives.

**CCP Advisor:** What has been the most challenging part of being a dual enrolled student?

**Student:** Being able to meet some of the requirements for the course, such as needing work to be scanned at home for classes was difficult as I didn't have something like that. Taking an ENG high school and college class together was challenging, but rewarding. Challenging because they overlapped, but rewarding because it is a credit that will transfer to my college of choice and the best part...it's FREE!

**CCP Advisor:** What are your future plans after graduation?

**Student:** I am seeking to attend APP State for a BA in Music Education.

## CTE Pathway Offering: Industrial Systems Technology

If you like high-tech and hands-on work, this is the program for you. Want as sure a thing job wise as you can get? In the past five years every graduate of Industrial Systems Technology was employed in the field after completing the program.

In the industrial systems program you learn how things work. You learn how to find and troubleshoot problems, how to fix them, and how to keep things running smoothly. Studies include programming, wiring, circuitry, hydraulics, electronics and even robotics. You will train with the same state-of-the-art equipment found in the real-world workplace.

Though there is important classroom work, students really like the labs where projects like programming controllers to run elevators, trains and stoplights help them understand how classroom knowledge is transferred to the workplace. Donated equipment is often torn down, refurbished and rebuilt as part of the lab experience.

Working with others is important for success in this field. Students need to be able to communicate clearly and be able to work well with others. A few other traits that seem to insure success in this field are curiosity and problem solving skills. A basic knowledge of math and simple equations is helpful.

Besides the strong instructional team, an excellent curriculum, small classes and low tuition, CCCC's industrial systems program incorporates field trips to area industries and arranges internships where students get real world work experience. Graduates of the degree program find entry-level positions making between \$28,000 and \$30,000 annually. With five years of experience, many double their salaries.

Graduates enter the workforce as electricians, industrial technicians or maintenance  
cc.edu/curriculum/majors/industrialsystems/ or contact Mr. Allen Howington at,  
ahowington@cccc.edu or call 919-718-7305.

## Resources for Students Ready for Work: USA Jobs

Positions within the United States government may be listed on various job boards but if one wishes to apply for any of the positions listed, one must use the official job board. The official job board is USA Jobs (<https://www.usajobs.gov/>).

To begin the process of applying for one of the positions listed, a profile must be completed. Once a profile is created, the job seeker can not only search the database for available positions and submit applications but also save jobs of interest, automate job searches and notifications, and manage various documents required during the application process. Resumes, school transcripts, certifications, and other documents can be saved under a job seekers profile and be reused.

A unique option of USA Jobs is the ability to explore "hiring paths." Individuals that fall into one of several categories may be eligible to receive preference when applying for positions. These Hiring Paths include: Open to the Public/Never Worked for the Federal Government; Federal Employees: Current or former; Veterans; National Guards & Reserves: Current or prospective members; Individuals with a disability; Native Americans/American Indian or Alaskan Native; Military Spouses; Students & Recent Graduates; Senior Executives; Peace

Corps/VISTA Alumni; Former Overseas Employees/Family Members. USA Jobs also lists upcoming hiring events where the hiring agencies will be represented.

USA Jobs also has a page covering Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), a How To guide, and a page discussing various topics related to seeking employment with and working for the US Government. These pages are informative and helpful. It is recommended to visit these areas of the website and review the information provided to get the most of the job board.

## College Transfer at a Glance: Campbell University



Campbell University is a private college located in the rural community of Buies Creek, NC. It is the most popular private college amongst North Carolinians making it the #1 private university in North Carolina. Campbell University's mission is to educate leaders, not only in the classroom, but in the community as well. The goal of the college is to instill values that go beyond the student's academic ability and extends deeply in the heart of the community they serve.

While Campbell is able to maintain a true university atmosphere, it also offers a 16:1 student to faculty ratio, allowing for more engaging learning experiences. The college offers over a 150 programs, including the newly established school of engineering. Each academic year, Campbell awards over \$5 million in scholarships.

The Fighting Camels have over 100 extracurricular activities on campus which include clubs, greek life, intramural sports, media outlets, and over 21 athletic programs. Students pride themselves on being actively involved in campus activities. You are welcomed to tour the campus Monday-Friday from 9-3 or Saturday at 9:00 AM.

For more information [click here](#).

## Resources for Students Going to College: The Application Essay

Before applying to college, students may prepare for applications by taking extra, more rigorous courses, signing up for clubs, participating in sports, taking college placement exams, or volunteering their time. Although these are all important steps to take, many students are neglecting to prepare for one of the most important steps of the application: the college essay.

When considering a college applicant, colleges review not only the "hard" information, like GPA and test scores, but also the "soft" information, such as interests and activities. The college essay is a way for the reviewers to know the student and understand why these "soft" subjects are equally important. Colleges want students that will benefit their community, and the college essay is a way for students to "sell" themselves to the college and show how their enrollment would be a contribution to the school.

While many students may quickly Google, "what is a college essay", it is important for them to understand during their college planning what will be expected of them in the essay and

how to develop strong writing. Before getting started with the essay, make sure that the applicant is avoiding any tired, cliché topics. Remember the essay is where the student's personality will shine, so guide him/her to think of a unique answer to the question.

A strong college essay should reveal something that an interviewer may not already know, so look beyond the application itself. Have the student brainstorm personal topics in his/her beliefs, passions, or relationships. Make sure that the details are strong and that the reader can really visualize the experience and the changes that were made because of it. Students may be asked to give a mission statement, an activity topic (why something is important to them), or "Why this college?" For any question, really push the student to avoid a common response and think of a more personal challenge. For example, many students will simply explain why they joined a club. However, a stronger answer may be how the club has challenged a previous viewpoint that they held.

The quintessential thing to remember is that the college application is about the student and he/she should be encouraged to "be you". Colleges are not looking for an insincere or embellished story. While we should be encouraging students to plan, brainstorm, and develop a strong college essay, we should do so with their personalities and experiences in mind.

### Central Carolina Works Director's Spotlight

The Central Carolina Works program continues to grow! Our Career & College Promise high school student enrollment is increasing steadily each semester; see our Program Updates below for details. The Advisors have been hard at work bringing more and more educational and career-based opportunities to our local high school students.

We would like to extend a formal welcome to our newest CCW employee, Ms. Katie Surber. Katie joined the team in August and is embedded at Overhills High School in Harnett County. She also teaches three ENG courses for the college this fall. Katie has jumped right in and is already doing a great job of serving her student population! Welcome aboard!

Three of our Advisors continue to receive funding through the NC Works Career Coach initiative. All three are our Lead Career & College Advisors- Steve Heesacker in Chatham County, Tracy Autry in Harnett County, and Lara Abels in Lee County. Not only do these folks go above and beyond in their regular Advisor duties, they also fulfill additional assignments as Career Coaches, including submitting detailed data to the parent program each semester AND assisting with training for new Career Coaches. We are lucky to have them!

On a personal note, I have survived my first full year in my role as Director, and I'm so grateful to be surrounded by a high-achieving, hard-working, and fun-loving team. The CCW Advisors make my job easier every single day, and there's no way I would have gotten through this year without them!

Until next month,  
Mary Schmid Carter  
Director of Secondary Partnerships

### CCP Program Updates

CCP was pleased to introduce a handful of new or newly-updated pathways for 2017-2018:  
CTP: Pre-Associate Degree Nursing Pathway (Chatham, Harnett, and Lee Counties)  
CTE: Automotive Systems Technology Certificate (Chatham County)  
CTE: Health and Fitness Science Certificate (Lee County)  
CTE: Industrial Systems Technology Diploma (Chatham and Lee Counties)

CTE: Manicuring/Nail Technology Certificate (Chatham and Harnett Counties)

CTE: Medical Office Administration Diploma (Chatham, Harnett, and Lee Counties)

CTE: Nurse Aide Diploma (Chatham, Harnett, and Lee Counties)

CTE: Welding Technology Certificate (Harnett County- Welding Apprenticeship Program)

CCP as a whole continues to develop each year. Stay tuned next month for some updates about changes to our Operating Procedures, and what those changes mean for our students!



High School	Fall 2016	Fall 2017
Chatham Central High School	81	75
Jordan Matthews High School	127	105
Northwood High School	115	200
<b>Chatham County Total</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>380</b>
Harnett Central High School	121	157
Overhills High School	81	131
Triton High School	119	155
Western Harnett High School	91	139
<b>Harnett County Total</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>582</b>
Lee Senior High School	201	133
Southern Lee High School	143	133
<b>Lee County Total</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>266</b>
<b>Service Area Public Total</b>	<b>1079</b>	<b>1228</b>

\*\* Across our nine service area high schools, enrollment rose from 1,079 students (2016FA) to 1,228 (2017FA). Our overall enrollment for the program, including early college, private, charter, and home school students is currently at 1,717. We are very proud of our students, school partners, and CCW Advisors for all their hard work!