

Academic Institute of Central Carolina  
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704-536-9745, eoc@academicinstitute.education



## *Preparing you to achieve your educational*

### **BENEFITS of EDUCATION**

**YOUR SKILL/TRADE/DEGREE IS AN ASSET.** Education has intrinsic value and increase happiness.

**YOU CAN INCREASE YOUR INCOME.** Increase earning potential and financial stability.

**YOU GAIN VALUABLE KNOWLEDGE.** Better understanding on how to communicate more effectively.

**YOU BECOME MORE MARKETABLE.** Open doors and windows of opportunities.

**YOU CAN FOCUS ON A CAREER.** Do what you love to do, work your purpose.

**YOU'RE A BELIEVER.** Builds self-confidence and boost moral.



*Life is Full of Choices...*

*Be Sure To Make the Best Ones.*



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#### **What is EOC?**

The TRiO EOC is a federally funded program to assist residents of Mecklenburg, Union and Gaston counties, 16 years of age and above, gain access to higher education. The program focuses on first-generation college students and individuals from economically challenged households.

**All services are FREE. Apply online at [www.academicinstitute.education](http://www.academicinstitute.education)**

#### **EOC CAN HELP YOU:**

- ◆ Enroll in a GED or Adult High School Program
- ◆ Answer questions about college
- ◆ Identify colleges that meet your needs
- ◆ Apply for financial aid
- ◆ Complete college applications
- ◆ Find Scholarships
- ◆ Locate college preparation & support programs
- ◆ Resolve defaulted student loan

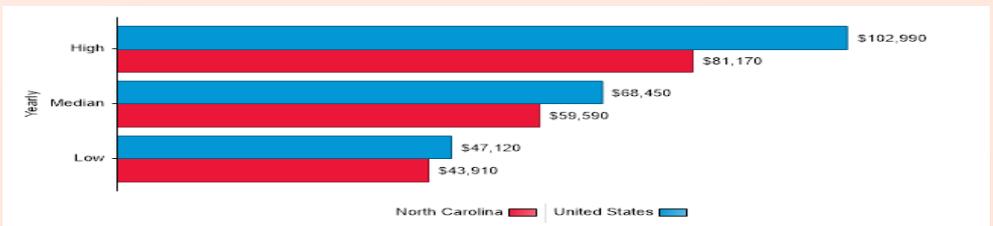
START  
YOUR  
JOURNEY  
HERE

## CAREER SPOTLIGHT

### Careers in Demand

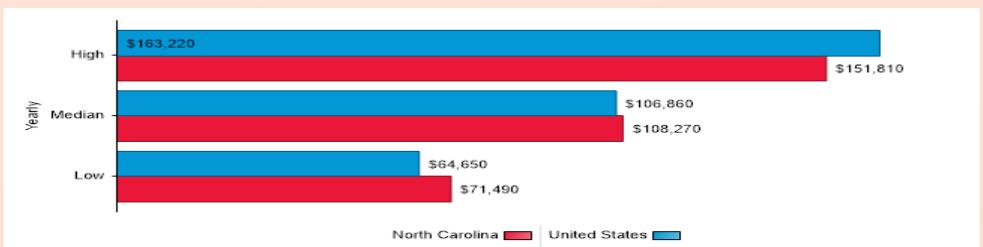
#### Registered Nurse

Assess patient health problems and needs, develop and implement nursing care plans, and maintain medical records. Administer nursing care to ill, injured, convalescent, or disabled patients. May advise patients on health maintenance and disease prevention or provide case management. Licensing or registration required.



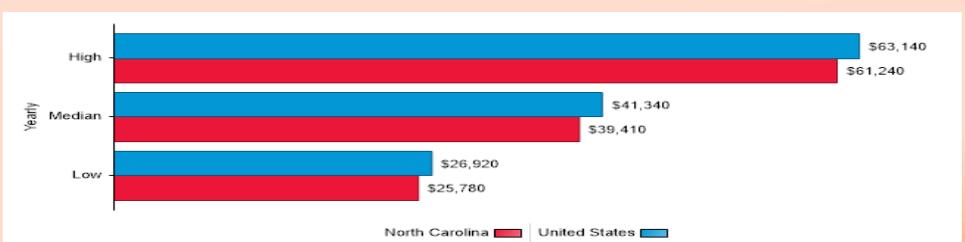
#### Software Developer

Research, design, develop, and test operating systems-level software, compilers, and network distribution software for medical, industrial, military, communications, aerospace, business, scientific, and general computing applications. Set operational specifications and formulate and analyze software requirements. May design embedded systems software. Apply principles and techniques of computer science, engineering, and mathematical analysis.



#### Truck Driver

Drive a tractor-trailer combination or a truck with a capacity of at least 26,000 pounds Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW). May be required to unload truck. Requires commercial drivers' license.



# Tax Tips

1. File early.
2. Do your research.
3. File with a reputable company.
4. Understand tax credits that benefit you.
5. Consider direct deposit. It's fast, secure & easy.



**Free Tax Preparation:** preparing and filing taxes for our workforce from mid-January through April 15. Call 704-761-VITA (8482) or <https://irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep/>



*Have you recently found yourself thinking more about furthering your education, but financial aid issues are causing a barrier to beginning the process?*

We would like to help you resolve those issues so you can continue your education! **STUDENT LOAN REHABILITATION IS OUR GOAL!**  
**Benefits of rehabilitating defaulted Federal Student Loans:**

- It puts your loan back in good standing
- Eligible for deferment, forbearance, consolidation, forgiveness and alternative payment plans
- Eligible for additional financial aid
- Reflects positively on your credit report, negative marks will be removed once you are out of default
- Wages will not be garnished
- Federal income tax refunds will not be applied to loans.

Contact one of the EOC counselors as soon as possible and let us help you through this process! Remember:

**All EOC services are free and confidential!**



The Educational Opportunity Center wants to **Celebrate & Reward** you for your success. Please call 704-536-9745 or email [eoc@academicinstitute.education](mailto:eoc@academicinstitute.education) to share your good news.

**Black History Month** honors the contributions of African Americans to U.S. history. Did you know that Madam C.J. Walker was America's first woman to become a self-made millionaire, or that George Washington Carver was able to derive nearly 300 products from the peanut? Get the story of the creation of the NAACP, famous firsts in African American history and other black history facts.

**Black History Month:** The celebration of Black History Month began as "Negro History Week," which was created in 1926 by Carter G. Woodson, a noted African American historian, scholar, educator, and publisher. It became a month-long celebration in 1976. The month of February was chosen to coincide with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln.

**NAACP:** On February 12, 2009, the NAACP marked its 100th anniversary. Spurred by growing racial violence in the early twentieth century, and particularly by 1908 race riots in Springfield, Illinois, a group of African-American leaders joined together to form a new permanent civil rights organization, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). February 12, 1909, was chosen because it was the centennial anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln.

**Heavyweight Champ:** Jack Johnson became the first African-American man to hold the World Heavyweight Champion boxing title in 1908. He held onto the belt until 1915.

**First Lawyer:** John Mercer Langston was the first black man to become a lawyer when he passed the bar in Ohio in 1854. When he was elected to the post of Town Clerk for Brownhelm, Ohio, in 1855 Langston became one of the first African Americans ever elected to public office in America. John Mercer Langston was also the great-uncle of Langston Hughes, famed poet of the Harlem Renaissance.

**Supreme Court Justice:** Thurgood Marshall was the first African American ever appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court. He was appointed by President Lyndon B. Johnson, and served on the court from 1967 to 1991.

**First Woman Representative:** Shirley Chisholm was the first African American woman elected to the House of Representatives. She was elected in 1968 and represented the state of New York. She broke ground again four years later in 1972 when she was the first major party African-American candidate and the first female candidate for president of the United States.

**Little Rock A.M.E. Zion Church:** 1910-1911 This magnificent Neo Classical Revival Church was designed by architect James M. McMichael. The congregation raised \$20,000 to erect the church, which replaced an earlier wooden structure. The A.M.E. Zion Church had its origins in New York City and was the denomination of the Great Emancipators -- Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, and Frederick Douglass. The building now houses the African American Cultural Center.

**Billingsville Rosenwald School:** In the mid-1920s, the Grier Heights neighborhood petitioned the Mecklenburg County School Board for assistance in establishing a neighborhood school. The school board advised the neighborhood to wait until the land for a school site could be acquired. Subsequently, local residents purchased two acres from local landowner and businessman, Sam Billings (1848-1933), who was also the first African-American to own land in the neighborhood. Billings donated an additional acre of land, and the school was named in his honor for his contribution. Money for the school was also donated by the Julius Rosenwald Fund.

**Into Space:** In 1992, Dr. Mae Jemison became the first African American woman to go into space aboard the space shuttle Endeavor. During her eight-day mission, she worked with U.S. and Japanese researchers, and was a co-investigator on a bone cell experiment.

**White House:** In 2009, Barack Obama became the first African-American president in U.S. history. He occupied the White House for two consecutive terms, serving from 2009 to 2017.

**Harvey B. Gantt:** Trailblazer born in Charleston, South Carolina in 1943. Gantt served on numerous civic, business and cultural boards and continues to lead many community initiatives and philanthropic causes. He was the 1st black Mayor in Charlotte elected to serve 1983-1987.

**Vi Lyles:** Making history as the 1st African-American female mayor Elected in 2017.