

Information and Communications Technology



We have a highly skilled and productive workforce,  
But it's our way of life that keeps them motivated.



With our highly skilled workforce and world-class research universities that partner with leading-edge technology companies, it's no wonder that information and communication technology companies Thrive in North Carolina.®

T H R I V E  
*in* **NORTH  
CAROLINA™**

[ThriveNC.com/Technology](http://ThriveNC.com/Technology)



Data Center Hub

Advanced Research

Cutting-edge Technologies

World-class Companies

T H R I V E  
*in* **NORTH  
CAROLINA™**

## Information and Communications Technology

North Carolina has the tangibles that businesses need as well as a lifestyle that helps employees flourish. Our secret is simple: When people Thrive, business Thrives. We understand that in today's global economy, people are your greatest source of competitive advantage—happy, fulfilled employees are more productive employees. From our business resources to our human resources to our natural resources, we offer businesses what they need to create a competitive advantage and Thrive.

### BEST BUSINESS CLIMATE

Consistently ranked among the best business climates in the nation by *Forbes*, *CNBC*, *Chief Executive* and *Site Selecton*.





# North Carolina's Distinct Advantages

---

North Carolina has world-renowned universities and community colleges as well as a highly skilled and productive workforce that continues to attract and keep the top information and communication technology companies here. When you add in the partnerships that our universities have with leading-edge technology companies and the state's investments in infrastructure such as an advanced broadband telecommunications network, you can see why companies here flourish.

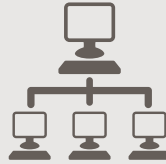
**>100,000 Workers**

**>3,000 IT Firms**

More than 100,000 workers are employed in more than 3,000 IT firms. Raleigh and Charlotte named two of top 20 "Most Wired Cities" by *Forbes* magazine.



More than 1,800 upperclassmen are enrolled in computer science curricula in the state's colleges and universities.



North Carolina Research and Education Network (NCREN) is one of the world's leading statewide regional optical networks connecting most of the state's colleges and universities, school districts, community initiatives and medical and research institutions.



Every year North Carolina colleges and universities graduate more than 800 students with bachelor's degrees and more than 470 students with advanced degrees in computer and information sciences.

**>5,300**

**IT Professionals**

More than 5,300 individuals are available to fill IT occupations.



North Carolina's 58-campus Community College System offers many information and communication technology-related curricula.

## A Quality of Life That Attracts Talent

---

From our moderate climate with excellent recreational opportunities to our culture-rich history and a low cost of living, North Carolina has what people are looking for to Thrive.

- Moderate climate
- Culture rich in history and the arts
- World-class sports events
- Recreational opportunities
- Quality health care
- Low cost of living—housing, utilities, supplies and groceries, transportation and health care are all below the national average
- Low construction costs
- Diverse educational opportunities and jobs available

**North Carolina offers an exceptional quality of life that contributes to a highly desirable place for businesses to attract and keep skilled workers.**

The low cost of living in North Carolina makes it easier for our residents to take part in and enjoy all the great things that this state has to offer.

# Strong Pipeline for Labor

---

## **The Microsoft IT Academy**

North Carolina is the first state in the nation to implement the Microsoft IT Academy statewide to all 628 public high schools. The Microsoft IT Academy provides students with real-world technology skills they need to be successful in college and a career by giving students the opportunity to learn in-demand software and technical skills as well as earn industry-recognized certifications such as a Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) or a Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP).

**North Carolina Community Colleges** offer curricula to develop a skilled IT workforce, including:

- Computer Engineering
- Computer Information Technology
- Computer Programming
- Database Management
- Information Systems Security
- Networking Technology
- Simulation and Game Development

**Fifteen of the 16** UNC System campuses plus several private colleges and universities offer computer science curricula for bachelor's degrees, master's degrees and PhDs, as well as professional certificates.

**Computer science programs** in the state offer instruction in essential areas, along with an emphasis on written and oral communication skills, critical thinking, marketing concepts, independence and collaboration. Key topics include:

- Algorithms
- Artificial intelligence
- Bioinformatics
- Computer graphics
- Hardware systems
- Networks
- Operating systems and architecture
- Parallel and distributed computing
- Robotics
- Security
- Software development and engineering
- Theory
- Testing
- Web and Internet computing

## **We have the resources, training and infrastructure needed for growth.**

---

### **Council for Entrepreneurial Development (CED)**

Founded in 1984 to stimulate the creation and growth of high impact companies, today it is the largest entrepreneurial support organization in the U.S. with more than 5,500 active members.

### **MCNC Grid Computing Networking Services**

A non-profit organization delivering next-generation information technology by continuously evaluating new hardware and software in test beds and deploying leading-edge computing and networking services all supporting and advancing the competitiveness of the research and education community throughout North Carolina.

### **North Carolina Technology Association (NCTA)**

The primary voice of the information technology industry in the state, dedicated to growing and strengthening the IT industry through increasing public awareness, promoting companies and influencing key public share information on crucial technologies.

### **North Carolina Research and Education Network (NCREN)**

Developed in 1985, it's a reliable, robust fiber-optic network providing high-speed network services to The University of North Carolina's 16-campus system, Duke University, Wake Forest University, UNC-TV and other private universities, colleges and non-profit institutions in the state.

# Initiatives that are Thriving in North Carolina

## Nanotechnology

North Carolina universities and colleges are home to more than 33 research, development and education organizations and programs focused on nanotechnology.

North Carolina is also home to many nanotechnology leading minds, such as Dr. Joe DeSimone, a professor of chemical engineering at UNC-Chapel Hill and N.C. State University. Dr. DeSimone has been awarded several prestigious honors and has generated at least 12 start-up companies.

Some of the more than 70 companies working with nanotechnology in the state include:

- **Advaero Technologies**, Greensboro
- **Blue Nano**, Charlotte
- **nCoat Inc.**, Whitsett
- **Liquidia Technologies Inc.**, Research Triangle Park
- **Nextreme, Inc.**, Durham

## Semiconductors and Chip Technology

Recognized for research and the development of semiconductors and chip technology, N.C. is home to many internationally known companies including:

- **Cree**, Research Triangle Park
- **Engineering Research Center for Advanced Materials Processing (AEMP)**, Centennial Campus at N.C. State University
- **Infineon Technologies**, Morrisville
- **Kyma**, Raleigh
- **Lord Corporation**, Cary
- **Nitronex**, Durham
- **Photonic Devices**, Cary
- **Qualcomm**, Cary
- **RFMD**, Greensboro and Charlotte
- **Silicon Wireless Corporation**, Durham
- **Ziptronix**, Morrisville

## Photonics

North Carolina has emerged as a major center for global telecommunications and photonics. More than 300 telecommunications and optical networking companies call North Carolina home including:

- **Caspian Networks**, Research Triangle Park
- **Institute for Next Generation IT Systems**, N.C. State and Duke universities
- **Tessera**, Charlotte

We also have several research initiatives dedicated to further enhancing the photonics and optical industry including:

- **Charlotte Institute for Technology Innovation**, UNC-Charlotte
- **Fitzpatrick Center for Photonics and Communications Systems**, Duke University
- **Center for Advanced Computing and Communications**, N.C. State University

## Digital Media

North Carolina is on the cutting-edge of interactive digital media—from video games to serious games. Support resources in the state include the North Carolina Advanced Learning Technologies Association and the Digital Games Research Center at N.C. State University, conducting a wide variety of research focused on new modes of entertainment and interaction in digital media. With more than 30 companies and over 1,000 workers in the industry, the state is home to many of the industry's pioneers and most recognizable names including:

- **Destineer**, Research Triangle Park
- **Epic Games**, Cary
- **Electronic Arts**, Morrisville
- **Emergent Game Technologies**, Chapel Hill
- **Insomniac Games**, Research Triangle Park
- **Red Storm Entertainment**, Centennial Campus at N.C. State University in Raleigh
- **Virtual Heroes Inc.**, Research Triangle Park

### North Carolina Department of Commerce

4310 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, N.C. 27699-4310  
U.S.A.  
1.919.733.4977  
[ThriveNC.com/Technology](http://ThriveNC.com/Technology)

### State of North Carolina Canada Office

13A Princess St  
Mississauga, ON L5M 1Z8  
Canada  
1.905.826.6000

### State of North Carolina European Office

Untermannanlage 7  
60329 Frankfurt am Main  
Germany  
49.69.271.3980

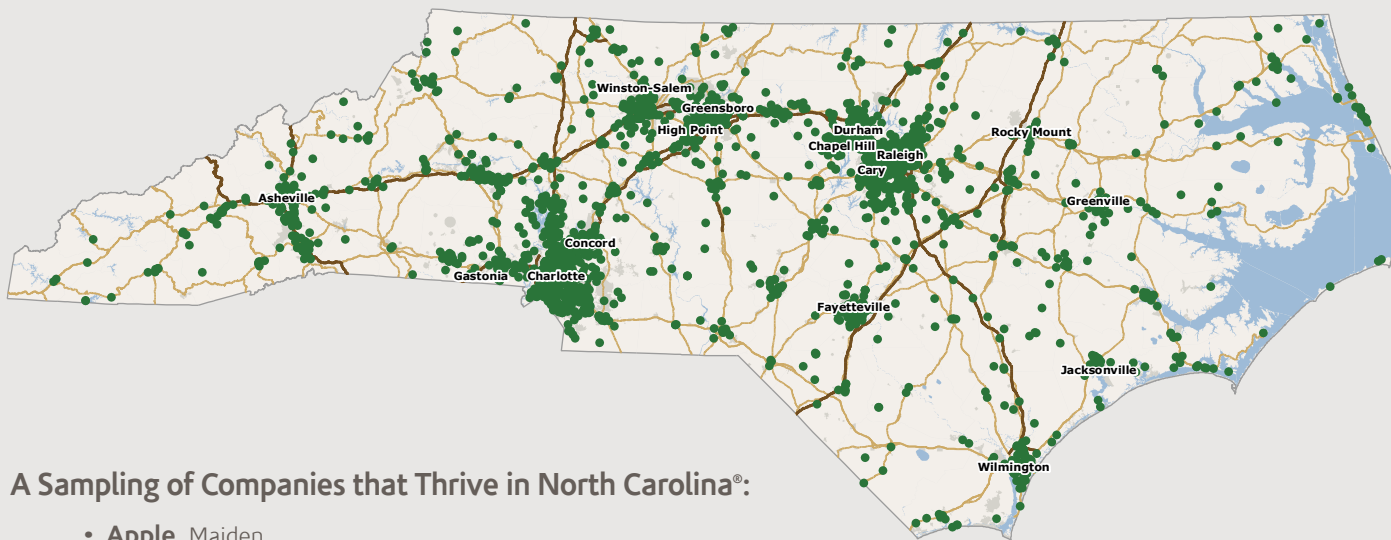
### State of North Carolina Japan Office

Toranomon Suzuki Bldg. 5F  
20-4, Toranomom 3-Chome  
Minato-Ku, Tokyo 105-0001  
Japan  
81.3.3435.9301

### State of North Carolina China Office

Shanghai Centre, Suite 631A  
East Tower Shanghai Centre  
No. 1376 Nanjing West Road  
Shanghai 200040  
China  
86.21.6279.7037

## Information and Communications Technology Companies Thrive Statewide



### A Sampling of Companies that Thrive in North Carolina®:

- **Apple**, Maiden
- **AVL Technologies**, Asheville
- **Celestica**, Durham
- **Cisco**, Research Triangle Park
- **CommScope**, Hickory, Claremont, Newton and Statesville
- **Corning Incorporated**, Concord, Durham, Hickory, Midland, Wilmington and Winston-Salem
- **Cree**, Research Triangle Park, Morrisville, Durham
- **Credit Suisse**, Research Triangle Park
- **Dacentec**, Lenoir
- **Disney Entertainment**, Kings Mountain
- **Facebook**, Forest City
- **Fidelity Investments**, Research Triangle Park
- **Flextronics**, Asheville, Charlotte, Creedmoor and Durham
- **Google**, Lenoir
- **HCL**, Cary
- **IBM**, Research Triangle Park
- **Infocrossing, a Wipro Company**, Kings Mountain
- **Lenovo**, Morrisville
- **Microsoft**, Charlotte
- **NetApp**, Research Triangle Park
- **Red Hat**, Centennial Campus at NC State University in Raleigh
- **RFMD**, Greensboro and Charlotte
- **SAS**, Cary
- **Tyco International**, Greensboro, Winston-Salem and Raleigh

### Get Location Data

Use our Economic Development Intelligence System (EDIS) to search property details and map out locations in addition to getting drive-time and distance reports related to demographic information such as workforce, population and businesses.

*[ThriveNC.com/LocationTools](https://thriveNC.com/LocationTools)*