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## *Capital Area Workforce Development*

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Capital Area Workforce Development fund is established to account for U.S. Department of Labor and N. C. Department of Commerce employment and training grant activities as they relate to the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998, and various other federal and state initiatives.

The Wake and Johnston Counties' Boards of Commissioners created the Capital Area Workforce Development Consortium in 1983. The Consortium plans, administers, competitively procures service providers, conducts quality assurance, and reports outcome-based results of federal and state programs in partnership with the private-sector led Capital Area Workforce Development Board.

The Board's responsibilities include chartering and enhancing the area's JobLink Career Centers, part of the national network of one-stop career services. Board goals include: Enhance the productivity, profitability and competitiveness of local businesses; increase the probability of long-term employment success of adults and youth; expand community awareness of and strengthen involvement in workforce development; and, ensure the effective and efficient use of resources.

Block grants provide funding for universal workforce development services to the two counties' employers, adult and youth job applicants, and to dislocated workers and companies experiencing layoffs and closings. The labor force in Wake and Johnston counties numbers over 425,000 and there are 25,000+ employer locations.

Workforce Development is organizationally a part of the County Manager's Office. Funding for these grants follow federal and state appropriations and are received throughout the year. Amendments to the Project Ordinance to include new funds will be brought to the Board of Commissioners.