



What is WIA and How Do I Get It?

What is WIA...

The Workforce Investment Act (WIA) is the nation's principal workforce development legislation, providing funds to address the employment and training needs of dislocated workers, and low-income adults and youth.

The funding for WIA comes from the Federal Department of Labor. Isothermal Planning & Development Commission operates the Region C Workforce Development Consortium for Rutherford, Polk, Cleveland, and McDowell Counties.

WIA provides support to participants to increase their education, training, employment, earnings and job retention. The ultimate goal is to improve the quality of the workforce, reduce welfare dependency, and enhance the productivity and competitiveness of the nation.

To be accepted for enrollment, primary consideration is given based on your work history, current education and skill levels as well as your ability to fully complete and benefit from a short-term (up to two years) vocational training program in an occupation based on the local labor market.

If you qualify and are accepted for enrollment in WIA, our trained case managers will:

- Assist you with developing an individual employment plan
- Give you financial assistance to help pay for your training program
- Help you access support services from the JobLink partners and other community agencies

How to apply for WIA...

You must apply for WIA in the workforce region where you live. In Region C, you can apply for WIA at one of the area JobLink Career Centers.

Rutherford and Polk Counties:

Rutherford County JobLink Career Center/NC Employment Security Office
139 East Trade St., Forest City, NC 28043
Christina Blanton, JobLink Coordinator, (828) 245-9841

Cleveland County:

Cleveland County JobLink Career Center/NC Employment Security Office
404 East Marion St., Shelby, NC 28150
Christina Blanton, JobLink Coordinator, (704) 480-5414

McDowell County:

McDowell County JobLink Career Center
81 South Main St., Lower Level, Marion, NC 28752
Jerry Broome, JobLink Coordinator, (828) 659-6001