

FORSYTH COUNTY

TECHNOLOGY RESOURCE GUIDE

Get a computer, access the Internet, and learn computer skills

digitalbridgesforsyth.org





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*Resource is in Spanish or can be switched to Spanish

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Introduction

Welcome to the Digital Bridges Forsyth Resource Guide. This guide will help connect Forsyth County, NC residents with the technology resources they need in order to succeed in today's digital world.

This guide consists of four sections: **Devices**, **Internet Access**, **Computer Training**, and **Workforce Development**.



Point your phone's camera at the QR codes and tap the screen to go to each resource's website, or use the phone numbers and addresses provided. For a guide on how to use QR codes, visit golhelp.org/wtm.

- The **Devices** section covers how to obtain low-cost computers.
- The Internet Access section includes how to obtain free or discounted Internet service, as well as free WiFi access points.
- The **Computer Training** section includes both in-person computer classes in Forsyth County and online resources.
- The **Workforce Development** section covers career centers and services, as well as workforce-specific training.

We hope this guide can connect you to the technology resources you need. For any questions regarding this guide, please visit <u>digitalbridgesforsyth.org</u> or call 336-565-2880.



Devices

GET A COMPUTER

* denotes resource is in Spanish or can be switched to Spanish



The WinstonNet program Neighborhoods Empowered Through Technology (NETT) provides low-cost devices and free classes for individuals who live in zip code 27105, are unemployed or meet the low-income criteria, who don't have a working computer at home and are minimum 18 years of age.



winstonnet.org/nett

1300 Bolton St. Winston-Salem, NC 27103 336-734-7748 ext. 2

DEVICES — 2





Affordable Connectivity Program*

This government program provides a recurring monthly discount on high-speed Internet service for low-income households (see Internet section of this guide). It also includes a one-time, \$100 benefit towards purchasing a device. You may use this \$100 benefit only at eligible companies. To use your \$100 benefit to purchase an affordable refurbished computer, consider PCs for People (see page 4).



Learn more & apply: getinternet.gov 877-384-2575*



Prepare to apply: getacp.org*



Goodwill Industries of NWNC

Affordable computers for sale at various locations, including at career centers that offer job training, placement and workforce development services (see Training section of this guide for more details). On the Goodwill website linked below, Career Center locations that sell computers are marked.



Goodwill Industries of Northwest NC/ Forsyth County Career Center: 2701 University Pkwy Winston-Salem, NC 27115 336-724-3621

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Kramden Institute*

Free desktop computer for K-12 students; low-cost computers for low-income adults (pickup only in Durham, NC). Also offers free in-person and online computer classes.



kramden.org* 5010 NC Hwy 55 Durham, NC 27713 919-293-1133*



PCs for People*

Low-cost computers for low-income individuals. They also offer a low-cost unlimited hotspot for qualifying individuals. Those eligible for the Affordable Connectivity program may use the \$100 device benefit to reduce the cost of purchasing a computer.



<u>pcsforpeople.org*</u> 651-354-2552



Internet Access

FREE OR LOW-COST INTERNET

* denotes resource is in Spanish or can be switched to Spanish



WinstonNet has established over 25 computer labs across Forsyth County that offer free Wi-Fi and computers with high-speed Internet access at each location. Computer labs are located at City of Winston-Salem Recreation Centers, additional Community Technology Centers, and Forsyth County libraries.



winstonnet.org/computer-labs 336-624-6143

INTERNET — 5





Affordable Connectivity Program*

Get free or low-cost home Internet: this federal program provides eligible households with a recurring monthly discount to pay for high-speed Internet service. Eligible households will receive \$30 per month; households on tribal lands can receive \$75 per month. Several Internet provider companies have \$30 plans, meaning your household may be able to get high-speed internet for free.

If your household receives a government benefit like:

- SNAP
- Medicaid
- o SSI
- o WIC
- Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit
- Lifeline
- Free and Reduced-Price Lunch
- Pell Grant

OR if your household's income is below 200% of the Federal Poverty Line, you likely qualify for free or very low-cost Internet.



Learn more & apply: getinternet.gov 877-384-2575



Prepare to apply:* getacp.org



Para ayuda en español:*
whitehouse.gov/es/accedeainternet
877-384-2575*



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Public WiFi Access Points

See all public WiFi access locations in the state from the NC Department of Information Technology. Zoom in on the map to see local access points, or scroll down below the map and search the table for Forsyth to see all county locations.



ncbroadband.gov/covid-19/wi-fi-locations

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Computer Training: In Person

* denotes resource is available in Spanish



Computer Essentials for New Users

A free four-hour basics class suitable for those with limited or no computer experience offered by Digital Bridges Forsyth and Kramden Institute. Topics covered include basic computer use, essential internet skills, and useful technology resources found both in Forsyth County and online. Each student will receive a free Windows 10 laptop upon completion of the course.



bit.ly/DigitalBridgesForsyth 336-565-2880





Computer Skills for Job Seekers

A free four-hour class suitable for persons with basic computer skills looking for a review of essential computer skills as well as gaining job readiness and job search skills, offered by Digital Bridges Forsyth and Kramden Institute. Topics covered include Microsoft Windows key features, cover letter and resume writing, and professional online life. Each student will receive a free Windows 10 laptop upon completion of the course.



bit.ly/DigitalBridgesForsyth 336-565-2880



Computer Training Bridge

In partnership with WinstonNet and Forsyth County Public Library, this program offers free computer classes that cover a variety of technology topics at all skill levels, including classes in job readiness and using computer software. It also includes training sessions on library resources. Classes are primarily held in public libraries and WinstonNet Community Technology Centers.



forsythcomputertraining.org 336-703-3079 or 336-703-2665





WinstonNet Community Technology Centers

The WinstonNet program Neighborhoods Empowered Through Technology (NETT) provides low-cost devices and free classes for individuals who live in zip code 27105, are unemployed or meet the low-income criteria, who don't have a working computer at home and are minimum 18 years of age.



winstonnet.org/nett 1300 Bolton St. Winston-Salem, NC 27103 336-734-7748 ext. 2



TechCareers (Goler CDC)

Designed by Goler Community Development Corporation, the TechCareers program links unemployed and underemployed residents of Forsyth and surrounding counties with the education, career training and resources needed to secure a position in the Information Technology industry. The CompTIA IT Fundamentals certification program is a free six-week program that includes the CompTIA IT Fundamentals training and certification, employment skills coaching, case management, and job search assistance.



techcareers2020.com/interest

889 N. Liberty St Winston Salem, NC 27101 336-761-0595 pwilliford@golercdc.com

TRAINING: IN PERSON —





Forsyth Tech Fast Track

The Forsyth Tech Fast Track programs help you develop the digital skills you need to succeed in your career. Take courses including Computer Basics, Microsoft Office, Google Apps, and more. These courses are not part of a degree program; however, Forsyth Tech offers certificate and degree programs in a variety of IT career paths.



forsythtech.edu/students/courses-programs/fast-track-courses
2100 Silas Creek Pkwy
Winston-Salem, NC 27103
336-734-7023
mglontz@forsythtech.edu



WinstonNet Building Integrated Communities Multilingual Training*

Building Integrated Communities, a program of WinstonNet, provides immigrant refugees with basic computer skills training. Training is provided in four languages spoken in Winston-Salem: Karenni, Chinese, Arabic and Spanish.

1300 Bolton St. Winston-Salem, NC 27103 336-624-6143* info@email.winstonnet.org



Computer Training: Online

* denotes resource is available in Spanish



GCFGlobal.org*

Comprehensive website that provides free, in-depth tutorials on many different technology topics, including computer basics, Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. Self-paced tutorials include written information, videos, and practice exercises.



Technology tutorials



Lecciones de tecnología*





Northstar Digital Literacy*

Northstar Digital Literacy is an online platform to assess, teach, and certify computer skills, from Computer Basics to Microsoft Word. Anyone can take assessments to check their skills via the website at <u>digitalliteracyassessment.org</u>, but to earn certificates and access practice lessons, individuals must go to an official Northstar location. Not all locations offer certificate testing.

FORSYTH TECH - MAIN CAMPUS

Offers assessments, certificates, classes, and Northstar Online Learning accounts for learning and practice.



2100 Silas Creek Pkwy Winston-Salem, NC 27103 336-734-7311 jcook@forsythtech.edu

FORSYTH TECH - WEST CAMPUS

Offers assessments, certificates, classes, and Northstar Online Learning accounts for learning and practice.



1300 Bolton St. Winston-Salem, NC 27103 336-734-7761 sstanley@forsythtech.edu

YMCA OF NORTHWEST NORTH CAROLINA

Offers assessments, classes, and Northstar Online Learning accounts for learning and practice.



3474 Robinhood Road Winston Salem, NC 27106 336-251-1090 ext. 6320 e.gallimore@ymcanwnc.org

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> KRAMDEN INSTITUTE

Offers assessments, certificates, classes, and Northstar Online Learning accounts for learning and practice.



5010 NC Hwy 55 Durham, NC 27713 919-293-1133 classes@kramden.org



Typing.com*

Fast, accurate touch typing is an important computer skill. Create an account at Typing.com and learn to type at your own pace with gamified lessons and practice. Students can even earn certificates for reaching typing milestones.



typing.com*



Grow with Google*

Grow with Google helps users advance their careers and grow their businesses. Start with the Applied Digital Skills course to learn practical skills for job readiness and career growth, then move on to more advanced courses and certificates.



Applied Digital Skills course*



Grow with Google program* grow.google

TRAINING: ONLINE

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Microsoft Office Training*

Microsoft offers short courses, videos, and cheat sheets for learners. Start at the Office Training Center, choose the app you would like help with, and select the activity you would like to complete. Try the Office Cheat Sheets and Office 365 Help Videos for quick tips and process flows; for Spanish, try Aprendizaje de Microsoft 365.



Microsoft Office Training Center



Aprendizaje de Microsoft 365*



Microsoft Office cheat sheets



Office 365 help videos



Windows 10 Training*

Windows offers help articles and videos on a variety of topics, such as connecting external devices, managing updates, personalizing your computer, and more.



Windows help and learning



Ayuda y formación en español*



Workforce Development

CAREER TRAINING & SUPPORT

* denotes resource is available in Spanish



NCWorks Career Centers

List of NCWorks Career Centers in the Triad region. A number of additional Career Centers in the area are operated by Goodwill Industries of Northwest NC (see next page).



Forsyth County Career Center/ Goodwill Industries of Northwest NC 2701 University Pkwy Winston-Salem, NC 27115 336-464-0520

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Goodwill Career Centers & Services

Goodwill Industries of Northwest North Carolina provides a range of training, placement and workforce development services, including operating official NCWorks Career Centers with the Piedmont Triad Regional Workforce Board.

Career Centers: These locations offer help with job search, online classes, services for veterans, application assistance, resumes, mock interviews, hiring events, and Project Re-Entry, which provides assistance for former offenders. Some Centers also sell computers. Visit a Career Center in person or email to connect with a Career Navigator.



336-724-3621 careers@goodwillnwnc.org

Classes: Goodwill also offers classes in fields like introductory healthcare, office technology, and skilled trades, in partnership with Forsyth Tech and Forsyth County Workforce Development Center. These classes are held online or at career centers and are open to the public. Financial assistance is available.



Scholarship applications: 336-724-3621 ext. 11327 careers@goodwillnwnc.org

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Forsyth Tech Career Center

Offers Forsyth Tech students help with job search skills, resumes and cover letters, and career/educational coaching. Visit an Employability Lab or make an appointment for support.



336-734-7023 or 336-983-3868 careerservices@forsythtech.edu



Neighborhood's Hands

Neighborhood's Hands offers free WiFi, a computer lab, youth center, and workforce development classes. Computers are publicly available for school work, job hunting, and other important needs.



neighborhoodshands.com

1713 North Liberty Street Winston-Salem, NC 27105 336-391-0218 neighborhoodshands@gmail.com



Childcare Resource Center*

The Childcare Resource Center provides consumer education, child care referrals, resources, and job listings, and professional development opportunities to support quality child care.



childcareresourcecenter.org*

500 West Fourth St., Suite 202 Winston-Salem, NC 27101 336-245-4900

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digitalbridgesforsyth.org