

College of Education Wells Fargo Partnership East

This issue:

- Do Something You Love
- Online Teaching Degree Opportunities through Wells Fargo Partnership East
- Path for Preparing to Complete an ECU Teaching Degree through Wells Fargo East Partnership (WPE)
- Navigating the Transfer Waters
- Funding Your Education

Get started on your road to a teaching degree today!

Contact the Wells Fargo Partnership East coordinator in your area for more information about ECU teaching degree completion.

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Do Something You Love

As a recent ECU graduate, Virginia “Ginny” Brie was a little nervous about finding a job as a teacher. Every time she turned on the news, she heard about teaching positions being cut. Her worries were laid to rest when she secured the perfect position at Bailey Elementary School in Nash County, just a few miles from her home. As a first-year teacher, Ginny is excited to be in a classroom, the place she has dreamed about for years.

Ginny always wanted to be a teacher, but found herself in the middle of life. Her family and job at the bank kept her busy. But in the back of her mind, she still wished for a degree and a classroom. Then a friend told her about ECU’s Wells Fargo Partnership East (WPE). *[Note: The WPE Program name changed to Wells Fargo Partnership East effective October 1st]* She was able to take courses at Nash Community College and transfer to the WPE online model to complete her degree in elementary education. “If it wasn’t for WPE, I couldn’t have gone back to school with three kids.” Ginny did look at other options, but chose ECU because it was affordable and convenient. She liked not having to worry



about which classes to take and whether she would have a seat in the online section. “Every semester I got an e-mail from my advisor saying ‘You are registered.’ That made it so much easier for me to get school done. Even though my instructors were online, I always knew they were there for me.” Ginny credits “awesome” instructors and practicum experiences in public school classrooms in helping her to become the teacher she is today.

When asked about her future as a teacher, Ginny says she sees herself teaching for at least 20 years. “I love the kids! I love my job! If you have to work, do something you love! It’s never too late!”

Online Teaching Degree Opportunities through Wells Fargo Partnership East

Wells Fargo Partnership East (WPE) is a partnership between East Carolina University and North Carolina community colleges that provides students with the opportunity to earn a bachelor’s degree in education through the convenience of online instruction. WPE students graduate from East Carolina University with a four-year degree in elementary education, middle grades education or special education through this 2+2 program. Students complete the first half of their coursework by taking general education courses at a local partnering community college and then transfer to ECU as juniors to complete all of their remaining coursework through online instruction. The WPE model offers significant tuition savings, high quality instruction from ECU faculty members, personal advising and the convenience of online instruction. Each degree is offered in a part-time schedule, which gives students the flexibility of earning a college degree while managing other commitments such as work and family responsibilities. Beginning the Summer II session of 2012, WPE will also offer a full-time elementary education model, which will allow WPE elementary education majors to graduate in two years after transferring to ECU. For more information on the new full-time elementary model or any of the part-time degree opportunities through WPE, please contact a WPE coordinator in your region, or visit our website at: www.ecu.edu/wpe.

Path for Preparing to Complete an ECU Teaching Degree Through Wells Fargo Partnership East (WPE)

1. Apply to a NC Community College and complete the general education requirements.
2. Apply for financial aid at the community college.
3. Register for community college courses. Find a checklist at www.ecu.edu/wpe
4. Schedule an appointment with a Wells Fargo Partnership East Coordinator.
5. Take the Praxis I in reading, writing, and math in the sophomore year (Praxis I is required to apply to WPE programs).
6. Apply to Wells Fargo Partnership East.



REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION TO ECU WELLS FARGO PARTNERSHIP EAST (WPE)

Part-Time Programs for ELEM, SPED, and MIDG	Full-Time Elementary Program
Complete Community College Courses on checklist	Complete Community College Courses on checklist
2.5 GPA on Community College Courses	3.0 GPA on Community College Courses
Praxis I Scores within 5 points of passing each test	Passing Praxis I Scores
Conference with an ECU WPE Coordinator	Conference with an ECU WPE Coordinator
Eligibility for admission to ECU	Eligibility for admission to ECU
WPE Application Deadline: Feb. 15 prior to fall	WPE Application Deadline: Jan. 15 prior to summer

7. Apply for admission to East Carolina University in January prior to the summer or fall semester you plan to attend ECU. In order to take courses through WPE, students must be enrolled in ECU. Applications for freshman/transfer students may be downloaded at <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-ecu/futurestudents.cfm>.
8. Apply for financial aid at ECU.

Navigating the Transfer Waters

Important Websites for Transfer Students

ECU Transfer Student Office: <http://www.ecu.edu/admissions/transfer.cfm> or call 252-328-6077

Wells Fargo Partnership East: www.ecu.edu/wpe

Transfer Student Navigator: <https://www.cfnc.org>

Transfer Student Planner: <https://www.cfnc.org>

Community College Search Engine for Online Courses: http://vlc.nccommunitycolleges.edu/students/online_courses.html

“A teacher touches eternity...she will never know where her influences stops.”

Henry Adams

Funding Your Education



It is never too late or too early to learn about financial aid. There is a **free course** online called, *Financial Literacy 101*, (https://www.cfnc.org/paying/financial_literacy.jsp). This course may be useful in helping you understand various kinds of financial aid and how to apply. College funds may be found in grants, scholarships, loans, employee assistance programs; and local agencies or businesses.

All college students should complete a FAFSA, Free Application for Federal Student Aid, online at www.fafsa.gov. Even if you do not qualify for federal aid such as a Pell Grant; other types of financial aid may be available but require documentation of a completed FAFSA. If you need assistance completing the FAFSA, visit your Financial Aid office at your community college. To find resources to fund your education, visit the websites below:

1. College Foundation Website: <http://www.cfnc.org> or call 1-888-866-cfnc or 1888-234-6400
2. A comprehensive source of free information on federal student aid: www.studentaid.ed.gov
3. Search for scholarships: <http://www.finaid.org/> and <http://www.cfnc.org/>
4. State Employee Credit Union Scholarships: <http://www.seanc.org/membership/scholarship.aspx>
5. Forgivable Education Loans for Service (FELS): www.cfnc.org/FELS
6. N. C. Community College Grant and Loan Program: http://www.nccommunitycolleges.edu/Stu_Dev_Services/qanda.htm
7. Golden Leaf Community College Scholars Program: http://www.nccommunitycolleges.edu/Stu_Dev_Services/goldenLeafScholarsProgram.htm
8. Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program: www.cfnc.org
9. Military Tuition Assistance: <http://www.military.com/education/content/money-for-school/tuition-assistance-ta-program-overview.html>
10. Military Spouse Tuition Assistance: <http://www.education4military.com/a/military/military-spouse.aspx>