

Collaborative Partnerships: Central Piedmont Community College

Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools (CMS) is a collaborative partner with CPCC in the Walmart Brighter Futures 2.0 Project. CPCC students have been an integral part of several CMS information technology projects since the spring of 2014.

The Central Piedmont Community College Foundation has been a strong partner to the Walmart Brighter Futures 2.0 grant. Forty-two students have been provided financial scholarships that afforded them an opportunity to attend classes and learn job skills. Additionally, the CPCC Foundation also funded the purchase of text books for twelve students.

The CPCC ITS department manages all of the college's technology infrastructure-related systems and services. This includes, but is not limited to, desktop management, classroom setup, physical infrastructure, networking, and server infrastructure. CPCC Walmart Brighter Future 2.0 students worked in co-ops for the ITS department.

The Charlotte Works Workforce Development Board referred applicants to the CPCC Walmart Brighter Futures 2.0 program to enroll in IT technical skills training.

IT-oLogy, a national nonprofit organization, is a collaboration of businesses, academic institutions, and organizations dedicated to growing the IT talent pipeline and advancing the IT profession. Having access to over 31 IT firms in the Charlotte region, this Technology Talent Task Force was consulted to help develop ideas for a comprehensive competency-based document to help align curriculum to employers they served.

Legal Aid of North Carolina is a statewide, nonprofit law firm that provides free legal services in civil matters to low-income people in order to ensure equal access to justice and to remove barriers to economic opportunity. Walmart Brighter Futures 2.0 students who were in need of this service were provided access, contact points, and a legal aid pathway.