Digital Media
North Carolina is on the cutting-edge of interactive digital media—from video games to serious games. Support resources in the state include:

• Caspian Networks, Research Triangle Park
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• Tesseract, Charlotte

We also have several research initiatives dedicated to further enhancing the photonics and optical industry including:

• Charlotte Institute for Technology Innovation, UNC-Charlotte
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Photonics
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Semiconductors and Chip Technology
Recognized for research and the development of semiconductors and chip technology, N.C. is home to many internationally known companies including:

• Cree, Research Triangle Park
• Engineering Research Center for Advanced Materials Processing (AEMP), Centennial Campus at N.C. State University
• Infineon Technologies, Morrisville
• Kyma, Raleigh
• Lord Corporation, Cary
• Nitronex, Durham
• Photonic Devices, Cary
• Qualcomm, Cary
• RFMD, Greensboro and Charlotte
• Silicon Wireless Corporation, Durham
• Ziptronix, Morrisville

Nanotechnology
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North Carolina is also home to many nanotechnology leading minds, such as Dr. Joe DeSimone, a professor of chemical engineering at UNC-Chapel Hill and N.C. State University. Dr. DeSimone has been awarded several prestigious honors and has generated at least 12 start-up companies.

Some of the more than 70 companies working with nanotechnology in the state include:

• Advaero Technologies, Greensboro
• Blue Nano, Charlotte
• nCoat Inc., Whitsett
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• Nextreme, Inc., Durham

Initiatives that are Thriving in North Carolina

With our highly skilled workforce and world-class research universities that partner with leading-edge technology companies, it’s no wonder that information and communication technology companies Thrive in North Carolina®

ThriveNC.com/Technology

We have a highly skilled and productive workforce, but it’s our way of life that keeps them motivated.

© 2011 N.C. Department of Commerce. Thrive in North Carolina and the Thrive in North Carolina logo are trademarks of the North Carolina Department of Commerce.
North Carolina has the tangibles that businesses need as well as a lifestyle that helps employees flourish. Our secret is simple: When people Thrive, business Thrives. We understand that in today’s global economy, people are your greatest source of competitive advantage—happy, fulfilled employees are more productive employees. From our business resources to our human resources to our natural resources, we offer businesses what they need to create a competitive advantage and Thrive.

**Strong Pipeline for Labor**

**The Microsoft IT Academy**
North Carolina is the first state in the nation to implement the Microsoft IT Academy statewide to all 628 public high schools. The Microsoft IT Academy provides students with real-world technology skills they need to be successful in college and a career by giving students the opportunity to learn in-demand software and technical skills as well as earn industry-recognized certifications such as a Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) or a Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP).

**North Carolina Community Colleges** offer curricula to develop a skilled IT workforce, including:
- Computer Engineering
- Computer Information Technology
- Computer Programming
- Database Management
- Information Systems Security
- Networking Technology
- Simulation and Game Development

Fifteen of the 16 UNC System campuses plus several private colleges and universities offer computer science curricula for bachelor’s degrees, master’s degrees and PhDs, as well as professional certificates.

**North Carolina Technology Association (NCTA)**
The primary voice of the information technology industry in the state, dedicated to growing and strengthening the IT industry through increasing public awareness, promoting companies and influencing key public share information on crucial technologies.

**North Carolina Research and Education Network (NCREN)**
Developed in 1985, it’s a reliable, robust fiber-optic network providing high-speed network services to The University of North Carolina’s 16-campus system, Duke University, Wake Forest University, UNC-TV and other private universities, colleges and non-profit institutions in the state.

**We have the resources, training and infrastructure needed for growth.**

**Council for Entrepreneurial Development (CED)**
Founded in 1984 to stimulate the creation and growth of high impact companies, today it is the largest entrepreneurial support organization in the U.S. with more than 5,500 active members.

**MCNC Grid Computing Networking Services**
A non-profit organization delivering next-generation information technology by continuously evaluating new hardware and software in test beds and deploying leading-edge computing and networking services, all supporting and advancing the competitiveness of the research and education community throughout North Carolina.

**Best Business Climate**
Consistently ranked among the best business climates in the nation by Forbes, CNBC, Chief Executive and Site Selection.
A Quality of Life That Attracts Talent

From our moderate climate with excellent recreational opportunities to our culture-rich history and a low cost of living, North Carolina has what people are looking for to Thrive.

- Moderate climate
- Culture rich in history and the arts
- World-class sports events
- Recreational opportunities
- Quality health care
- Low cost of living—housing, utilities, supplies and groceries, transportation and health care are all below the national average
- Low construction costs
- Diverse educational opportunities and jobs available

North Carolina offers an exceptional quality of life that contributes to a highly desirable place for businesses to attract and keep skilled workers.

The low cost of living in North Carolina makes it easier for our residents to take part in and enjoy all the great things that this state has to offer.
Information and Communications Technology

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With more than 30 companies and over 1,000 workers in the industry, the state is home to many of the industry’s pioneers and most recognizable names including:
- Destineer, Research Triangle Park
- Epic Games, Cary
- Electronic Arts, Morrisville
- Emergent Game Technologies, Chapel Hill
- Insomniac Games, Research Triangle Park
- Red Storm Entertainment, Centennial Campus at N.C. State University in Raleigh
- Virtual Heroes Inc., Research Triangle Park

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Information and Communications Technology Companies Thrive Statewide

A Sampling of Companies that Thrive in North Carolina:

- **Apple**, Maiden
- **AVL Technologies**, Asheville
- **Celestica**, Durham
- **Cisco**, Research Triangle Park
- **CommScope**, Hickory, Claremont, Newton and Statesville
- **Corning Incorporated**, Concord, Durham, Hickory, Midland, Wilmington and Winston-Salem
- **Cree**, Research Triangle Park, Morrisville, Durham
- **Credit Suisse**, Research Triangle Park
- **Dacentec**, Lenoir
- **Disney Entertainment**, Kings Mountain
- **Facebook**, Forest City
- **Fidelity Investments**, Research Triangle Park
- **Flextronics**, Asheville, Charlotte, Creedmoor and Durham
- **Google**, Lenoir
- **HCL**, Cary
- **IBM**, Research Triangle Park
- **Infocrossing, a Wipro Company**, Kings Mountain
- **Lenovo**, Morrisville
- **Microsoft**, Charlotte
- **NetApp**, Research Triangle Park
- **Red Hat**, Centennial Campus at NC State University in Raleigh
- **RFMD**, Greensboro and Charlotte
- **SAS**, Cary
- **Tyco International**, Greensboro, Winston-Salem and Raleigh

Get Location Data
Use our Economic Development Intelligence System (EDIS) to search property details and map out locations in addition to getting drive-time and distance reports related to demographic information such as workforce, population and businesses.

*ThriveNC.com/LocationTools*