POWERING THE
FOOD PROCESSING
INDUSTRY IN NORTH CAROLINA

FROM BAKERIES TO FISHERIES, the food processing industry in North Carolina is a diverse and growing sector that extends across the entire state. In fact, more than 62,000 people are employed by the state’s 1,000+ companies. Our recipe for success in this sector is quite simple; companies enjoy easy access to raw materials and a rapidly expanding consumer base. It’s all tied together by a skilled workforce familiar with operating in a regulated industry.

INDUSTRY RESOURCES
North Carolina has a long and successful track record of supporting the food processing sector. From workforce training to consulting services, powerful resources exist to support continued growth of this important industry. Examples include:

North Carolina’s Cooperative Extension offers educational programs to help entrepreneurs launch food-focused businesses, and provide processors with information to enhance product quality and profitability while meeting state and federal regulations.

The Industrial Extension Service at North Carolina State University works with the state’s food processing industry to identify advanced technologies to improve production processes and increase worker safety.

The North Carolina Community College System, which has significant expertise in the food processing industry, offers customized training to eligible new and expanding businesses so new employees are able to hit the ground running expanding businesses so new employees are able to hit the ground running.

THE NORTH CAROLINA WORKFORCE

- Ranked #1, Largest Manufacturing Workforce in the Southeast
- Ranked #2, Competitive Labor Environment by Area Development, 2018
- Elite higher Education — 53 colleges and universities including the Tier 1 research universities NCSU, Duke, and UNC
- 22,500+ STEM Degrees Annually

PUBLIC POWER IN N.C.

ElectriCities partners with its 70+ member cities, towns and university systems to provide reliable electricity, competitive rates, and local service to more than 1.2 million residential, commercial and industrial customers across the state.

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