

## Mountain Area Career Pathway Panel

Certified Career Pathways are integrated, seamless systems of education and workforce development programs developed by engaged employers, workforce development boards, high schools and colleges. They are designed to match worker preparation to employer need.

The Mountain Area Workforce Development Board has three Career Pathways certified by the NCWorks Commission for the Advanced Manufacturing, Healthcare, and Hospitality & Tourism sectors. The region has the first pathway in the state certified by the NCWorks Commission for the Hospitality & Tourism sector. The region's development of career pathways have been a collaborative effort between employers, educators (K12, community colleges, and universities) and workforce partners.

### Panelists

- Robert Foster, Director of Hotel Operations - Biltmore Farms Hotels, Asheville
- Cathy Horton, Chair, Hospitality Management, A-B Tech
- Scott Adams, Director, Henderson County NCWorks Career Center and Director, Work-Based Learning, Blue Ridge Community College
- Christy Cheek, Director, Career & Technical Education, Buncombe County Schools
- Barbara Darby, Regional Business Services Coordinator, Mountain Area Workforce Development Board
- Derrick Edwards, NCWorks Career Pathways Facilitator – Western Prosperity Zone, NC Department of Commerce

### Additional Pathway Partners

- James Huey, Director, Career & Technical Education, Madison County Schools
- Taylor Baldwin, Director, Career & Technical Education, Asheville City Schools
- Nathan Ramsey, Director, Mountain Area Workforce Development Board
- Fairley Pollock, Director, Educational Partnerships, Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College