



# 2021 Postsecondary Career and Technical Education Research Fellow

**Nzingha M. Williams**

Dissertation Research Fellow, North Carolina State University

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Belk Center  
for Community College  
Leadership and Research

Bio. Nzingha Williams is a doctoral candidate pursuing an Ed.D. in Community College Leadership at North Carolina State University (NCSU). She holds two bachelors degrees from NCSU in Criminology and Psychology and an MBA from the University of Phoenix. Nzingha serves as a Career and Technical Education (CTE) Coordinator at Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, NC. As a CTE Coordinator, she works with students to understand career pathways and the benefits of career and technical education. Nzingha works closely with business and industry, community, institutional, and secondary partners to ensure that career pathways are aligned with labor market needs, accessible for all students, and are built with an equitable lens. She is also an adjunct faculty in the Criminal Justice Department. In addition to her role at Central Piedmont, she serves on several action teams within the institution. These action teams include the Student Success Leadership Team, Guided Pathways Team, and the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Council. In 2019, Nzingha was a ECMC-ACTE Postsecondary Leadership Fellow.

Project. The history of education has shaped the way the Black community interprets the value of CTE. Booker T. Washington and W.E.B Du Bois were powerful Black leaders during the origins of CTE. This qualitative study seeks to examine the perception of CTE among Black American parents as a path for economic success, with an in-depth look at the philosophies of Booker T. Washington and W.E.B Du Bois.



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Faculty Scholar  
Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research  
North Carolina State University

## The Program

Fellows will be part of a community that participates in two national research training institutes, research methods webinars, works with CTE research mentors, and conducts postsecondary CTE research.

“We have designed this CTE Fellows program to provide scholars with the unique opportunity to be part of a community and a formal curriculum to develop their research skills while working toward improving the field of CTE.” — James Bartlett II, Ph.D.,  
Principal Investigator

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