

2026 North Carolina Culinary Arts Educator Development Agenda

Monday, September 21

Piedmont Natural Gas Technology & Design Center, Charlotte

9:00-9:30am	Registration & Light Breakfast		
9:30-10:00am	Welcome & Orientation (Duke Energy Innovation Lab – All)		
10:05-11:05am	Duke Energy Innovation Lab Culinary Hands-on Skill Chef Trenton Shank	Piedmont Innovation Lab From Industry to Instruction: Thriving as a Culinary Educator Chef Dominic Hawkes	Video Conference Room Menu Costing for Culinary Educators Chef Michael Beers
11:10am-12:10pm	Culinary Hands-on Skill Chef Trenton Shank	From Industry to Instruction: Thriving as a Culinary Educator Chef Dominic Hawkes	Menu Costing for Culinary Educators Chef Michael Beers
12:10-12:45pm	Lunch (all)		
12:45-1:45pm	Duke Energy Innovation Lab Culinary Hands-on Skill Chef Justin Fry	Piedmont Innovation Lab Every student starts somewhere: Teaching culinary skills from the ground up Chef Dominic Hawkes	Video Conference Room Preparing Students for Competition Chef Michael Beers, Chef Trenton Shank
1:50-2:50pm	Culinary Hands-on Skill Chef Trenton Shank	Every student starts somewhere: Teaching culinary skills from the ground up Chef Dominic Hawkes	Assessment strategies for lab and theory components Chef Richard Kugelmann
3:00-4:00pm	Assessment strategies for lab and theory components Chef Richard Kugelmann	Preparing Students for Competition Chef Michael Beers, Chef Trenton Shank	N/A

Goodyear House, Charlotte: ProStart Educator Recognition Dinner (for confirmed ProStart educators only) 6pm-9pm

Tuesday, September 22

Piedmont Natural Gas Technology & Design Center, Charlotte

8:30-9:00am	Networking and Light Breakfast		
9:00-10:00am	Duke Energy Innovation Lab Culinary Hands-on Skill Chef Leah Schuler	Piedmont Innovation Lab Culinary Hands-on Skill Chef Richard Kugelmann	N/A
10:15-11:15am	Culinary Hands-on Skill Chef Michael Beers	Culinary Hands-on Skill Chef Richard Kugelmann	Food Safety Carolyn Griffin, NCRLA
11:30am-12:30pm	Culinary Hands-on Skill Chef Michael Beers	Food Safety Carolyn Griffin, NCRLA	N/A
12:30pm	Lunch (all)		
1:15pm-2pm	Open Conversation and session closing (Duke Energy Innovation Lab – All)		
2:00pm-3:30pm	ProStart Educator Session-for confirmed ProStart educators only (Duke Energy Innovation Lab)		