

**Item Title:** Approve Multiyear Agreement with East Carolina University

**Specific Action Requested:**

**That the Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to execute a two-year contract with East Carolina University (ECU) to provide an Executive Masters in Public Administration Program, subject to terms and conditions acceptable to the County Attorney.**

**Item Summary:**

**Purpose:** The Board of Commissioners must approve multi-year contracts.

**Background:** Leadership development and effective succession planning are key components for any thriving organization. Wake County is committed to supporting developing leaders, building internal capacity, and sustaining a talent pipeline within the County. The County is launching a partnership with East Carolina University (ECU). The County's goal is to cultivate future leaders within Wake County and build career-long connections with emerging local government leaders. The ***Wake Leadership Fellows Program*** will provide employees a cohort-based experience that culminates with participating employees receiving an Executive Master of Public Administration (eMPA) degree.

The Board of Commissioners approved an action related to this contract on October 6, 2025. The requested action is a technical correction to the Board's approval to acknowledge the multi-year nature of the contract.

**Strategic Plan:** This action directly supports Foundations for Service Goal 2: Increase overall employee satisfaction to 90% by 2029.

**Fiscal Impact:** The fiscal impact will reflect the costs for FY26, FY27 and FY 28. The anticipated costs for the full program is not to exceed \$220,000 for 20 participants. The participant cost breakdown is as follows:

- The anticipated costs for Wake County participants is not to exceed \$55,000 over the two-year program (up to five students at a cost of not more than \$11,000 per student).
- The anticipated costs for municipality participants is not to exceed \$165,000 over the two-year program (up to 15 students at a cost of not more than \$11,000 per student).

**Additional Information:**

None.

**Attachments:**

None.