



"The Power of Possibility"

WhirliDogs Training Center is a nonprofit with the mission to open a café in Historic Downtown Wilson that will serve "Out-of-the-Box" hotdogs and ice cream specialties while offering employment and training opportunities for individuals with special needs.

WhirliDogs Academy Application

Description of each Academy:

WhirliDogs Prep Academy is an inclusive, hands-on training program where participants gain real-world kitchen experience while preparing a complete entrée to take home and share with their family. Each session introduces the vocabulary and expectations of a commercial kitchen, helping participants build confidence in a structured, supportive environment. Participants will learn to safely use kitchen equipment, follow step-by-step directions, and understand the importance of sanitation and food safety. After preparing their entrée, participants will take part in cleaning and sanitizing the kitchen, reinforcing professional habits and teamwork. Throughout the program, emphasis is placed on communication, following supervisor guidance, and working collaboratively to complete tasks. The Prep Academy meets once a week for four sessions, with small class sizes of 6–8 participants to ensure individualized support. Graduates are encouraged to return for additional sessions as they continue building their skills and independence in the kitchen.

WhirliDogs ServSafe Academy is an inclusive, two-day training program designed for teenagers and young adults—with and without disabilities—who are preparing to enter the workforce, particularly in restaurant and food service settings. This program is ideal for first-time job seekers who want to better understand workplace expectations and build confidence before applying to local businesses. Participants will complete the industry-recognized ServSafe Food Handler certification, giving them a valuable credential and a competitive edge when seeking employment. The course combines classroom instruction with hands-on food preparation to reinforce key concepts in food safety and kitchen practices. In addition to technical skills, the academy focuses on essential workplace readiness, including teamwork, communication, networking, and job application strategies. The program runs from 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM over two days, with the certification exam administered at the end of the second day. Read-aloud testing accommodations are available to support all learners.

Note: Attendance at a WhirliDog's Academy does not guarantee that the applicant will be able to work at the WhirliDogs Café.

Please mail or email the completed application to either:

WhirliDogs Prep Academy
PO Box 2932

Wilson, NC 27894
or
Email: wesley@whirlidogs.com
www.whirlidogs.com

Please complete the application with appropriate Signatures. After receiving the completed application the Program Manager will set up an introductory meeting.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Date: _____

Legal Full Name: _____
(First) (Middle) (Last)

Preferred Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Guardian Phone: _____ Applicant Cell Phone: _____

Guardian Email: _____ Applicant Email: _____

DOB: _____

Disability/Diagnosis (Optional- used to determine accommodations/ supports needed):

Person filling out application: ☐ Self ☐ Parent/Caregiver/Guardian ☐ Staff

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Email: _____

Which Academy are you applying: ☐ WhirliDogs Prep ☐ WhirliDogs ServSafe

Guardianship

Is the applicant their own legal guardian? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If YES, who do we have permission to talk to/consult with on your behalf?

_____ (please print name and list relationship to client)
_____ (please print name and list relationship to client)
_____ (please print name and list relationship to client)

If NO, who is the Legal Guardian? (Name): _____

Legal Guardian's relationship to student: _____

Who does he/she live with? (check one) ☐ Parents ☐ Self ☐ Group Home ☐ Other _____

REFERENCES (Must provide at least 2 of the following)

Personal Reference

Name: _____ Relation: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

School Teacher or Para

Name: _____ Title: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Other

Name: _____ Title: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

I give permission for the WhirliDogs Admissions Committee to contact any and/or all of the above references.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Getting to Know the Applicant

We would like to be able to help you meet your culinary goals at the WhirliDogs Training Center. Please answer the following questions.

1. Do you help around the house? If so, what tasks do you do? _____

2. Do you take instructions well? What helps you follow instructions, what is not helpful?

3. Do you have any fears or triggers? If so, explain.

4. What employment interests do you have?

5. Other information you would like for us to know.

6. Do you have any allergies or major health issues we need to know about?

7. Have you ever had a job or volunteered somewhere? What did you do?

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____