Our world is changing rapidly. With changes in technology, demographics, and workforce trends, Washington needs colleges to not only keep pace, but lead the way. Washington’s 34 community and technical colleges answer that call. Nimble and effective, our community and technical colleges have proven uniquely positioned to adapt to, embrace, and ignite change.

Consider this: Many of the top-paying jobs in Washington didn’t even exist ten years ago. Those that did exist have changed dramatically. Our community and technical colleges partner with local business and emerging industries to react quickly to workforce trends. Students learn marketable skills they need to get good jobs, enrich their lives, and bring their talents and purchasing power back to local communities. Businesses get the qualified workforce they need to grow and thrive. And at a time when national student loan debt is rising faster than credit card debt, community and technical college students save thousands on their way to achieving a bachelor’s degree.

Community and technical colleges build prosperity for all Washingtonians, regardless of whether they’ve enrolled at one of our campuses. The students educated at our open-door colleges become the employees, entrepreneurs, consumers, and taxpayers who keep our state economy vibrant — and raise the quality of life for every one of us.
Community and technical colleges partner with business to react quickly in our dynamic 21st century global economy. We get training programs up and running in months—not years. Students get precisely the training employers want and then land good jobs in the community when they finish, or they transfer for even higher levels of education. From cybersecurity and information technology to allied health and marine technology, our in-demand training programs work for students and employers alike.

WASHINGTON BENEFITS FROM A UNIFIED SYSTEM OF COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGES. Our 34 colleges not only align with employers in the regions where they operate, but also with each other through common programs—like advanced manufacturing and allied health—that promote Washington’s overall job-growth strategy. This approach connects every community in Washington to the full range of economic possibilities locally and regionally, and gives our state a competitive edge. Our colleges are as innovative as the employers they serve—from the wineries in Walla Walla to the aerospace suppliers in the Puget Sound corridor and everywhere in between.

"Looking back after my time at the four-year university, I can see now how different my experiences and inspiration might have been if I hadn’t completed those core courses at Green River Community College. I was able to make connections and gain experiences with real-world activities...Green River gave me a chance to see the world of education and the enrichment to life that learning brings."

– Julie Brock-Jordan, Green River Community College
NUMBER OF COLLEGES
34

STUDENTS ENROLLED
Headcount, 2013-2014
388,082
Full Time Equivalent, 2013-2014
182,677

ANNUAL TUITION
(45 credits)
$4,000

CREDENTIALS EARNED
55,189
21,352 certificates & apprenticeships
17,439 academic/transfer degrees
10,647 workforce degrees
5,751 high school credentials

IMPACT ON HIGHER EDUCATION
Nearly 60% of students in WA public colleges and universities are enrolled in community and technical colleges
40% of public baccalaureate graduates in WA start at a community or technical college

ECONOMIC IMPACT
$11 billion
Amount community and technical colleges and their former students add annually to the state’s economy

SOURCES:
57% from OPM 2013-2014 Budget Driver Report; 40% from August 2013 SBCTC Role of Transfer Study;
$11 billion from January 2011 EMSI report for WA; rest from 2013-2014 SBCTC Academic Year Report.
Washington Community and Technical Colleges

Bates Technical College
Bellevue College
Bellingham Technical College
Big Bend Community College
Cascadia Community College
Centralia College
Clark College
Clover Park Technical College
Columbia Basin College
Edmonds Community College
Everett Community College
Grays Harbor College
Green River College
Highline College
Lake Washington Institute of Technology
Lower Columbia College
North Seattle College
Olympic College
Peninsula College
Pierce College Fort Steilacoom
Pierce College Puyallup
Renton Technical College
Seattle Central College
Shoreline Community College
Skagit Valley College
South Puget Sound Community College
South Seattle College
Spokane Community College
Spokane Falls Community College
Tacoma Community College
Walla Walla Community College
Wenatchee Valley College
Whatcom Community College
Yakima Valley Community College

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Outstanding Washington Community and Technical College Alumni

Mike Adair, former Chief Information Officer for Expedia.com
Rick Anderson, former chairman and CEO of Moss Adams LLP
Ralston “Bud” Black, San Diego Padres manager
Deb Caletti, award-winning author of young adult fiction
Jim Caviezel, actor
Ray Conner, vice chairman of The Boeing Company and CEO of Boeing Commercial Airplanes
Sam Elliott, actor
Mark Emmert, former president of University of Washington, current president of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)
Denis Hayes, national coordinator of the first Earth Day
Greg Johnson, former NASA astronaut
Bruce Lee, martial artist, filmmaker
Macklemore, singer/songwriter
Kenny Mayne, ESPN sports journalist
Ann Rule, author
Brian Scalabrine, former NBA player and current NBA television analyst
Orin Smith, former president and CEO of Starbucks and member of the University of Washington Board of Regents
Brian Valentine, former senior vice president of the Microsoft Windows Division
Junki Yoshida, entrepreneur of Yoshida’s teriyaki sauce fame