95% of graduates would recommend WCC to a friend (WCC graduation survey, 2018)
Whatcom has done an amazing job at providing on-campus resources where students can get help.

I love this school.

–2018 graduate

Phyllis and Charles Self Learning Commons

The Phyllis and Charles Self Learning Commons will incorporate a library, instructional technology, collaboration and study spaces, and learning centers that support students in math and English success.

Scheduled completion summer 2020.

Student Residence Hall

Construction to WCC’s first on-campus residence hall began in September. The 90,000-square-foot building, which is scheduled to be complete in 2020, will be four stories and house about 230 students.

Whatcom has done an amazing job at providing on-campus resources where students can get help.

I love this school.

–2018 graduate

Broke ground on the Phyllis and Charles Self Learning Commons and WCC’s FIRST student housing complex

WCC Foundation endowments have grown over $2.1 million

1 bachelor degree

23 associate degrees

29 academic programs

40 certificates

We meet our students where they are and put them on the path to a BETTER FUTURE

–Kathi Hiyane-Brown, WCC President

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2018

Awarded $5 million from National Science Foundation to improve STEM education and cybersecurity

Awarded $2.25 million from U.S. Department of Education to strengthen teaching and learning, student success

Awarded $770,000 from Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) for healthcare and aerospace training
Dear Friends,

At Whatcom Community College, we are focused on student success. We help our students discover their strengths, explore their academic options, and meet their educational goals. Whether you need a short-term certificate, personal enrichment class, career preparation, transfer degree, or a bachelor of applied science degree, Whatcom is here to serve you.

The College’s grant awards are an excellent reflection of our commitment to students. WCC was approved for more than $7 million in grant funding in the last academic year. Over the multi-year span of the grants, the total comes to more than $15 million in funding to improve important initiatives in healthcare, aerospace, STEM, cybersecurity, and student success.

Whatcom students graduate at rates higher than their peers at other community and technical colleges. And after WCC, their future is bright. We work directly with local industry leaders so graduates’ skills and strengths are aligned with what employers need.

Supporting today’s students requires us to think differently. It requires campus-wide collaboration and commitment from our talented faculty and staff. But that’s the spirit of community college, and especially WCC. We meet our students where they are and put them on the path to a better future.

I invite you to read the following pages, and learn more about our student successes, faculty and staff excellence, and exciting new initiatives.

Thank you for your continued support,

Kathi Hiyane-Brown, Ed.D.
President, Whatcom Community College
Our Demographics

11,195 STUDENTS SERVED ANNUALLY

4,039 FULL TIME EQUIVALENT* *One full-time equivalent (FTE) student is the equivalent of one student enrolled in 15 credits per quarter

18:1 STUDENT FACULTY RATIO

1,111 RUNNING START STUDENTS from local high schools

229 VETERANS

31% STUDENTS OF COLOR

502 EMPLOYEES

36% FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENTS

366 INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FROM 30 COUNTRIES

70 STUDENT ATHLETES

More than half of the 740,000 job openings in 2021 will require education past high school. (Washington Roundtable, 2016)

“I think WCC has done an amazing job of creating an inviting and inclusive environment.” –2018 graduate
Our Financials 2017-18
Whatcom Community College

Operating Revenues
- State Allocation: $13,754,530 (52%)
- Student Tuition and Fees: $7,280,906 (31%)
- Local Funds & WCCF: $4,950,000 (17%)

Operating Expenditures
- Instruction: $14,074,333 (54%)
- Instructional Administration: $1,548,975 (8%)
- Student Services: $4,568,812 (11%)
- Library Services: $789,358 (3%)
- Institutional Management: $2,095,689 (7%)
- Administrative Services: $2,908,269 (17%)

WCC Foundation
- Assets grew to $16.1 million in 2017-2018.
- Total Support and Revenue: $12 million
- Total Expenses: $10 million
- Change in Net Assets: $2 million
- Net Assets: $1 million

2017-18 Revenue and Support
- In-Kind: 12.8%
- Investment Income: 19.5%
- Scholarship Awards: 20.7%
- Contributions: 37.2%
- Events and other: 0.1%

2017-18 Expenses
- Management and General: 18.9%
- Fundraising expenses: 49.8%
- College support: 49.8%
- Long-term pledges and grants receivable: 44,003
- Land and building assets: $8,087,322
- Endowment investments: $6,919,093
- Current assets: $1,035,273
Manny, a United States Navy veteran, has come a long way since he first enrolled in remedial math at WCC several years ago. Now, he is excelling in one of the highest math courses the College offers and working as a math tutor and engineering mentor, helping students in English and Spanish.

One of Manny’s career goals is to combine his fascination with cars (his father was an auto-technician) with his desire to improve the environment and research affordable fossil fuel alternatives. Because of his passion for the subject and proven academic excellence, Manny was selected to participate in a summer research project at the Advanced Material Science and Engineering Center (AMSEC). There he gained hands-on experience testing various methods of desulfurizing diesel. Manny plans to major in mechanical engineering at the University of Washington.

Diversity and excellence go hand in hand at Whatcom. A diverse student body offers students a culturally rich experience that better prepares them for life beyond college. The WCC Foundation is committed to advancing equity and excellence through scholarships and awards that support our diverse student body. "Thank You for Your Service" awards have helped the College retain outstanding student veterans who face significant economic and educational hurdles.
Alejandra is one of the WCC students selected for the 2019 All-Washington Academic Team. She has maintained a 4.0 GPA while balancing her roles of full-time student, Phi Theta Kappa honor society member, mother of two young daughters, Writing Center tutor, and the director of club events for the associated students of WCC. Originally from Mexico City, she is incredibly proud of her U.S. citizenship, which she earned in 2019. Outside of Whatcom, Alejandra is very involved in her children’s PTA, where she helps translate material for Spanish-speaking families. She is passionate about helping people and telling their stories through typography, color, and graphic design. She plans to transfer to Western Washington University to continue her visual communications studies and hopes to one day earn a doctorate degree.
Student athlete Camron Miller was selected to the 2018 Junior College Men’s Scholar All-America Team by the United Soccer Coaches Association based on his athletic abilities, academic excellence and team contributions. He is the first athlete in College history to be honored with the award, and it could not have gone to a more deserving recipient. WCC men’s soccer coach Jason Jorgensen said Camron embodies what is means to be a “complete champion” and excels on and off the field. Camron has been honored with numerous awards by the Northwest Athletic Conference and helped the Orcas finish first in their division and second overall last season.

Camron recently transferred to Western Washington University to continue his athletic and academic career.

Camron has displayed character, leadership, and is constantly putting others, the community, WCC, and the soccer program before himself.”

–Men’s soccer coach Jason Jorgensen
Described as “diligent, responsible, conscientious, and capable,” Jesse recently completed his first year of WCC’s nursing program. He said he developed a passion for the medical field while serving as a volunteer firefighter and EMT over the past five years in Whatcom County. In addition to gaining acceptance to WCC’s rigorous nursing program, Jesse counts his proudest accomplishment as participating in the Scott Firefighter Stairclimb fundraiser, which raises money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

After Whatcom, Jesse plans to pursue a BSN (bachelors of science in nursing) and continue to volunteer as an EMT and firefighter. Eventually he’d like to work as a travel nurse, helping others around the world.
Rukhsar's family were refugees and emigrated from Afghanistan shortly before 9/11. When Rukhsar was in first grade and learning English, she helped her mother become a U.S. citizen. She said that process ignited her interest in family and immigration law, which she plans to pursue at the University of Washington. Rukhsar began her journey at WCC as a Running Start student, earning college credit while still in high school. She recently graduated from Whatcom, with honors, earning both her high school diploma and associate in arts and sciences degree.

At WCC, Rukhsar was instrumental in starting the Muslim Student Association and was active in Phi Theta Kappa honor society, the Orca Food Pantry, Simpson Intercultural Center, and ASWCC Social Justice Committee.

The idea of family law intrigues me because often in the justice system, the voices of our youth are neglected, and I want to be a representative for those voices. The multiple scholarships I received from WCC have allowed me to overcome my family's financial barriers and pursue this dream.
Justin Ericksen
Full-Time Faculty Excellence Award

Justin Ericksen has served as a full-time faculty member of English since 2014. He is a proud champion of cross-departmental collaboration, and his letters of support from faculty, staff, and students reflect this commitment. Students praise him for his support, patience, and responsiveness.

Erin Graham
Adjunct Faculty Excellence Award

Erin has served as an adjunct faculty member of psychology since 2013. Students praise her willingness to go above and beyond to assist them with understanding concepts, as well as providing substantive feedback so they can fine-tune their learning.

Janis Velasquez-Farmer
Exempt Staff Excellence Award

Janis has been the College’s associate registrar since 2013. She is a leader for Whatcom’s Equity Project initiatives, co-chaired the strategic planning steering committee, and serves on numerous other committees and learning communities, helping to advance campus equity, diversity and inclusion, as well as streamlining registration processes for students and faculty.

Snezana Buric
Classified Staff Excellence Award

Snezana has been WCC’s fiscal specialist for the last five years, ensuring interactions with the Business Office are enjoyable, easy and efficient. Snezana excels at suggesting new and creative ways to solve challenges. It’s employees like Snezana who help WCC accomplish critical behind-the-scenes work, so we can serve our students and community better.

“The majority of the faculty I had during my WCC academic career were exceptional. Overall, I thank WCC for the experiences and teaching I received... I have learned an incredible amount.

Thank you.” – 2018 graduate

WCC is fortunate to have faculty, classified and exempt employees who exhibit outstanding qualities and who are committed to the success and future of the College. With financial support from the WCC Foundation, Whatcom has established annual recognition awards for each of these three groups of employees. Congratulations to the 2018 honorees.
Whatcom Community College is a place of opportunity, outstanding achievement and sometimes second chances, often in the face of enormous odds. With a devoted faculty and staff committed to student success, WCC offers an experience unparalleled at comparable educational institutions.

The goal of the Foundation is to ensure access to higher education for students from all backgrounds, and to promote academic innovation and excellence on our campus. Thanks to our generous donors, more students are discovering and achieving their dreams at Whatcom.

At WCC, 60% of our students need financial assistance. Learn how you can help WCC achieve success at whatcom.edu/foundation.
80% of WCC’s professional-technical students employed or enrolled at another institution within nine months of graduation

(SBCTC, 2016-17)