The Seattle Colleges have been awarded approximately $4.3 million in federal grants to increase retention, completion and transfer rates for all students, with a special emphasis on students of color, first-generation students, and those from lower socioeconomic backgrounds. The highly competitive Title III US Department of Education grants were awarded to North Seattle College and South Seattle College and will enable the district to build on its efforts to move toward a guided pathway model that's centered on equity. North will receive $2.2 million over five years to implement the program.

North Seattle College has been named as one of the top five LGBTQ-friendly community colleges in the nation by Campus Pride, the leading national organization for LGBTQ and ally college students and groups. Campus Pride released its “Best of the Best” Top 30 LGBTQ-friendly college list highlighting the campuses nationally who are setting the highest standards for LGBTQ-inclusion in policy, program and practice. North has and continues to make strides to be a more inclusive campus by creating all-gender bathrooms on campus, hosting regular events and Safe Zone trainings, opening the college’s first Multicultural Center and supporting the Gender Equity Resource Center, among other efforts.

In response to the industry need for trained mechatronics technicians, North Seattle College and Shoreline Community College partnered in 2016 to develop a new degree program that launched in fall 2017. The new associate degree, which is comprised of two certificates of proficiency, one completed at each college, was mapped to the Advanced Manufacturing Technical Education Collaborative curriculum that The Boeing Company had identified as filling its needs for skilled mechatronics technicians. The new program also fills industry needs in sectors that regularly use automation, such as logistics, food processing, and advanced manufacturing.