Advancing Health Careers

TCC’s Health Careers pathways allow students to first obtain employment in health care, and then advance in their fields. Because MultiCare Health Systems and CHI Franciscan Health Systems are the largest private employers in Pierce County, creating advancement pathways within health care helps working professionals stay in the region while accessing family-wage jobs. At TCC, students can obtain degrees or certificates in order to start work in Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Emergency Medicine, Health Information Technology, Nursing, Radiological Technology or Respiratory Therapy. When they’re ready to take their careers further, students can return to school and earn a Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) degree in Community Health or Health Information Management (HIM).

Creating Second Chances

As one of the colleges participating in the national Second Chance Pell Grant pilot program, TCC provides college-level education for individuals at the local women’s prisons. In June 2018, 117 students from the Washington Corrections Center for Women and 53 students from Mission Creek Corrections Center for Women graduated with high school diplomas, certificates and associate degrees. We also assist justice-involved individuals seeking to reintegrate, providing dedicated support for students beginning or continuing their education.

Supporting the Whole Student

TCC finds innovative ways to help our busy students stay in school and complete their programs. To address food insecurity on campus, TCC recently opened the Max and Margi Harned Titan Food Pantry, originally started as a class project by two business students. TCC also partners with Pierce Transit to offer $5 quarterly bus passes for students. And the College Housing Assistance Program, a partnership with the Tacoma Housing Authority which provides vouchers for students experiencing housing insecurity, was recently named one of the Top 25 Innovations in American Government by the Harvard Kennedy School.