WHATCOM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

237 West Kellogg Road • Bellingham, WA 98226 • www.whatcom.edu

President: Dr. Kathi Hiyane-Brown, 360-383-3330, khiyane-brown@whatcom.edu

Trustees: John Pedlow, chair, Steve Adelstein, Wendy Bohlke, Rebecca Johnson, Teresa Taylor

National Leader in Cybersecurity Education

WCC is a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance in 2-Year Education and the lead institution of CyberWatch West. With $9 million in National Science Foundation grants, WCC leads a nationwide expansion of cybersecurity education. The college offers a Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) degree in IT Networking-Cybersecurity, which builds upon current Computer Information Systems pathways. These include an associate in applied science transfer degree in cybersecurity that articulates to a bachelor’s degree program at Western Washington University and aligns to the University of Washington. The BAS degree is also available online, thereby expanding capacity locally and nationwide.

Health Professions Education Leadership

WCC is developing three new programs to prepare 85 students annually for emerging health care careers. The work is funded by three grants from the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges. One grant addresses demand for certified nursing assistants with training in acute care, behavioral health, aging populations and medical terminology. The second creates a fast-track, 15-credit chemical dependency professional certificate to meet demand for licensed mental health professionals. The third grant modernizes WCC’s medical assisting program to address emergent workforce needs such as patient navigation. WCC is also home to the Area Health Education Center for Western Washington, working to improve health care quality and access for rural and medically underserved communities in partnership with the University of Washington.

Award-Winning Approach to Student Success

WCC students’ continued success rates led to Whatcom’s fourth consecutive Aspen Prize nomination as one of the top 150 community colleges in the nation. A combination of innovative technology and human connection helps WCC students achieve goals. Students and advisors use software to plan courses, monitor progress, pinpoint student interests and access important resources. In addition, the college was awarded an Upward Bound grant of $1.3 million by the US Department of Education to help 300 local low-income, first-generation high school students prepare for and achieve college success over the next five years.

KEY FACTS (DATA FROM 2017-2018 ACADEMIC YEAR. REFLECTS HEADCOUNT UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.)

Year Founded
1967

Service Area
Whatcom County

Legislative Districts
40, 42

Highest Enrolled Programs
• Associate in Arts and Sciences
• Business and Office Administration
• Computer Information Systems
• Physical Therapist Assistant
• Nursing

Enrollment
Headcount (all sources) 11,195
FTES (all sources) 4,039
Headcount (state-funded) 5,178
FTES (state-funded) 2,284

Students in Selected Programs
Applied bachelor’s 20
I-BEST 38
International 368
Running Start 1,057
Worker Retraining 76

STUDENT PROFILE — STATE-FUNDED

Type of Student
3% basic skills
6% other
53% academic/transfer
38% workforce education

Attendance

Median Age: 22

Race/Ethnicity*
African American 3%
Asian 9%
Hispanic/Latino 19%
Native American 3%
Pacific Islander 1%
Other, Multiracial 2%
White/Caucasian 70%

Gender
Female 56%
Male 44%

Family and Finances
Students receiving need-based financial aid in eligible programs 46%
Students who work 51%
Students with children 14%

* May not add up to 100% because students may be counted in more than one race. Percentages calculated on reported value.

POINTS OF INTEREST

WCC is a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance in 2-Year Education and the lead institution of CyberWatch West. With $9 million in National Science Foundation grants, WCC leads a nationwide expansion of cybersecurity education. The college offers a Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) degree in IT Networking-Cybersecurity, which builds upon current Computer Information Systems pathways. These include an associate in applied science transfer degree in cybersecurity that articulates to a bachelor’s degree program at Western Washington University and aligns to the University of Washington. The BAS degree is also available online, thereby expanding capacity locally and nationwide.

WCC is developing three new programs to prepare 85 students annually for emerging health care careers. The work is funded by three grants from the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges. One grant addresses demand for certified nursing assistants with training in acute care, behavioral health, aging populations and medical terminology. The second creates a fast-track, 15-credit chemical dependency professional certificate to meet demand for licensed mental health professionals. The third grant modernizes WCC’s medical assisting program to address emergent workforce needs such as patient navigation. WCC is also home to the Area Health Education Center for Western Washington, working to improve health care quality and access for rural and medically underserved communities in partnership with the University of Washington.

WCC students’ continued success rates led to Whatcom’s fourth consecutive Aspen Prize nomination as one of the top 150 community colleges in the nation. A combination of innovative technology and human connection helps WCC students achieve goals. Students and advisors use software to plan courses, monitor progress, pinpoint student interests and access important resources. In addition, the college was awarded an Upward Bound grant of $1.3 million by the US Department of Education to help 300 local low-income, first-generation high school students prepare for and achieve college success over the next five years.