Pierce College Ranked Among Nation’s Top 5 Community Colleges

For the second time in a row, the prestigious Aspen Institute has named Pierce College one of 10 finalists for the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, the nation’s signature recognition of high achievement and performance among community colleges. Pierce College Fort Steilacoom was a finalist for the 2019 award and, as part of that competition, was recognized with a Rising Star award for dramatically improving student outcomes. The Rising Star designation placed Pierce College Fort Steilacoom in the top 5 community colleges in the nation. We are proud of the work we are doing to dismantle the barriers to student success and to close equity gaps.

Now Offering 5 Bachelor of Applied Science Degrees

Pierce College now offers five Bachelor of Applied Science degrees: Dental Hygiene, P-3 Teaching, Homeland Security Emergency Management, Applied Business Management and Fire Services Leadership and Management. Each of these applied bachelor’s degrees are an important part of our Guided Pathways reform movement, which involves providing students clear and comprehensive program maps to equip them with the knowledge, skills and abilities to succeed in their chosen career.

Leading Community for Military Affiliated Students

Pierce College at Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) delivers several university transfer and professional-technical pathways to active duty military, reserves, veterans and families, with flexible policies to help them succeed. Our use of open educational resources has saved students more than $2 million since 2015. Pierce College Fort Steilacoom’s Veterans Resource Center assists with housing, jobs, mental health counseling, emergency services and textbooks. The college is also a leader in Veterans Industry Education 25, a partnership between community and technical colleges, state agencies, and the armed forces, offering transitioning service members education to prepare for Washington’s most in-demand industries.