



SUPPORT THE SOLUTION
SUSTAINING OUR COMMUNITY COLLEGES
TO BUILD WYOMING'S FUTURE.

OCTOBER 2020



WACCT
WYOMING ASSOCIATION
OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEES



THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

RECOGNIZE WYOMING'S COMMUNITY COLLEGES AS THE SOLUTION TO BUILDING WYOMING'S FUTURE.

- Limit future cuts to the community colleges
 - Utilize the LSRA to bridge the gap between the current funding crisis and a long-term sustainable funding solution.
 - In fact, invest in the Community Colleges as the state's workhorse to developing our economy and training our workforce.
 - A dollar spent on the Community Colleges is \$4.90 invested in Wyoming's people.



THE WYOMING LEGISLATURE

SUPPORT A SUSTAINABLE FUNDING STRUCTURE FOR WYOMING'S COMMUNITY COLLEGES.

INCORPORATE A STATE-WIDE FUNDING MECHANISM TO MIRROR THE STATE-WIDE SERVICES THE COLLEGES PROVIDE.

Options may include:

SALES TAX – increase the state portion of the sales tax by 1% and use part of the revenues to fund the community colleges

- This option would impose, by act of the Legislature, a one percent "emergency stabilization" sales and use tax on the

23 Wyoming counties or allow part of an additional penny of sales tax to be used for the colleges. If used as a stabilization tax, the tax would only go into effect when certain revenue metrics are hit, resulting in reduced capacity for the state to adequately fund the community colleges. When those revenues would increase back to the predetermined threshold, this tax would be removed.

- Fiscal impact – a portion of \$140M/year

AD VALOREM TAX FOR THE 16 NON-TAXING COUNTIES

- There are 16 Wyoming counties who are not part of a community college district, and as such are not providing tax support to fund the colleges. This option would impose a 1 mill levy on these counties.
- Fiscal impact:
 - \$14.6M 1 mill
 - \$29.1M 2 mills
 - \$43.7M 3 mills
 - \$58.3M 4 mills

AD VALOREM TAX FOR ALL 23 COUNTIES

- Statewide mill levy on all levels of assessment
- Fiscal impact \$45M biennially

STUDY EQUITY ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH BOCES AND DUAL & CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT FUNDING AND ALLOCATION



PROVIDE MORE TOOLS IN THE TOOLBOX LOCALLY

ALLOW THE TRUSTEES TO IMPOSE AN ADDITIONAL MILL LEVY (CURRENTLY THEY MAY IMPOSE 1 IN THE SEVEN TAXING COUNTIES)

- Statute currently allows the Board of Trustees of a Community College District to levy an additional one mill on the district's property taxes. This must be considered and approved every two years. All seven community colleges have this millage in place. Through statute change, this could be moved to a maximum of two mills.
- Fiscal impact – increase of \$15.7M

REMOVE THE 4-YEAR LIMITATION ON THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE 5 MILLS

- State statute allows for each community college district to levy up to an additional five mills on the assessed valuation of the district. This must be approved by the voters of the district and may only exist for a total of four years. This option would change that statute to allow these additional mills to remain in effect for up to 10 years, providing better stability with the funding stream.
- Fiscal impact more stability and predictability

ALLOW LOCAL OPTIONAL SALES AND USE TAXES

to be used for community college funding or modify current economic development optional tax to be used for workforce programming



INCENTIVIZE DESIRED STATE GOALS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION OF AN EDUCATED CITIZENRY, ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION & DEVELOPMENT, AND WORKFORCE TRAINING THROUGH THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE FUNDING FORMULA.

- Adjust HB 80 to incentivize distance education, consortium programming, consolidating in programming, non-credit and apprenticeship programs, and external cost adjustments.



SUPPORT CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION AND RESTORE MAJOR MAINTENANCE FUNDING TO ALLOW THE COLLEGES TO MEET THE NEEDS OF INDUSTRY AND MAINTAIN FACILITIES TO MEET THE NEEDS OF STUDENTS.



INVEST IN A WYOMING ADULT STUDENT FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM.



INCLUDE THE COMMUNITY COLLEGES IN THE WYOMING CONSTITUTION AS UW AND K12 ARE PROTECTED.



THE WYOMING COMMUNITY COLLEGE COMMISSION

CONSIDER TUITION INCREASES (THE WCCC HAS INCREASED STUDENT TUITION 8 OF THE LAST 10 YEARS).

THE WCCC VOTED ON 10/8/2020 TO:

- Increase tuition from \$99/credit hour for in-state students to \$105/credit hour (WUE and out of state also increased correspondingly)
- Remove the tuition cap



BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY

SUPPORT THE SOLUTION! ASK THE FOLLOWING TO INVEST IN WYOMING'S COMMUNITY COLLEGES:

- local legislators
- the Governor
- local business organizations
- industry associations

TELL YOUR STORY

- What does your local community college do for your business/industry?
- What would happen if they cannot deliver those services due to budget cuts or lack of funding?



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