

2020-2021

WYOMING'S COMMUNITY COLLEGES AT A GLANCE



Notable Numbers

26,177

Student
Headcount

89.3%

Students who are
WY residents

79.9%

Students who are
enrolled part-time

14:1

System faculty
to student ratio

64%

Of all students
persist to subsequent
semester

No. 1 & 2

Wallet Hub national rankings of
the Wyoming Community College
System in 2020 and 2021

39%

Students who complete
a certificate or degree –
highest rate in a decade

56%

Fall-to-fall retention rate
of WY resident students

8,702

High school students enrolled in

54,582

dual/concurrent credit hours

25

Average Student Age

20

Median Age

5,870

High school graduates who
transitioned to WY community colleges

58% with a GPA of **3.0** or above



Progress

Return On Investment

Community colleges awarded over 3,205 associate degrees and certificates

\$160.7 Million

Amount of operational funding provided to the community colleges by the State of Wyoming in BFY21

Bachelor of Applied Science

Now available at Central Wyoming College, Laramie County Community College, Northwest College, Western Wyoming Community College, and Northern Wyoming Community College District is in the approval process

1,650

Partnerships with regional development, community organizations, and educational entities to serve students and Wyoming communities

6,530 Students & \$18.2 Million

Hathaway scholarships and aid provided to Wyoming students

Our Colleges



Central Wyoming
College



LARAMIE COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Cheyenne | Laramie | Oulala



Placement

**Employment
6 months to 1 year
after graduation:**

37%
of graduates
reported full-time

42%
of graduates
reported part-time

Transfer to UW:

775

transferred with
an average GPA of

2.98



Key Initiatives

Educational Attainment Executive Council

Completed Program Demand Gap Analysis and Wyoming Skills Profile, acquired mini technical assistance grants, and launched attainment awareness campaign. Established new adult scholarship program in partnership with the Colleges and Ellbogen Foundation.

Sustainable Funding Workgroup

In December 2020, completed and submitted to the Legislature three primary sustainable funding proposals along with potential implementation recommendations.

Statewide Longitudinal Education Data System (SLEDs)

Implemented the Student Transfer Success website wyotransfer.org across all eight colleges and UW to provide:

- ✔ Course Transfer & Equivalency Mapping
- ✔ Electronic Transcript Transmission
- ✔ Streamlined Transfer Process
- ✔ Electronic Course Catalogs

Gillette Community College District Formation

Commission developed an application, promulgated rules, gleaned public input, determined funding allocation model impact, and assessed need and future viability of the new college district. The Commission, Legislature, and Campbell County electorate all approved the formation of the new Gillette Community College District.

2021-2025 Strategic Plan

Educational Attainment

Facilitate postsecondary educational attainment to the betterment of all Wyoming citizens.

Affordability

Facilitate community college system sustainability, funding, and affordability while keeping higher education as nearly free as possible.

Program Alignment

Facilitate alignment of postsecondary programs with UW, workplace, and workforce, providing seamless pathways for Wyoming citizens.

Economic Development

Facilitate initiatives leading to the diversification and growth of Wyoming's economy.

COVID Challenges

Financial and Personnel Cuts

Colleges reduced 114 positions and absorbed a 15% cut to State Aid. Local revenue (mills and vehicle fees) are expected to decline 13%. Colleges are facing a state aid budget reduction of \$94 million since 2010.

Enrollment Decline

Headcount declined by 8% (fall 2019 to 2020). Impact was mitigated by short-term grants, online learning, and partnerships with industry and community. Colleges nationwide had greater impacts of 15-18%.

Cost Projections

COVID costs are expected to be in excess of \$75 million. CARES Act provided an offset of \$36 million with an additional \$9.6 million in student grant aid.