

2023-2024

# BUILDING BLOCKS FOR A **STRONGER WYOMING**

## How to Support Your Community Colleges

Wyoming's community colleges are the heart of the state and at the center of progress. But, to continue to be the engine that drives our economy forward, our community colleges need support through the budget bill and capital construction bill.

### Support Economic & Business Development

- ✔ **Wyoming Innovation Partnership** – Draft \$30M budget request
- ✔ **Wyoming Investment in Nursing (WYIN) Faculty Funding** (\$440,000) – WCCC budget
- ✔ **Wyoming Investment in Nursing Student Grants** (\$408,000) – WCCC budget
- ✔ **Workforce Coordination Staff Position** (\$214,000) – WCCC budget

### Endorse Annually Ranked Capital Construction Projects

- ✔ **Eastern Wyoming College (EWC)** (\$1.57 M (EWC + contingency)) – Douglas Campus Construction Technology Facility – Douglas, Wyoming – Level III Design & Construction

*Of note: EWC is asking for 30% instead of the typical 50%; EWC fundraising also exceeded expectations with the successful acquisition of an EDA grant.*

- ✔ **Gillette Community College District (GCCD)** – Authorization to acquire/transfer two properties from NWCCD and City of Gillette

Authorization to acquire property and build the Enzi Center Building (no funding request)

### Cultivate Statewide Student Education Opportunities (dollars and programs to support students)

- ✔ **Wyoming's Tomorrow Scholarship** – Final \$20M needed to get the endowment to \$50M
- ✔ **Kickstart Wyoming's Tomorrow Scholarship** – \$2.5M one-time appropriation. This is needed to grant student scholarships until the endowment account can earn interest.
- ✔ **WyoTransfer** – \$320K AcademyOne Common Transcript/Transfer legislation and course-sharing platform (WIP Acadeum)

### Ensure the Health & Sustainability of Wyoming's Community Colleges (dollars to the colleges)

- ✔ **State Aid - Inflation Funding** (\$16M) – WCCC budget
- ✔ **Post-Secondary Education Return on Investment (ROI) Analysis** (\$150,000) – WCCC budget
- ✔ **Information Technology Needs** – Approximately \$3.2 million to include \$134,000 for the Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLEDS) and College Administrative Computing System (CACs), among other needs – WCCC budget

The WDE, in collaboration with the WCCC, DWS, the colleges, UW, and DFS, was awarded a \$3.75M grant for long-term SLEDS research and management planning, reducing the IT request.

- ✔ **Use for One-Time Dollars** (\$3M/college) – Matching funds to the Community College foundations