

# WYOMING COMMUNITY COLLEGES AT A GLANCE



## ▶ Notable Numbers

<p><b>24,295</b></p> <p>Students served by Wyoming Community Colleges (headcount)</p>	<p><b>89%</b></p> <p>Percentage of students who are Wyoming residents served by Wyoming Community Colleges</p>	<p><b>79%</b></p> <p>Percentage of students enrolled part-time</p>	<p><b>15.7:1</b></p> <p>College system average student to faculty ratio</p>
<p><b>65%</b></p> <p>Percentage of entering students who continue to the subsequent semester</p>	<p><b>Top 10</b></p> <p>Wyoming community college system is regularly recognized by Wallethub as one of the ten best in the country.</p>	<p><b>10,434</b></p> <p>High school students who enrolled in Dual/Concurrent courses</p>	
		<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Average student age</p>	
<p><b>1,609</b> High school graduates who transitioned to Wyoming community colleges</p>			



## ▶ Return On Investment

For every dollar invested in Wyoming Community Colleges, Wyoming society receives a cumulative value of \$4.90 in benefits; equal to \$2.4 billion in social savings, enhanced business output, and increased wage earnings.

### Educational Attainment

Wyoming Community Colleges awarded 2,350 associate degrees and certificates last year.

### 61 Bachelor of Applied Science Degrees Conferred

Community colleges celebrated the 2024 BAS graduating class. Degrees are offered at Central Wyoming College, Laramie County Community College, Northwest College, Sheridan College, and Western Wyoming Community College.

### Partnerships Serving Wyoming Students & Communities

Colleges established over 2,530 partnerships for regional development (1,098), community organizations (804), and education (632) serving both students and Wyoming communities.

### State, Student, Community Contributions

The State of Wyoming contributed approximately \$113 million in state aid support\* for Wyoming Community Colleges in FY 2024, constituting over 56.1% of the colleges' annual operating budgets. The balance of funding received included approximately 25.6% from student tuition and fees, and 18.3% from local property tax mill levies.

## ▶ Our Colleges



\*Gillette Community College District does not receive state funding as per statute.

## Key Initiatives



### Adult Scholarships

Efforts continue to advance education, training, and workforce readiness for Wyoming Adults through the Wyoming's Tomorrow Scholarship, a \$50 million Endowment fund which will provide new student scholarships in 2025-2026.

Previously, the Commission awarded over \$3.75 million to over 600 adult students during two academic years as part of the "Kickstart" Wyoming's Tomorrow Scholarship.



### Wyoming Innovation Partnership (WIP)

Community colleges continue to play a lead role in Governor Gordon's

initiative to align, coordinate, and combine efforts across the state with UW, state agencies, industry and business partners, and communities to achieve success in training, education, and workforce and industry development.



### Statewide Longitudinal Education Data System (SLEDS)

A collaboration between Wyoming Community Colleges, Department of Education, Department of Workforce Services, UW, and Department of Family Services to provide extensive reporting, analysis, assessment and a comprehensive data-driven picture for educational and workforce outcomes.



### Student Transfer Success

Transfer is easier with the implementation of wyotransfer.org across all eight colleges and UW to provide:

- ✔ Course Transfer & Equivalency Mapping
- ✔ Streamlined Transfer Process

## Focused for the Future

THE COLLEGE DATA PICTURE PAINTED BY SLEDS

### Persistence

- Wyoming Governor Gordon's Higher Education CARES funding was correlated with a 7% increase in one-year college persistence.

### Transferability

- Students who transfer to UW from a Wyoming community college are more likely to graduate with a bachelor's degree than those from other institutions.
- A larger percentage of credits (67.5%) from Wyoming community colleges transfer as equivalent courses to UW than from other institutions (44.8%).

### Preparedness

- The colleges are experiencing a slight rise in students prepared for college-level English, with an average 78.8% identified as ready.
- Colleges are shifting from remedial to co-requisite English courses resulting in increased student support and enhanced degree completion progress.

## Impactful Adult Education

- Wyoming Adult Education alumni employment rates in the 2nd quarter after exit for PY2023 represented the nation's highest employment rate at 64.91%.
- Adult Education participants have the 2nd highest credential attainment rate in the nation.

## Commission Priorities



### Strategic

Implement and maintain the Community College System 2021-2025 Strategic Plan to include annual analysis and updated metrics.



### Educational Attainment

Continue implementation of the Wyoming Post-secondary Educational Attainment plan with focus on Wyoming economic and citizenry impact.



### Economic & Workforce Development

Support economic and workforce development efforts, including through the Wyoming Innovation Partnership, Wyoming Workforce Development Council, and State Board of Education.



### Advocacy

Continue strong and positive advocacy for community college system.



### Sustainable Funding

Inform on the need for community college sustainable funding. Advance the higher education value proposition.



### Organizational Efficiency

Ensure organizational efficiency in Commission and agency operations, functions, and capacity through a regular review of: biennial budget, college administrative computing system, agency staffing, and system-wide technology solutions.