

Moving Washington forward: One innovation at a time Washington's Community and Technical Colleges

Innovative Washington - leading nationally

- President Obama's historic **American Graduation Initiative** provides two-year colleges with additional financial assistance to serve the growing number of students attending community and technical colleges for the education and training they need to get jobs and stimulate the economy.
- **I-BEST**, which pairs workforce training with basic skills education for integrated instruction and support services, has gained the attention of both Congress and the Obama administration as a model of moving students successfully along their educational and career path.
- The **Student Achievement Initiative** has received national attention as a proven performance-measurement system that rewards colleges for moving more students further and faster toward the completion of their educational goals.

Innovative Washington - leading statewide

- Washington's community and technical colleges have put a high priority on technology – providing flexibility for students through online learning opportunities, reducing the cost of textbooks with open educational resources, and implementing a system-wide **Strategic Technology Plan** that will guide all 34 colleges in one single-minded goal: mobilize technology to increase student success.
- More than 15,000 laid-off workers took advantage of the state-funded **Worker Retraining program** during the last academic year. Demand continues to explode and more than 20,000 unemployed workers are expected to seek out the Worker Retraining program this year to gain the education and skills they need for new jobs.
- Two year colleges continue to be a valuable gateway for students to complete their bachelors' degree. Since Fall 2007, 483 students have participated in the new **applied baccalaureate programs'** coursework, and each year, 13,000 students transfer from one of our community or technical colleges to an in-state four-year college or university.

Innovative Edmonds Community College - leading locally

- Edmonds Community College is continually looking for ways to add "**green collar**" **job training** to curriculum. New Restoration Horticulture and Energy Management degrees and classes, including Sustainable Development, Human Ecology, and Energy Efficiency train students for the green economy and support Edmonds Community College's sustainability initiative.
- The college has received 10 **National Science Foundation grants**, including one aimed at recruiting women to STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) careers and one funding computer science, engineering, and math scholarships.
- Edmonds Community College has received **national recognition** for its materials science technology, digital forensics, and construction and project management programs.

