



**Wharton County
Junior College**

Ranked No. 1 community college in Texas in 2015 and 2016 by BestColleges.com

Recognized for exceptional student outcomes by the Aspen Institute's College Excellence Program

Ranked No. 19 among hundreds of U.S. community and career colleges in PayScale 2016-17 College Salary Report based on alumni salaries

Community Colleges Build a Bright Future for Texas by....

Texas Junior Colleges

Wharton County Junior College



Account for 88.9% of all Technical Associates and 93.2% of all Certificates awarded by Texas public institutions

Source: Texas Association of Community Colleges institutional data, September 2016

In 2014-2015, Wharton County Junior College awarded **222 Associate of Applied Science degrees** in technical areas such as (in order of highest number awarded) Nursing, Process Technology, Dental Hygiene, Radiologic Technology and Nuclear Power Technology, and **250 vocational certificates** in areas such as (in order of highest number awarded) Welding, Law Enforcement, Cosmetology, Vocational Nursing LVN and Architectural Design.

Source: Banner Graduate Data, 11/03/2015



Offer reduced tuition rates, which leads to less student debt

In Fall 2016, the cost of tuition and fees for 15 undergraduate semester hours at WCJC was **\$1,320**, compared to the four-year Texas university average of \$4,334.50 for tuition and fees for 15 undergraduate semester hours.

Source: College For All Texans.

New! Beginning this fall, WCJC students taking **more than 13 hours of academic transfer courses receive a discount on tuition and fees**. Students are not charged tuition or fees for any courses above 13 credit hours provided the students are enrolled in an academic program.



Maintain local, community-based opportunities for students to pursue higher education and work force training

WCJC provides higher education and technical and vocational certificate opportunities to 7,134 students at four campuses conveniently located in the greater Gulf Coast region: Sugar Land, Richmond, Wharton and Bay City.

Source: Banner Student Enrollment, 9/20/16



Provide Dual Credit to area high school students and Early College High Schools, giving these students a "leg up" on obtaining Associate, Baccalaureate and Technical degrees

In 2015-2016, Wharton County Junior College served **1,277 high school students** taking dual credit courses (unduplicated count for Academic Year) and awarded **8,958 semester credit hours** (with a Completion Rate of 96.54%) to students still in Texas' high schools.

Source: Banner Student Registration Detail, September 2016



Assist Texas in achieving the 60X30TX Plan: "By 2030, at least 60 percent of Texans ages 25-34 will have a certificate or degree."

WCJC's enrollment has grown from 6,089 students in the Fall of 2006 to **7,134 students in the Fall of 2016**



Use local tax dollars to construct campuses and facilities

10-Year WCJC Tax Collections

2005	\$3,964,000
2010	\$5,145,000
2015	\$5,634,000

Source: WCJC Independent Audit, 8/31/2015



Provide a lower cost alternative to meet the state's obligation of Hazlewood and Hazlewood Legacy of 150 semester credit hours, tuition and fees, to veterans and their legacies

The cost of 15 semester credit hours, tuition and fees at WCJC is less than one-third the cost of the public four-year Texas university average (\$1,320 compared to \$4,334.50.)

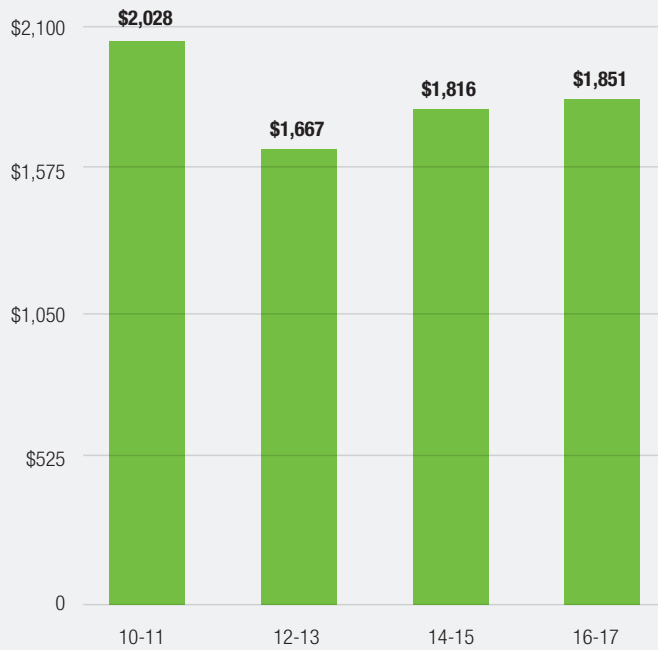
Source: College For All Texans

Community Colleges are a Good Value for Texas

To Provide These Services, the 85th Legislature is Requested to Consider

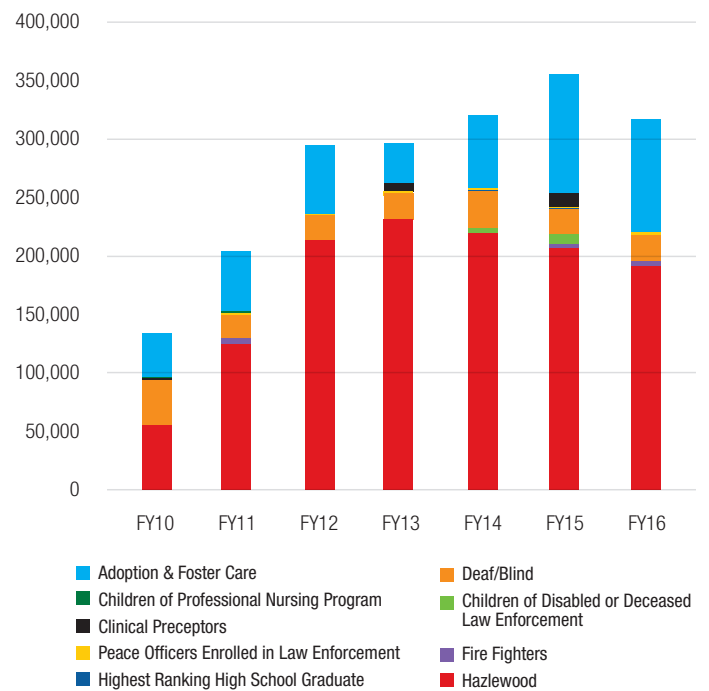
Adequate, Sustained Funding to Texas' Community Colleges

State Instructional Appropriation per Full Time Student Equivalent (annual)



Effect and Burden of Existing State Exemption Required by Legislature

Wharton County Junior College Exemptions



Texas Association of Community Colleges Ask the 85th Legislature for:

Impact on Wharton County Junior College

1

Core Operations: \$75,000,000 (\$25 million increase from 2016-17)

All 50 college districts have basic operating costs. The \$500,000 per district per year level of funding was established by the 83rd Legislature. Increasing the core by \$250,000 per district per year will help support all institutions, especially small and rural institutions.

Helps stabilize institution to have base for the core operations

2

Student Success: \$186,621,616 (\$17 million increase from 2016-17)

Texas Community Colleges continue to advance programs and strategies that improve student success on multiple metrics. In order for the Student Success Points system to effectively reward institutions for improvements in student success, the points need to be funded at a minimum of \$185 per point.

WCJC Student Success Points have risen from 12,206 points earned in FY 2013 to 12,869 points earned in FY 2015, an increase of 5.4%.

Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Accountability System

3

Instruction: \$1,567,146,597 (\$45 million increase from 2016-17)

The largest portion of state revenue provides community colleges with funds for instruction. The ability of community colleges to meet workforce skills demands, increase dual credit courses, and expand educational opportunities for all students is directly tied to instructional funding appropriated by the Legislature.

BestColleges.com ranked WCJC the "#1 Community College in Texas" in 2015 and 2016. BestColleges.com stated, "...of its graduates, 87% have gone on to a baccalaureate program," and that Wharton County Junior College "... offers a wide selection of two-year degrees in the liberal arts and allied health professions." Adequate funding is needed to continue to offer these career and academic opportunities in the greater Gulf Coast area.