



Career Education and Workforce Training Programs

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ASSOCIATE VICE CHANCELLOR

CAREER EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE PROGRAMS

VIRGINIA'S COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Virginia's
Community Colleges



Virginia's Community Colleges – Statistics

- 23 colleges – one system
- Serve around 230,000 students per year
- Approximately half of all undergraduates in Virginia
- Workforce training, career and technical education, academic transfer
- 5 million alumni in Virginia
- 81% of our graduates remain and work in Virginia
- Primary workforce programs – FastForward and G3
- Where is the workforce going to come from?
- 90,000 high school graduates per year – we get about 20%
- 3 million working age adults with some college/no credential
- Middle school vs. Starbucks and 7-11

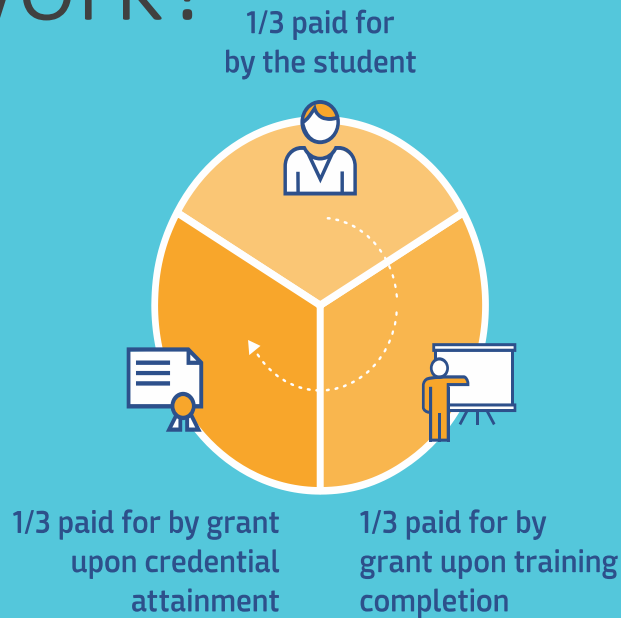
Code of Virginia

§ 23.1-2904. State Board; duties.

In addition to the duties of governing boards of public institutions of higher education set forth in Chapter 13 (§ [23.1-1300](#) et seq.), the State Board shall:

1. Be the state agency with primary responsibility for coordinating workforce training at the postsecondary through the associate degree level, exclusive of the career and technical education programs provided through and administered by the public school system. This responsibility shall not preclude other agencies from also providing such services as appropriate, but these activities shall be coordinated with the comprehensive community colleges;

How does FastForward work?



First pay-for-performance college workforce program in the country

Training for approved, regionally in-demand credentials

Most programs last between 6 and 12 weeks

Multiple industries – healthcare, IT, trades, logistics, manufacturing...

\$4000 cap on state investment per credential

Must be domiciled in VA for funding

Need-based aid available to cover first 1/3 of tuition for income qualifying Virginia residents

fastforwardva.org



FastForward Students



Over 40% of FastForward students are minorities.



Over 31% of Workforce Credential Grant students received either SNAP or TANF benefits prior to enrolling.



Over 56% of FastForward students have dependents.

- **Average age: 35**
- **65% male**



\$15k+

Average
increase in
Median Annual
Wages



95%

Program
Completion



83,000+

Credentials
Earned



\$96.5M

INVESTMENT

\$9.2 B VA wages

RETURN ON INVESTMENT

**State General Fund –
income tax**

Source: VCCS FastForward administrative data and VEC records as of July 1, 2025



GET A SKILL.
GET A JOB.
GET AHEAD.

G3 Stackable Credentials

- 6 high demand fields
- 400% of FPL or below (about \$100k/year for a family of 4)
- Last dollar state support (must fill out FAFSA)
- Student Success grants for those who qualify
- Credit for Prior Learning
- Up 9% over last year
- Due to changes in 2024 General Assembly, transfer programs now are included

Questions

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