



# Performance Monitoring Report: Associate Degree Programs, Technical Diplomas, and Certificates

October 20, 2020

## Associate Degree Programs, Technical Diplomas, and Certificates Purpose

To deliver associate degree, technical diploma, and certificate level programs which provide the skills and knowledge necessary to address occupational competencies from initial job-entry to advanced certification.






# Associate Degree Programs, Technical Diplomas, and Certificates Report Details

## Overview

Fox Valley Technical College (FVTC) serves its district by providing employers with an educated workforce through credit programming that works to address the health, safety, and business needs of local residents. Credit enrollments include program students in associate degree and technical diploma courses, non-program students who enroll in program-level courses (course takers), and students enrolled in certificates. The program offerings at FVTC vary slightly each year as the College works to best align academic programming with the needs of area business.

## What We Do

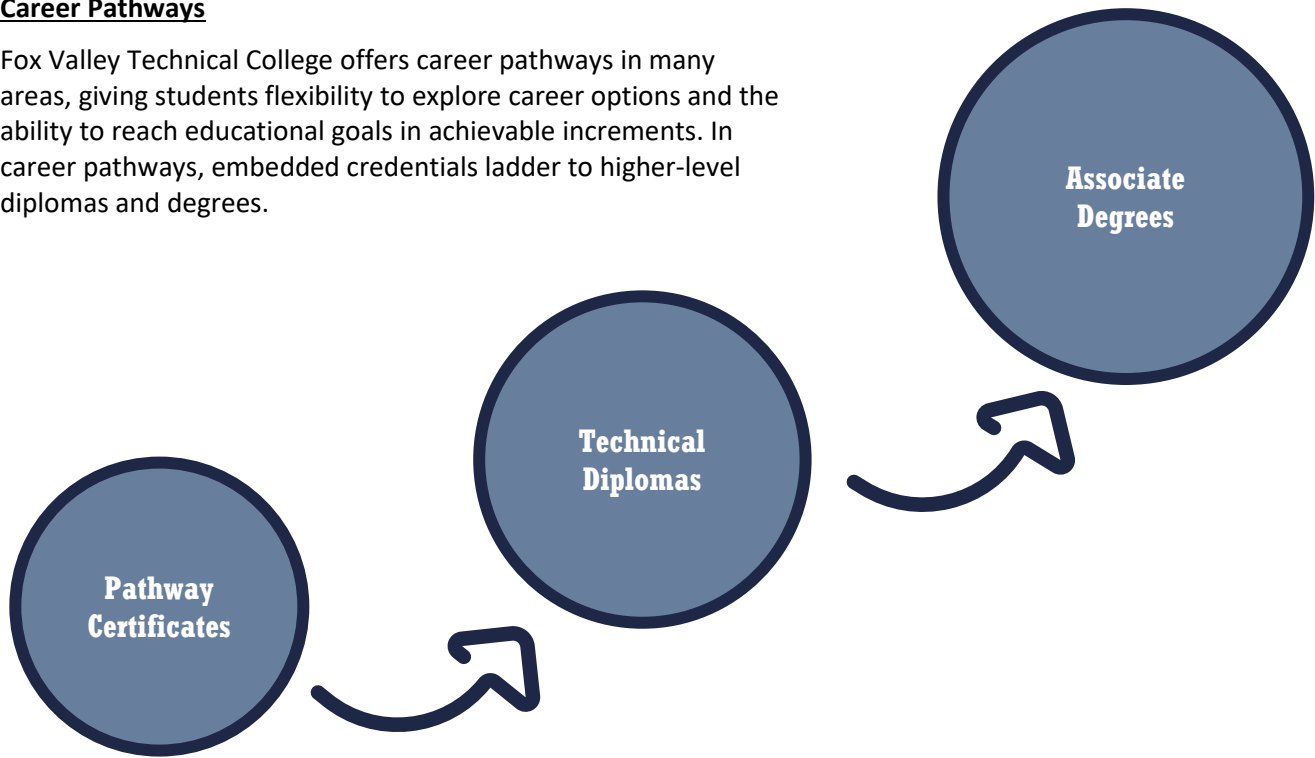
FVTC academic programming aligns within Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) guidelines and district business and industry needs to meet skill and employment demands. To serve the needs of the five-county district, the College's primary educational program offerings include associate in applied science (AAS) degree programs, technical diploma (TD) programs, and certificates.

	Certificate Programs	Technical Diploma Programs	Associate in Applied Science Degree Programs
	<b>2 - 37</b> credits	<b>2 - 70</b> credits	<b>60 - 70</b> credits
	<b>1 term - 2 years</b> to complete attending full-time*	<b>1 term - 2 years</b> to complete attending full-time*	<b>2 years</b> to complete attending full-time*
	<b>101</b> programs offered	<b>67</b> programs offered	<b>72</b> programs offered
	<b>6</b> certificate programs with pathways to TD programs	<b>37</b> TD programs with pathways to AAS programs	<b>28</b> AAS programs with pathways from TD programs
	around <b>700</b> awarded per year	around <b>2,000</b> awarded per year	around <b>1,000</b> awarded per year

\*Full-time = 30 credits per year

## Career Pathways

Fox Valley Technical College offers career pathways in many areas, giving students flexibility to explore career options and the ability to reach educational goals in achievable increments. In career pathways, embedded credentials ladder to higher-level diplomas and degrees.



Career areas with pathways:

- Accounting
- Administrative Professional
- Aeronautics – Pilot Training
- Agribusiness/Science Technology
- Automated Manufacturing
- Automotive Technology
- Business Management
- Culinary Arts
- Diesel Equipment
- Early Childhood Education
- Fire Protection/EMT
- Health Information Technology
- Healthcare Customer Service
- Human Services
- Industrial Engineering
- IT – Web Development
- IT – Computer Support
- Laboratory Science
- Mechanical Design
- Medical Office Assistant
- Marketing
- Quality Engineering
- Vehicle Refinishing & Repair
- Welding
- Wildland Firefighter



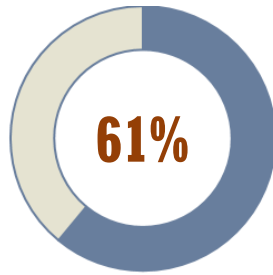
## For Whom

### Student Profile

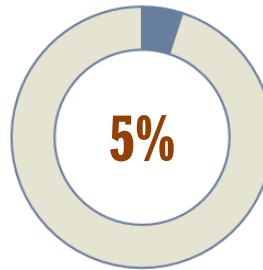
FVTC serves a variety of students in program classes. Program-declared students in associate degrees and technical diplomas tend to be younger (average age of 26), and just under half attend full-time. In contrast, course takers not in a program are generally older (average age of 34) and nearly all attend part-time. Students range from recent high school graduates to bachelor's degree completers coming for retraining. Most enrollees live in the College district, but FVTC also serves international students and online-only learners.



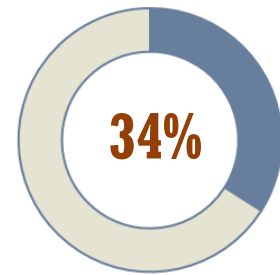
### Student Type



Associate Degree & Technical Diploma Students

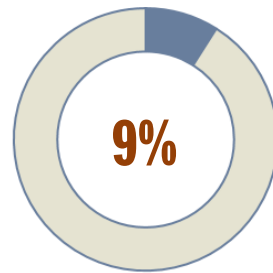


Certificate Students

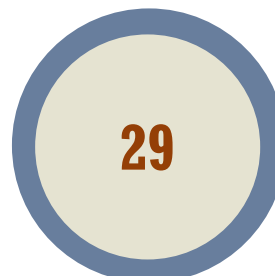


Course Takers (not in a program)

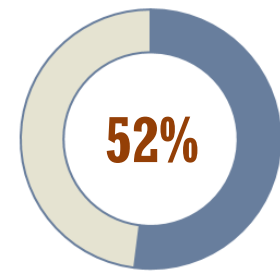
### Age



FVTC Students Enrolled Directly from High School

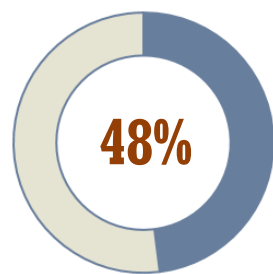


Average Age

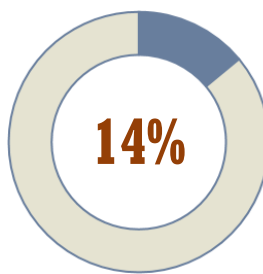


Age 25 or Older

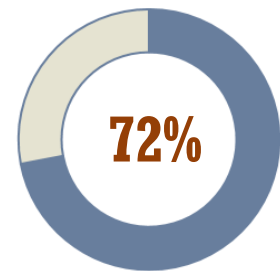
### Demographics



Female



Students of Color

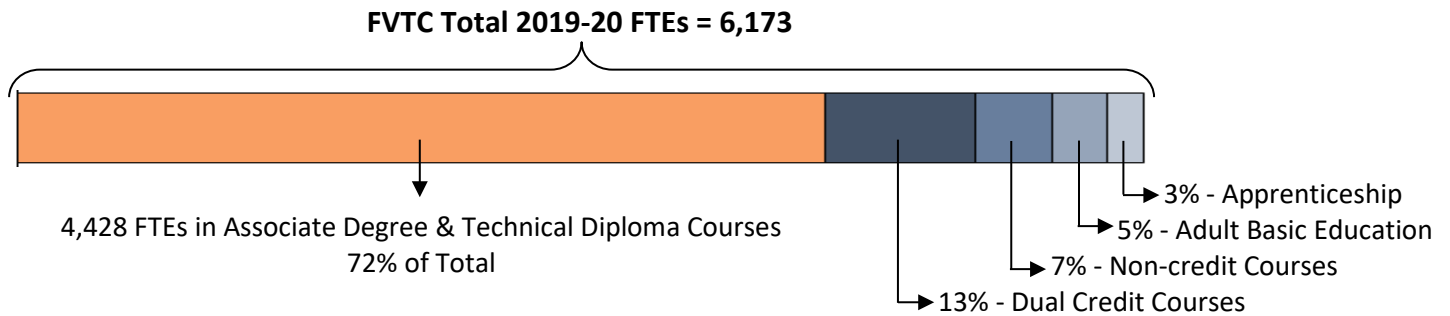


Part-time

Source: 2019-20 Academic Year data; FVTC data warehouse query as of August 27, 2020

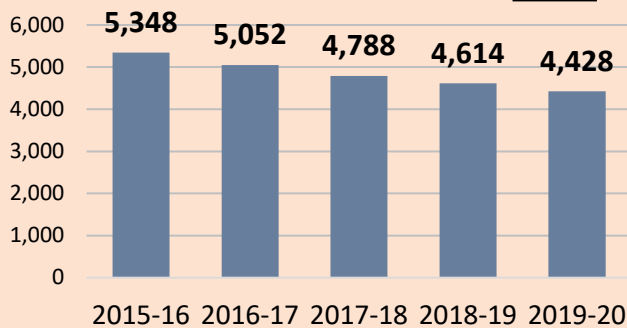
## Enrollment Trends

Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs) are a common measure of student enrollment. A full-time equivalent (FTE) is calculated as 30 credits per enrolled student in an academic year.

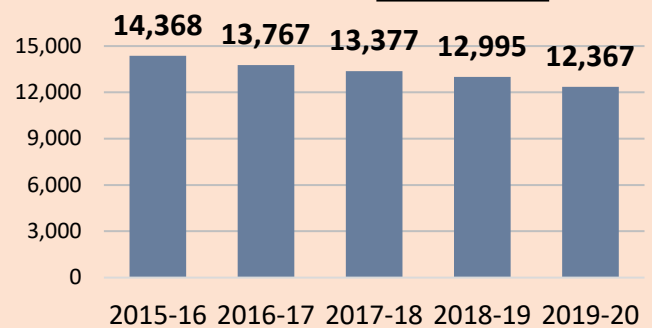


Since the enrollment increases during and immediately following the Great Recession, both FTE and headcount enrollments have been trending down. This trend is expected. Over the course of our history, enrollments tend to follow the unemployment levels in region. The full impacts of higher unemployment coupled with a global pandemic have not yet been felt, but it appears that enrollments will continue to trend down despite an increase in unemployment rates. While those unemployed individuals would typically turn to retraining opportunities, the uncertainty of COVID-19 has negatively impacted our enrollments.

### Associate Degree & Technical Diploma Course FTEs



### Associate Degree & Technical Diploma Course Headcount



Source: WTCS Client Reporting Cube

## Top Programs of Enrollment 2019-20



### Nursing

Nursing Assistant (TD) - 648 students  
Nursing (AAS) - 335 students



### Business Management (AAS)

506 students



### Criminal Justice Studies (AAS)

386 students



### IT - Software Developer (AAS)

312 students



### Accounting (AAS)

235 students



### Early Childhood Education (AAS)

207 students

Source: FVTC data warehouse query as of August 27, 2020

## Student Satisfaction

Every two years, FVTC conducts a program student satisfaction survey using the Ruffalo Noel Levitz Student Satisfaction Inventory. The survey consists of 113 questions and is used for nationwide benchmarking. Participants rank each item on a scale of 1-7 for both importance and satisfaction. In addition, students have the option of providing open-ended feedback in the comments section. The survey asks students to self-identify characteristics such as gender, age, and academic program, and the majority of participants complete these demographic questions. In November 2019, FVTC had a major change in how we conducted the student satisfaction survey. Previously, the College ordered hard-copy survey forms and instructors from select classes administered the survey during class time. This past year, we moved to an online survey format, where all students in program classes were invited to participate.



### STUDENT CONCERNS:

- Education debt
- Balancing school, work, and family
- Flexible course delivery, support services, and student activities (various times of day, location options, online)

### POSITIVE COMMENTS:

- Good value
- Quality, caring instructors
- Well-maintained, clean campus
- Better than prior 4-year experience

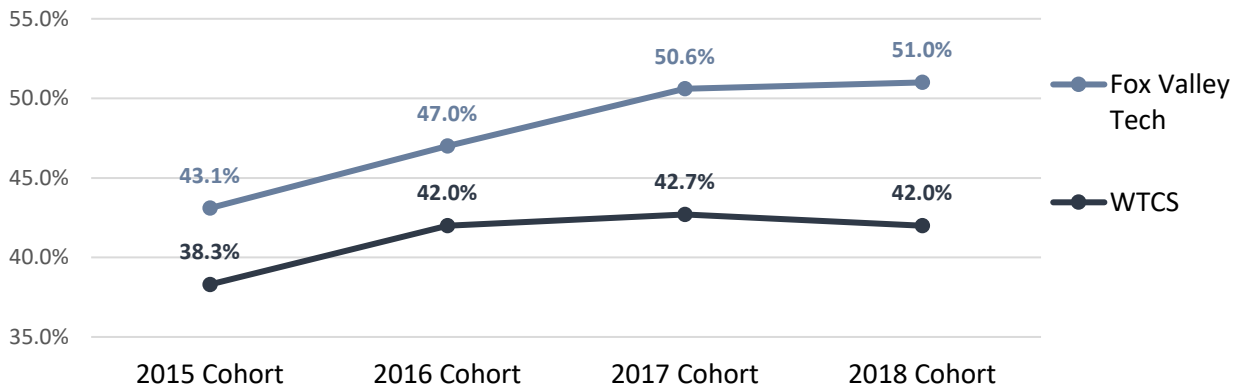


	Scale	National Average - 2019	WTCS Average - 2019	FVTC - 2017	FVTC - 2019
So far, how has your college experience <u>met your expectations</u> ?	1-Much worse 2-Quite a bit worse 3-Worse than I expected 4-About what I expected 5-Better than I expected 6-Quite a bit better 7-Much better	4.98	5.07	5.08	5.27
Rate your <u>overall satisfaction</u> with your experience here thus far.	1-Not satisfied at all 2-Not very satisfied 3-Somewhat dissatisfied 4-Neutral 5-Somewhat satisfied 6-Satisfied 7-Very satisfied	5.58	5.76	5.78	5.94
All in all, if you had to do it over, would you <u>enroll here again</u> ?	1-Definitely not 2-Probably not 3-Maybe not 4-I don't know 5-Maybe yes 6-Probably yes 7-Definitely yes	5.83	6.03	6.01	6.23

## Graduates & Credentials

In recent years, Fox Valley Technical College has put much emphasis on student success. A key indicator of student success is graduation rates, and FVTC has been making steady headway with this effort.

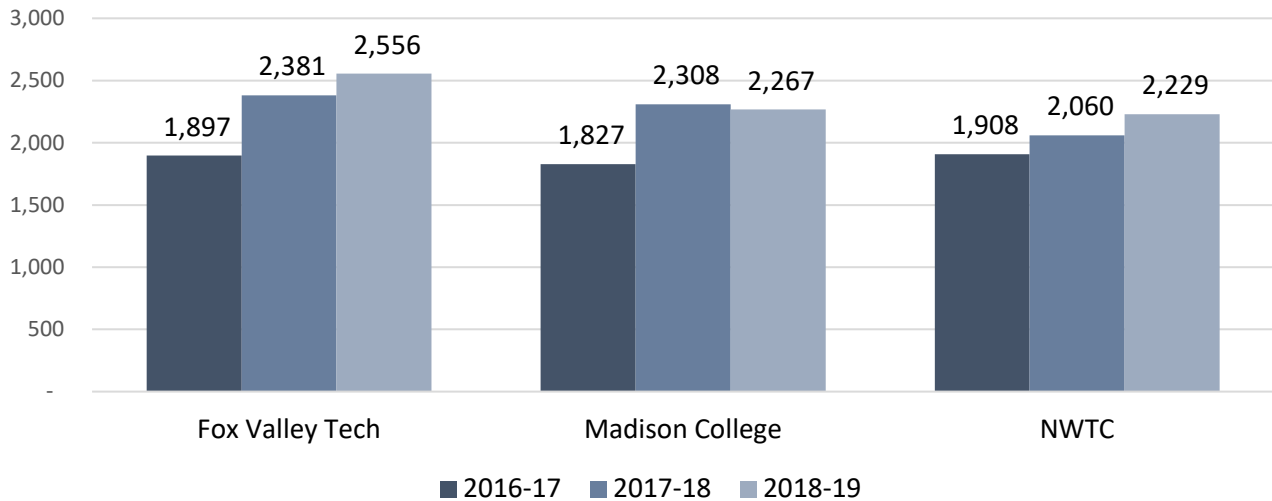
### 3-Year Graduation Rates



Source: WTCS Tableau Dashboard as of August 27, 2020

One component of the WTCS outcomes-based funding model is degrees awarded in high-demand fields. The Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) has identified specific occupations as being high-demand fields based upon future occupational projections. FVTC leads the state in the number of high-demand credentials awarded. WTCS will provide the 2019-20 high-demand credential data in Spring 2021.

### High-Demand Credentials Awarded



Source: WTCS 2020-21 Outcomes Based Funding Detail – High Demand worksheet



**Graduate Outcomes**

Each year FVTC surveys graduates from the prior school year at approximately 6 months after graduation. In addition, the College surveys graduates 5 years after program completion. The target response rate for the 6-month graduate survey is 70%, and the goal for the 5-year survey is 50%. FVTC uses a variety of contact methods to conduct the surveys, include emailing electronic survey links, mailing hard copy surveys, and making phone calls. Survey results show FVTC graduates are highly satisfied with their education and have favorable employment outcomes.

**\$43,219**

Average annual salary  
6 months after graduation

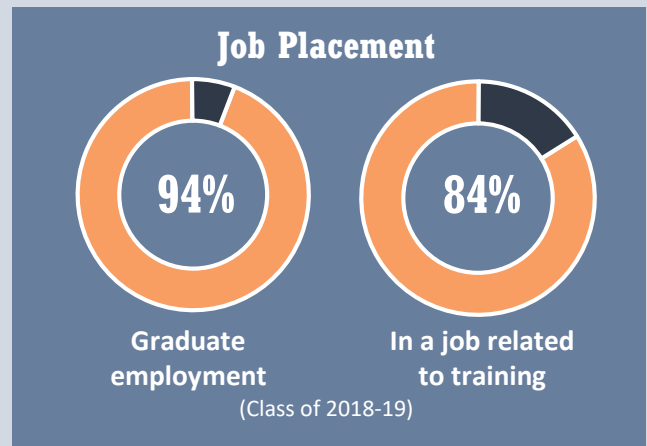
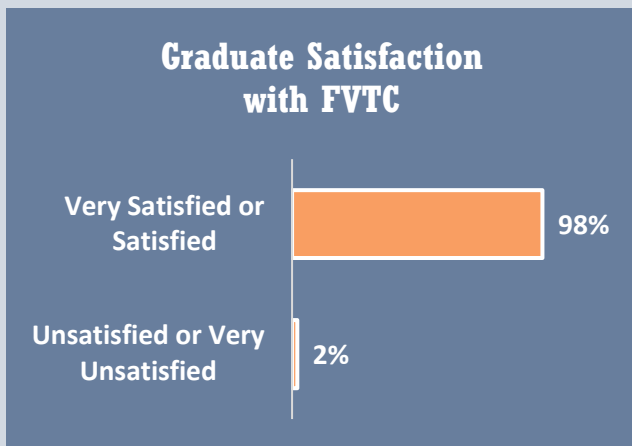
(Class of 2018-19)



**\$53,374**

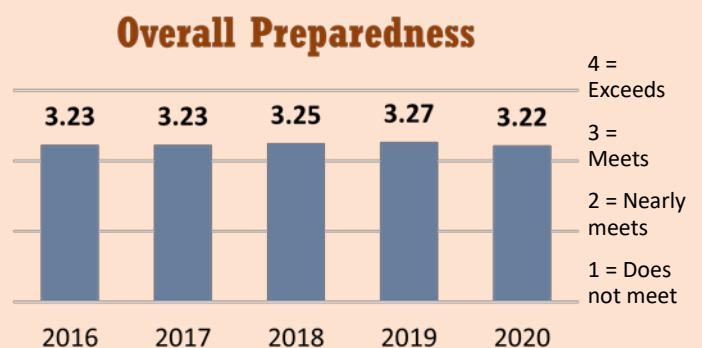
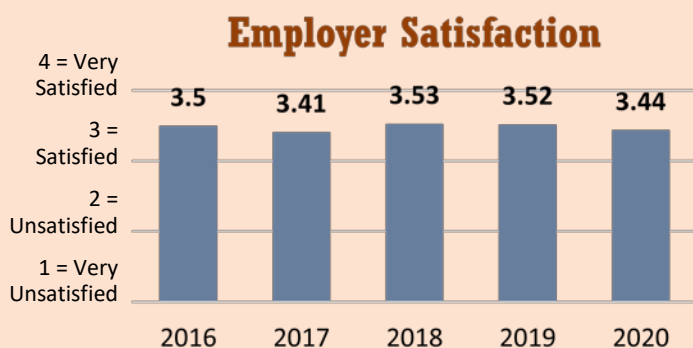
Average annual salary  
5 years after graduation

(Class of 2013-14)



**Employer Survey**

As part of the 6-month graduate survey, graduates working in jobs related to their degree or diploma are asked to provide supervisor information for FVTC’s employer satisfaction survey. Fox Valley Technical College’s goal is to prepare graduates for employment, and the employer survey shows that FVTC is accomplishing that goal. Employers rate the College highly on both graduate preparedness and overall satisfaction.





## At What Cost

### Student Loan Debt

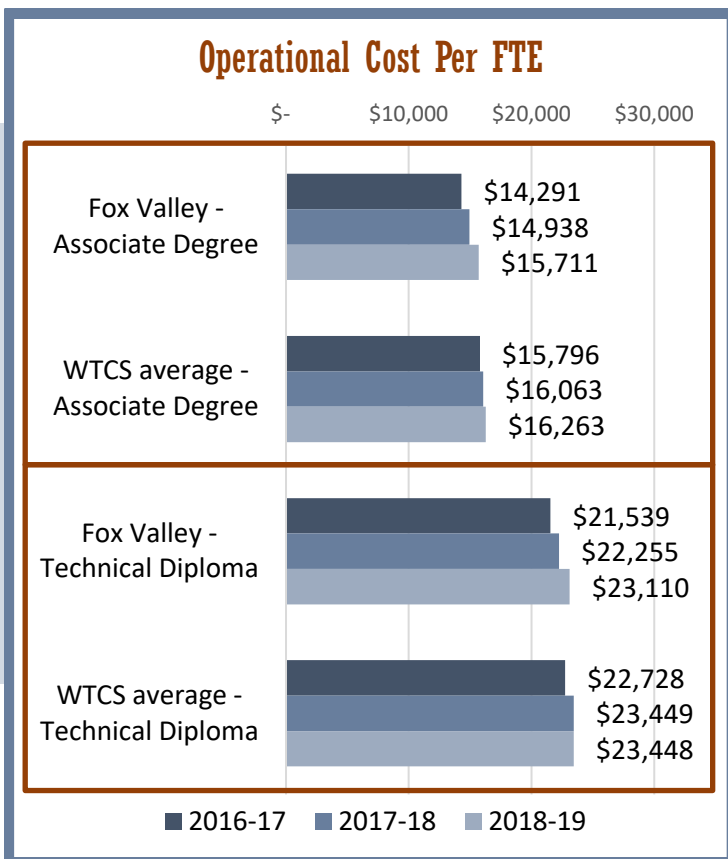
In the past three years, tuition cost has increased just under 2% per year with the current 2020-21 cost of \$157.30 per credit, up from \$154.65 in 2019-20. Costs vary greatly among technical diploma programs due to the differing numbers of credits, while tuition to complete most Associate degree programs comes to around \$10,000. Beyond tuition, cost of attendance also includes books, room and board, personal expenses, and transportation.

Program level	Total Grads 2019-20	Number with loans	Percent with loans	Average Loan Debt
Short-term Technical Diploma	1,044	103	10%	\$ 3,670
1-Year Technical Diploma	806	243	30%	\$ 5,324
2-Year Technical Diploma	95	36	38%	\$ 5,953
Associate Degree	975	430	44%	\$ 10,776

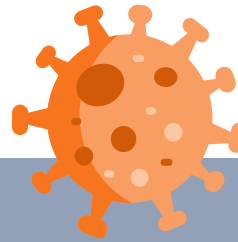
Source: FVTC data warehouse query as of August 31, 2020

### College Expenditures

Operational cost per FTE is defined as all operating fund expenditures (General, Contract Training, & Grant funds) divided by FTEs. Technical diploma cost per FTE is typically higher than associate degree cost per FTE due to intensive laboratory class time. Greater hands-on experience means more contact hours for faculty with students and increased need for supplies and minor equipment. When total enrollments decline, as they did in 2018-19, the operational cost per FTE usually increases.



# COVID-19



## Impact: Business changes as a result of the pandemic

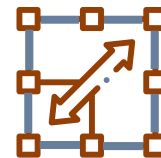
Instructors trained to deliver courses remotely



Spring 2020 special grading options (pass/fail & extensions)



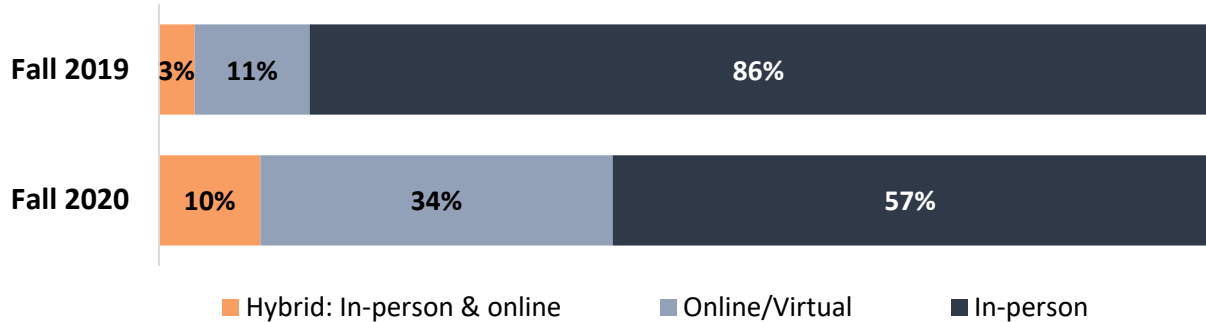
Increased space requirements between students, resulting in lower program capacities and enrollments



## Moving Forward: What's next?

More flexible learning options

Course Offerings by Delivery Mode: Percent of total



Increased spacing, personal protective equipment (PPE) & extensive cleaning

