**Fox Valley**
TECHNICAL COLLEGE®
*Knowledge That Works*

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

## October 19, 2021

**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.**

## 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 align academic programming with the needs and trends of industry.

## 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 certificates, technical diploma (TD) programs, and associate in applied science (AAS) degree programs.

| | Certificate Programs | Technical Diploma Programs | Associate in Applied Science Degree Programs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | **7 - 27** credits | **2 - 70** credits | **60 - 70** credits |
| | **1 term - 2 years** to complete attending full-time* | **1 term - 2 years** to complete attending full-time* | **2 years** to complete attending full-time* |
| | **99** programs offered | **68** programs offered | **77** programs offered |
| | **6** certificate programs with pathways to TD programs | **37** TD programs with pathways to AAS programs | **28** AAS programs with pathways from TD programs |
| | around **660** awarded per year | around **1,910** awarded per year | around **940** awarded per year |

*Full-time = 30 credits per year*

*Source for degrees awarded: 2020-21 Academic Year data; FVTC data warehouse query as of September 17, 2021*

**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
- Healthcare
- Human Services
- Industrial Engineering
- Information Technology
- Laboratory Science

- Machine Tool
- Mechanical Design
- Medical Office Assistant
- Marketing
- Quality Engineering
- Vehicle Refinishing & Repair
- Welding
- Wildland Firefighter
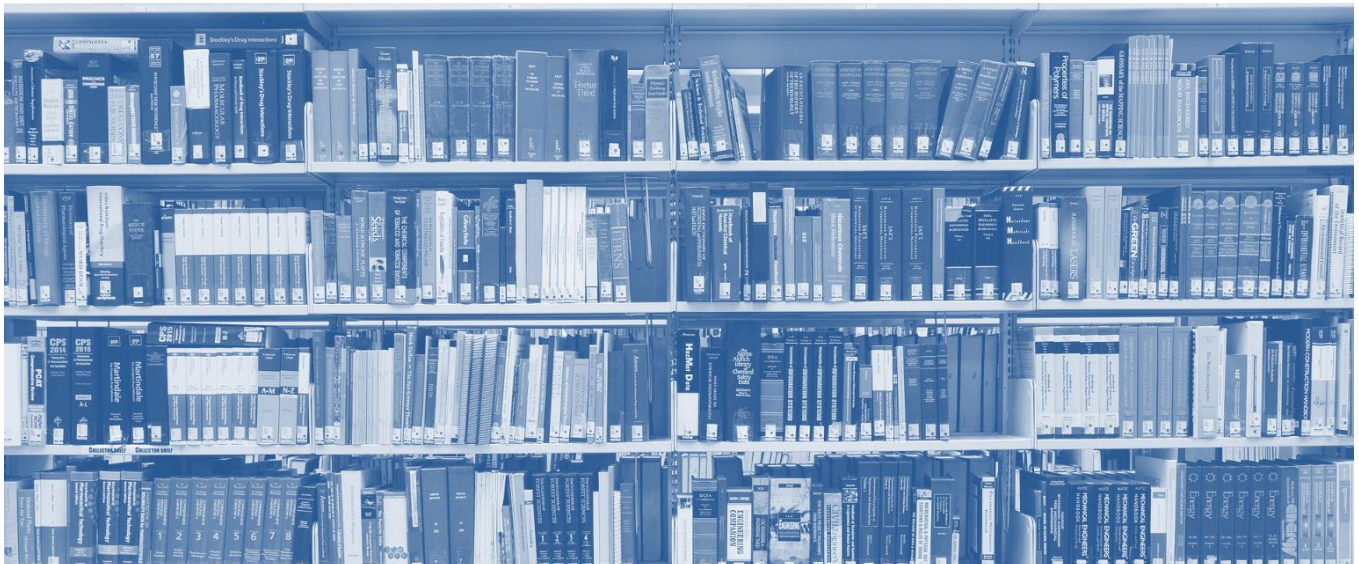
# For Whom

**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 over 40% of program-declared students attend full-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.

**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 comprise the following statistics:**
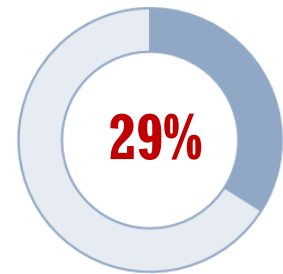
**Student Type**
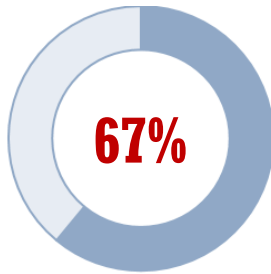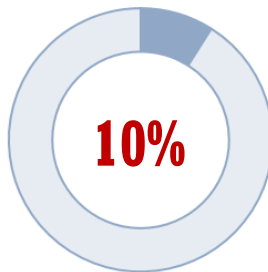
**67%**
Students in Associate Degrees & Technical Diplomas
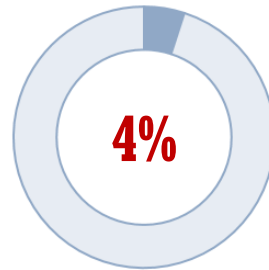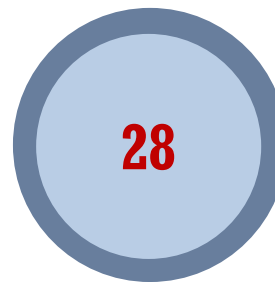
**4%**
Students in Certificates

**29%**
Students who are course takers (not in a program)

**Age**

**10%**
FVTC students enrolled directly from High School
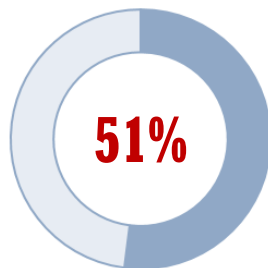
**28**
Average Age
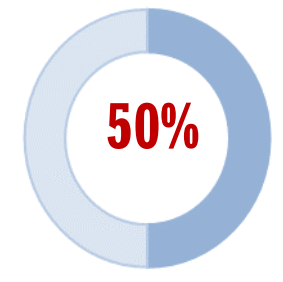
**50%**
Students age 25 or older

**Demographics**

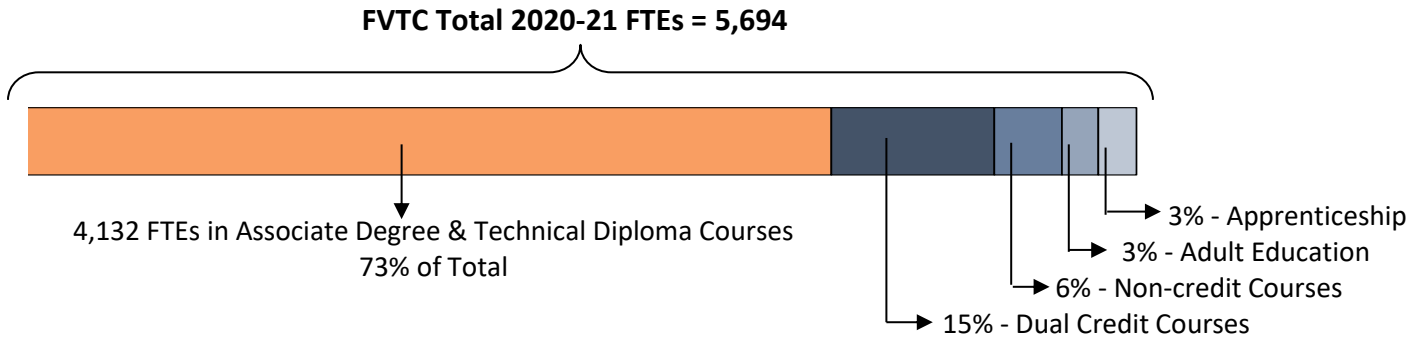**51%**
Female

**15%**
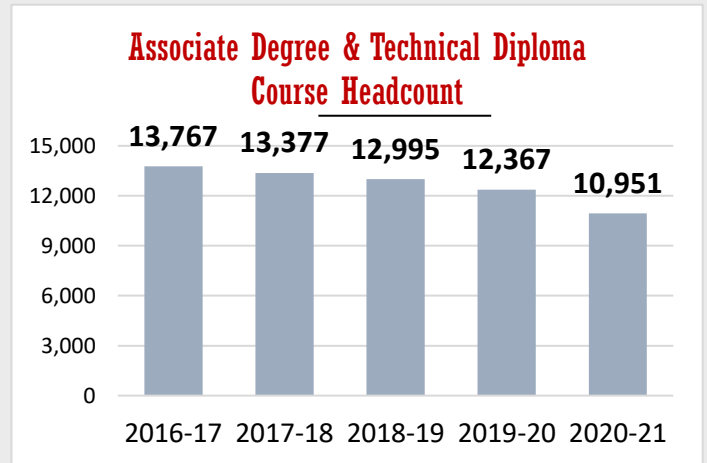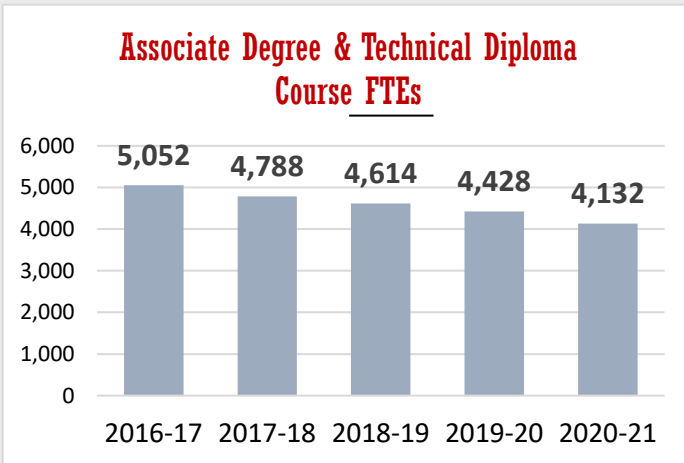Students of Color
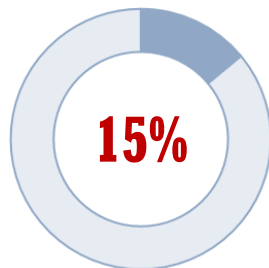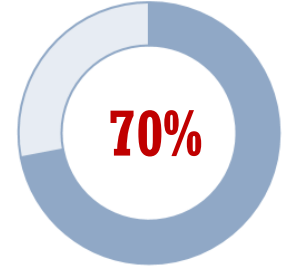
**70%**
Students part-time

*Source: 2020-21 Academic Year data; FVTC data warehouse query as of September 9, 2021*

**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.

**FVTC Total 2020-21 FTEs = 5,694**

4,132 FTEs in Associate Degree & Technical Diploma Courses
73% of Total

→ 3% - Apprenticeship
→ 3% - Adult Education
→ 6% - Non-credit Courses
→ 15% - Dual Credit Courses

Over the course of FVTC history, enrollments tend to follow the unemployment levels in region. However, the full impacts of all the economic uncertainty faced in 2020-21 coupled with the global pandemic have not yet been fully felt. It remains to be seen if those trends will continue in the future.

**Associate Degree & Technical Diploma Course FTEs**

| Year | FTEs |
|------|------|
| 2016-17 | 5,052 |
| 2017-18 | 4,788 |
| 2018-19 | 4,614 |
| 2019-20 | 4,428 |
| 2020-21 | 4,132 |

**Associate Degree & Technical Diploma Course Headcount**

| Year | Headcount |
|------|-----------|
| 2016-17 | 13,767 |
| 2017-18 | 13,377 |
| 2018-19 | 12,995 |
| 2019-20 | 12,367 |
| 2020-21 | 10,951 |

*Source: WTCS Client Reporting Cube*

# Top Programs of Enrollment 2020-21

**Nursing**
Nursing Assistant (TD) - 600 students
Nursing (AAS) - 371 students

**Business Management** (AAS)
457 students

**Criminal Justice Studies** (AAS)
365 students

**IT - Software Developer** (AAS)
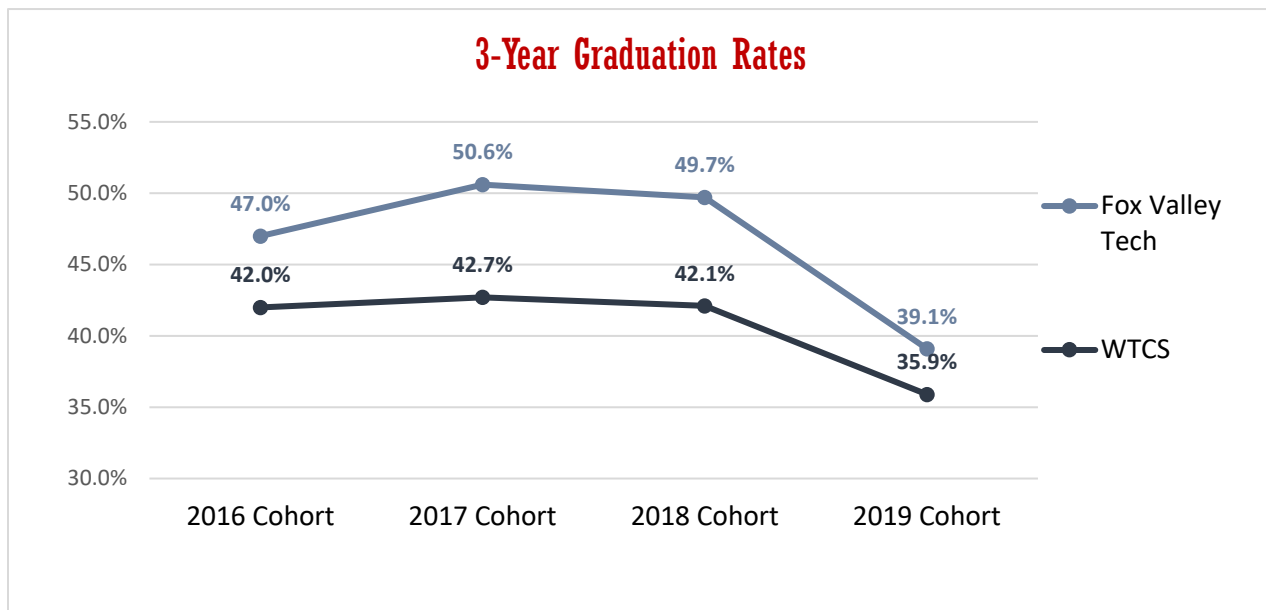285 students

**Accounting** (AAS)
267 students

**Early Childhood Education** (AAS)
190 students

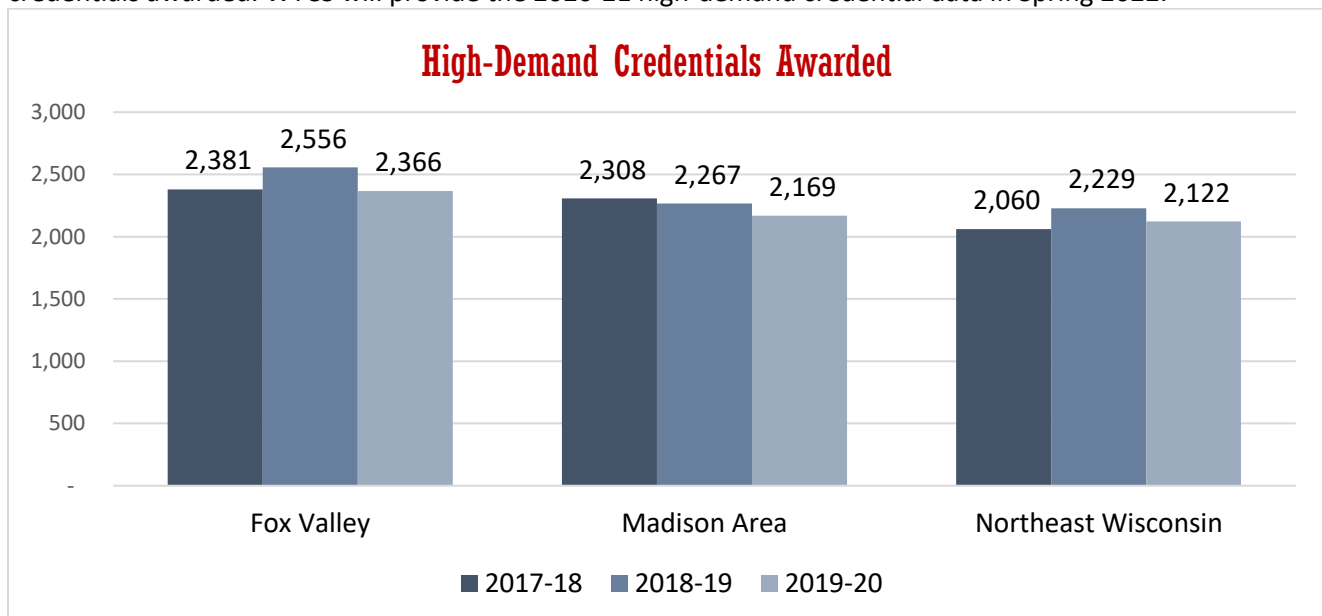*Source: FVTC data warehouse query as of September 17, 2021*

**Graduates & Credentials**

Fox Valley Technical College has continued to focus on student success with a key indicator being graduation rates. While cohort graduation rates have declined between 2018 and 2019, FVTC has demonstrated higher graduation rates than the WTCS year over year.

### 3-Year Graduation Rates

Fox Valley Tech: 47.0% (2016 Cohort), 50.6% (2017 Cohort), 49.7% (2018 Cohort), 39.1% (2019 Cohort)

WTCS: 42.0% (2016 Cohort), 42.7% (2017 Cohort), 42.1% (2018 Cohort), 35.9% (2019 Cohort)

*Source: WTCS Tableau Dashboard as of August 19, 2021*

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 2020-21 high-demand credential data in Spring 2022.

### High-Demand Credentials Awarded

| | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Fox Valley | 2,381 | 2,556 | 2,366 |
| Madison Area | 2,308 | 2,267 | 2,169 |
| Northeast Wisconsin | 2,060 | 2,229 | 2,122 |

*Source: WTCS 2021-22 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, including emailing electronic survey links, mailing hard copy surveys, and making follow up phone calls. Survey results show FVTC graduates are highly satisfied with their education and have favorable employment outcomes.

**$44,534**
Average annual salary
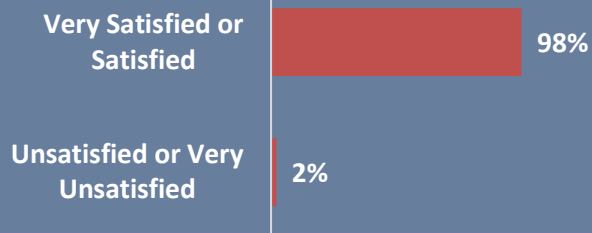<u>6 months</u> after graduation
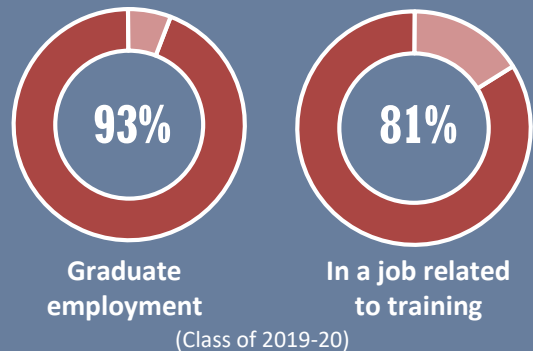(Class of 2019-20)

**$55,277**
Average annual salary
<u>5 years</u> after graduation
(Class of 2014-15)

### Graduate Satisfaction with FVTC

| | |
|---|---|
| Very Satisfied or Satisfied | 98% |
| Unsatisfied or Very Unsatisfied | 2% |

### Job Placement

**93%**
Graduate employment

**81%**
In a job related to training

(Class of 2019-20)

## 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.

### Overall Preparedness

4 = Exceeds
3 = Meets
2 = Nearly meets
1 = Does not meet

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 3.23 | 3.25 | 3.27 | 3.22 | 3.29 |
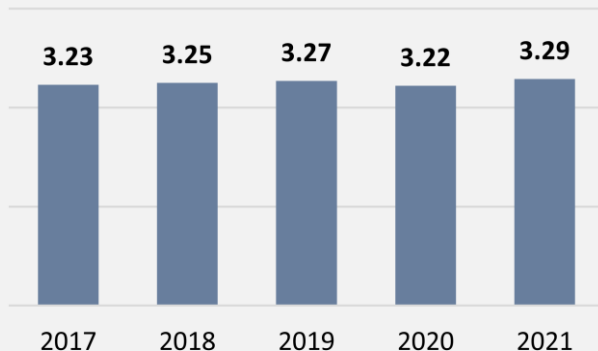
### Employer Satisfaction

4 = Very Satisfied
3 = Satisfied
2 = Unsatisfied
1 = Very Unsatisfied

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 3.41 | 3.53 | 3.52 | 3.44 | 3.55 |
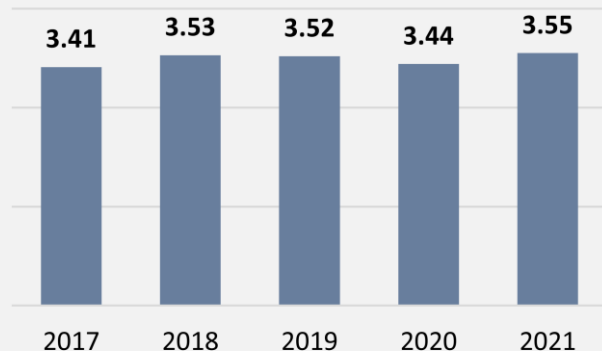
# At What Cost

**Student Loan Debt**

In the past three years, tuition cost has increased just under .6% per year. The current 2021-22 cost of $158.20 per credit went up from $157.30 in 2020-21. 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.
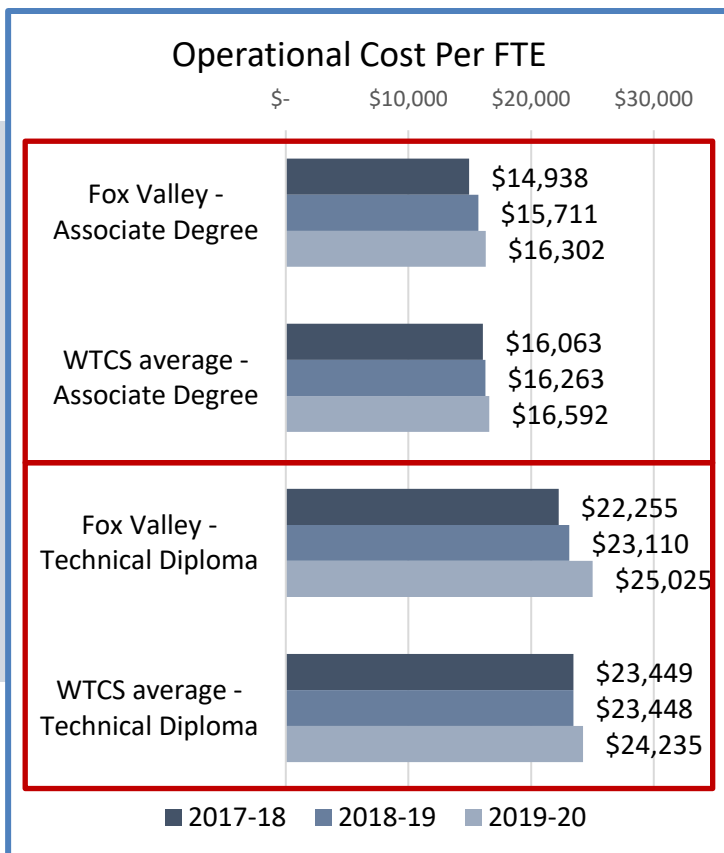
| Program level | Total Grads 2020-21 | Number with loans | Percent with loans | Average Loan Debt |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Short-term Technical Diploma | 1,034 | 111 | 11% | $ 3,275 |
| 1-Year Technical Diploma | 790 | 238 | 30% | $ 5,659 |
| 2-Year Technical Diploma | 81 | 29 | 36% | $ 6,789 |
| Associate Degree | 910 | 375 | 41% | $ 11,194 |

*Source: FVTC data warehouse query as of September 1, 2021*

**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, data trends demonstrate the operational cost per FTE usually increases.

**2020-21 Fox Valley Operational Cost Per FTE**
**Associate Degree $20,145**
**Technical Diploma $30,438**

## Operational Cost Per FTE

| | $- | $10,000 | $20,000 | $30,000 |
|---|---|---|---|---|

Fox Valley - Associate Degree
- $14,938
- $15,711
- $16,302

WTCS average - Associate Degree
- $16,063
- $16,263
- $16,592

Fox Valley - Technical Diploma
- $22,255
- $23,110
- $25,025

WTCS average - Technical Diploma
- $23,449
- $23,448
- $24,235

■ 2017-18  ■ 2018-19  ■ 2019-20

*Source: FVTC Financial Services*