### **TECH COLLEGE EFFECT:**

Innovate. Collaborate. Inspire... Transform

TECHNICAL COLLEGE
SYSTEM
we are futuremakers

Demographic challenges are constraining Wisconsin's skilled talent pipeline and as a result, economic growth.

Like many states, Wisconsin's population is aging. Baby Boomer retirements and fewer high school graduates are putting a strain on employers in every sector of the state's economy and in every geographic region.

According to the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, employers are currently seeking to fill 95,000 jobs through the Job Center of Wisconsin, the state's on-line employment information service.



Wisconsin's technical colleges are trusted partners, working with employers to expand the talent pipeline and increase workforce participation.

Wisconsin's technical colleges routinely engage employers in curriculum and program development. The colleges are also a premier provider of customized instruction for incumbent workers and technical assistance for employers.

The result? Employers consistently say that Wisconsin's technical colleges are important to the success of their business.

of employers surveyed say a technical college is important to the success of their business

OF TECHNICAL COLLEGE GRADUATES REPORTING LOCATION STAY & WORKINWI HELPING TO DRIVE THE STATE'S LOCAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMIES

With ample opportunities to earn early college credit, explore careers and efficiently and affordably earn a college credential, the technical colleges are a first choice for many graduating high school students.

Given the critical need to increase workforce participation, the technical colleges also have the proven ability to foster success for traditionally underserved students, including those who are disabled, economically disadvantaged, incarcerated, ex-offenders, people of color, residents of rural communities or returning adults.

We were built for this moment

# Direct state investment in technical college students and operations is an investment in economic growth.

Each year, Wisconsin's technical colleges deliver tens of thousands of new credential holders. Despite this, existing employers in every sector and geographic region still seek additional talent to address succession planning or growth, and additional employers continue to be attracted to the state.

With capacity-building investments in students and the colleges, the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) is poised to significantly expand the talent pipeline and increase workforce participation.



## 2019-21 WTCS BUDGET REQUEST

#### A \$46 million investment in students

While employers struggle to find the talent they need to compete and grow, the technical colleges have been unable to meet demand from more than 23,000 prospective students for need-based Wisconsin Grants. Additional state investment will enable the colleges to accommodate all prospective students.



### A \$36 million investment in the colleges

To expand the talent pipeline for employers, a direct investment in Wisconsin's technical colleges will expand colleges' operating capacity and empower them to meet the needs of *all* students. It will also begin to reverse an unsustainable shift toward short-term, competitive state and federal grant funding.

