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# Maine Community College System 2006-07 Fact Sheet

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# Maine Community College System

## 2006-07 FACT SHEET

Maine's comprehensive two-year college system, offering career and transfer programs, customized training and lifelong learning.

### ENROLLMENT

#### ENROLLMENT UP 47% SINCE TRANSITION TO COMMUNITY COLLEGES

- Degree enrollment has increased 47% since 2002, for a total of 11,078 students in the fall of 2006.
- The increase represents 3,560 *additional* college students for Maine.
- A total of 13,021 credit students (degree and non-degree) enrolled in fall 2006.
- In all, nearly 26,000 individuals were served by Maine's community colleges in 2005/06 through degree and non-degree programs, customized education and training for businesses and their employees, and non-credit offerings.

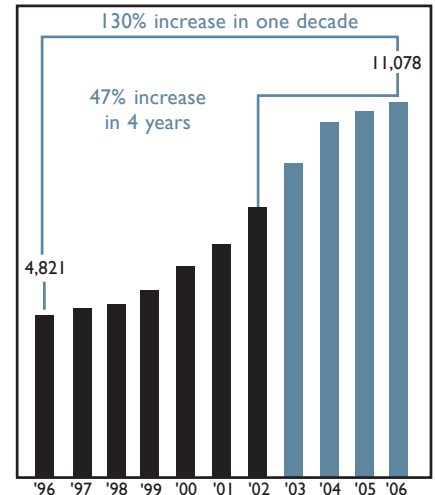
#### ABOUT OUR STUDENTS

- 5,532 first-year degree students enrolled in fall 2006. Of those, 35% came directly from high school.
- 8,560 applications were received for fall 2006.
- 51% of first-year students are male, 49% female.
- 36% of first-year students entered with some prior college.
- 58% of first-year students are 21 or under; 28% are over 25; and 9% are over 40.
- The average age of degree students is 27.
- 46% of degree students attend part time.

#### MORE STUDENTS ENTERING DIRECTLY FROM HIGH SCHOOL

- The number of students entering directly from high school has grown by 57% in four years – to 1,939 students in fall 2006.
- The MCCS Early College for ME program targets Maine high school students who are undecided about college but have the potential to succeed in higher education.
- Since 2003, ECforME has helped nearly 1,500 students prepare for and/or enroll in college.
- Of the ECforME students completing their first or second year of college in June 2006, 69% were successful.

#### DEGREE ENROLLMENT TOPS 11,000



#### FACTS AT A GLANCE

96% of first-year MCCS students are Maine residents.

95% of graduates are placed in jobs or continue their education.

95% of employed graduates find jobs in Maine.

The community colleges offer the lowest tuition in Maine: \$78 per credit hour.

75% of full-time students are receiving financial aid.

More than a quarter of the state's Registered Nurse graduates in 2005 earned their degree from a Maine community college.





# 2006-07 FACT SHEET

## OUR PROGRAMS

More than 300 associate degree, certificate, and diploma options are available in health care, education, business, liberal studies, computer fields, hospitality, automotive, electronics, manufacturing, marine fields, public safety, and more.

### HOT CAREER PROGRAMS:

Of those students enrolled in career programs in fall 2006,

- 24% are enrolled in trade or related programs.
- 21% are in nursing and allied health programs.
- 19% are in business and office administration.
- 17% are enrolled in computer and multimedia programs.
- 11% are in early childhood and paraprofessional education.

## GRADUATE RESULTS

- 21% of graduates are continuing their education after earning a degree.
- 2,336 community college transfer students are currently enrolled at Maine's public universities, a jump of 40% since 2002.

## ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- Research shows that taxpayers' investments in community college students are returned within 7 to 10 years of graduation through increased income and sales tax revenues.
- Maine's community colleges delivered customized education and training to 137 businesses, upgrading the skills of 4,367 employees in 2005/06.
- The Maine Quality Centers program has helped 198 companies expand their operations in Maine, creating 10,729 new jobs for Maine people.
- 11,831 Maine people have been trained through the Maine Quality Centers program; 91% have been hired for full-time jobs with benefits at an average wage of \$10.95/hour.

### AFFORDABLE TUITION

The community colleges offer the lowest tuition in Maine: \$78 per credit hour. The average cost to attend a Maine community college is \$2,800 a year in tuition and fees.

### NATIONAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE STATISTICS

#### ABOUT COMMUNITY COLLEGES

- Community colleges enroll over 10 million students in the U.S. each year, 46% of the nation's undergraduates.
- The first community college was established in 1901. Today, there are 1,157 two-year community colleges in the U.S.

#### ABOUT COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS

- 52% of community college students are first-generation college students.
- The average age of community college students is 29.
- 50% of new nurses and a majority of new healthcare workers get their training at community colleges.
- Nearly 80% of firefighters, law enforcement officers, and EMT's are credentialed at community colleges.

Sources: American Association of Community Colleges, National Center for Education Statistics, Community College Research Center.

### FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:

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The seven community colleges and nine off-campus centers are within 25 miles of 92% of Maine's population. Off-campus centers are located in Augusta, Bath, Caribou, Dover-Foxcroft, East Millinocket, Ellsworth, Houlton, South Paris, and South Portland.

Central Maine  
Community College  
Auburn

Eastern Maine  
Community College  
Bangor

Kennebec Valley  
Community College  
Fairfield

Northern Maine  
Community College  
Presque Isle

Southern Maine  
Community College  
South Portland

Washington County  
Community College  
Calais

York County  
Community College  
Wells