

Student Success (\$1,750,000): Investing in student success means expanding access to an even greater number of students throughout our service area. As higher education costs continue to increase, and with only 31% of Panhandle residents possessing an advanced degree, the need for student success is more vital than ever.

For WNCC to produce a greater number of highly-skilled workers to meet regional needs, we must ensure that students have access to affordable education and training opportunities. All students require and deserve a high level of preparation and ongoing support so they can stay on track to complete their college-level courses, degrees or training programs.

A college education represents an opportunity, but often times comes with barriers. Many of our students unfortunately are without the necessary funding to continue to pursue their educational goals. For the past 30 years, generous donations to the Western Nebraska Community College Foundation have helped to create opportunities for students with unlimited potential but limited financial resources. These investments benefit not only the students, but the entire community as well by encouraging the development of skilled workers and productive citizens.

Expanded access means more students attending college. A vibrant Panhandle region means enhanced financial support, the latest in technology advancements to ensure the greatest level of learning, and opportunities on all three campuses to provide a first-rate experience for students.

Scholarships (\$1,000,000)

Your investment will expand the existing endowed scholarship fund for a variety of programs and students by \$1 million. Scholarships have been the cornerstone of WNCC's support for students. We believe every person can be a success no matter his or her financial situation. Unfortunately, success lies just out of reach for many potential and current students, not due to a lack of hard work or dedication to achieving their goals. As an open-access institution, students from all walks of life come to WNCC to obtain a jump-start on increased earnings and career opportunities. The majority of our students come to us with a high financial need. Students often have to carry more of the financial load than they can easily bear. Many of our students work full-time or take on second jobs to make ends meet, sacrificing time with both family and their studies. Worse, some leave college altogether, abandoning their dreams.

To help close the gap, the WNCC Foundation utilizes its existing endowment to support more than 300 students each year with scholarships. Despite this, there are still too many prospective students who cannot afford a college education. We need to increase our available scholarships by adding \$1 million to our scholarship funds. In doing so, our ability to give scholarships to financially disadvantaged students will increase by 55%, giving us the opportunity to help an additional 150 students each year.

\$380,638

provided to

317

students in scholarships through the Foundation last fiscal year



"I cannot find the words to express my gratitude. The support and assistance I receive from WNCC teachers and staff helps me to focus on my studies so that I'll be better able to care for my children. So far, receiving my education at WNCC has changed my life for the better. I am becoming more empowered and well-rounded every day. This has given me an opportunity to be a better role model for my five daughters, as well as encouraged me not to give up on my dream of being the first in my family to graduate college. I wouldn't be able to do it without everyone at WNCC."

Michelle Talbot, nontraditional student

SMART Classrooms (\$500,000)

Your investment in expansion of SMART classroom technology on all three campuses will provide a total of 10 additional classrooms. SMART technology, creates learning spaces in which students can not only learn, but be engaged in order to foster greater success. To keep pace with a rapidly changing global economy and emerging technologies, students need to learn using the same technology tools they'll encounter on the job. The latest in education research points to the need for progressive learning spaces in order to increase focus, engagement, and ultimately a higher level of academic achievement. Lecture capture and wireless technology will promote accessibility, overcome the digital divide many students entering higher education face, and create "active learning spaces."



"Education--a debt due from present to future generations" was the philosophy of George Peabody when he endowed Peabody College of Vanderbilt University. We, too, believe so strongly in that philosophy that we've established seven scholarships at five institutions that we've either worked at or attended--including one at my alma mater, WNCC. I have always felt that had it not been for WNCC, I would not have been able to attend college and ultimately have a successful life and career."

Dr. Eugene Hughes

Center for Career Pathways (\$250,000)

Your investment will build upon the career academy models, WNCC seeks matching funds for internships, career awareness, and exploration with high school students including books, testing, and counselors through partnerships with K-12 institutions. WNCC has a strong history of partnering with K-12 institutions throughout the Panhandle for high school students to get a jump start on a career or college degree. Dual credit academic courses and career development opportunities for high school students will sustain local industry and offer students choices like they have never seen before.

- +1 Transfer Pathway programs matching funds for internships, career awareness and exploration with high school students to assist with the cost of study materials and necessary testing
- Books, testing, and shared counselors through partnerships with K-12 institutions
- Career Pathway shared counselors through partnerships with K-12 institutions



Alliance	Home School
Banner County	Kimball
Bayard	Minatare
Bridgeport	Leyton
Chadron	Morrill
Crawford	Mitchell
Creek Valley	Potter-Dix
Garden County	Sidney
Gering	Sioux County
Gordon-Rushville	Scottsbluff
Hay Springs	South Platte
Hemingford	



"The Scottsbluff Public Schools' partnership with WNCC continues to grow stronger and stronger. Looking ahead, our jointly developed Career Academy offerings will bring tremendous new opportunities to students throughout our region for many years to come. We are all very fortunate to have WNCC here as such a strong foundational asset to our community."

Rick Myles, Superintendent of Scottsbluff Public Schools