

**Wyoming Community College Commission
Agency Annual Report - FY 2019**

Agency Information:

Executive Director:

Dr. Sandra Caldwell

Contact Person:

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Statutory References:

W.S. 21-18-101 *et seq.*

Basic Information:

Number of Employees:

13 full-time employees

Clients Served:

Wyoming citizens and visitors, as well as individuals residing outside the state interested in pursuing educational goals via distance education delivery systems and programs.

Agency to Which Your Group Reports:

The Wyoming Community College Commission (WCCC) is an independent state agency governed by commission members.

Number of Members:

The WCCC consists of seven members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Meeting Frequency:

Commission meetings are held in various locations throughout the state at least quarterly.

Budget Information/Expenditures for FY19:

The WCCC has a 2019-2020 Biennial Budget of \$257,734,347, which consists of \$245,450,041 in state funds, \$1,853,928 in federal funds, and \$10,430,378 in other funds.

Expenditures for fiscal-year 2019 included state funds of \$111,350,667, federal funds of \$430,248, and other funds of \$186,242, for a total of \$111,967,157.

Primary Functions:

Advocate Community College Education: Ensure the Governor, Legislature, University of Wyoming, Department of Education, Wyoming Association of Community College Trustees, the Educational Attainment Executive Council, and ENDOW are abreast of community college initiatives.

Distribute State Aid Funding to Community Colleges and WPTV: To ensure the seven community colleges have the financial resources necessary to provide outstanding educational opportunities, the WCCC develops and maintains the funding allocation model (obtaining approval from the Commission via administrative rule), and distributes the funding provided by the State of Wyoming to the seven colleges and Wyoming Public Television (WPTV).

Provide State Reimbursement for College Employee Health Insurance Premiums, Increased Retirement Contributions and Library Expenses: The WCCC reimburses the colleges for approved expenses related to eligible employee fringe benefits, and for educational resource expenses approved by the college system's library committee.

Provide and Maintain the Colleges' System-wide Administrative Computing System: The WCCC configures, maintains and updates through innovative software programs, the colleges' shared computing system to ensure a common data structure, and to support development of reports for the colleges, Commission, Governor and Legislature. System maintenance and new software program costs are negotiated by WCCC staff through the RFP and contracting processes.

Consider and Approve College Program Proposals: Through a collaborative effort between the college academic officers and WCCC staff, proposals for new or changing programs are developed, and then presented to the Commission for consideration and approval.

Administer Student Loan and Grant Programs: The WCCC manages the Wyoming Investment in Nursing Program, the Wyoming Adjunct Professor Loan Repayment Program and the Overseas Combat Veterans Tuition Assistance Program.

Administer Adult Education and High School Equivalency Programs: The WCCC manages and monitors these two programs in accordance with applicable federal and state rules, regulations and policies. Adult Education Program grant awards are distributed using a performance-based funding allocation model.

Determine Community College Building Needs: In accordance with Wyoming Statute § 21-18-225, the Commission identifies college building needs, and develops a prioritized list of these capital construction projects for further consideration by other policy-makers, including the State Building Commission, the Governor and the Legislature.

Performance Highlights / Major Accomplishments of FY 2019:

- A data scientist was hired to create reports from the previously established data systems. Commission and college staff have been learning and implementing advanced data models to identify students at risk of dropping out and not continuing with their education. All colleges are jointly working on this project to ensure student success.
- All nine grantees providing adult education services met and/or exceeded the negotiated state performance targets of 50.25 percent, with the overall performance reaching 58.3 percent. The Adult Education Section is now fully utilizing data matching programs with the Unemployment Insurance system, National Student Clearinghouse and the community college data system maintained at the Commission. In addition, the Community Pro database, which is a joint referral program between Adult Education, Workforce Services, and Vocational Rehabilitation is now live, and inter-agency referrals are being made to help provide a full wrap-around service to individuals in Wyoming.
- The Commission reviewed and approved 14 new associate degrees and 24 certificates during FY19. An in-depth program review report covering 57 different degree categories was presented to the Commission during its February 2019 meeting.
- With respect to the Overseas Combat Veterans Tuition Assistance Program (OCV), the Wyoming Investment in Nursing Program (WyIN), and the Wyoming Adjunct Professor Loan Repayment Program (WAPLR), disbursements to institutions and students were both well-documented and timely as reflected in

the electronic monthly tracking worksheets. The OCV Program paid for 149 semesters in Fall 2018 and Spring 2019 combined, covering \$273,352.59 in tuition and fees for Wyoming veterans and their eligible dependents. The WyIN and WAPLR funding streams continue to assist students in their efforts to earn degrees. Respectively, these two programs are intended to address the state's shortage of nurses, and the shortage of high school teachers qualified to provide college-level instruction to high school students throughout the state. The WyIN Program also assisted 204 undergraduate nursing students with a total of \$850,433 in tuition and fees at the University of Wyoming and the seven community colleges. There were also six graduate-level students whose assistance from the WyIN Program totaled \$66,536. Instructional funding from the WyIN Program supported 23 full-time nursing faculty members and 3 part-time clinical instructors for a total of \$1,982,068 in salary and benefits. And finally, the WAPLR Program assisted fifteen high school teachers by providing \$42,765 in tuition and fees necessary for them to become qualified to teach college-level courses to high school students in Wyoming. Combined, the three programs assisted a total of 374 students in the state of Wyoming from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

Wyoming Community College Commission
Organizational Chart

