The FastForward data mentioned herein represent students funded by the New Economy Workforce Credentials Grant as well as other public and private sources.

Who FastForward Serves
FastForward students aren’t your average college students. Our students are older, with the average age of 34, and over two-thirds of them are new to community college.

- Over 40% of FastForward students are minorities.
- Over 31% of Workforce Credential Grant students received either SNAP or TANF benefits prior to enrolling.
- Over 56% of FastForward students have dependents.

The Impact of FastForward Credentials
According to the Virginia Employment Commission, by 2026, there are expected to be 2.6M middle-skilled jobs in Virginia – jobs that require some training, but not a four-year degree. There is a skills gap in Virginia’s workforce. FastForward is continuing to bridge the gap.

- 32,700+ credentials earned since 2016
- 55% of Workforce Credential Grant students received either SNAP or TANF benefits prior to enrolling.

Paying for Success
- 1/3 paid for by the student
- 1/3 paid for by grant upon credential attainment
- 1/3 paid for by grant upon training completion

55% On average, students saw a 55% ($11,626) increase in wages.

“The community college system is uniquely poised to handle training and education more effectively than anyone.”
– David Peterson, Executive Director, Solar Hands-on Instructional Network of Excellence (SHINE)
Outcomes and Results
This program model focuses on success from the moment a student connects with the college. Following FastForward training, a majority of our students have full-time jobs with benefits and better work schedules.

FastForward students are finding satisfaction in their careers post-credential.

- 89% say their credential is something employers want.
- 81% are satisfied with their work schedule.
- 80% are satisfied with their job stability.
- 71% are satisfied with their pay.

Average Wage Increase by Industry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Average Wage Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>+ $14,824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>+ $27,806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare</td>
<td>+ $8,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology</td>
<td>+ $19,043</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logistics &amp; Transportation</td>
<td>+ $12,965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skilled Trades</td>
<td>+ $13,307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welding &amp; Manufacturing</td>
<td>+ $16,975</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“The VCCS Advantage
“After wrapping up my bachelor’s, I went back to community college where I felt I received a better education. The student-to-teacher ratio was much smaller, & I received hands-on support.”
- Peyton Staliard, FastForward graduate

RETURN ON INVESTMENT
“I enjoyed it. All of the instructors were great. Everyone I met there was great. Do it – especially if it gets you out of the coal mines.”
- Philip Stiltner, FastForward graduate & REV grant recipient

Quality of Life Enhancements
- 75% of graduates have paid vacation.
- 75% of graduates have employer-paid medical insurance.
- 83% of graduates are satisfied with their job duties.

January 2022

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