CONNECTIONS

The newsletter of North Country Community College

August 2018



NCCC saves Essex, Franklin county residents \$1.2 million

North Country Community College returned a savings of \$1.2 million to Essex and Franklin county residents through scholarships and tuition discounts during the 2017-18 academic year.

"The college has been proud to make residents of Franklin and Essex counties our top priority," said Dr. Steve Tyrell, NCCC President. "With a large majority of our students coming from our sponsoring counties, the college is committed to giving them a great and affordable educational experience."

A total of 767 Essex and Franklin county high school students enrolled in NCCC's Bridge Program, earning 5,876

college credits for \$60 per course – a savings of \$1 million.

Another 72 residents of the college's two sponsoring counties received a combined \$167,426 in free tuition through the Franklin and Essex Scholarship, which is awarded to students in the two counties who have an average GPA of 85 or above and receive an Advanced Regents Diploma.

The scholarships and tuition savings together total \$1,195,282, or 48 percent of the combined \$2,480,000 Essex and Franklin counties provided to the college in 2017-18.

For more information on the scholarship or College Bridge programs, call 888-TRY-NCCC or email admissions@nccc.edu

Franklin and Essex County support to NCCC	\$2,480,000
Scholarship funds provided to county residents	\$167,426
Bridge Program savings to county residents	\$1,027,856
Total support returned to Essex and Franklin counties	\$1,195,282

EMT class offered at all three campuses



Students in the EMT program complete 220 hours of coursework. Many of the classes are taught on weekday evenings.

Fresh on the heels of a successful first Emergency Medical Technician class this spring, NCCC will offer EMT training at its Malone, Saranac Lake and Ticonderoga campuses this fall.

20 students took the college's first EMT class and are all now working as volunteer or paid emergency medical professionals in the Tri-Lakes.

"Becoming an EMT is a great way to help your neighbors and your community," said Scott Harwood, who taught the course and serves as Franklin County's EMS Coordinator. "The other side is employment. A lot of people start as volunteers and become paid employees. There's a growing need for both volunteers and paid EMS professionals in the region."

Try NCCC for free with "6 on Us"

North Country is giving those who've been unsure about starting or going back to college the chance to ease back into the classroom with our new "6 on Us" program. Starting this fall, eligible students can take their **first six credits for free**. The program is available at all three campuses to any non-traditional, in-state student who is new to NCCC and doesn't have a prior associate's or bachelor's degree. Applicants must have been out of school (high school or college) for five years.

"There are a lot of reasons why some people aren't able to commit to trying or completing college, including work, family and financial obligations," said Chris Tacea, NCCC's Dean of Admissions. "By covering the cost of the first six credits, we're creating an opportunity for them to try out the college experience in a comfortable, risk-free way – **all before they spend a dime**."

For more information about "6 on Us," call 888-TRY-NCCC or email admissions@nccc.edu.





Alumni spotlight: Allison McGahay



A former student in NCCC's Criminal Justice program, Allison McGahay is an attorney in private practice in Lake Placid and an Essex County Election Commissioner. She previously worked as an Essex County Assistant District Attorney and Deputy Director of Election Operations and Special Counsel for the New York State Board of Elections.

How did your start at NCCC prepare you for your career? It changed everything. I knew I needed a college education but I didn't have a plan. I took Criminal Justice because it sounded interesting, but the classes were fantastic and the teachers were fantastic.

I was able to get an internship at a local prison. That experience was the trigger for everything else — getting my four-year degree and eventually going to law school. Having faculty as advisors pointing you to a potential career path was great. I doubt I'd be here at all today if it hadn't been for my start at North Country.

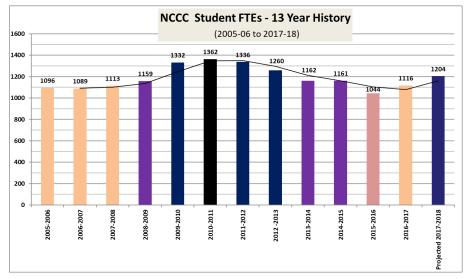
Did the low cost of tuition at NCCC play a role in your decision to attend? I got financial aid because we were just so broke. My sister and I lived together behind the Hotel Saranac, and we waitressed every second that we weren't going to school just trying to pay the bills. So the college, with its low tuition cost, was definitely an affordable option.

NCCC by the #s: Enrollment remains stable

After several years of decline, the college has stabilized enrollment, and even seen slight growth, in the past two years.

Strong numbers in the Second Chance Pell (inmate education) program and College Bridge (college credit for high school students) have helped diversify enrollment, at a time when the number of high school graduates in the region continues to drop.

Planned partnerships with SUNY Potsdam and SUNY Canton, and a proposed School of Applied Technology in Ticonderoga could help the college continue to diversify its enrollment in the years to come.



NCCC enrollment as calculated by full-time equivalent students (FTEs).

Thirty credit hours completed equals one FTE.

NCCC President Steve Tyrell talks about the proposed trade school at a public meeting in Ticonderoga.

Consultant begins trade school study

JMZ Architects and Planners began work this month on a viability study for a proposed School of Applied Technology in Ticonderoga. The Glens Falls firm has assembled a team of professionals with substantial experience in community college program feasibility to conduct its independent analysis.

The college is creating an advisory board of faculty and staff, and community partners from BOCES, trade unions, workforce development boards, corporations and other fields to serve on an advisory board for the project.

JMZ will conduct its analysis over the next few months, with final recommendations expected in October.