



# Flathead Valley Community College™

NEWS AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION INFORMATION  
SPRING 2021



**ENTER TO WIN!**

**NEWSLETTER PRIZE PACKAGE:**

- \$200 gift card to Super 1
- Cabela's table top grill
- \$50 gift card for FVCC Campus Farm produce

**Total value: \$350**

**Sign up for our free FVCC E-newsletter, and you'll be automatically entered for a chance to win!**

Sign up by going to [fvcc.edu](http://fvcc.edu) and clicking on **NEWSLETTER** in the blue menu bar at the top of your screen. Deadline to enter is March 31, 2021. Drawing will be held on April 1, 2021. Must enter a valid email address to be eligible.



**Flathead Valley Community College**  
777 Grandview Drive  
Kalispell, MT 59901

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ECRWSEDDM

### President's Corner

Welcome to the Flathead Valley Community College Newsletter featuring information about opportunities available at FVCC for learners of all ages. Whether you are interested in getting a degree, starting a new career, expanding your skills and knowledge or learning about new hobbies – you can achieve your dream in top-level classes at FVCC without ever leaving the Flathead Valley.

Flathead Valley Community College is an outstanding community resource. I invite you to join us to kick off your college experience, join us for a continuing education class, enjoy a community lecture, or participate in a fundraising event and give back to our community.

I hope to see you soon – on campus or virtually!

Jane A. Karas, Ph.D., President  
Flathead Valley Community College



# Why **community college** is the higher education of choice for **Millennials and Gen Z**

Student debt has hit an all time high in America at 1.6 trillion dollars\*. However, attending an expensive university and paying over \$10k a semester is not necessary to receive an outstanding education that will set you on a track for success.

Generation Z (those born between 2000-2020) realize that a quality **community college education** can launch them directly into a career with **less debt** or provide all the preparation to transfer to a four-year college or university. FVCC's in-district tuition and fees are about **32% less** than in-state tuition and fees at Montana's public universities.

For some students, this means graduating without any debt at all thanks to FVCC's generous scholarship offerings. Last year, FVCC students were awarded nearly \$1.2 million in need-based and merit-based scholarships.

Students at FVCC cite the professional world-class faculty, individualized attention they receive and the abundant student support services as key reasons to their success. Students can complete their education at FVCC and transfer to a four-year school or university or complete their career and technical training and go directly into the workforce using connections between the college and local employers to secure jobs.

Source: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/zackfriedman/2020/02/03/student-loan-debt-statistics/?sh=622fd293281f>



## Find your program

Helping you find the right program to fit you and your lifestyle is where our Student Support Center excels.

We can help you with the college exploration process and navigating your choices.

[fvcc.edu/academic-programs](https://fvcc.edu/academic-programs)



## Boosting Student Success

FVCC is implementing a new cloud-based information system, Campus Nexus, to boost students' success from application to graduation. The system will improve the student experience in admissions, registration and financial aid.

## Explore Campus

from your phone.



Take our 360-degree tour to get an up-close look at FVCC's Kalispell campus.

Explore buildings, labs, learning spaces, student housing apartments and more at your own pace when it's convenient for you.

Take the tour at [fvcc.edu/digital-experience](https://fvcc.edu/digital-experience).

## FVCC is for **YOU**



### High school juniors and seniors

Earn free college credits through Running Start. [fvcc.edu/running-start](https://fvcc.edu/running-start)



### College/university-bound students

FVCC can customize a plan of study to help you transfer to any four-year school. [fvcc.edu/transfer](https://fvcc.edu/transfer)



### Career seekers

FVCC offers more than 50 different programs to get you ready for a new career. [fvcc.edu/academic-programs](https://fvcc.edu/academic-programs)



### Business owners and managers

Train your employees and increase your profits. [fvcc.edu/business-workforce-training](https://fvcc.edu/business-workforce-training)



### Lifelong learners

Enhance your life with new hobbies and skills. [fvcc.edu/continuing-education](https://fvcc.edu/continuing-education)



EXPERIENCE. EXPLORE. EXPAND YOUR FUTURE.  
Get started today.  
[fvcc.edu](https://fvcc.edu) | 406.756.3848

# College Center Construction Update

Construction of the new Paul D. Wachholz College Center is on track to be completed in early 2022.

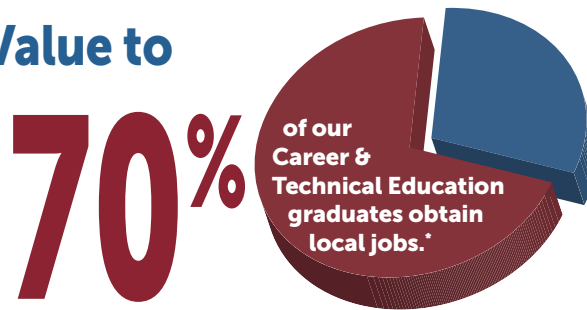
The Center will serve as a community hub, where people will come together to enjoy performances, lectures, concerts, art exhibits and sporting events. The Center includes a 1,000-seat performance and lecture hall, an art and exhibition gallery, an activity complex with two full-court gymnasiums and an outdoor amphitheater.

The Center is made possible by generous gifts from community members, local businesses and private foundations. For more information, visit [www.fvcc.edu/one](http://www.fvcc.edu/one).



## FVCC's Economic Value to the Community

FVCC engages businesses and industry leaders to prepare students with the knowledge and skills needed for successful placement in the local workforce.



FVCC works closely with area businesses to meet local workforce needs and help students find real-world experience and job opportunities.

\* 2020 7 Year Accreditation Self-Study Report, Workforce Core Theme Data

## Important Dates to Remember

### Spring Semester:

- Registration is open now
- Session B Classes start: March 15
- Classes end: May 6

### Summer Semester:

- Registration opens: March 1
- First summer session starts: May 17
- Summer session ends: July 23

### Registration for Fall 2021 begins:

- New degree-seeking students: April 16
- Running Start and New Non-degree-seeking students: May 4

[fvcc.edu/academic-calendar](http://fvcc.edu/academic-calendar)



## STUDENT PROFILE

“I want to work with other farmers and landowners to bring sustainable practices to them.”

Courtney Mitchell completed an Associate of Applied Science degree in Integrated Agriculture and Food Systems and an Associate of Science degree from FVCC in 2020.

She gained valuable hands-on experience working for the FVCC Campus Farm and for a local ranch before transferring to Montana State University to study Sustainable Foods and Bioenergy Systems.

“I want to work with other farmers and landowners to bring sustainable practices to them,” she said.

Courtney Mitchell



# Ready to go to FVCC?

Get started with these easy admissions steps.

**STEP 1**

**Apply** (for free)  
[www.fvcc.edu/apply](http://www.fvcc.edu/apply)


**Apply for Financial Aid and Scholarships** (if applicable):  
 Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid at [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov) and learn more about FVCC scholarships here: [fvcc.edu/scholarships](http://fvcc.edu/scholarships)



**STEP 2**

**Submit required Documents**

- High School Transcripts or proof of high school completion (GED or HiSet)
- Health Records 2 MMR Immunizations (measles, mumps & rubella)
- Official Past College Transcripts
- FAFSA (Recommended)
- SEALED by school



**STEP 3**

**Placement Testing**

[www.fvcc.edu/student-portal](http://www.fvcc.edu/student-portal)

Math and writing placements may be required prior to meeting with an advisor. Visit [fvcc.edu/placement](http://fvcc.edu/placement) to learn more.



**STEP 4**

**Talk to an Advisor**

Hello!  
 I'm happy to schedule an advising & registration appointment for you!

Calling FVCC Student Support Center:  
**406.756.3880**

ADVISOR  
[fvccadvisor@fvcc.edu](mailto:fvccadvisor@fvcc.edu)



**You're ready to register for classes!**

Questions? Contact our Admissions & Registration office at [admissionsinfo@fvcc.edu](mailto:admissionsinfo@fvcc.edu) or give us a call at **406.756.3847**.

 **Flathead Valley Community College** [www.fvcc.edu/admissions](http://www.fvcc.edu/admissions)

## FACULTY PROFILE



**Peter Fusaro**

“Trades and industrial arts are rich in history and tradition, and we are proud to be training America’s next generation of skilled workers.”

As the director of Trades and Industrial Arts at FVCC, Peter Fusaro leads a team of expert instructors who have the industry experience and knowledge to prepare students for placement in high-salary careers.

FVCC offers certificates, degrees and apprenticeship opportunities in welding, machining, electrical technology, electronics, HVAC, CDL, heavy equipment operation, firearms, surveying, brewing and other fields.

“Trades and industrial arts are rich in history and tradition, and we are proud to be training America’s next generation of skilled workers,” Fusaro said. Prior to joining FVCC’s team, Fusaro served as Flathead High School principal for many years. His passion for helping students achieve their goals is evident in everything he does.

### Ever thought of being a beekeeper?

**FVCC Continuing Education** courses are offered on a spring, summer and fall schedule with a variety of one-time or multi-week courses to expand your learning across a wide array of topics.

You can learn a new hobby (like beekeeping), invest in professional development or start a side gig with FVCC Continuing Education.



View the course schedules at:  
[fvcc.edu/continuing-education](http://fvcc.edu/continuing-education) | **406.756.3832**