



Bellingham Technical College

Jan. 11, 2024

Media Contact:

Zoe Fraley, Director of Communications

Phone: 360.752.8325 Email: zfraley@btc.edu

For Immediate Release

BTC sees second quarter of enrollment growth as pandemic rebound continues

Bellingham, WA —Bellingham Technical College is seeing signs of pandemic recovery on campus with two consecutive quarters of increased enrollment.

As of the first day of winter quarter on Wednesday, Jan. 3, BTC's enrollment for all full-time equivalent students was up 6.8 percent over the previous winter quarter, at 1,550 FTE students. In the first week of fall quarter 2023, BTC's enrollment for all FTE was up 7 percent over the previous fall quarter.

"We're pleased to see two straight quarters of healthy growth in our enrollment," BTC President James Lemerond says. "We're hopeful these increases indicate a renewed focus on education as we recover from the pandemic, and that they are a sign that more folks in our community are ready and able to return to college for a degree or certificate that can change their lives and advance their careers."

BTC has been making strides toward ensuring education is accessible for more members of the community this past year. In May 2023, as enrollment opened for fall, the college launched [guided self-placement](#) to help new students make an informed decision on the right classes to start in without needing high-stakes placement testing.

The college is continuing to work on removing barriers to higher education through a new [Title III Cooperative Arrangement Development grant](#) that focuses on supporting students through the entry pipeline as they apply, register for classes and get ready to attend BTC. This grant will also support increasing flexibility and access through course and program redesign in selected workforce programs.

About Bellingham Technical College

Bellingham Technical College provides student-centered, high-quality professional technical education for today's needs and tomorrow's opportunities. Accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, BTC offers more than 50 associate degree, over 30 certificate options and two bachelor of applied science degrees providing professional technical education to support local and regional industry workforce needs. For more information, go to www.btc.edu.

For more news, events, and photos from the college follow us on

<http://www.facebook.com/bellinghamtechcollegecollege>,

www.instagram.com/bellinghamtechcollege and www.linkedin.com/school/bellingham-technical-college/

#