The Two-Year College Advantage

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Myth or Fact?

- No one successful attends a two-year college.
Myth
Ohio’s 23 state-assisted technical and community colleges
Two-Year College Opportunities

• College Credit Plus and Articulation Agreements

• Technical Associate Degrees – an exceptional path to employment and/or a bachelor’s degree

• Transient (guest) enrollment for students who are pursuing higher education out of the area

• Credit obtained for purpose of transferring

• Associate of Arts or Associate of Science – general education coursework towards a bachelor’s degree
Myth or Fact?

• Obtaining a community college degree is not as useful as a university degree.
Myth

• More associate degree holders have their dream jobs.

• Associate degrees vs Bachelors.

• Associate degree holders exceed the salaries of Bachelors.

• 30% vs 26%.

• More advised to find their passions at a 2 year school.

• Experience at a 4 year vs a 2 year.
General Facts

- 9 million undergraduates are enrolled in credit courses at community colleges in the United States. CCRC 2017

- Courses taken at a community colleges are of the same rigor as their comparable courses at four-year schools.

- Annual average salary for 2017 Ohio associate degree graduates six months past graduation was $41,496. Smartasset 2017
General Facts

• Employment for associate degree graduates is expected to grow by 23% over the next decade. \textit{OACC}

• 60% of registered nurses graduated from an associate degree nursing program. 87% of these graduates passed the licensure exam on the first try. \textit{NACAC}

• 40% of engineers earning a bachelors degree attended a community college. \textit{NACAC}
Myth or Fact?

• Students go to a two-year college, because they were not able to get into a four-year institution or cannot make it at a four-year school.
Myth

- 36% of all undergraduate students begin their studies at a two-year college. CCRC 2017
- According to Community College Review, students who begin at community colleges “tend to earn a higher GPA than students who begin their academic careers at a four-year university”.
- There are multiply pathways for students to consider and some choose two-year colleges.
Average Annual Tuition

Community College (public, in-district): $3,260
4-Year College (public, in-state): $8,890
Why students choose 2-year colleges

- Want to save money and reduce debt
- Want to complete a career & technical certificate or degree
- Want smaller class sizes with more instructor interaction
- Haven’t decided if they want a 4-yr degree
- Want an environment where they get more personal attention and access to support services and resources
- Want to live at home or locally
- Want to complete a career & technical certificate or degree
Myth or Fact?

- Community colleges are only for people who want a vocational technical job.
Myth
Reasons for Transfer

Haven’t decided on a major & want to explore options

Want to build their academic skills before transferring

Want to complete general education courses before transferring

Not sure where they want to transfer

Want to be sure institution is accredited & credits transfer
Transfer Hints

• Work closely with four-year destination

• Understand major requirements

• Use Ohio Board of Regents Transfer and Articulation Guide (TAGs) system
  
  http://www.cotc.edu/cotc/atransfer_guides.asp
Questions?
Our Mission:

At Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) our mission is to meet the technical education and training needs of students and employers in the area.
Why COTC?

13:1 student to teacher ratio

Local campuses for easier access to courses

Over 400 full-time and part-time faculty

The Gateway at COTC

Open admissions
Over 40 Programs

• Business & Information Technology
• Engineering Technology
• Health Care
• Public Services & Safety
• One Year Certificates
Outstanding Support Services

Disability Support Services
Math & Writing Labs
Personal Counseling
Resume and Interview Skills Assistance
Study Skills Development
Tutoring
Affordability

$189/credit hour
$2,268/semester
$11,340/degree

$985,000 in scholarships available
50+ scholarships
$2,000 - Average scholarship awarded

Students can save, on average, 33% in tuition for a four-year degree when beginning at COTC.
Final Thoughts

Community colleges are one of Americas great social inventions a gateway to the future for first time students looking for an affordable college education, and for mid-career students looking to get ahead in the workplace.

- Barbara Mikulski
Thank you!

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