

President's Report

July 2026





Foundation for the Future

This month's report highlights two initiatives that are helping WCJC make more informed, strategic decisions about the future of our academic programs and student pathways. We will review findings from our Hanover Research Labor Market Analysis, which aligns our program portfolio with regional workforce demand, and introduce the College's new academic catalog, designed to provide students with clearer pathways from enrollment to transfer or employment. Together, these efforts support our commitment to ensuring every program leads to opportunity and every student has a clear path to success.



Hanover Research: Labor Market Analysis



APP2CAP: College Catalog



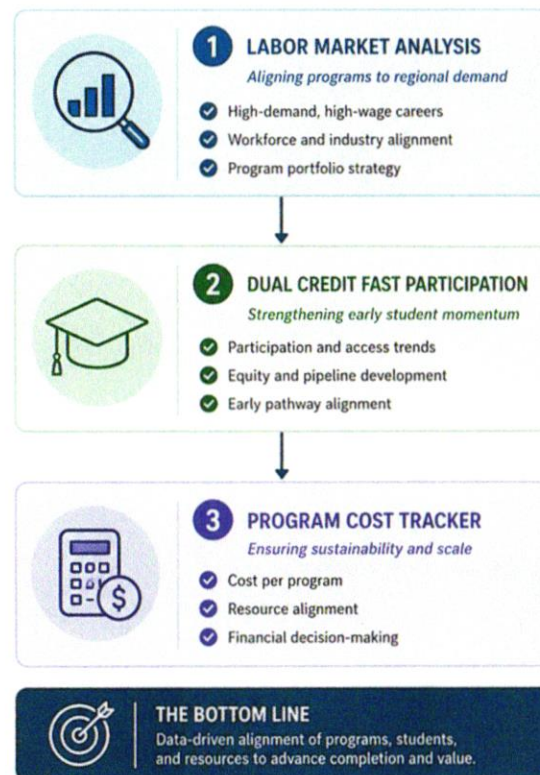
Upcoming Events



Hanover Research

As part of our work on the Houston Endowment Grant, WCJC was provided funds to enhance our data infrastructure and engage in intensive research projects. These efforts will expand our capacity to make data-driven decisions as we develop our new strategic plan and optimize resources for future initiatives.

To this end, WCJC has partnered with Hanover Research to provide expert support and deliver actionable insights in the following areas:



Hanover Research: Labor Market Analysis

KEY FINDINGS



The labor market in WCJC's service region is projected to grow across most industries, with strongest momentum in healthcare, technical services, manufacturing, transportation, and infrastructure-related sectors.



Several of the region's largest employers of workers with some college or an associate degree are also projected to grow, creating strong alignment opportunities for community college programming.



Healthcare occupations represent some of the fastest-growing credentialed roles below the bachelor's degree level, but the region also shows growth in HVAC, transportation, education, and technical occupations.



Regional employer demand is concentrated in practical, job-ready skills and credentials, with clear gaps in healthcare, bilingual communication, childcare/education, warehouse operations, transportation, HVAC, and technical maintenance.



New and expanding industries are likely to increase demand for technical, industrial, logistics, and manufacturing-related occupations in the WCJC service region.



Hanover Research: Labor Market Analysis

INDUSTRY MAKEUP- WCJC SERVICE REGION

Top industries by employment of workers with some college or an associate's degree in WCJC service region

Industry	Workers with some college or associate's degree	Average Annual Earnings, Stable Jobs	Projected Growth 2025-2035
Educational Services	11,382	\$54,493	13.6%
Ambulatory Health Care Services	6,420	\$69,288	39.1%
Food Services and Drinking Places	4,745	\$30,022	30.3%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	3,533	\$75,877	35.0%
Administrative and Support Services	3,192	\$68,622	28.6%
Hospitals	2,773	\$65,528	29.9%
Specialty Trade Contractors	2,028	\$77,116	32.0%
Food and Beverage Retailers	1,912	\$42,164	24.5%
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	1,828	\$89,247	30.8%
Social Assistance	1,757	\$38,162	33.9%
General Merchandise Retailers	1,716	\$45,741	28.0%
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	1,614	\$48,803	27.6%
Justice, Public Order, and Safety Activities	1,470	\$60,322	27.7%
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	1,423	\$82,703	30.9%
Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	1,085	\$86,146	29.0%
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	1,012	\$65,992	28.7%
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	975	\$79,054	27.5%
Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers	975	\$59,213	26.2%
Utilities	943	\$120,850	9.5%
Chemical Manufacturing	933	\$107,889	25.8%
Support Activities for Mining	929	\$107,099	26.7%
Couriers and Messengers	902	\$56,802	35.1%



Hanover Research: Labor Market Analysis

TOP OCCUPATIONS BY GROWTH – WCJC SERVICE REGION

Top occupations by percent growth from 2025 to 2035; only occupations with at least 250 projected workers in 2035 shown in this table.

Occupation Title	Entry-Level Education	Projected 2035 Employment	Mean Ann. Wages	Growth 2025 to 2035
Ophthalmic Medical Technicians	Postsecondary non-degree award	351	\$42,500	53.40%
Physical Therapist Assistants	Associate's degree	353	\$74,100	52.80%
Psychiatric Technicians	Postsecondary non-degree award	338	\$41,800	48.60%
Massage Therapists	Postsecondary non-degree award	725	\$60,800	41.80%
Respiratory Therapists	Associate's degree	287	\$78,800	40.40%
Medical Assistants	Postsecondary non-degree award	2,229	\$41,900	39.40%
Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	Postsecondary non-degree award	1,035	\$60,400	36.20%
Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	Associate's degree	464	\$41,600	35.60%
Dental Hygienists	Associate's degree	831	\$101,500	35.10%
Medical Records Specialists	Postsecondary non-degree award	448	\$53,700	34.80%
Dental Assistants	Postsecondary non-degree award	1,498	\$40,300	34.70%
Skincare Specialists	Postsecondary non-degree award	392	\$51,200	33.90%
Manicurists and Pedicurists	Postsecondary non-degree award	611	\$41,200	33.10%
Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists	Postsecondary non-degree award	2,678	\$40,100	32.70%
Barbers	Postsecondary non-degree award	492	\$51,200	32.30%
Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	Associate's degree	2,094	\$39,600	32.20%
Health Technologists and Technicians, All Other	Postsecondary non-degree award	392	\$56,300	31.90%
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	Postsecondary non-degree award	5,240	\$57,200	31.30%
Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	Associate's degree	443	\$78,200	31.10%



Hanover Research: Labor Market Analysis

TOP CERTIFICATIONS – HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

Certifications requested by employers hiring workers with a high school diploma, May 2025-May 2026

- Medical Assistant Certification (MA) (317)
- Commercial Driver's License (CDL) (190)
- Registered Behavior Technician (RBT) (171)
- AED Essentials (144)
- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) (138)
- Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) (123)
- Registered Medical Assistant (106)
- Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (NHA) (96)
- Child Development Associate (CDA) (94)
- Class A Commercial Driver's License (CDL-A) (67)
- Forklift Certified (65)
- Certified Phlebotomy Technician (CPT) (56)
- Secret Clearance (56)
- EPA Section 608 Certification (EPA 608) (54)
- ServSafe Food Protection Manager Certification (52)
- The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) Certification (49)
- Series 63 (43)
- National Phlebotomy Association Certified Phlebotomist (35)
- Emergency Medical Technician - Paramedic (EMT-P) (34)
- OSHA 10 (34)
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support Certification (ACLS) (33)
- Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) (33)
- Certified Personal Trainer (CPT) (32)
- Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPT) (32)
- Registered Nurse (RN) (32)

TOP CERTIFICATIONS – ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Certifications requested by employers hiring workers with an associate's degree, May 2025-May 2026

- Registered Nurse (RN) (141)
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support Certification (ACLS) (45)
- The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) Certification (23)
- Child Development Associate (CDA) (22)
- Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) (22)
- Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) (19)
- Certified Nephrology Nurse (CNN) (15)
- Certified Dialysis Nurse (CDN) (12)
- Certified Maintenance and Reliability Technician (CMRT) (12)
- Certified in Diagnostic Radiology (12)
- Commercial Driver's License (CDL) (10)
- Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) (10)
- Project Management Professional (PMP) (9)
- Registered Health Information Administrator (RHIA) (9)
- Acute/Critical Care Knowledge Professional - Adult, Pediatric, Neonatal Certification (CCRN-K) (8)
- Ambulatory Care Nursing (RN-BC) (8)
- Certified Gastroenterology Registered Nurse (CGRN) (8)
- Certified Post Anesthesia Nurse (CPAN) (8)
- Certified Professional Coder (CPC) (8)
- CNOR Certification (CNOR) (7)
- Certified Coding Specialist (CCS) (7)
- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) (7)
- OSHA 10 (7)
- Occupational Therapist Registered (OTR) (7)



Hanover Research: Labor Market Analysis

AWARD GAPS- WCJC SERVICE REGION

The difference between the number of awards conferred in the service region and the occupation demand in the region.

Occupation	Award Gap	Entry-Level Education
Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary	-148	Some college, no degree
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	-103	Postsecondary non-degree award
Medical Assistants	-101	Postsecondary non-degree award
Nursing Assistants	-70	Postsecondary non-degree award
Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	-63	Postsecondary non-degree award
Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	-59	Associate's degree
Computer User Support Specialists	-53	Some college, no degree
Barbers	-52	Postsecondary non-degree award
Dental Assistants	-44	Postsecondary non-degree award
Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists	-40	Postsecondary non-degree award
Massage Therapists	-32	Postsecondary non-degree award
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	-27	Some college, no degree
Architectural and Civil Drafters	-18	Associate's degree
Firefighters	-18	Postsecondary non-degree award
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	-17	Postsecondary non-degree award
Health Technologists and Technicians, All Other	-14	Postsecondary non-degree award
Phlebotomists	-11	Postsecondary non-degree award
Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	-10	Associate's degree
Medical Records Specialists	-10	Postsecondary non-degree award



From Analysis to Action

Next steps for utilizing Labor Market information...

- ✓ Incorporate findings into the development of a comprehensive Academic Master Plan
- ✓ Align academic programs/curriculum with workforce demand
- ✓ Expand programs that deliver strong student outcomes and support the College's long-term financial sustainability
- ✓ Prioritize future investments based on labor market needs





APP2CAP

APP2CAP is founded upon three scalable strategies:

1. Program Portfolio Alignment
2. Intrusive Onboarding and Advising
3. Innovative Teaching Practices

As part of the effort to ensure our program portfolio is clearly communicated to students, WCJC has launched a new online College Catalog.





New College Catalog

Programs
Search Catalog

Wharton County Junior College
Advanced Search

- Catalog Home
- Accreditation
- Message from the President
- About Wharton County Junior College
- Academic Calendar 2026-2027
- Core Curriculum
- Degrees and Certificates
- Divisions and Departments
- Programs (A-Z)
- Course Descriptions
- Continuing Education
- WJC Services Directory
- Office of Admissions and Registration
- General Academic Information
- Academic Policies
- Online Classes & Digital Learning
- Financial Information
- Student Support Services
- Student Activities
- College Personnel
- Employee Directory
- Locations
- Campus Map - Wharton Campus
- Basic Place Office

Programs (A-Z)



Core Curriculum

Agriculture

Degree

- Agriculture (AS)

Air Conditioning, Heating, Refrigeration, and Electrical Technology

Certificate

- Entry Level Residential Air Conditioning & Electrical
- Apprentice Level Air Conditioning Heating, Refrigeration, & Electrical

Automotive Technology

Degree

- Automotive Technology (AAS)

Certificate

- Automotive Technology

Behavioral Science - Psychology, Sociology/Anthropology

Degree

- Anthropology (AA)
- Psychology (AA)
- Sociology (AA)

Biology

Degree

- Biology (AS)

Business Office Technology

Degree

- Business Administration (AA)

Program: [Apprentice Level HVAC](#)



Upcoming Events



CEO Meetings

- TACC CEO Summer Meeting: July 15 - 17
- Gulf Coast CEO Meeting: July 22



Special Dates

- Summer Hours: June 1 – July 31
 - M-R: 7:30am-5pm; F: 7:30-11:30am
- Johnson Foundation Board Meeting: July 23