| About Us | Highline Community College is nationally and internationally recognized as a premier community college, a reputation earned through the development of an institutional culture that values innovation, globalization of curriculum, and community participation. Highline is one of 34 community and technical colleges in the state of Washington. |
| Location | Highline’s main campus is located on an 80-acre wooded site in the Pacific Northwest, 20 minutes south of downtown Seattle. Perched on a hill in Des Moines, Washington, the main campus overlooks beautiful Puget Sound and the Olympic Mountains. Classes are also provided at a campus in Federal Way, the Marine Science and Technology Center at Redondo Beach, and additional service-area locations such as Burien and White Center. |
| History | Highline Community College was founded in 1961 as the first community college in King County. With approximately 15,000 students and 350,000 alumni, it is one of the state’s largest institutions of higher education. The current campus was built in 1964 with additional buildings added in following years to meet student and technology needs. |
| Governance | Highline is led by Dr. Jack Bermingham, interim president, and is governed by a five-member Board of Trustees: Dr. Elizabeth E. Chen, Rita Creighton, Dr. Edward Davila, Mike Re, and Karen Vander Ark. Faculty members are actively involved in campus governance. |
| Degrees and Programs | Highline offers associate degrees that provide preparation for transfer to four-year colleges or universities along with Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degrees and/or certificates in approximately 40 professional-technical education programs, designed to help students succeed in today’s marketplace. Highline also offers pre-college, basic education, and short-term training programs. |
| Mission Statement | We deliver innovative education and training opportunities to foster your personal and professional success in our multicultural world and global economy. We help you build a better future. |
| Serving Our Community | Of the total student population, 90 percent of Highline’s students come from King County and 10 percent from Pierce and other counties. |
Academic Year 2005–06

Student Profile

Total credit and noncredit students: 15,049 (62% female, 38% male)
Total credit students: 9,081 (60% of all students; median age 22)

Total number of international students: 311
Total number of Running Start students: 971
Total number of Puget Sound Early College students: 59

Self-reported ethnicity of the student population (credit and noncredit):
- 13% Hispanic
- Non-Hispanic student categories:
  - 52% White
  - 20% Asian/Pacific Islander
  - 16% African American
  - 1% Native American or Alaskan Islander
  - 1% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
  - 2% Multiracial
  - 8% Other

Why students enroll at Highline*:
*Student enrollment intent at time of admission
- 42% of students in transfer program
- 26% of students in basic skills programs
- 20% of students in professional-technical programs
- 7% of students enrolled for personal enrichment
- 4% of students in high school completion programs
- 1% of students with undeclared or other educational objectives

Students who transferred to a public four-year institution from Highline in 2005–2006 went to these schools:
- 39% University of Washington
- 33% Central Washington University
- 15% Washington State University
- 8% Eastern Washington University or The Evergreen State College
- 5% Western Washington University

Economic Development

Highline contributes to the economic development of Southwest King County by increasing individuals’ lifetime earning capacity through associate degree education and training; increasing employee job skills through education and training; raising basic skills through adult basic education; aiding the transition from welfare to work; and providing resources for dislocated workers and the under- and unemployed.

The college recruits international students who bring approximately $4 million to the local economy.

As a major employer in Des Moines, Highline employs 1,250 people who serve students at multiple locations throughout King County. Nearly 950, or 75 percent, of these dedicated professionals live and pay taxes in South King County.
**Extended Learning**

Highline, through the Center for Extended Learning, provides training for professional advancement, technology, entrepreneurship and other business skills. Businesses also use Highline’s excellent customized training to increase employee workplace skills and knowledge for application in today’s competitive business environment.

**Recent Notable Achievements**

Highline was a **finalist for the 2006 MetLife Foundation Community College Excellence Award**, recognizing the college’s institution-wide commitment to successfully serving low-income students, first-generation college-goers, and working adults. Highline’s application was selected from a group of 54 representing 24 states. Highline was the first finalist from the state of Washington since the award was created in 2002.

Highline was recognized as one of *Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education magazine’s “2005 Publisher’s Picks.”* The magazine annually lists the colleges and universities in the 50 states and Puerto Rico that do a “commendable job of recruiting, retaining, educating, and graduating Hispanics.” Highline was one of only five two-year colleges in Washington to make the list.

Highline is **one of six Washington community colleges selected for the Achieving the Dream Initiative.** It’s a national initiative to increase the success of students traditionally underserved in higher education, such as low-income, minority, and first-generation college students. The five-year grant is worth up to $450,000.

Highline is **one of 10 Washington two-year colleges participating in the Opportunity Grant Pilot Program.** The program will help low-income adults by paying for college-related expenses that may not be covered by traditional aid. Highline will receive a grant of up to $432,000 to serve 45 students in high-demand training programs in business, education, and health care that will lead to living-wage jobs in South King County.

Highline’s alliances with other colleges around the world encourage international students to attend Highline for their education and give Highline students the opportunity to study abroad. Faculty exchanges are also in place, with Highline recruiting faculty members from Asia, Africa, and Europe to teach.

Other current international projects include USAID higher education partnership grants to provide entrepreneurship training for small businesses in South Africa and Namibia.

The college takes great pride in its supported employment and other programs contracted with King County and serves approximately 560 adults with disabilities per quarter.
**Foundation**  Established in 1972, the Highline Community College Foundation is a nonprofit corporation, governed by a volunteer board of directors. As of December 31, 2005, the Foundation’s assets were $1.8 million. The Foundation supports scholarships, emergency assistance to students, faculty professional development, and technology. Under the leadership of the Foundation’s president, Jacki Lorenz, and board of directors, it is actively expanding its capacity to raise external funds. For the year ending

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**For More Information**  Kelly Maloney, Director of Communications & Marketing, kmaloney@highline.edu or (206) 878-3710, ext. 3146  
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