

YOUR JOB & CAREER CONNECTIONS

We are your Career Center, open to students, alumni, staff, faculty, and community for staff assisted and self-directed services. We are currently serving individuals remotely and in limited capacity at Fort Steilacoom and Puyallup. We continue to be available by email or phone. Contact information can be found in our Staff Directory on the next page.

Welcome to Fall 2021!

Welcome all new and returning students, faculty and staff to Fall 2021! In our newsletters you will find information on free services and resources available to students and community members. Watch for future editions of our newsletters in your email or on the Pierce College Workforce website. Past editions can also be found on the Pierce College Website at <https://www.pierce.ctc.edu/workforce-connections>.

Did You Know - you may be eligible for assistance through Pierce College Workforce Programs?

The Workforce department and its partners can assist with accessing and navigating campus and community resources which may include finding help with funding for tuition and books, housing, applying for financial aid, job search, childcare and more.

Below is a guide to our Workforce programs.

- **BFET (Basic Food Employment & Training)** Supports students receiving SNAP benefits who are enrolled in transitional education, a certificate program, or certain associate degree programs.
- **WorkFirst** Supports students who are parents of young children, receiving TANF (Cash Assistance), and are enrolled in certain professional/technical programs.
- **Worker Retraining** Supports students who currently receive or have received unemployment benefits in the past 48 months, about to or have separated from the military in the past 48 months, a displaced homemaker, formerly self-employed or meet other eligibility requirements and are enrolled in a professional/technical program.
- **Opportunity Grant** Supports students who are low-income (per FAFSA) who are enrolled in certain professional/technical programs.
- **Job and Career Connections** is Pierce College's Career Center. It supports students, alumni, staff, faculty, and community members who may be looking for work, including fulltime, part time, work study, internship, or volunteer opportunities. We also help those who need job search resources, career exploration, or a resume or cover letter reviewed among other support services.

Not sure where to start? Complete the Start Next Quarter survey www.startnextquarter.org to find out if you may be eligible for one or more of the Workforce programs.

Need Help Now?

Pierce Advocacy & Resource Connections (PARC)

Check out the [Pierce Advocacy and Resource Connections](#) on Pierce College's main landing page to connect students, alumni, staff, and community members to resources offered on campus and in the community.

Funding Eligibility: *Start Next Quarter* online survey www.startnextquarter.org, identifies possible funding sources for degrees or certificates.

Jobs, Work Study, & Internships: [PC Job Connect](#)

Pierce College Job & Career Connections Facebook:
www.facebook.com/groups/1151589171538211/

Workforce Staff

Directory

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FS (Fort Steilacoom) Welcome Center,
Cascade bldg. 3rd fl.

PY (Puyallup) Student Success Center,
Gaspard Administration bldg.,
Temporary Location: ADM 136

**In-person service is currently available
in limited capacity Monday – Thursday
8-11 for walk-ins and afternoon by
appointment.**

Metropolitan Development Council (MDC)

MDC is a community-based organization located in downtown Tacoma that serves all of Pierce County. MDC can provide education support and assistance for any student or community member with:

- ✓ FAFSA/WASFA applications
- ✓ College/University applications and admissions, including fees*
- ✓ Referral(s) to other MDC programs and community resources
- ✓ Identification of a career path (Virtual Job Shadow)
- ✓ Scholarships
- ✓ Student Loans and Loan Defaults
- ✓ GED Testing including official exams and study material expenses* and online account setup
- ✓ Financial Literacy

*Dependent upon TRIO-EOC grant income guidelines

For further information please contact Eleni Palmisano, MDC Coordinator at 253-722-3429 or epalmisano@pierce.ctc.edu.

Explore Your Career Options with the new *WOIS Career Planner*

Create your WOIS Career Planner account to explore career pathways, occupation outlook, learn about your personal work style and interests, discover educational programs, and track progress along your career pathway. Assessments look at possible career matches, include a reality check to see how the pathway aligns with your lifestyle, and allows you to compare schools and universities.

New Student User

Step 1: Create an account using your Pierce College student email (@smail.pcd.edu)* account. [WOIS Create an Account!](#)

*Student email set up instructions: <https://www.pierce.ctc.edu/student-email>

Step 2: Check your Pierce College email from [schooldata.net](https://www.schooldata.net) with instructions for setting your password. If you don't see the email, check your junk email.

Step 3: Go to the main [WOIS Log in Page](#) and Login with your Pierce College email address and the password you created.

Staff/Faculty needing an account, email JCC@pierce.ctc.edu

Returning WOIS Career Planner User: Log in to [WOIS Log in Page](#)

The 2022-23 FAFSA and WASFA Applications Are Now Available!

In Washington there are two different types of applications:

- FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) if you are a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen www.fafsa.gov OR
- WASFA (WA Application for State Financial Aid) if not eligible to complete a FAFSA due to immigration status, defaulted student loans or other issues with federal aid www.wsac.wa.gov/wasfa

Both require income and tax return information (if applicable) from 2020 from both student and possibly parent, depending on dependency status.

For further information or assistance please contact Eleni Palmisano, MDC Coordinator at 253-722-3429 or epalmisano@pierce.ctc.edu.