A Quick Guide for Adult College Students

A COLLEGE DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE

Why not you?
Why not now?
If you walk around Monroe County Community College’s campus, you may be surprised to find that many students are older than the traditional 18-22 year old. In fact, more that 25 percent of MCCC students are over the age of 25. More than 500 of the roughly 3,200 students at MCCC are over the age of 30.

Many students start or return to MCCC as adults because they are looking for a career change or to update their job skills. Others may have experienced a life-changing event such as a marriage, divorce or relocation. Whatever the reason, a college degree truly changes a person’s life. In fact, college graduates are much less likely to be unemployed and make significantly more per year than those with a high school diploma or less.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EDUCATION ATTAINED</th>
<th>Unemployment rate in 2014 (Percent)</th>
<th>Annual median earnings in 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctoral degree</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>$82,732</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional degree</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>85,228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master’s degree</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>68,952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>57,252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate degree</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>41,184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college, no degree</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>38,532</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school diploma</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>34,736</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than a high school diploma</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>25,376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All workers</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>43,628</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other benefits of attending MCCC include:
- Boosting your job-search success
- Equipping you for better opportunities for promotion
- Developing an enriched knowledge base and new perspective for work and life
- Opening doors for further advanced education opportunities, such as obtaining a bachelor’s or master’s degree.
- Taking advantage of a tuition reimbursement program through your employer

A college degree or certificate from MCCC will give you a competitive advantage in the marketplace and provide you with the skills and knowledge valued by employers.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
How Do You Juggle College with Your Busy Life?

Monroe County Community College understands that adult students have a lot going on, and juggling going to college with a full-time job and family commitments can seem like a daunting endeavor. That’s why MCCC is so focused on being flexible and responsive; from counselors to faculty, services and staff that are there when you need them, MCCC strives to make higher education accessible for adults.

Online Course and Program Offerings for Busy Adults

MCCC offers:

• More than 50 online course sections during the fall and winter semesters.
• About 15 blended course sections offered throughout the year.
• An accounting certificate program that is offered completely online.
• 12 degree programs that allow students to complete more than 50 percent of the program online.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM</th>
<th>Percentage of Program that Can be Completed Online</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Management</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Information Systems – Accounting/CIS</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Software Specialist</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Professional</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Information Systems – Information Assurance and Security</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Information Systems – PC Support Technician</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Systems Technology</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate of Arts (Transfer)</td>
<td>50%* or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate of Science (Transfer)</td>
<td>50%* or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Information Systems – Application Development</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Information Systems – System Administration</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Varies by concentration

Convenient Physical Locations, Class Times

• With two convenient physical locations, MCCC is within easy reach for students throughout Southeast Michigan and Northwest Ohio. In addition to the full range of courses offered at the Main campus in Monroe on South Raisinville Road, students also have the option of taking many class offerings at MCCC’s Whitman Center in Temperance near the Toledo, Ohio, border.

• MCCC offers courses during the evening and on weekends to meet the needs of busy adults.

• Depending on the number of students enrolled, MCCC will arrange to offer classes near you, at your place of employment or online.

• Accelerated programs are offered in the applied science and engineering technology areas of welding technology and non-destructive testing.
How Do You Pay for College?

Low Tuition
Monroe County Community College continues to offer one of the lowest tuition rates in the region. Our in-district tuition rate is about one-fourth that of most four-year public colleges and universities.

Employee Tuition Reimbursement
In addition to government-supported aid options outlined below, many employers provide tuition reimbursement programs to their employees. Surveys show that many employers want an educated workforce and are willing to help pay for it. An educated workforce is vital to the economic future of Monroe County and Michigan’s future. Check with your employer’s human resources department about tuition reimbursement.

Financial Aid
Despite some common misperceptions, financial aid is available for adults returning to college or entering college for the first time. Financial aid includes scholarships, grants, work study and loans. About half of MCCC’s students receive some form of financial aid. The first step in applying for financial aid is to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which can be done at www.fafsa.gov.

Scholarships: Apply Online!
Because MCCC offers such a wide variety of scholarship opportunities – totaling nearly $500,000 each year – we encourage all students to apply. It is easy to do and can be done online at www.monroeccc.edu/academicworks.

Education Tax Credits
Adult students who make out-of-pocket tuition payments may qualify for the American Opportunity Credit, Lifetime Learning Credit or higher education tuition and fees deduction. For more information, go to www.irs.gov and check out IRS Publication 970, “Tax Benefits for Education.”

Veterans Benefits
MCCC provides information, guidance and counseling to those eligible for educational benefits for veterans.

Can I get a four-year degree on the campus of MCCC?
Yes! Siena Heights University (SHU) at Monroe County Community College has been providing bachelor’s degree completion programs to adult students in Monroe since 1990. U.S. News and World Report recently recognized SHU in its 2016 Best Online Bachelor’s Programs national rankings and also as the best in Michigan among private institutions.

For the following undergraduate programs offered on campus, students can complete up to three years of their bachelor’s degree at MCCC and one at SHU Monroe.

- Accounting
- Bachelor of Applied Science
- Business Administration
- Criminal Justice
- Nursing (RN to BSN)
- Professional Communication
- Psychology

For more information about SHU, please visit the office located in the Life Sciences Building, L-112 or call (734) 384-4133 or send an email at monroe@sienaheights.edu.
Where Do You Start?

For more information on getting started for the first time at Monroe County Community College as an adult student or coming back as a returning student, the best place to start is the Admissions and Guidance Office. Call (734) 384-4104 to talk about your options over the phone or to set up an appointment with a counselor. Our counselors are always specifically trained to serve the needs of adult or nontraditional students, so don’t hesitate; call today! You can also check out what MCCC has to offer at its website, www.monroeccc.edu.

Main Campus: The MCCC Main Campus is located on South Raisinville Road in central Monroe County, with easy access to Toledo and Detroit.

Whitman Center: The Whitman Center is located on Lewis Avenue in Temperance, near the Michigan-Ohio border.
MISSION
Monroe County Community College enriches and transforms lives by providing opportunities and excellence in higher education.

Monroe County Community College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. For more information, visit www.hlcommission.org or call 800-621-7440.

Monroe County Community College is an equal opportunity institution and adheres to a policy that no qualified person shall be discriminated against because of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, gender, marital status, disability, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, height, weight or veteran’s status in any program or activity for which it is responsible.