



Virginia's Community Colleges

Higher Education Subcommittee

House Appropriations

January 28

Chancellor David Doré



Background

Who we are

What we do

Problems we can solve for Virginia

How to get maximum results

Who we are

Mission: We give everyone the opportunity to learn and develop the right skills so lives and communities are strengthened.

23 colleges serving every community in Virginia

Single institution of higher education for VA's purposes, like funding and governance

15-member governing board for all 23 college

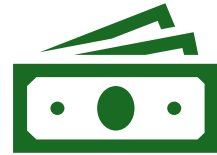
State's provider of low-cost pathways to bachelor's degree and direct access to well-paying, high-demand careers

What we do



Serve 230,000 people in Virginia annually

- 46% of all public undergrads
- 81%+ stay, live, & work in VA
- 58,000 dually enrolled HS students
- 9 straight semesters of enrollment growth



Increase wages for Virginians

- 63% avg. wage gains for FastForward
- 95% avg. wage gains for G3



Reduce costs for Virginia families

- \$22,000 savings on 4yr degree by transferring
- 1/3 the tuition of universities
- Hundreds of credential programs cost <\$1,500 total



Contribute to VA's bottom line

- 300,000 more credentials by 2030
- \$11.6B to VA economy annually
- \$1 invested = \$5.70 more in lifetime earnings
- Reduce SNAP, TANF, and Medicaid

Problems we
can solve for
Virginia:
Costs down
Wages up

Lower costs to bachelor's degrees
for families

Higher wages, better lives for
more Virginians

More skilled workers to fuel key
industries

More income tax withholdings and
less need for public benefits

How to get maximum results



Expand **FastForward**



Increase capacity in
high-cost, high-
demand programs



Invest in **dual**
enrollment



Affordability and Economic Mobility: FastForward

Action: add \$16.25 million in FY27 and \$2.65 million in FY28 in general funds for FastForward to provide more Virginians with highly affordable pathways to life-changing workforce credentials

Why this matters: investment provides 8,250 more Virginians per year with the short-term credentials that raise their wages by 63% on average.

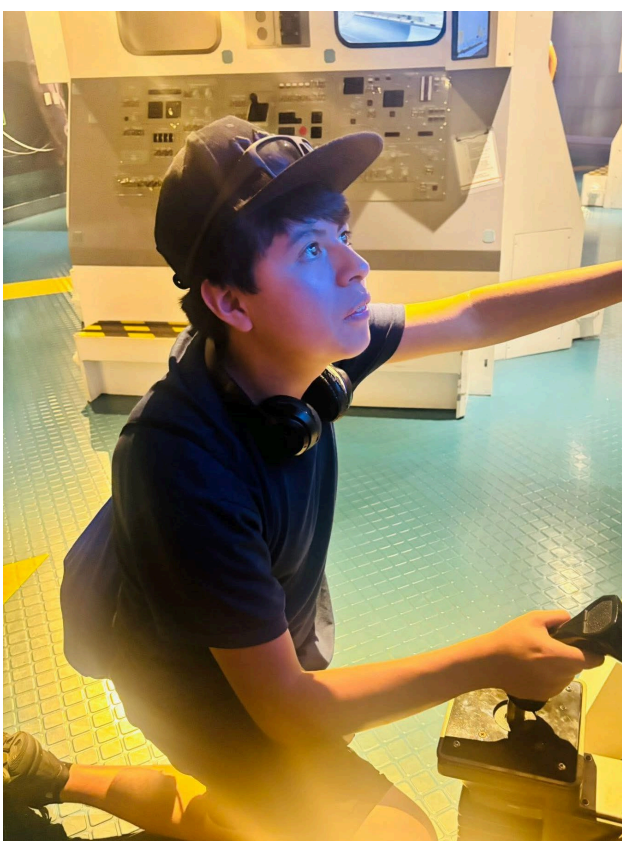
Affordable capacity in high-cost, high-demand programs for **better jobs**

Action: make strategic, industry-specific investments to expand Virginia's production of high-cost, high demand degrees

Why this matters: This investment will **double and even triple needed capacity** to provide more Virginians with the degrees that result in great jobs, with strong pay, in industries that desperately need talent:

- Nursing - **\$86K Annual Salary**
- Dental Hygiene - **\$93K Annual Salary**
- Diesel Tech - **\$59K Annual Salary**





Reducing the cost of the bachelor's degree for Virginia's families:

Dual Enrollment

Action: Make college more affordable by reducing the time to degree through dual enrollment.

Why this matters: For every year of college completed through dual enrollment and credits transferred to a university, via the Uniform Cert. of General Studies (UCGS), each Virginia family saves **\$29,538** per student*.

For every 1,000 students earning a UCGS through dual enrollment, Virginians see almost **\$30M in savings.**



*SCHEV 2025-2026 Tuition & Fee Report



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