

REPORT TO THE
COMMUNITY
2016



TAFTCOLLEGE

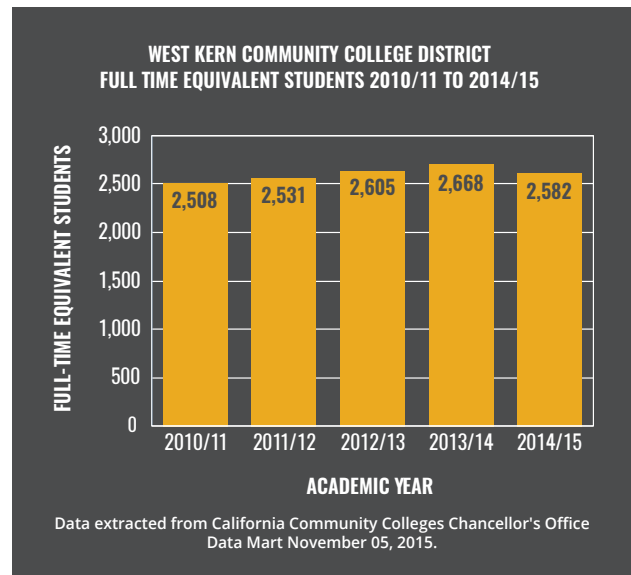
ABOUT TAFT COLLEGE



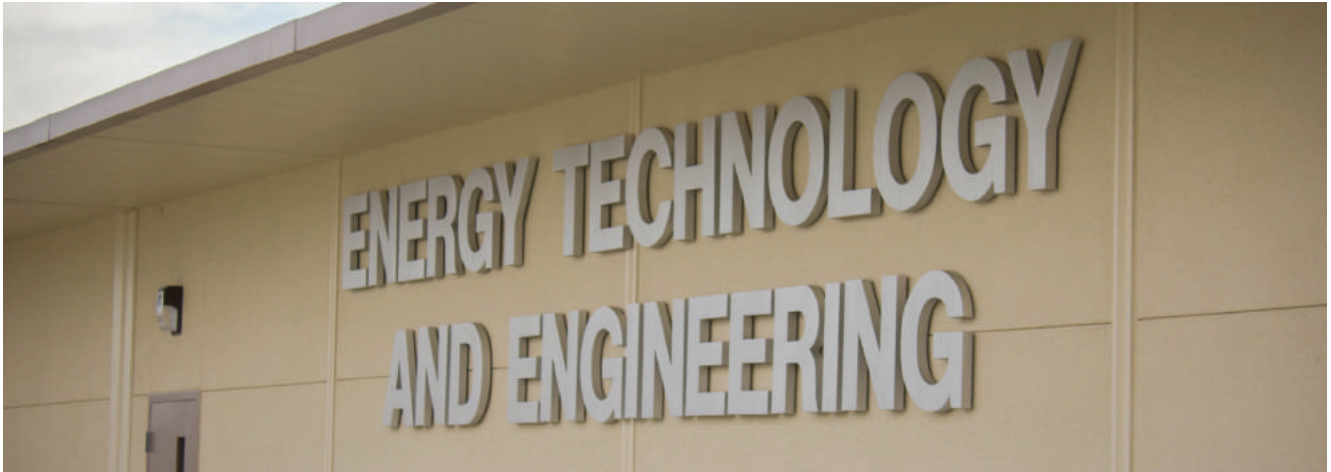
The West Kern Community College District encompasses a 767-square mile district in western Kern County. The service area of Taft College has a population base of about 27,000 residents. The college is situated on a 39 acre campus in northwest Taft. The college district was established in 1922 and officially became Taft College in 1954. The West Kern Community College District was formed in 1962 and was expanded in 1971 to include the Maricopa Unified School District.

Taft College prides itself as a small, comprehensive institution with a wide range of educational programs and support services to students. We offer 48 degrees and 47 certificates in transfer education and career-technical education programs. Our enrollment of nearly 12,000 students at our campus in Taft, through our partnership with Westec in Shafter, CA, and through our Distance Learning Program, have access to innovative, caring faculty members and the support programs needed to promote student success.

Last year, Taft College served over 2600 Full Time Equivalent students seeking to advance their education and achieve their dreams. Our commitment to student success has never been stronger and we look forward to supporting our students in their quest to prepare for the opportunities that lie ahead.



INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES



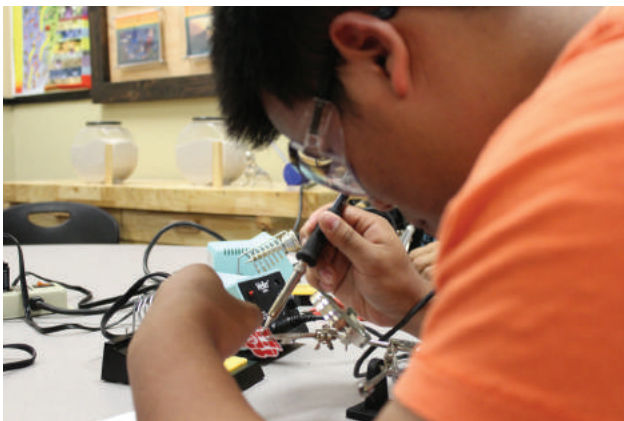
ENERGY TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING CENTER (ETEC)

The Energy Technology and Engineering Programs have a new home in two modular buildings configured to flexibly support labs and classrooms, storage for equipment, and faculty office space. Both programs are centered hands-on learning, and the new center includes space for students and faculty to spend time talking, learning and being creative.

Energy Technology provides training and education in technical and professional skills to enable individuals to work in the energy industry. Graduates can provide support and assistance to engineers, geologists, and operations staff. Program internships give students practical skills, strong resumes and some have directly been offered jobs. The program started in Fall 2010 with only 13 students and total enrollment varies but can be close to 100 students.

The Engineering Program is focused on finding, encouraging, educating and preparing students who live in the South San Joaquin Valley to seamlessly transfer into CSUB and seek careers as engineers in the local area. The program is designed to meet the demanding ABET engineering standards. Work on the program started only in March 2013; it was officially recognized in Fall of 2015, and as of today there are almost 150 declared Engineering majors.

Taft College truly creates possibilities and success stories for students in many ways. It has a legacy of providing local training and education for local talent, through pathways from high school, to college, to four-year universities. The dedication of the new ETEC home for the Energy Technology and Engineering programs is a great new addition to this legacy.





TAFT COLLEGE STUDENT SUCCESS PROFILE

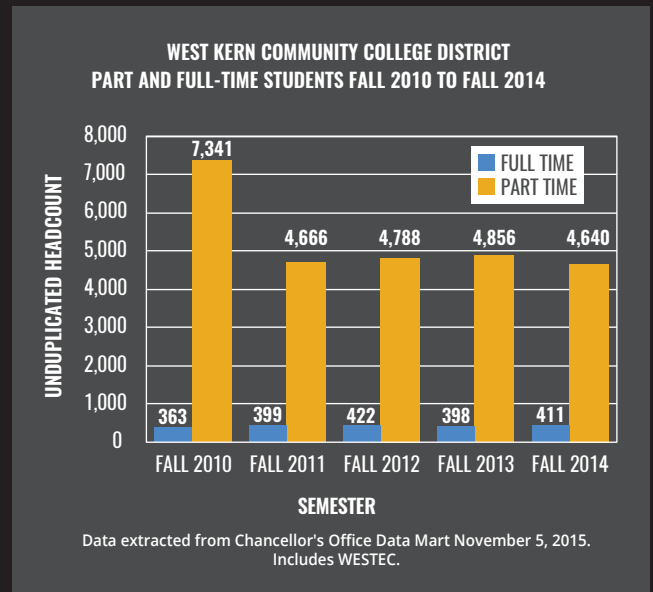
Allisa Tweedy is a Taft College success story. Just hired as the new STEM Program Technician, she will be working with students in the newly dedicated Energy Technology and Engineering Center (ETEC) Building.

A cancer survivor and mother of two, Allisa enrolled at Taft College in 2011. Supported by the CalWORKS Program, she was a student worker recognized for her scholarship by the Taft Soroptimist Club and was awarded the EOPS Outstanding Scholar award in 2015. She earned A.A. degrees in Communications and Psychology and plans to continue her education to earn a Bachelor and Master Degree in the field of Psychology.

As she says, "Because of my parents, I have learned to persevere no matter what struggles come my way... I have overcome the odds, beat cancer, raised two beautiful daughters, and completed a degree with Taft College. I live by the motto, "Never give up," and that has gotten me to where I am in life. I am excited for what's to come in the future!"

STUDENT SERVICES

Student success remains a driving theme at Taft College, and we are continuously working to implement best practices and evidence-based recommendations of the Student Success Initiative to improve access and success.



RESEARCH

Research on community college support indicates that students are more likely to achieve their goals when "six success factors" are present:

- **Directed** - students have a goal and know how to achieve it
- **Focused** - students stay on track, keeping their eyes on the prize
- **Nurtured** - students feel somebody wants and helps them to succeed
- **Engaged** - students actively participate in class and extracurriculars
- **Connected** - students feel like they are part of the college community
- **Valued** - students' skills, talents, abilities and experiences are recognized; they have opportunities to contribute on campus and feel their contributions are appreciated

For more information, visit www.rpgroup.org/projects/student-support

STUDENT SUCCESS STORIES

Former phlebotomist Jason Bevan came to Taft College seeking a career change. As an Engineering Technology major, Jason completed a 15 week internship opportunity with Chevron, and was offered a position as Senior Engineer Technician. Jason graduated with highest honors, earning a degree in Energy Technology. Jason notes ""Taft works with you, your schedule, one-on-one, and you're not just a number. Taft is striving for that success rate, and that is what sets the college apart. The instructors also provided true applications of the class beyond the classroom, offering real working knowledge."

Joni Sherrell, a former bartender, came to Taft College and earned a degree in Energy Technology. Upon completing an internship with Chevron, Joni was hired as a permanent employee, and is finishing the second year of her new career as a technical assistant. Joni states, "For me, the main attraction to Taft College is because the program is based around industry, people from the industry helped create the program, had a voice in curriculum content, and Taft College followed through with putting people in teaching positions from the industry. I'm impressed with how well I was prepared for the field."

SCORECARD DATA

The Student Success Scorecard is the accountability framework for California Community Colleges. The Scorecard provides stakeholders with clear and concise information on key progress and success metrics including momentum points related to remedial coursework, persistence, and completion of 30 units, along with completion outcomes related to degree/certificate/transfer attainment and workforce preparation.

COLLEGE PREPARED	UNPREPARE FOR COLLEGE	OVERALL
58.0% N=88	32.2% N=475	36.2% N=563

OTHER INFORMATION	
FULL TIME EQUIVALENT STUDENTS	2,539.7
CREDIT SECTIONS	1,775
NON-CREDIT SECTIONS	58
MEDIAN CREDIT SECTION SIZE	21
PERCENTAGE OF FULL-TIME FACULTY	63.6%
STUDENT COUNSELING RATIO (FALL 2013)	974:1

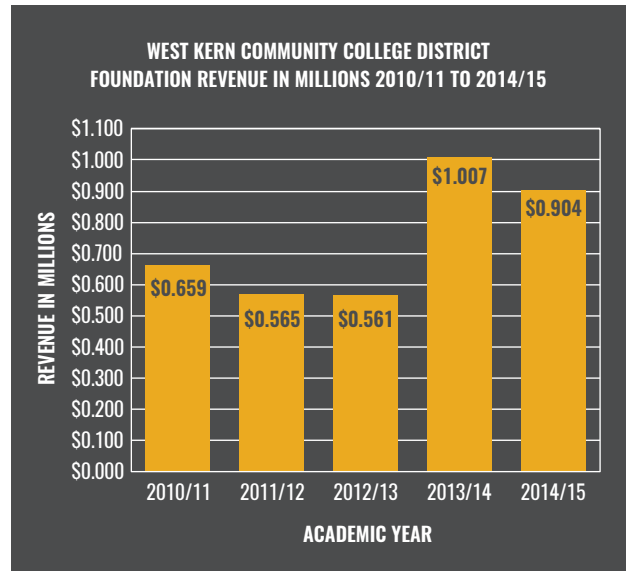
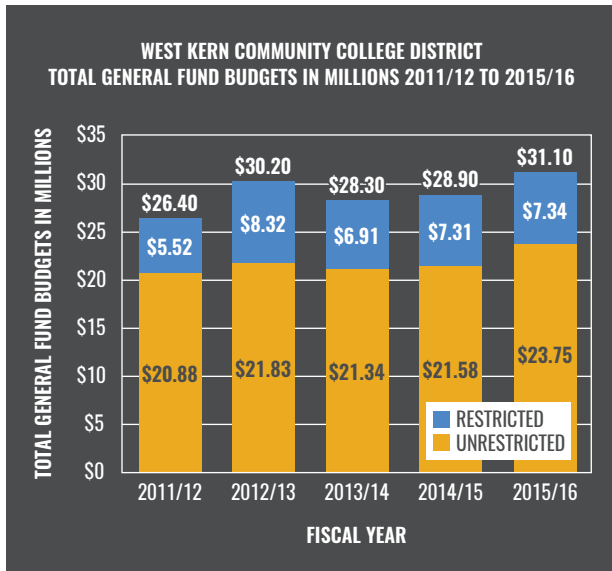
STATISTICS

Taft College graduation rates have nearly doubled in the last ten years. In 2014-15, 455 students earned awards. The College expects to reach a milestone in awarding 500 degrees and certificates in 2015/16.

YEARLY GRADUATE TOTALS	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15
DEGREE TOTALS	244	243	225	293	288	272	345	328	397	341
CERTIFICATE TOTALS	15	32	38	12	20	17	52	136	61	114
YEARLY GRAND TOTALS	259	275	263	305	308	289	397	464	458	455

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

The Taft College Foundation supports the advancement of Taft College by raising funds to meet institutional priorities of the College. The Foundation has raised nearly \$3.7 million dollars over the past five years. These funds support scholarships, new academic initiatives, and programs important to the College and the community such as the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math initiative.



FACILITIES

The new Student Center, which will be placed at the existing T-Dorms location, will provide direct access to the recently remodeled campus Courtyard and Wildcat Way. This location provides student access from campus as well as community street access from Wildcat Way. The Student Center will integrate a new kitchen, dining facility, student commons, and bookstore all under one roof. Outdoor dining and lounge activities are planned to ensure an open flow between interior and exterior space.



COMPLETED MEASURE A PROJECTS	
PROJECT	COST
ADMINISTRATION, STUDENT SERVICES & LIBRARY REMODEL FOR EFFICIENCY	\$19,266,623
SCIENCE MODERNIZATION	\$5,060,414
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER	\$4,159,800
M & O FACILITY	\$3,218,006
TECH ARTS MODERNIZATION	\$5,776,151
TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES	\$4,150,000
TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENT LIVING	\$15,062,894
DORM MODERNIZATION	\$3,168,350

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