Outcomes Report (for the 2014-15 graduates*)

Columbus
Grand Island
Hastings
Holdrege
Kearney
Lexington
Central Community College graduates continue to do well in pursuing their post-CCC interests. Graduates of our career and technical education programs are successful in the job market, and our academic transfer graduates are successful as they continue their education at four-year colleges. *Data for the 2014-15 CCC graduates are the most recent available, as it allows time for students to become employed after graduation and that data to be reported.

2014-15 Highlights

- 2,375 vocational awards (degrees, diplomas, certificates) were awarded to 1,543 unduplicated recipients.
- 220 academic transfer degrees were granted to 214 unduplicated recipients.
- 86% of the graduates were employed full-time* or continuing their education at Central Community College or other institutions.
- 87% of the graduates who were employed full-time* remained in the Central Community College service area.

*Full-time employment determined based on their annual income ≥ $18,720 (considering minimum wage = $9.00 and 40 hrs of work per week) and may also include continuing education students. No results are duplicated and data also includes graduates employed in unknown Nebraska counties distributed among “in CCC service area”.

Career and Employment Services

Central Community College and its Career and Employment Services staff are committed to supporting students throughout their time at CCC by providing guidance on which program to choose, giving assistance with securing internships and part-time work and providing support throughout the job hunting process at graduation and beyond. Employers with job openings are connected with students and alumni through a variety of services provided by our Career and Employment Services staff. For more information about posting job openings on our online job board or other services, visit www.cccneb.edu/ces or one of our Career and Employment Services directors:

Lora Hastreiter - Columbus Campus
lhastreiter@cccneb.edu, (402) 562-1210

Joan McCarthy - Grand Island Campus
joanmccarthy@cccneb.edu, (308) 398-7421

Kyle Sterner - Hastings Campus
ksterner@cccneb.edu, (402) 461-2419

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Persons seeking further information concerning career and technical education offerings at Central Community College and any specific pre-requisite criteria for the various programs of study should contact: Marketing and Public Relations Director, 3134 W Highway 34, PO Box 4903, Grand Island NE 68802-4903, 308-398-4222, prdirector@cccneb.edu. To obtain this information in a language other than English or in an alternative format email prdirector@cccneb.edu or call 308-398-7355.
When your graduating class numbers 35 and your hometown has a population of around 1,700, entering college may seem like a gigantic leap. Such was the case for CCC-Grand Island graduate Courteney Zwiebel, who hails from Ainsworth. Seeing the large populations at the state universities and even some private institutions, she opted for the smaller setting of Central Community College before enrolling in a four-year school – a stepping stone, as she calls it.

“When you’re able to connect with your instructors more, you can go and talk to them. It wasn’t as overwhelming as going to a four-year university where you have 100 to 300 in a class,” said Zwiebel. Something else that was different for Zwiebel was the diversity at CCC. Because of the variety of cultures in the Grand Island area, she said it was almost like being in a new world.

“It was exciting to hear all about their culture and all of the different ways they did things, too,” said Zwiebel. Zwiebel said she learned quite a bit from her older classmates, their experiences and why they were going to school.

“I found that motivational for me. If they can go to school, raise a family and work, then I can manage just going to school,” said Zwiebel.

Zwiebel she enjoyed all of her instructors at CCC, but she said one instructor stands out. Craig Ratzlaff taught an introduction to education class, which met once a week at night. It is not uncommon for students in such classes to wonder if they might lose interest, but Zwiebel said Ratzlaff did a good job of keeping things moving along.

After graduating with an associate of arts degree in May 2016, Zwiebel transferred to Wayne State College where she is pursuing a degree in elementary education. Wayne State has a student population of about 3,700 and even though the campus is much bigger than CCC-Grand Island, Zwiebel still considers WSC relatively small.

Eventually, Zwiebel would like to teach first or second grade, primarily because kids at that age enjoy school and want to learn.

Regardless of where she ends up teaching or what grade, Zwiebel will always be grateful for her experience at Central Community College, her stepping stone.

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The Stepping Stone

Subsequent Enrollment of 2014-15 Academic Transfer Graduates

Total* = 167

- Central Community College 19%
- UNL 15%
- UNK 19%
- UNO 7%
- Hastings College 9%
- Doane University 3%
- Bellevue University 5%
- Wayne State College 7%
- Other Colleges 13%
- UNMC 3%

* Total includes only students who are continuing their education. Total ACTR graduates = 214

Source: National Student Clearinghouse

Data for this report was compiled by the Central Community College Institutional Research Department. For questions regarding the data, please contact the Institutional Research Department at 308-398-4222, Ext. 7387.
### 2014-15 Graduate Success And Employment Outlook By Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program/ Division</th>
<th>Certificate Recipients&lt;sup&gt;5&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>Diploma Recipients&lt;sup&gt;4&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>Degree Recipients&lt;sup&gt;4&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>Total Unduplicated Recipients</th>
<th>Percent Employed&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>4-Year Continuation</th>
<th>Three-year average hourly rate for degree recipients&lt;sup&gt;6&lt;/sup&gt; (2012-13, 2013-14 &amp; 2014-15)</th>
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<td>745</td>
<td>1,524</td>
<td>845</td>
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Source: 2014-15 CCC Graduates (1/7/14-6/30/15), National Student Clearinghouse (NSCH) (as of 11/18/16) and Nebraska Department of Labor (as of March 2017).

1. If students received multiple academic awards, the highest is represented across all fields.
2. Subsequent enrollment information from National Student Clearinghouse and may include employed students.
3. Full-time employment determined based on their annual income greater than or equal to $18,720 (considering minimum wage = $9.00 and 40 hours of work per week) and may also include continuing education students.
4. Part-time employment determined based on their annual income less than $18,720 (considering minimum wage = $9.00 and 40 hours of work per week) and may also include continuing education students.
5. Unduplicated across students continuing education and employed full-time.
6. Only includes full-time employment of degree recipients using quarterly salary reports from Department of Labor (DOL) to determine average hourly rate.

* These programs do not offer degrees, so the average hourly rate for these respective programs is either for certificates or diplomas, depending on the program.

1. Percent employed also includes the part-time along with full-time or continuing education, because of frequent change of job status for these programs.
There are certain realities in higher education. One is that occasionally plans or priorities change and some students take a break. Another is that occasionally plans or priorities change and some students return to finish what they started. Such was the case for Brandon Schindel, who graduated from Central Community College-Columbus with an agribusiness degree.

Schindel originally enrolled at CCC to earn the necessary credentials to operate a farm. He also was trying to raise a family and needed to work to make ends meet. “It had gotten to the point where school was not a priority to me and I was not applying myself like I needed to,” said Schindel. “I decided to return to CCC to finish my agribusiness degree to better myself for my family and to have a source of pride.”

At that point, Schindel had been away from CCC for five years, but he still focused on one day running a farm. In July 2015, he returned to the Columbus Campus to find out what it would take to return to school after such a lengthy time away.

Schindel was introduced to agriculture instructor Wade Hilker, who had an immediate influence on Schindel. “I had never met or even heard of him prior to that day but his personality struck me unbelievably,” said Schindel. “He talked with me like he had known me for years and asked what I was wanting to accomplish. He was optimistic that I could do it from that day.”

In addition to Hilker, Schindel says the admissions office and everyone else involved with his return to CCC was both helpful and encouraging that he would be successful in accomplishing his goals. “It made returning to CCC a great experience, and I recommend CCC to my family and friends,” said Schindel.

Once back in classes, Schindel continued to be impressed with Hilker. “His personality can put a smile on anyone’s face,” said Schindel. “He could make the material easy to understand and relevant to the agricultural field.”

Schindel graduated in May 2016 and recently began to manage his grandparents’ cow/calf operation.

When asked if he had any regrets about his five-year hiatus from CCC, Schindel said he doesn’t because working during that time made him realize just how important completing his degree was to him and his family. “Coming back to CCC was one of the best decisions I have ever made because I got another chance to better apply myself in order to complete my degree,” said Schindel.
Speak to any adult who has ever made the decision to go back to school to pursue or complete a college degree, and no doubt the word “fear” will be mentioned. The fear of paying tuition; the fear of having enough time; the fear of math, science or writing; even the fear of finding a parking spot and finding the correct classroom can cause uneasiness for those who are returning to school after a long hiatus.

When Karla Bennetts enrolled at Central Community College to pursue a degree, it had been 37 years since she had been in school. Plus, she worked full-time and had four children still living at home. Nevertheless, the degree was necessary for her employment with Families CARE, a nonprofit organization that provides services to parents who have children with emotional, behavioral or mental health challenges.

One of Bennetts’ fears was realized early on when she took her pre-enrollment assessment. While she scored high on reading and writing, her math scores were low enough that she required some foundational work. However, the help she needed was right there.

“I literally had not had math since 1974,” said Bennetts. “The professor that helped me was great and he broke it down to where I could understand algebra. I was able to pass the two math classes at the college level that I needed.” Bennetts also fondly remembers Joyce Meinecke and Janice Hill as her favorite professors.

“They took the time to get to know us as students, made sure the materials were presented in a way that was understandable yet exciting,” said Bennetts.

Bennetts said Hill even stepped up when it came to graduation time this past May. Bennetts was unable to attend CCC’s commencement because her daughter was graduating from high school on the same day. However, Bennetts has a tangible reminder of her graduation thanks to Hill.

“Janice Hill let me go in her office and try on a cap and gown that she had and took a picture of me, so my kids and grandkids have a picture of me in the cap and gown,” said Bennetts. Perhaps, the thing that was most helpful to Bennetts in earning her degree was the ability to take online courses and work at her own pace.

“A lot of my friends thought I was nuts for adding one more thing to my plate, but the online classes gave me something that I was doing for myself. So, it was actually a self-care for me in the midst of a crazy, busy life. I looked forward to that time,” said Bennetts.

Today, as the executive director of Families CARE, Bennetts implements the concepts she learned in improving the work environment for her staff and others people she works with.
Examples of Recent Graduate Positions

Environmental & Agricultural Systems
- Producer/Grower
- Forklift Operator
- Sales
- Ag Technician
- Farm Management

Communication & Information Systems
- Programmer
- Web Developer
- Security Analyst
- IT Technician
- Desktop Technician
- Network Administrator

Skilled & Technical Sciences
- Collision Repair Specialist
- Automotive Technician
- CNC Technician
- Construction Foreman
- Electrical Engineer
- Diesel Technician
- HVAC Technician

Health Sciences
- Dental Assistant
- Dental Hygienist
- Health Information Management
- In-Patient Medical Coder
- Medical Interpreter
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Lab Technician
- Practical Nurse
- Paramedic
- Registered Nurse
- Occupational Therapist Assistant

Business, Marketing & Management
- Consumer Loan Officer
- Human Resource Coordinator
- Insurance Agent
- Kitchen Chef
- Line Chef
- Retail Manager
- Sales Manager
- Assistant Publisher
- Sales Associate

Human Services & Resources
- Daycare Owner
- Paraeducator
- Chemical Dependency Technician
- Medical Receptionist
- Voc Rehab Specialist
- Corrections Officer
- Crime Lab Technician
- Police Officer
- Security Manager
- Social Worker
- Therapist

Consumer Loan Officer
- Insurance Agent
- Bartender
- Kitchen Staff
- Line Chef
- Retail Manager
- Sales Manager
- Assistant Publisher
- Sales Associate

Central Community College