Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Transforming Lives Campaign? What is the goal for the campaign?
The Clover Park Technical College Foundation launched the Transforming Lives Campaign to provide essential tools and technology for the College’s newly renovated Learning Resource Center, new Health Sciences building, and the College as a whole.

The campaign goal is to raise $1.2 million to
- create smart classrooms,
- provide technologically advanced teaching aids,
- and develop an interactive learning resource center.

The Campaign for Clover Park will provide students modern classrooms, meaningful resources and support for scholarships.

Why is it important to give to the Transforming Lives Campaign?
Today’s tools and technologies are essential to students studying for employment in the modern workplace. When you support the Campaign for Clover Park, you will transform lives by improving education and training for people who may one day provide you with quality care. Much of the campaign is focused on support for the new Health Sciences facility to provide the most up-to-date training education for future healthcare workers.

In addition, your support not only helps Clover Park Technical College continue to be an outstanding institution, it also influences corporations and foundations. These organizations look carefully at the level of community support when determining their own commitments to the College.

I thought the college was funded by the State. What about state funding?
The state provides much of the support that CPTC receives. In fact, the majority of the current campus projects were funded by the state, including capital funding for the new 55,000 square foot, energy-efficient Health Sciences facility that will be a training center for thousands of health professionals in the decades to come. But the state did not provide all the funding needed to stay current with equipment and technology. This campaign will allow the College to keep its commitment to excellence by providing the modern tools and technologies needed for Health Sciences, the Learning Resource Center and the College as whole.
Why is the college working on a campaign now?

Colleges like Clover Park are more important than ever to the region’s economic health and well-being. For more and more students, the field that offers the best hope for steady careers coincides with our community’s greatest need for workers: healthcare. Healthcare is the country’s largest industry, creating 25% of all new jobs. In Washington State, healthcare vacancies are the highest of any industry. In Pierce County, 8 of the top 10 most in demand careers fall within health care, and the aging population means that demand for new employees will rise just as the industry sees a dramatic surge in retirements.

In the past, Washington’s two-year colleges might have been better able to meet the needs of the modern workforce on their own. But state resources continue to decline while the increasing demand for affordable education has resulted in overenrolled classrooms, lower admission rates and a shortage of suitable technology, library and training resources. At Clover Park, the waiting list for the registered nursing program stands at two years. The new facility will give the college the ability to expand to meet the needs of our students.

As state resources dwindle, the economic necessity of providing the best education for students cannot be denied. Our students deserve to learn with the technology and tools they will require in the work place.

What makes Clover Park Technical College unique among two-year technical and community colleges?

Clover Park Technical College is a healthcare standout. The College offers 14 health related careers—more than any other two-year college in Pierce County. Also notable is that of all state community and technical colleges, CPTC has had the most students complete health programs in the last five years.

The College is known for its excellence, and is a recipient of many awards including the MetLife Community College Excellence Award and is an Achieving the Dream institution. Besides the health sciences, some of the other departments and programs that have received accolades are the Aerospace Composites, Automotive Technician, Aviation Maintenance Technician, Computer and Network Information Systems Security, Environmental Science and Technology, and Human Services.

Throughout its history, Clover Park Technical College has been a place that offers excellent education and training in a supportive, caring environment.

Who are our students?

Compared to people attending other state two-year colleges, Clover Park Technical College students are older and less affluent. Sixty-three percent of students are female,
35% are people of color, and 31 is the average age. While almost half of students at Washington State’s community and technical colleges receive need-based financial aid, more than 62% of CPTC students need and receive financial aid. More CPTC students work as well as attend school than the state average (50% to 43%) and 47% of them have children (compared to 30% across the state).

Who will benefit from this campaign?

**Students** will benefit from easy access to state-of-the-art tools and technology in training and education. Numerous studies show a direct link between classroom technology and student outcomes. This campaign will provide an affordable education with modern medical simulation equipment, laboratory facilities and computer labs.

**Our community** will benefit. Healthcare workers receive better than average wages and are more likely to achieve financial stability, which in turn will positively affect the communities where CPTC graduates live.

**Industry and the community** will profit from having a well-trained workforce to provide excellent care.

**Donors** will also gain the pleasure of knowing that they were a vital part of these important improvements at Clover Park Technical College and to the Puget Sound region. Donors at leadership levels will receive special recognition for assisting the College in its largest-ever fundraising initiative.

What companies/industries need workers with the training that CPTC offers?

Any company employing healthcare workers want CPTC graduates, including hospitals, laboratories, hemodialysis and surgical centers, ambulance companies, pharmacies, pharmaceutical companies, long-term care facilities, assisted living and adult day care facilities, among others.

CPTC graduates from other programs are hired by industries including manufacturing (especially, assembly and composites), aviation, computer and I.T. firms, firms connected to construction, automotive repair, aesthetics related-businesses, and human services.

How do I make a gift to the campaign?

There are many ways to make a gift. The two easiest are probably to

- Write a check to the Transforming Lives Campaign, mailing it to: **CPTC Foundation; 4500 Steilacoom BLVD SW; Lakewood, WA 98499**; or
- **Give by credit card.** You can use the college's secure website to make a gift online ([www.cptc.edu/give](http://www.cptc.edu/give)), or make a credit card gift by phone by calling (253) 589-5782.

Gifts can be paid in installments over several years. The Campaign is happy to consider gifts of stock or other assets as well.

More information, including gift commitment forms, are available on the campaign website at [www.cptc.edu/foundation](http://www.cptc.edu/foundation). Please call Lyman Gifford, Executive Director, at 253-589-5782 with any questions.

**How much should I give? Are you only looking for large gifts?**

Gifts of all sizes are very much appreciated. The Transforming Lives Campaign is a large undertaking for the College, and the Foundation is seeking support from every part of the community. We hope that all campaign contributors will make gifts that are personally significant.

As the College approaches corporations and foundations for support, it is important to demonstrate community support for the campaign. Having a large number of supporters and a wide range of support helps communicate that to these potential funders.

All contributors to the campaign will be recognized on a donor wall inside the Health Sciences Building. People donating $15,000 or more will have the opportunity to name spaces in the Learning Resource Center and in the Health Sciences Building. For more information, please go to [www.cptc.edu/foundation](http://www.cptc.edu/foundation) or contact Lyman Gifford at 253-589-5782.

**Is my gift tax-deductible?**

Yes. The Clover Park Technical College Foundation is a 501(c) (3) tax-exempt organization under section 170 of the IRS code. Gifts to the Foundation are tax-deductible.

**Can I spread my gift over time? What if I’m not ready to make an outright gift?**

All gifts may be paid installments over several years, a very common way to make a “stretch” gift. Please call Lyman Gifford, Executive Director, at 253-589-5782 to help you determine the best plan for you.

**How do I get more information about the campaign?**

The campaign website, at [www.cptc.edu/foundation](http://www.cptc.edu/foundation), contains a great deal of information about the campaign. Lyman Gifford, Executive Director, would be happy to talk to you about your interests in the campaign, as well as arrange for you to have a short tour of the
projects on the campus. Please contact him by email at foundation@cptc.edu or by phone at 253-589-5782.

**I am already giving to the College, doesn’t that count toward the campaign?**

The short answer is no. The Transforming Lives Campaign is a three-year fundraising initiative to raise funds for the Health Sciences and the Learning Resource Center, with a specific focus on tools and technology. These are critical needs, but they are not on-going.

Other gifts to the Foundation support on-going needs: student scholarships, emergency grants, and support for CPTC programs. These funds are very important to the College as well.

Ideally, supporters of the College will continue to make their usual contributions to the Foundation and make special short-term commitments to the campaign as well.

**Can I give to a specific department or program?**

Gifts may be made to the campaign in general or designated to any Allied Health program, the Learning Resource Center, or to scholarships in those areas.