



Supporting the students, faculty, and staff of Red Rocks Community College.

The Red Rocks Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose purpose is to seek and allocate supplemental resources to serve student, faculty, staff and community needs of Red Rocks Community College that would otherwise go unmet.

- Governed by a board of 25 outstanding community volunteers, the Foundation has raised in excess of \$6 million and granted more than \$4 million in scholarship, project, and grant assistance to over 2,000 students, faculty and staff since its inception.
- For the 2010-2011 academic year, the Foundation awarded \$315,00 in scholarships to 216 students.
- 1 out of every 2 qualified RRCC scholarship applicants is turned down due to a lack of sufficient scholarship funding.

Now in its 41st year, **Red Rocks Community College** (RRCC) helps over 15,500 students reach their educational and career goals annually.

Academic Excellence

- Red Rocks Community College transfers more students to the prestigious Colorado School of Mines than does any other school in the country.
- RRCC's 79 full-time faculty hold 9 Ph.D.'s and a majority holds Master's degrees or the highest level of career and technical education (CTE) certification.
- The student to instructor ratio is 23:1.
- Over the past 5 years, 96.6% of RRCC Physician Assistant students have passed the national accreditation exam on their first attempt versus that national average of 92.4%.

Responding to the Needs of Industry

- RRCC offers a number of career oriented educational programs including: physician's assistant, radiology and sonography technician, medical assistant, emergency management, fire sciences, law enforcement training academy, construction management, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning, plumbing, and fine woodworking.
- RRCC's continuing education department, Rocky Mountain Education Center, offers cost-effective training options for industry in a variety of areas from OSHA, environmental specialist, and asbestos certification to customized on-site corporate training and education.
- RRCC has a history of developing new educational programs to meet the workforce needs of the future:

Construction Technology: the Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that between 2002 – 2012, 154,000 new electrician jobs, 122,000 new carpenter jobs, and 47,000 new construction management jobs will be created in Colorado.

Process Technology: a 2003 National Association of Manufacturers survey found that 80% of Colorado respondents have a serious problem finding qualified candidates for the technical world of modern manufacturing.

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Impacting Your Community

- RRCC employs 751 part-time and full-time faculty and staff.
- Approximately 60% of RRCC students live in Jefferson County.
- The vast majority of first responders in the Denver metro area (EMT's, paramedics, firefighters, police officers) were either directly trained at RRCC or at a RRCC-accredited training program.

"Red Rocks has helped my children believe in themselves as learners. The small class sizes and individual attention prepared both my children to go on and do very well in the university setting."

- Parent of two RRCC alumni

Ensuring Access

- RRCC is the first choice for higher education among graduating high school seniors in Jefferson County.
- RRCC programs such as Gateway to College and Community Learning Centers offer educational opportunities to those members of our community who never before thought of themselves as "college material."
- RRCC offers on-line, night, weekend, and hybrid class structures that ensure educational options for everyone.

RRCC Student Demographics

- RRCC's average student age is 28 years old.
- Over 50% are first generation college students.
- A majority of RRCC's student body attends school part-time and works part or full-time.
- RRCC students are pursuing a variety of goals:
 - Approximately 23% receive training in career-oriented disciplines.
 - More than half of students are working toward their Associate's degree.
 - The remaining students are taking courses for transfer, personal interest or remediation in order to be better prepared for future college-level coursework.

RRCC's Funding Environment

- In Fiscal Year 2001–02, the state spent 12.9% of its total general-funded expenditures on Higher Education. By Fiscal Year 2008–09 that percentage had fallen to 8.9% —a decline of 31% and reductions continue to be on the horizon. At the same time, there has been unprecedented enrollment growth systemwide. RRCC alone has experienced a 69% increase since 2006.
- Revenue from Amendment 51 (increases in gaming revenue) fell far below projections and came in around \$500,000 for all community colleges during the 2010-2011 fiscal year.
- Colorado ranks 46th in the country for support of higher education in terms of college and university funding as a share of personal income.

Red Rocks Community College Changes Lives

- More than 62% of working families living below the poverty line in Colorado have parents without a college degree.
- According to US Census data, an individual with a 2-year college degree earns \$7,800 more per year than an individual with only a high school diploma.

Red Rocks Foundation Makes College Possible

I positively could not have been able to attend college if it had not been for this scholarship. I try to get straight A's to prove my appreciation for this opportunity. I really want to finish and will give back to society in whatever way that I can.

- Scholarship Recipient