



March 2018

*On average 2,600 Monroe Community College students graduate each year with associate degrees and certificates. A vast majority of our graduates stay and work in the Greater Rochester region, adding approximately \$737.9 million in income to Monroe County each year. With a focus on local needs and through public-private partnerships, MCC fuels the workforce and the region's economic growth.*

## What Matters to Students to Stay on Track, Graduate

Eleven students are on track to be the first graduates in MCC's new Office Technology: Medical Office Assistant certificate program.

The curriculum isn't new, but the way the program is offered is. The cohort-based program has students attending every class together at MCC's Downtown Campus. They build connections and support structures, helping each other through the coursework. The 11 students expect to graduate together in June.

To remove financial and personal barriers that may prevent them from staying in school and graduating from MCC, students have access to an array of tailored support services through MCC and community



MCC student Alicia Williams, left, discusses her project with adjunct Lecturer Christine Giess.

partners. Services include tutoring between classes and the option to repeat a course with tutoring support during a session between fall and spring semesters. Free RTS bus passes and gift cards to purchase gasoline and food are available to those who qualify.

Graduates can begin their careers in hospitals, private practices and dental clinics. Employment opportunities for medical office assistants are projected to increase by 11 percent over the next decade, according to MCC's Career Coach.

"I knew coming in the door that it was going to be a challenge after not being in school for so long," said Alicia Williams, a Rochester mother of two daughters, one of whom is in college. Having a strong support system at MCC has enabled her to "stay focused and determined to achieve a successful certificate for better employment and a better life for my family."

## New Monroe County-MCC Initiative Connects Residents to High-Demand Careers



MCC has teamed with Imagine Monroe to provide county residents with job training opportunities and job placement services that directly lead to high-demand careers.

Aptly named LadderzUP, the new program provides ladders of educational and training opportunities aligned with current and future job openings in high-demand industries. Participants

achieve and build upon their credentials over time as they seek advancement in their workplace and in the field.

The partnership begins with first-year funding of \$355,000 from Imagine Monroe to support a minimum of 100 individuals with accelerated education and training in advanced manufacturing, health care and information technology.

MCC's Economic & Workforce Development Center recruits participants, targeting Monroe County residents and businesses, with a focus on serving incumbent workers seeking new skill sets and job opportunities. Additionally, MCC works with employers to create customized curriculum designed for specific positions.

## For MCC Grads, Relationship Building Key to Starting Their Careers Locally

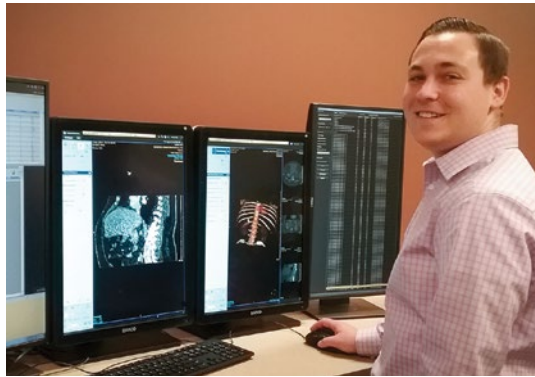
Staci Williams '17 and Jeffrey Guzewicz '13 came to MCC to make a career change. Today, both are enjoying second careers in high-demand fields in the Rochester area.

Before coming to MCC, Staci worked as a mental health therapy aide at a state-operated facility for 20 years. Eventually, the physical demands of the job took a toll on her health. At MCC, she pursued a human services degree, connecting with industry professionals through her participation in a student club and her field work in community agencies.

After achieving her degree, Staci was hired as coordinator of a housing program for individuals with developmental disabilities operated by Heritage Christian Services.

“Being vice president of the Human Services Club, I got connected with a lot of different people in the community,” she said. “MCC helped with my current career.” Staci plans to continue her studies toward a bachelor’s degree in social work.

Like Staci, Jeffrey took opportunities to build relationships with potential employers during his years in MCC’s radiologic technology program. As part of his studies, he completed clinical work at five different workplaces.



Jeffrey Guzewicz, who earned a degree in radiologic technology from MCC, works as an analyst programmer with UR Medicine Imaging Sciences at the Outpatient Imaging Center.

By the time he earned his degree, he was hired as a radiologic technologist at a local hospital. In 2016, he was promoted to the position of analyst programmer with the UR Medicine Imaging Sciences.

“The degree I got at MCC definitely opened doors for me to get to where I am today,” said Jeffrey, whose work involves supporting and maintaining computer applications in medical imaging across UR Medicine centers. “In my current position, I work with a lot of administrators. Some of those people were supervisors at places I went through when I was at MCC. So a lot of them remember me, which is nice. You already have that personal connection.”

Jeffrey is working toward a bachelor’s degree in information systems.

## Did You Know ...?

MCC annually conducts a comprehensive follow-up study of its most recent graduates. The “What Happened to the Class of ...?” report provides outcome data on graduates who continue their studies at four-year colleges/universities and those who immediately enter the workforce. Some of the highlights of the class of 2016,\* 2,386 graduates strong, include:



- 72% of graduates are employed (full or part time) and/or continuing their education (full or part time).
- 704 employers hired our graduates.
- 90% of career and certificate program graduates are employed full time in Monroe or an adjacent county.
- 77% of the transferring graduates are enrolled in local colleges/universities.

*\*Based on survey responses of 1,737 graduates and data from the National Student Clearinghouse, AlumniFinder and various MCC departments*

Coming in ...  
April

MCC partners with employers to grow their businesses and the economy.

### Contact MCC

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