

BC3 @ Brockway to showcase advantages during virtual open house

Prospective students can apply free from May 8-17

April 24, 2020

(Brockway, PA) BC3 @ Brockway in May will hold a virtual open house intended to introduce prospective students to its eight programs, its savings compared to Pennsylvania's public four-year universities and BC3's regionwide highest salary-to-cost ratio.

BC3, ranked as the No. 1 community college in Pennsylvania for 2020 by BestColleges.com, will hold BC3 @ Brockway's virtual open house at 2 p.m. May 11.

Prospective students can register for the event at bc3.edu/open-house, and can apply free to BC3 from May 8 to May 17 at bc3.edu/apply.

During the virtual open house, BC3 representatives can answer questions about BC3 @ Brockway's Nursing, R.N., program, financial aid, flexible course scheduling options, how 70 percent of BC3 graduates are debt-free and about BC3 @ Brockway's affordable transfer and career programs.

Associate degrees available in 5 transfer and 3 career programs

BC3 @ Brockway offers associate degrees in five transfer programs and in three career programs.

Students in BC3's transfer programs can apply credits to public, private and online four-year colleges and universities. Students in BC3's career programs can develop the skills needed to enter the workforce immediately after graduation.

BC3 @ Brockway's selection of two-year transfer programs features business administration, early childhood education (Pre K-4), general studies, psychology and social work.

Students who complete a BC3 @ Brockway degree in business administration, early childhood education (Pre K-4), psychology and social work can transfer with junior standing to any



Kayla Challingsworth, 19, of St. Marys, expects to graduate debt-free in May 2021 from BC3 @ Brockway with an associate degree in early childhood education (Pre K-4).

Pennsylvania public four-year institution, such as Clarion, Edinboro, Indiana and Slippery Rock universities of Pennsylvania.

BC3 @ Brockway's menu of two-year career programs includes business management, Nursing, R.N., and office administration-executive.

Students can also take pre-nursing courses at BC3 @ Brockway.

BC3 @ Brockway also offers a unique partnership in which graduates with an associate degree in business administration, business management or office-administration-executive can transfer up to 98 credits toward a bachelor's degree in organizational leadership that can be completed online with St. Francis University of Loretto.

70 percent of BC3 graduates debt-free

Full-time BC3 students from Clarion, Clearfield, Elk and Jefferson counties can save \$3,194 annually in tuition and fees compared to the average charged by Pennsylvania's public four-year universities or nearly \$29,000 each year compared to the average charged by private institutions.

Tuition and fees for BC3 students from Clarion, Clearfield, Elk and Jefferson counties pursuing 15 credits per semester for one year in 2019-2020 are \$8,100.

Tuition and fees average \$11,294 for students pursuing 15 credits per semester for one year in 2019-2020 at a Pennsylvania public four-year university; \$13,945 at a state-related institution's branch campus; \$16,825 at a state-related institution's main campus; and \$36,801 at a private institution.

The average student-loan debt for the Class of 2018 was \$35,510 in Pennsylvania, according to an Aug. 8 report in LendEDU, a website that provides comparisons for loans, credit cards and other financial products. Two-thirds of graduates from Pennsylvania institutions have student-loan debt, according to LendEDU.

St. Marys resident Kayla Challingsworth expects to earn an associate degree in early childhood education (Pre K-4) from BC3 @ Brockway in May 2021 and be among the 70 percent of BC3 graduates who are debt-free.

"BC3 @ Brockway was more affordable than trying to go to a bigger college," said Challingsworth, 19. "I'm trying to take my dollar as far as it can go. A lot of my friends came back from the fall semester and over winter break said they are in debt already. I don't want to brag to them, but I really felt like I was doing the right thing."

The BC3 Education Foundation awards more than \$200,000 in scholarships annually.

BC3's salary-to-cost ratio topped 42 other institutions

According to the U.S. Department of Education's 2018 College Scorecard, BC3's salary-to-cost ratio, a measurement of graduates' salaries 10 years after commencement for every dollar a student pays to attend the institution, was 7.45 and the highest among 43 regional colleges and universities.

BC3's top 7.45 salary-to-cost ratio was most closely followed by West Virginia University at 4.79. The highest salary-to-cost ratio among five regional Pennsylvania public four-year universities was 2.61; and among the 21 private institutions, 2.81.

"If you graduated (debt-free) with an associate degree and went right into the workforce, you wouldn't have to worry about paying back your debt," Challingsworth said. "You could start your life right from there."

BC3 @ Brockway is the only BC3 location other than the college's main campus to offer an associate of applied science degree in Nursing, R.N. The selective application process will be open from Aug. 1 through Oct. 30.

Prospective BC3 @ Brockway students can email questions to jill.martin-rend@bc3.edu or call 814-265-1813.