

QUINEBAUG VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Parent Guide



4

Easy Steps To Become A Student

1 Apply For Admission

Complete the online application at;
www.QVCC.edu/admissions/apply.asp. You will need an email address and credit or debit card to complete. A paper application is also available and can be submitted with a \$20 application fee by check, cash, or money order.

2 Apply For Financial Aid

You must apply for financial aid online at
www.fafsa.ed.gov
QVCC code is 010530



3 Basic Skills Assessment

Prospective students need to schedule an appointment for the computerized Basic Skills Assessment (BSA), which is approximately two hours.

www.timecenter.com/qvcc

Students who have taken the SAT or ACT, may be exempt from taking the BSA.

4 Advising & Registration

New students are highly encouraged to meet with an advisor to select the courses appropriate for your degree and/or certificate.

Four Steps To Becoming A Student

Beyond The Classroom

"Learning is all about experiences both inside and outside of the classroom." QVCC offers various options for getting involved. Some of these include Student Government Association, Study Abroad, Honor Societies, Cultural Programming, and Legislative Internships.

Student Government Association/Student Clubs

Students have the opportunity to get involved in QVCC's Student Government Association (SGA). As a member of SGA, a student will gain invaluable leadership skills, work with faculty and staff mentors, learn organizational skills, and make friends. Students are able to join clubs or form a club around any interest.

Legislative Internship

A perfect opportunity for students, especially those interested in politics or a political career. The Connecticut General Assembly has established an internship program to acquaint students with both the formal and informal aspects of the legislative process.

Study Abroad

Study Abroad is an increasingly important part of the college experience. Exploring new cultures can be life-changing, and many students point to their time abroad as the defining aspect of their education. QVCC's faculty-led international education programs range from 1 week to 10 days and take place during winter break, spring break, and summer.



Honor Societies: Reach for Excellence

Honor society membership reflects exceptional academic achievement and a demonstrated commitment to excellence through service. Being a part of an honor society enriches your education, highlights your academic success, and is a lifetime honor. QVCC students have the opportunity to be part of the following honor societies:

- Phi Theta Kappa - The official honor society for community colleges by the American Association of Community Colleges.
- Alpha Beta Gamma - An international business honor society established to recognize and encourage scholarship among two-year college students in business.
- Epsilon Pi Tau – For students in fields devoted to the general study of technology and the preparation of practitioners for the technology professions.
- Tau Upsilon Alpha - For students studying in the field of Human Services

Beyond The Classroom

Tips For Success

Students are encouraged to take advantage of the services below, to ensure a positive college experience and academic success.

Advising Services

The College has an open door policy encouraging all students to utilize academic advising services.

- Advising Services is located in the Student Success Center in Danielson, across from the cafeteria and in Willimantic by stopping at the front desk.
- A student's assigned advisor is noted in their **myCommNet** account.
- Liberal Arts & Science, General Studies and Non-Degree Students primarily meet with advisors in the Success Center.
- Students who are enrolled in other degree programs should meet regularly with the program coordinator or faculty within their chosen major.

Transfer Services

For students who are interested in transferring to a university to receive a four-year degree, working with your QVCC academic advisor as soon as possible is crucial. There are various transfer pathways available to students.

Career Services

On-campus career services and online resources are:

- Resume development & interview skills.
- College Career Network www.collegecentral.com/qvcc where they can read about careers, upload a resume and search for jobs.
- FOCUS 2 is an on-line interactive career & education planning system. Learn more: www.QVCC.edu/career.

Disability Services

Students are not required to disclose a disability, but doing so can help ensure they get assistance. There is no special education program at QVCC but accommodations and adjustments can be made for documented disabilities.

A **Self-Disclosure Form** for students with disabilities is available from the Student Success Center in Danielson or front desk in Willimantic.

Transfer Compact with the State University

System – CCSU, ECSU, SCSU & WCSU – dual enrollment program for students planning to transfer to one of the four universities after graduating with an associates degree.

- Students must enroll with a QVCC academic advisor prior to earning 15 credits.
- Receive personalized academic advising from both community college & university advisors.

Guaranteed Admission Program with UCONN

- For students who plan to earn a bachelor's degree from The College Of Liberal Arts & Sciences, Agriculture & Natural Resources or Business, guaranteed admission to the University of Connecticut can be earned, once an associate degree is completed. A specific GPA is required.



Tips For Success

Financial Aid And Scholarships

Quinebaug Valley
Community College
Financial Aid Code

010530

QVCC students graduate debt free!
The college does NOT participate in federal
student loan programs

How many credits must a student be enrolled in to qualify for financial aid?

Financial aid is awarded in federal and state grants and from scholarships from the QVCC Foundation. For full award a student must be enrolled in 12 credits for 15 consecutive weeks. For 3-12 credits, the award is prorated. Students must be registered for a minimum of 6 credits to qualify for state grants.

Financial aid is awarded to the student

Students receive notification of their financial aid award for the academic year (fall through spring terms) in their **myCommNet** account. If there is a problem with the application or the student needs to complete a verification, this also is noted in their **myCommNet** account.

You must apply for financial aid every academic year

Students are required to apply for financial aid every year at www.FAFSA.ed.gov. Priority deadlines at QVCC are August 1st for the fall semester and December 1st for the spring semester.

When is a Child Deemed Independent?

- Will be 24 years old before January 1 of the academic year.
- At any time since age 13, both parents deceased, was in foster care, or was a dependent or ward of the court.
- Is a veteran.
- Currently serve on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training.
- Will be working on a master's or doctorate program or graduate certificate.
- Is married; or has a legal dependent other than a spouse that the student supports more than 50%.

See the FAFSA application if you have a legal guardianship, if a court has declared you an emancipated minor, or if you have been considered an unaccompanied youth or homeless.

How does my child apply for a scholarship from the QVCC Foundation?

The scholarship application process runs from February – Mid-March. To begin the process, the first step is to complete the online application:

www.qvcc.edu/scholarships

The Foundation awarded more than \$125,000 last year to new and prospective students.

What happens when your child stops attending or withdraws from all classes?

There can be major consequences resulting in the possibility of having to repay a portion of the financial aid award back to the federal government. The student should ALWAYS contact the financial aid office before withdrawing.

Divorced or separated parents

When your student is filling out the FAFSA, use the financial data of the natural parent (and spouse if remarried) with whom the student lived with most in the past 12 months. If the student lived equally with both parents or with neither parent, provide financial data for the parent who provided the most financial support.

Stepparents

For parents who have remarried and are the primary financial supporter of the student, the stepparent's financial information must be included on the application. The parent and stepparent should report themselves as married on the FAFSA.

Financial Aid / Scholarships

Frequently Asked Questions

College is a time of growth in knowledge and in life skills. It also comes with a lot of freedoms which make for a very different experience from high school. Although your student is attending a community college and most likely living at home, your child's career goals, academic goals, and school of choice may not be what you would have chosen. Try to remember that as they enter adulthood they need to develop ownership over their goals and aspirations for their future.

I have always been very involved in my son/daughter's academic life. What will this look like at the college level?

We are happy that your child has come from a supportive environment and providing guidance through college should continue. Once the student is admitted to QVCC and has come to request services, he or she has become our "client" and is responsible for their educational path.

My child had an IEP/PPT in high school, how do I go about getting one for him/her in college?

Disability services are available to students and must be coordinated by the **student** and not a parent. In high school, services are mandated where in college a student must advocate for themselves. By federal law, parents may not participate and do not have access to student records without the student's written consent.

How do I see my child's grades?

As an adult, your student is solely responsible for his/her grades per The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which protects the privacy of student education records. Advisors and other college personnel cannot give out information regarding any of our students.

How do I pay my child's bill?

Students can view their bill via myCommNet and payment is accepted through the portal via credit card. You may pay with a check to the cashier in Danielson or the front desk in Willimantic. A three part installment plan for tuition is also available. College and student fees must be paid at the time of registration if it is before the tuition due date for the semester. Contact the college business office for more details 860-932-4004. Students should always contact financial aid before dropping courses.

There are a lot of courses to choose from. How does my child know what courses they should take for their major?

The college catalog is located online at the college website. For each degree or certificate, the catalog has an outline of required and recommended courses. Your student should meet regularly with their academic advisor to select the right courses for their major. Advisors do not register students for classes and it is ultimately the choice of the student as to what classes they enroll in.

How does QVCC communicate with my student?

QVCC students are assigned a college issued Email address. Advising, Faculty, Financial Aid and other important messages are sent to the college email. **Encouraging your child to check email will increase their success.** You can also follow the college on www.facebook.com/myQVCC or www.twitter.com/QVCC. Students should sign up through myCommnet for emergency notifications and texts.



QUINEBAUG VALLEY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DANIELSON · WILLIMANTIC

www.QVCC.EDU