



# JOHN WOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## 2026 Career Makeover Competition Rules and Regulations

### Prizes

The grand prize winner will receive the following beginning in fall 2026 (unless otherwise authorized):

- A full scholarship to attend John Wood Community College covering tuition and fees for the winner's selected degree/program.
- A waiver to cover cost of required, assigned books obtained through the John Wood Community College Bookstore.

### Limitations

- The following programs are EXCLUDED from the Career Makeover:
  - Year 2 of the ADN program (ADN Prerequisites and Year 1 of the ADN program are approved. The ADN program is based on selective admissions)
  - Paramedicine
- The maximum scholarship award covers 68 credit hours.
- Prizes are not transferrable or redeemable for cash.
- Must be at least 21 years and not a current student or attended JWCC in the last 3 years.
- Applicants that have completed a bachelor's degree or higher are not eligible for the Career Makeover.
- JWCC employees and immediate family are not eligible to apply.
- Current JWCC students are not eligible.

### Requirements

- Applicants will be required to complete the JWCC admissions process to be eligible to win. A high school or GED transcript is required to be admitted to the College (as well as any prior college credit transcripts if applicable).
- Applicants will be required to file the FAFSA. Financial aid grants will be applied before the Career Makeover Scholarship. Financial aid eligibility is not required and will not affect award of Career Makeover.
- The winner must be continuously enrolled and complete program in 150% of the recommended completion time (unless otherwise approved). Ex: up to 3 years to complete a 2-year program
- The winner must maintain good academic standing, as stated in the JWCC academic catalog.
- The winner must agree to photos/stories/testimonials for John Wood Community College and WGEM.



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## The Career Makeover Process:

### Application

- Application Period is January 5, 2026, to March 15, 2026
- Semi-finalists will be chosen based on information provided in the application.

### Semi-Finalists

- Applicants will be notified by March 6, 2026, of their status.
- The semi-finalist round will occur March 24 and 25, 2026. During this round, applicants will meet with admissions, complete a career exploration exercise, have their photo taken, and be provided the options for assistance in filing financial aid.
- The semi-finalists will then be narrowed down to ten finalists.
- In order to qualify to be a finalist, semi-finalists must complete the following by March 11, 2025:
  - Complete and submit application for admission to John Wood Community College: [www.jwcc.edu/apply](http://www.jwcc.edu/apply)
  - Submit transcripts to John Wood Community College (high school, GED, and any college-level coursework completed).
  - Apply for financial aid at [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov). (The form should be completed using 2024 tax forms) If you need assistance, please call 217.641.4333 or stop by the College's Financial Aid Office.

### Finalists

- The qualifying top ten finalists will be interviewed by a panel, scheduled on either April 2 or 3.
- The winner will be announced the week of April 13, 2026.