



Northwest Iowa  
Community College

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**August 28, 2013**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

*May be published  
when received.*

### **Northwest Iowa Community College to Hold Levy Renewal Vote**

#### **What is the September 10 levy vote about?**

Voters in Area IV are being asked to approve a 10-year continuation of Northwest Iowa Community College's plant fund levy. The levy has been supported by the voters in northwest Iowa since 1966. NCC last renewed this in 2004 with almost 82% approval. All community colleges depend on this basic levy. The vote requires a simple majority to pass (50% + 1 vote).

#### **What is the 20 1/4¢ plant fund levy?**

The plant fund levy is an annual property tax of 20.25 cents per thousand dollars of taxable value. This will NOT result in a higher tax rate; this rate has been the same for the past 47 years. This is not a bond issue. This levy raised approximately \$664,000 this year and expires June 30, 2016.

#### **How will I be impacted?**

This levy WILL NOT change your taxes. It is a continuation of a tax already being paid by every property owner in northwest Iowa.

#### **How will NCC use these funds?**

In 2013 funds were used for:

- Utilities
- Roof maintenance
- Classroom lighting
- Library books

#### **Are these funds used for staff salaries?**

No. The Iowa Code does not allow the use of this revenue for salaries.

#### **Why is this levy so important?**

These funds are critical for the future of Northwest Iowa Community College. Community colleges rely heavily on voter-approved levies to fund their utilities and basic maintenance projects.

#### **Who Can Vote on September 10, 2013?**

This levy affects residents of the school districts in O'Brien, Sioux, Lyon, and Osceola counties, as well as the Marcus-Meriden-Cleghorn School District located in Cherokee county.

### **How much will it cost?**

- Annual Tax on a Home with a Taxable Valuation of \$50,000 - \$10.53
- Annual Tax on One Acre of Farmland with a Taxable Valuation of \$1,000 - \$0.2025

Source: County Assessors' Office

### **Where and when can I vote?**

You vote in the same place that you would for your local school board elections. The polls are open from 7a.m. – 8p.m. on September 10.

### **Quick facts about NCC:**

- 7<sup>th</sup> in the nation for Graduate Success - CNNMoney.com
- Top 20 Fastest Growing Community Colleges in the Nation - Community College Week
- Top 120 Best Community Colleges in the Nation (two years in a row) - Aspen Institute
- Highest Graduation/Transfer Rate – CollegeMeasures.com
- 11<sup>th</sup> Best Community College in the Nation – TheBestSchools.com
- Safest College in Iowa – StateUniversity.com
- 10,000+ College Alumni
- 98% Placement Rate for College Alumni
- 94% of our graduates are employed in a related field of study\*
- Average first-time wage of our 2012 graduates was \$17.08/hour
- 820,000+ students taught through the Continuing Education and Business & Industry departments
- 40+ Programs of study
- Spending by NCC and its students adds an estimated \$24.2 million in economic output to the region, 372 jobs and increased tax revenues of 1.4 million\*\*

\*of those responding to the survey

\*\*Source: 2011 NCC Economic Impact Report – a study completed by Iowa Workforce Development and the Iowa Department of Education

The mission of Northwest Iowa Community College is a progressive learning college rapidly responding to the global needs of our changing community. The vision is that we are driven to be the community college of choice for lifelong learning, personal development, and re-training.

Your community college serves nearly 2,500 students annually through high quality credit programs and an additional 20,000+ residents annually through continuing education (training health care personnel, emergency medical technicians, firefighters, bus drivers, etc.) as well as business and industry training to provide a skilled workforce.

For more information about the Levy Renewal, polling locations etc. please visit our website at [nwicc.edu](http://nwicc.edu) and click on the link in the welcome box or call 712-324-5061.