Post secondary education is critical for females as it is connected to higher earnings, better benefits, and lower rates of unemployment. This means a decrease in the rate of poverty especially for female-headed households.

Educational attainment for women in Hartford County by race/ethnicity (2011)

Low levels of educational attainment are highly correlated with poverty, as are maternal education and child outcomes. Research shows that investments in early childhood through postsecondary education for females will break the cycle of poverty and significantly reduce social costs.

Investments in high-quality early education yield a 7-10% per year return on investment and based on increased school and career achievement & reduced social costs. College degree = 2X the potential income vs. those without college.
Labor market projections indicate that 9 of 10 of the fastest growing occupations requiring a Bachelor’s Degree or more will require significant STEM skills.

Hartford County enrollment in 2011-2012 by community college and gender.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community College</th>
<th>Total Number</th>
<th>Percentage of Femaales</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asnuntuck</td>
<td>1673</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital</td>
<td>4425</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manchester</td>
<td>7692</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunxis</td>
<td>4734</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FEMALES & DEGREES

The average time to complete a degree is on the rise and is significantly higher for students who are part-time or who are attending community college. These students are far more likely to have jobs, family obligations, constrained financial resources, or lapses in enrollment.

The 2007 cohort at CCSU:

1851 bachelor degrees awarded

51.5% graduated in 6 yrs.

58.8% females

96 percentage of education degrees awarded to females

88 percentage of social work degrees awarded to females

ZERO females were awarded degrees in computer engineering, technology or physics

<18 percentage of degrees conferred to females in computer science, economics, OR civil and mechanical engineering

Percentage of people, by gender, age 18-24 enrolled in college or graduate school in Hartford County

52.1 females
41.8 males

Retention

Latino students are less likely to be retained for a second year of college as compared to students of other racial and ethnic backgrounds. Females are more likely than males to complete their degrees or certificates and graduate.

*2012-2013