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Bellingham Technical College (Wash.) President Patricia McKeown announced that the college has been awarded a five-year U.S. Department of Education Title III grant program is a U.S. Federal Grant Program to improve education. The Title III Program began as part of the Higher Education Act of 1965, which sought to provide support to strengthen various aspects of the schools through a formula grant program to accredited institutions, grant of $1.7 million. BTC's Title III grant award, which runs from Oct. 1, 2011 to Sept. 30, 2016, focuses on maintaining and developing student success, completion, and transition strategies. The first year award is for $160,368 with $400,000 awarded for each of the following four years. These Title III grant objectives fit perfectly with other initiatives that BTC is currently working on, such as Achieving the Dream, the data-driven initiative focusing on enabling low-income students and students of color to attain postsecondary credentials. Along with Title III and ATD (Achieving the Dream), BTC has received grant and project funding and support from federal and state agencies and private foundations. All of these resources will assist the college in developing data-driven, effective and integrated systems to help BTC students succeed and persist in the college's workforce training programs.