

College Priorities



BRISTOL
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE
CHANGES
THE WORLD
BY CHANGING
LIVES, LEARNER
BY LEARNER

– VISION STATEMENT

Mission Statements

The Massachusetts Department of Higher Education, which governs the 29 state-assisted public colleges and the university, coordinated an effort to develop mission statements for the system and for community colleges as a whole, and charged each college with developing a statement to reflect its strengths and distinctive characteristics.

Mission of the Massachusetts System of Public Higher Education

Massachusetts Public Higher Education is a SYSTEM with a distinguished past, increasing and measurable accomplishments, and dedicated to being recognized as having one of the nation's most outstanding array of institutions. It comprises 15 community colleges, 9 state colleges, and 5 campuses of the University of Massachusetts. The system exists to provide accessible, affordable, relevant, and rigorous programs that adapt to meet changing individual and societal needs for education and employment. The public system is committed to continuous improvement and accountability in all aspects of teaching and learning. The Department of Higher Education, together with each respective Board of Trustees, expects all students, faculty, and staff to be held to exacting standards in the performance of their roles and responsibilities.

Mission of the Community Colleges

The 15 Massachusetts community colleges offer open access to high quality, affordable academic programs, including associate degree and certificate programs. They are committed to excellence in teaching and learning, and provide academic preparation for transfer to four-year institutions, career preparation for entry into high demand occupational fields, developmental coursework, and lifelong learning opportunities.

Community colleges have a special responsibility for workforce development and through partnerships with business and industry, provide job training, retraining, certification, and skills improvement. In addition, they assume primary responsibility, in the public system, for offering developmental courses, programs and other education services for individuals who seek to develop the skills needed to pursue college-level study or enter the workforce.

Rooted in their communities, the colleges serve as community leaders, identifying opportunities and solutions to community problems and contributing to the region's intellectual, cultural and economic development. They collaborate with elementary and secondary education and work to ensure a smooth transition from secondary to post-secondary education. Through partnerships with baccalaureate institutions, they help to promote an efficient system of public higher education.

The community colleges offer an environment where the ideas and contributions of all students are expected. Academic and personal support services are provided to ensure that all students have an opportunity to achieve academic and career success. No eligible student shall be deprived of the opportunity for a community college education in Massachusetts because of an inability to pay tuition and fees.

Bristol Community College

As a leading resource for education and work-force development in southeastern Massachusetts, Bristol Community College provides programs that nurture the region's economic health and well-being and enable individuals to make productive life choices. These programs are characterized by a strong foundation in liberal arts and sciences; an emphasis on practical, employment-oriented education in allied health, engineering and technology, and business; and workforce development from adult literacy to advanced technology skills. To serve a population rich in ethnic and linguistic diversity, and to address the education and training needs of an area whose economic base is shifting from unskilled manufacturing to high-skilled service and technology industries, the College offers comprehensive developmental education and adult literacy services in a learner-centered, supportive community. The College also develops active partnerships with business and industry, public schools, colleges and universities, and social service agencies to maintain relevance and effectiveness of all credit and noncredit programming.

Strategic Planning Goals

FY 2009 - FY 2011

Goal A

Engage Students, Faculty, and Staff in a Learning-Centered and Learner-Centered College

1. Engage learners by expanding and promoting meaningful learning, relationships, and transformation.
 - Engage students through community and college service.
 - Champion high expectations for student achievement.
 - Establish measurable assessment of student learning outcomes.
2. Provide more opportunities to develop a culture of engaged learning.
3. Enhance and expand our systems approach to broaden participation in the development of College initiatives.

Goal B

Transform Support for Engagement

1. Develop, implement, and assess models for success that support all stages of student development for a holistic college experience.
2. Develop, implement, and assess models for success that support BCC's environments and cultures.
3. Develop, implement, and assess models for success that support all stages of faculty and staff development.
4. Develop both virtual and face-to-face social networking opportunities.
5. Enhance and expand our systems approach to support and communicate strategic allocation of resources.

Goal C

Transform Opportunity

1. Make BCC the community's first choice for education, workforce development, and opportunity.
 - Increase community awareness and understanding of programs, services, and opportunities.
 - Create a liaison system to link the College with external constituencies.
2. Develop, implement, and assess PK-16 partnerships.
3. Develop a continuous inquiry and feedback process with our external communities.
4. Pursue broad funding sources and opportunities that align with strategic goals.
5. Enhance and expand our systems approach to make transparent the alignment of planning with strategic goals.



Statement of Core Values

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Bristol Community College supports the following Statement of Core Values as an expression of its shared beliefs and as a foundation on which to build student success and the practice of lifelong learning.

Learning

- Foster commitment to lifelong learning and personal growth through general and career-specific education
- Place the needs of learners first
- Facilitate student success by reducing barriers to educational access
- Provide support services and a physical environment that foster student success

Excellence

- Promote initiative, creativity, innovation, leadership, and outstanding performance in our educational programs and in student performance
- Practice the highest standards of teaching and learning
- Advocate and model teamwork, cooperation, and collaboration
- Improve institutional effectiveness through continuous assessment

Integrity

- Provide an environment that fosters respect, fairness, responsibility, trust, and honesty
- Maintain a governance structure that encourages shared decision making, transparency, and collegiality
- Provide stewardship and accountability to all constituents

Diversity

- Respond to the evolving educational needs of a diverse community
- Incorporate the diverse life experiences, achievements, and contributions of all members of our community into the college culture

Community

- Support cultural enrichment and advance economic partnerships throughout our community
- Collaborate with regional, educational, health and social service, and business organizations to strengthen our community.

