



COMMUNITY COLLEGES FOR IOWA
STRATEGIC PLAN
2023-2025

Background

Community Colleges for Iowa advocates with one voice for accessible excellence in education. We are a nonprofit, volunteer membership association and the primary advocate for Iowa's 15 Community Colleges. We provide leadership on issues affecting the colleges and represent the collective needs, vision, and values of the colleges to state and federal policymakers.

Iowa's Community Colleges are not a "system" with a centralized administration under one governing body. Rather, our institutions are 15 separate and independent local colleges with their own elected governing boards. Iowa's Community College regions cover the entire state, allowing us to serve every Iowan, community, and business.

Community Colleges for Iowa is the "doing business as" name for a variety of collaborations and organizations across Iowa's Community Colleges. The Iowa Association of Community College Presidents is a consortium of Community College Presidents committed to working together for the success of all.

Iowa Association of Community College Trustees

The Iowa Association of Community College Trustees (IACCT) is a non-profit organization governed by a Board of Directors that includes one Trustee from each Community College.

IACCT's Vision is to advocate with one voice for Iowa's Community Colleges.

IACCT's Mission is to support the Community Colleges as they educate Iowa's Workforce.

The **IACCT Values Statement** provides a frame of reference for the decision-making and priority setting in the organization.

IACCT Values Statement

Education & Continuous Learning

IACCT advocates for Iowa's Community Colleges, the largest post-secondary system in Iowa, in furthering a sound economy by providing every community member an opportunity and encouraging them to pursue the achievement of their full potential at all stages of their lives.

Integrity

IACCT operates with the highest level of ethics, professionalism, and honesty in communication and decision-making to build and sustain trusting relationships among Iowa's Community Colleges and their colleagues, communities, and partners.

Local Governance

IACCT recognizes, supports, and promotes the mission of each of Iowa's Community Colleges through its support of the autonomy and decision-making authority of locally elected Trustees.

Diversity

IACCT supports and promotes the diversity and human dignity of Iowa's Community Colleges students, faculty, staff, and all others with whom they and IACCT interact.

Leadership, Partnership & Innovation

IACCT convenes and embraces opportunities to collaborate openly with current and potential partners in the education, government, and business communities to formulate innovative solutions and develop resources.

Service & Stewardship

IACCT, keeping in mind its duty as a steward of its member's funds, responds efficiently and effectively to members' and partners' needs by adding qualitative and quantitative value to services and products.

Past IACCT Priorities

- Increase Trustee Engagement
- Expand role in workforce training to meet skilled worker shortage
- Secure sustainable funding
- Maintain a well-run and financially sound association

Iowa Association of Community College Presidents

The Iowa Association of Community College Presidents (IACCP) is a consortium of Community College Presidents committed to working together for the success of all.

IACCP's Vision is to advocate with one voice for Iowa's Community Colleges.

IACCP's Mission is to collaborate to build the capacity of Iowa's Community Colleges and improve outcomes for students and communities.

Members of IACCP work together to:

1. Share information and best practices
2. Advocate with one voice on behalf of Iowa's Community Colleges
3. Assist and support each other by sharing information and best practices
4. Identify and implement opportunities for strategic collaboration

How We Work

Iowa's Community Colleges are stronger together and can best serve Iowa and our students and communities working in collaboration and speaking with one voice. Our leadership framework prioritizes building consensus.

Setting Organizational Mission, Vision & Values

Responsibility: IACCT Board takes the lead with input from all members.

Creating Strategic Priorities

Responsibility: Presidents work on ideas as a part of their annual retreat that are brought forward and discussed with the Board.

Setting Policy Priorities

Responsibility: Leadership Groups and staff generate ideas for Presidents to consider. These ideas are brought forward to the Board and then voted on by the whole membership (Trustees).

Determining Goals and Tactics

Responsibility: Presidents and Leadership Groups working with staff determine the strategies and tactics needed to achieve our goals. The Board approves these where resource commitments are involved (budget, contracts, significant staff time).

Implementation

Responsibility: Community Colleges for Iowa Staff carry out implementation working alongside staff from the colleges at the direction of presidents. Progress is discussed regularly in Board and President meetings. The IACCT Board evaluates the Executive Director with input from the Presidents.

Strategic Priority

Promoting community and supporting the professional development of Community College Leaders

Goals

Continue to improve participation in and the effectiveness of Trustee professional development and networking opportunities

Objectives:

- Improve the Annual Trustee Conference
- Offer Trustee Webinars
- Expand online publications and other resources

Improve and expand professional development and networking opportunities for Community College leaders, administration, staff, and faculty

Objectives:

- Offer a new Annual Convention
- Improve support for Leadership and Affinity groups
- Offer workshops and other professional development opportunities annually
- Expand online publications and other resources

Develop the Community College leadership pipeline

Objectives:

- Support existing programs in conjunction with Iowa State University
- Create new ways to support the development and identification of leaders

Strategic Priority

Leveraging assets of Iowa's Community Colleges,
increasing equity and sustainability

Goals

Support and develop new avenues for sharing services among Iowa's Community Colleges for efficiency and cost savings

Objectives:

- Effectively manage the FutureTracc retirement program
- Explore the feasibility of shared health insurance
- Consider other sharing options for purchasing and offering services

Support the development of new collaborations and opportunities to create consistency across Iowa's Community Colleges

Objectives:

- Continue to develop and implement a Comprehensive Statewide Workforce Development Plan
- Identify areas for collaboration and consistency and support changes needed to improve outcomes for students and businesses

Expand partnerships to generate resources and new opportunities

Objectives:

- Develop a comprehensive vendor and sponsor marketing strategy across all events
- Improve the effectiveness of partnerships with state agencies and other associations

Strategic Priority

Advocating for ALL Iowans to benefit from Community Colleges

Goals

Improve the effectiveness of advocacy and lobbying efforts

Objectives:

- Develop a more clear and comprehensive priority development process leveraging expertise statewide
- Evaluate and improve grassroots lobbying efforts by supporting the colleges, developing strategies, and documenting successes
- Build legislative relationships, messaging, and strategies to achieve priorities
- Continue to improve the effectiveness and impact of the Iowans for a Skilled Workforce PAC

Expand the visibility of Iowa's Community Colleges to increase enrollment

Objectives:

- Expand awareness of successes and outcomes, leveraging the Community Colleges for Iowa brand
- Test and evaluate strategies and develop resources for statewide communications and marketing collaborations
- Recognize and promote the people and initiatives doing great work across Iowa's Community Colleges

Improve outcomes for all students by supporting colleges in their equity and inclusion initiatives

Objectives:

- Work to achieve the goals of the Alliance for Equity and Inclusion in conjunction with the steering committee
- Provide professional development, resources, and support to college leaders and staff
- Offer educational opportunities statewide