

Community Colleges Local Strategic Value Template

Oct. 8, 2024

Please use this table as a method to **briefly** detail what your community college is doing to meet the best practices in each category. Each category is worth one-third of the total amount available for your institution. Your institution must meet 4 out of 5 best practices in a category to receive funding associated with that category.

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
Category A: Economic Development and Business or Industry Partnerships (must meet 4 of 5)	
<p>(i) The community college has active partnerships with local employers including hospitals and health care providers.</p>	<p>MCC partners with more than 20 entities and 50 different units to provide clinical experiences for health career students. This includes the Corewell Health System- Grand Rapids and Greenville, My-Michigan Health System – Alma, Carson, Ionia , Lansing Sparrow, Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services, Forest View, Mary Free Bed, Trinity Health, Sheridan Community Hospital, Laurel’s of Kent/Carson, SKLD, University of Michigan West, and Department of Corrections. MCC also works with other health care organizations, like the Mid-Michigan District Health Department and Greenville Public schools to provide educational clinical experience. In 2021, the Nursing program implemented the use of a new mobile health trailer for blood pressure screenings and health education in the community. In 2024, the mobile health trailer visited the “Touch a Truck” event held at Belding Public Schools. We provided health education for elementary students: nutrition, human anatomy, and exercise.</p> <p>MCC has an active apprenticeship program with more than 20 local manufacturers. Currently, MCC has more than 100 apprentices employed by more than 20 local manufacturers and offers certificate programs to train the future workforce. MCC partners with West Michigan Works! to provide Registered Apprenticeship opportunities, but many students choose to take classes paid for by their employer. MCC supports local employers in conducting</p>

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	workforce development training, such as Master Supervisory training, using the federal One Workforce (H1-B) or the Michigan New Jobs Training grants
(ii) The community college provides customized on-site training for area companies, employees, or both.	MCC regularly offers PLC (Allen Bradley and Siemens) training; FANUC and Kuka robotics training; Tig and food grade welding training, basic computer training, basic blueprint reading and measurement training, GD&T training, Excel/Access training, sales training, MIOSHA, Lean, Quality management, internal audit, plant design, coaching, and CNC training to many local businesses including local manufacturers and local health care facilities. MCC also partners with the Michigan Manufacturing Technology Center (MMTC) to provide other training as needed. MCC provides directed study/internship opportunities and programs to business and industry representatives.
(iii) The community college supports entrepreneurship through a small business assistance center or other training, or consulting activities targeted toward small businesses.	MCC has a credit program in entrepreneurship and offers noncredit classes in numerous areas to support small business owners and entrepreneurs MCC hosts SBDC counseling at the Greenville campus and offers free classes with the SBDC and SBA for starting a business and developing a business plan. The College hosts a Small Business Forum, in partnership with West Michigan Works, to provide lending information and business development support to local businesses. The college also provides free computer use, free use of business plan software, and many other free business resources to the community.
(iv) The community college supports technological advancement through industry partnerships, incubation activities, or operation of a Michigan technical education center or other advanced technology center.	MCC's Greenville campus includes an open lab for technological training. This location includes FANUC robotics training, ABB robotics training, Kuka Robotics training, and CISCO network training. Other training provided includes hydraulics, pneumatics, PLCs, CNC, CMM, and computer support. MCC's Greenville campus offers advanced training in electronics, robotics, machine tool, welding (including virtual welding trainers), robotic welding, and motors and

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	<p>controls. MCC also has a mid-size FANUC tear-down robot for lock-out/tag-out and repair and rebuild.</p> <p>To increase access to skilled trades opportunities, MCC is expanding offerings at the Sidney campus, including HVAC/R in the Fall of 2024. Other programs and courses are being reviewed with faculty and local CTE (Career and Technical Education) and Industry partners.</p>
<p>(v) The community college has active partnerships with local or regional workforce and economic development agencies.</p>	<p>MCC partners with Montcalm and Ionia County workforce development agencies, as well as West Michigan Works, to provide various programs, trainings services, and collaborative endeavors. Corrections Officer training is one example. MCC is currently working with Carson City Correctional Facility to offer 15 credit hours of classes, in one semester, to corrections officers who need it to remain employed at the facility.</p> <p>MCC hosts monthly meetings where economic development and workforce development professionals meet to coordinate services to area employers.</p>
<p>Category B: Educational Partnerships (must meet 4 of 5)</p>	
<p>(i) The community college has active partnerships with regional high schools, intermediate school districts, and career-tech centers to provide instruction through dual enrollment, concurrent enrollment, direct credit, middle college, or academy programs.</p>	<p>MCC provides dual enrollment opportunities to all seven Montcalm County high schools, and four high schools in Ionia County, two high schools in both Gratiot and Berrien counties, two Christian schools, one high school in both Kent and Berrien counties, one virtual academy, and one aviation academy. In total, MCC currently services 613 students during the Fall 2024 semester from 21 high schools, including home school students. The 2023-2024 Academic Year had an unduplicated headcount for dual enrolled students of 669. MCC partners with the Montcalm Area Intermediate School District to operate an Early College on MCC's campus that serves students from most local high schools. MCC has articulation agreements with the Montcalm Area Career Center,</p>

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	<p>Gratiot – Isabella Technical Center, Ionia County Career Center, Saranac High School, Greenville High School, Newaygo Schools, Mecosta – Osceola Career Center, and Lakeview High School. MCC partners with Michigan State University to offer an associate degree in Agricultural Operations, which have articulations back into the career centers.</p>
<p>(ii) The community college hosts, sponsors, or participates in enrichment programs for area K-12 students, such as college days, summer or after-school programming, or science Olympiad.</p>	<p>MCC runs numerous summer camps aimed at the K-12 population. MCC has two mobile education trailers that take manufacturing and robotics, PLC’s, virtual welders, and health simulation to area K-12 schools. MCC hosts senior visits to campus to tour, learn about our programs, meet faculty, and do career exploration. MCC also hosts 10th-grade campus visits focused on career path exploration, partners with local agencies to offer a countywide job fair, co-sponsors high school “decision day” celebrations, and manages a traveling K-5 Career Development kit that provides elementary schools with the lessons, lesson plans and materials to meet the Michigan Career Development Model requirements. In addition, MCC faculty visit area high schools to talk about specific careers and opportunities.</p>
<p>(iii) The community college provides, supports, or participates in programming to promote successful transitions to college for traditional age students, including grant programs such as talent search, upward bound, or other activities to promote college readiness in area high schools and community centers.</p>	<p>MCC regularly brings in representatives from 4-year colleges and universities to talk to students and work with them on transfer.</p> <p>MCC offers free ACCUPLACER testing to local high schools to help determine their college readiness during their high school careers.</p> <p>MCC employs a Career Counselor to work in local middle and high schools to help those students find careers and the training path they require.</p> <p>In partnership with the Montcalm Area Intermediate School District, MCC offers an Early College to serve Montcalm and Ionia counties. Students enter Early College in the 11th grade and can graduate with their</p>

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	high school diploma and associate degree in three years, at no cost to the students or their families.
<p>(iv) The community college provides, supports, or participates in programming to promote successful transitions to college for new or reentering adult students, such as adult basic education, GED preparation and testing, or recruiting, advising, or orientation activities specific to adults.</p>	<p>MCC offers GED testing for the community. Additionally, MCC offers CLEP testing and WorkKeys testing. MCC collaborates with the Montcalm and Ionia Literacy Councils to help prepare low-skilled students for entry into MCC and successful completion of their educational goals. MCC’s advisors are skilled at working with the returning adult population.</p> <p>Most industrial programs are aligned to industry credentials. Students can use their previously obtained credentials to prove course competency and receive credit. Meanwhile, students are also allowed to take the industry credential exams to prove their skills and bypass courses.</p> <p>The MCC Success Express is a summer preparation program designed for students who are graduating or recently graduated from high school to better prepare this population of students with the tools needed for success at the post-secondary level.</p>
<p>(v) The community college has active partnerships with regional 4-year colleges and universities to promote successful transfer, such as articulation, 2+2, or reverse transfer agreements or operation of a university center.</p>	<p>MCC has more than 120 articulation agreements, spanning most area colleges and universities. These agreements include 3+1, 2+2, and transfer guides. MCC has signed reverse articulation agreements with Davenport University, Grand Valley State University, Ferris State University, Central Michigan University, and Western Michigan University. MCC has partnered with MSU to provide associate degrees in agriculture on MCC’s main campus in Sidney. MCC and MSU jointly employ a recruiter/program director for the agricultural program housed on MCC’s campus.</p> <p>MCC, along with the Michigan Community College Association, and other community colleges and universities, is participating in statewide articulation agreements in Biology, Psychology, Criminal Justice, Communication, Social Work, and Engineering & Business.</p>

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	<p>MCC has a partnership with Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU) and Davenport University (DU) that allows MCC nursing students may take additional courses, concurrently or sequenced to complete their BSN (Bachelor of Science in Nursing) degree. The classes are offered both on campus and online by our university partners for MCC students. MCC is actively participating in the ADN=BSN program for degree completion and increasing participation and completion in health care career fields.</p>
Category C: Community Services (must meet 4 of 5)	
<p>(i) The community college provides continuing education programming for leisure, wellness, personal enrichment, or professional development.</p>	<p>MCC annually offers more than 100 continuing education courses for the community. These courses include computer training, art, local history, business skills, yoga and wellness, teacher CEUs, languages, music, and others.</p>
<p>(ii) The community college operates or sponsors opportunities for community members to engage in activities that promote leisure, wellness, cultural or personal enrichment such as community sports teams, theater or musical ensembles, or artist guilds.</p>	<p>MCC’s Recreation and Fitness Center features a pool, gym and fitness center that are open to the public, featuring activities such as cornhole, badminton, pickleball, indoor walking, tennis, disc golf and several water exercise classes. MCC also offers cultural trips open to students and the public through our student-led clubs.</p> <p>MCC is working through a partnership agreement with another central Michigan community college that would bring study abroad opportunities to the faculty and students of both institutions.</p> <p>MCC offers adult and youth enrichment opportunities through its noncredit offerings each semester. These offerings range from Gardening 101 to MIG Welding at Home.</p> <p>MCC promotes musical interests through its Alumni & Friends Choir, a community-based choir that performs fall and spring concerts for the community. We also host local musical performers on our Sidney campus for all to enjoy.</p>

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	<p>MCC also partners with local community groups to sponsor Music in the Park performances in several communities.</p> <p>To promote personal wellness, the Recreation Department also offers nutritional evaluations, personal training, personal workout programs, group and private swim lessons, among others. In addition, special offerings are made for specific target audiences such as senior citizens, home school students and other special populations.</p> <p>MCC houses Montcalm Heritage Village, which features 28 structures from the turn of the Century. The village hosts its annual Heritage Festival the first weekend in August, where attendees may take a step back in time to experience attractions such as Vintage Base Ball, Civil War Re-enactments, school conducted in a one-room schoolhouse and other activities.</p>
<p>(iii) The community college operates public facilities to promote cultural, educational, or personal enrichment for community members, such as libraries, computer labs, performing arts centers, museums, art galleries, or television or radio stations.</p>	<p>MCC operates a campus library that is open to the public and collaborates with all the local district libraries. MCC computer labs in Greenville and Sidney are open to the public and offer free Internet access. Students from local schools regularly come to MCC's main campus in Sidney to see the Mastodon bones that are on display, and tour Heritage Village to learn about the history of Montcalm County. One Book One County Montcalm and MCC Reads engage the entire community in reading and discussing books.</p>
<p>(iv) The community college operates public facilities to promote leisure or wellness activities for community members, including gymnasiums, athletic fields, tennis courts, fitness centers, hiking or biking trails, or natural areas.</p>	<p>MCC operates a gymnasium, pool, and a fitness center available to the public for a small charge. MCC has tennis courts, pickleball courts, and a disc golf course available to the public at no charge, and five miles of nature trails on the main campus in Sidney. These trails are connected to the Fred Meijer Heartland Trail through the Lena Meijer Trail Connector. MCC also holds the Bramble Ramble, an</p>

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	<p>annual 5K run, 10K run, and one-mile walk on the Kenneth J. Lehman Nature Trails on the college's Sidney campus.</p> <p>Montcalm Community College's Recreation & Fitness Center is a Silver Sneakers site. That means community members who are 65 or older may purchase a membership at no cost through select Medicare plans.</p>
<p>(v) The community college promotes, sponsors, or hosts community service activities for students, staff, or community members.</p>	<p>MCC student organizations are encouraged to consider avenues for community service as part of their planned activities. MCC's marketing classes create marketing plans for local businesses, and MCC's Tax Accounting students work with the Montcalm-Ionia United Way to complete yearly taxes for low-income families. MCC provides space on its Sidney and Greenville campuses for community activities, which include community meetings, workshops, and information sessions that promote the local community. The college also partners with a variety of local businesses and organizations to provide space for meetings and training sessions.</p> <p>MCC's nursing program has the opportunity to volunteer their time at flu clinics, blood drives, blood pressure screenings and first aid stations utilizing the program's health trailer.</p> <p>Through service-learning projects, MCC students, instructors and staff support community activities such as local food pantries, clothing collections, health clinics and efforts to combat homelessness. They also volunteer to assist with community projects.</p>