

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
2026-29 Strategic Plan Development Timeline

Background:

The 2026-29 Strategic Plan will be developed over the course of 2025-26, with the goal of approval by the State Board of Community Colleges (SBCC) in August or September 2026. This refined timeline incorporates the approach framework, clarifying iterative points of input, roles, and committee alignment.

Stage 1: Strategic Goal Development

Timing: September 2025 – January 2026

Focus: Establish high-level goals for the 2026–29 Strategic Plan to incorporate into the System President search profile. Engagement will include System Office, colleges, SBCC, NC Association of Community College Presidents (NCACCP), NC Association of Community College Trustees (NCACCT), and selected partners and stakeholders.

Planning Milestones	Expected Date	Outputs
Present Framework for New Strategic Plan to SBCC Planning Committee	Sept 19, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic Planning Timeline: Overview & Stage 1 Details Strategic Planning Approach & Alignment
Analyze Strategic Plan and Draft Goals with Senior Team	Sept 29, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key Lessons Learned from Current Strategic Plan Key Emerging Issues for Next Strategic Plan Draft Goals for Next Plan
Gather Feedback on Draft Goals with NCACCP via Regional Presidents Groups	Oct 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key Lessons Learned from Current Strategic Plan Key Emerging Issues for Next Strategic Plan Revised Draft Goals for Next Strategic Plan
Analyze Strategic Plan and Revise Goals with SBCC Members	Oct 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key Lessons Learned from Current Strategic Plan Key Emerging Issues for Next Strategic Plan Revised Draft Goals for Next Strategic Plan
SBCC Meeting	Oct 17, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on Planning Process Approval of Tactics for Final Year of Current Strategic Plan
Gather Feedback on Draft Goals with NCACCT	Oct-Nov 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised Draft Goals for Next Strategic Plan
Gather Feedback on Draft Goals with Other Partners and Stakeholders	Nov 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised Draft Goals for Next Strategic Plan
SBCC Meeting	Nov 21, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on Planning Process
Finalize Draft Goals with Senior Team and SBCC Members	Dec 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised Draft Goals for Next Strategic Plan

SBCC Meeting	Jan 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final Goals to SBCC for Future Action Strategic Planning Timeline: Overview & Stage 2 Details
SBCC Meeting	Feb 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final Goals to SBCC for Action

Stage 2: KPI and Strategic Implementation Tactic Development

Timing: January – June 2026

Focus: Define measurable KPIs and annual Implementation Tactics, with clear ownership between the System Office and colleges. Engagement will include co-owners deeply, partners selectively, and stakeholders through structured input. Oversight distributed across SBCC and NCACCP committees.

Planning Milestones	Expected Date	Outputs
Workshops with System Office & Colleges to Draft KPIs	Jan–Feb 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft KPIs Aligned with Strategic Goals
SBCC Meeting	Feb 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on Planning Process Update on Tactics for Final Year of Current Strategic Plan
Feedback from SBCC Committees & NCACCP	Feb–Mar 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refined KPIs with Governance Input
Engage Partners (e.g., employers, agencies, funders)	Mar 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targeted input into KPIs and tactics
SBCC Meeting	Mar 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on Planning Process Update on Tactics for Final Year of Current Strategic Plan
Gather Stakeholder Feedback (surveys, focus groups, advisory boards)	Mar–Apr 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refined KPIs and Tactics Informed by Stakeholder Input
Draft Annual Strategic Implementation Plan with Tactics	Apr 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Plan with Ownership Assigned to System Office and Colleges
SBCC Meeting	Apr 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on Planning Process Update on Tactics for Final Year of Current Strategic Plan
Review Draft Implementation Plan with SBCC Committees & NCACCP	May 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refined Draft Implementation Plan
SBCC Meeting	May 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on Planning Process Update on Tactics for Final Year of Current Strategic Plan
Finalize KPIs & Annual Implementation Tactics	June 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved KPIs and Draft Annual Implementation Plan; Preparation for Stage 3

Stage 3: Strategic Plan Approval and Rollout

Timing: July – September 2026

Focus: Refine and adopt the 2026–29 Strategic Plan and the first annual Strategic Implementation Plan. Engagement will ensure the new System President’s vision is incorporated. Communication and rollout efforts will emphasize clarity, alignment, and shared accountability.

Planning Milestones	Expected Date	Outputs
SBCC Meeting	Jul 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on Planning Process
Incorporate System President Vision for Strategic Plan aligned with President’s Annual Goals	Jul-Aug 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised Strategic Plan Revised Strategic Implementation Plan
Communications Plan Development	Jul-Aug 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications Plan for Strategic Plan Rollout
SBCC Meeting	Aug 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Previewed Strategic Plan (For Future Action)
SBCC Meeting	Sept 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved Strategic Plan (For Action) Previewed Strategic Implementation Plan (For Future Action)
Strategic Plan Rollout	Sept 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic Plan Rollout Communications
SBCC Meeting	Oct 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved Strategic Implementation Plan (For Action)

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