

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
System Office Mission Statement

Request: Adopt a mission statement for the North Carolina Community College System Office.

Background:

The development of a System Office mission statement was prompted by recent engagements with college presidents and State Board members in the context of input gathering related to the development of the 2026-29 System Strategic Plan. Subsequent analysis was conducted related to general statute and input was gathered from System Office leadership, State Board leadership, and the System Advisory Council.

Following the January meeting of the State Board, one revision was made to the recommended System Office Mission Statement, changing from “national” to “global” to align with the aspirational geographic scope of the System Strategic Goal to “Build the best workforce in the world.” It is noted below.

Recommendation:

NEW System Office Mission Statement:

The System Office leads statewide policy, advocacy, modernization, and workforce alignment to strengthen community college capacity and ensure North Carolina is the ~~national~~ global leader in talent and workforce readiness.

Rationale:

State Board members and community college presidents highlighted that greater clarity between the *System* and the *System Office* is essential for effective governance, strategic alignment, and communication.

The *System* includes 58 Community Colleges, each governed by a local board of Trustees, the System Office, and the State Board of Community Colleges. The *System* includes over 30,000 employees who support and serve over 600,000 students annually across all 100 counties.

The recommended new *System Office* mission statement aligns with the *System* mission statement and *System* vision statement, provided below, and is meant to succinctly and accurately reflect statutory mandates and the *System Office's role* in advancing the *System's* mission and vision. It will help guide internal decision-making of the System Office, support the System Presidential Search, and provide a foundation for the upcoming System Strategic Plan.

System Mission Statement

“The mission of the North Carolina Community College System is to open the door to high quality, accessible educational opportunities that minimize barriers to post-secondary education, maximize student success, and improve the lives and wellbeing of individuals by providing: (a) education, training and retraining for the workforce, including basic skills and literacy education, occupational and pre-baccalaureate programs; (b) support for economic development through services to and in partnership with business and industry; and (c) services to communities and individuals which improve the quality of life.” (1A SBCCC 200.1)

System Vision Statement

“Elevating North Carolina's future by delivering a diverse, highly skilled talent pipeline, aligned to the labor market, supporting economic mobility that creates transformational generational change, and setting the national standard for innovation in higher education and workforce development.” (SBCC Approved March 2024)

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