Colorado Mountain College Strategic Plan / Reaching Greater Heights (2019-23)



Our Vision:

We aspire to be the most inclusive and innovative student-centered college in the nation, elevating the economic, social, cultural, and environmental vitality of our beautiful Rocky Mountain communities.

Summary of Key Pillars, Goals, and Priorities

PILLAR A Student Access & Success

GOAL: Provide inclusive student access, support services, and academic pathways that result in improved retention, completion, and preparation for our complex economy and society.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

- 1. Increase accessibility and student outcomes by developing inclusive, personalized, and consistent approaches to enrollment, registration, and financial aid.
- 2. Intentionally coordinate services to create awareness and support the safety, mental health, and wellness of students, faculty, and staff.
- 3. Design all academic pathways and student services to result in consistent, equitable outcomes in retention and persistence, timely completion, and relevant job skills.
- 4. Evaluate and implement credit for prior learning opportunities, to reduce the time and cost to complete education for the "new traditional" student.
- 5. Develop and improve first-generation student/parent/family recruitment and education strategies to attract and support underrepresented populations.

PILLAR B ** Teaching & Learning

GOAL: Invest in a culture of innovation and high-quality learning that equips all learners with the social, emotional, and cognitive skills needed for success in their chosen fields in a dynamic economy.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

- 1. Implement comprehensive course and program assessment that promotes deep learning and informs changes to improve student completion.
- Actively collaborate with school districts to promote academic and social readiness for postsecondary/workforce education opportunities.
- 3. Implement a plan to ensure that all campuses and programs consistently and effectively use existing and new educational technologies.
- 4. Integrate experiential, work-based, and/or service learning practices and curricula into all academic programs.
- 5. Improve the consistency and availability of community and continuing education.
- Support professional development of faculty to explore and develop innovative learning methods that promote both technical and soft skills in the classroom.

PILLAR C ★★ Community & Economic Development

GOAL: Engage in strategic partnerships that benefit the students, employees, and communities CMC serves.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

- Match academic and training pathways to local and regional labor market demands by innovating and integrating with industry partners.
- 2. Communicate to students, faculty, and staff regional labor market opportunities and their alignment to educational programs that CMC offers.
- Implement partnerships with regional businesses and organizations to supply internships, apprenticeships, service learning experiences, and job placements that complement educational offerings.
- 4. Serve as a conduit to and provider of activities and events that promote diverse ideas, experiences, and cultural competencies.
- 5. Seek out and promote joint-use partnerships for current and new facilities that address resource needs of both the college and mountain communities.

PILLAR D ** Organizational Effectiveness

GOAL: Organize all CMC operations, systems, structures, and personnel to improve productivity and effectiveness.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

- 1. Improve job fulfillment and retention by valuing employees through enhanced opportunities for engagement, training, and appreciation.
- 2. Ensure a high degree of proficiency in new technologies by providing training and support to all faculty and staff.
- 3. Incorporate sustainability principles into the college's decision-making practices.
- 4. Clarify decision-making procedures to ensure they support collaboration between and among campuses and functional areas throughout the college.
- 5. Develop and implement consistent and routine policies, procedures, and processes to ensure that academic programs are relevant, are sustainable, are effective, and produce gainful outcomes.