

# CMC STRATEGIC PLAN 2023 - 2030



# MOUNTAIN FUTURES

## VISION

Colorado Mountain College aspires to serve and elevate the economic, social, cultural, and environmental vitality of its beautiful Rocky Mountain region by welcoming all learners through its doors, delivering highly relevant education and training, and serving as a trusted partner for strategic collaboration and innovation.

## PURPOSE (OUR MISSION)

As a uniquely financed, Dual Mission, Hispanic Serving Institution, Colorado Mountain College offers accessible, personalized, and affordable programs across a vast array of disciplines – from the liberal and visual arts to career and outdoor industry training. Through specialized certificate and undergraduate degree programs, adult basic education, and lifelong learning opportunities, CMC's faculty and staff inspire, challenge, and prepare students to meaningfully impact Colorado's Western Slope and beyond. With a shared commitment to the health and well-being of place and one another, CMC maintains an enduring responsibility to contribute to the strength, resiliency, and sustainability of its local mountain communities.





## EQUITY

CMC is unconditionally inclusive – striving to ensure and expand equitable access, opportunities, and outcomes for all.

CMC warmly welcomes all learners and strives to ensure that each experiences success through personalized academic and specialized training pathways as well as positive, often targeted, high-impact engagement. To accomplish excellence and achieve equity throughout the college, every member of the CMC community shares a responsibility to promote an environment in which all individuals enjoy respect and acceptance, civility abounds, and diversity of thought and expression are encouraged and celebrated. CMC strives to feel like a safe place for all who choose to interact with, work, learn, and grow at the college.



## CARE

CMC cares for the people and communities it serves, and the planet – thoughtfully, intentionally, and with future generations in mind.

CMC is an integral part of Colorado's high country and the only higher education institution operating in its region. These are both facts and treasured responsibilities. As the mountain economy goes, so too goes CMC. Therefore, as an essential component of its rugged and vast region, the college intends to deliver educational excellence while modeling ethical conduct and sincere appreciation for its people, its communities, and its environment. In short, CMC cares.



## INNOVATION

CMC leverages its unique operating structure, creative capacities, cutting-edge thinking, and data-informed approaches to provide exceptional teaching and learning, personalized student and employee support, and bold solutions to community needs.

CMC is a preeminent rural college and Hispanic Serving Institution that takes risks for the benefit of students and rebuffs the status quo when it impedes progress. At the same time, CMC accepts that adapting to change is not a choice in higher education and that mountain communities continue to evolve at an unprecedented pace. Therefore, CMC must continuously innovate while upholding the tried-and-true strategies and practices that have enabled the success of countless students. Leveraging its unique structure and funding, creative capacities, and data-informed approaches, CMC must confidently reach students with exceptional teaching and learning, deliver personalized support services, and create bold solutions to address the needs of employees and the communities the college serves.



## INTEGRITY

CMC demonstrates a return on investment by effectively and ethically stewarding financial resources and building and maintaining thoughtful, strategic collaborations and partnerships.

CMC's unique locations and funding model enable it to focus on its purpose without the fiscal stresses and distractions that are common in public higher education. While the college is held in high esteem in its communities and has stewarded its resources responsibly and ethically, these attributes are earned – not assured – and must be maintained with principled effort. To ensure that the college has the resources necessary to fulfill the commitments expressed in this plan, CMC must manage its affairs with steadfast integrity. By demonstrating a return on the community's investments and forging thoughtful, strategic collaborations and partnerships, CMC will continue to dream bigger and accomplish more than might be assumed possible by a rural open-access college with few peers regionally or nationally.