

CLC Mission and Goals

Established by the citizens of Lake County within a framework of the Illinois Master Plan for Higher Education, the College of Lake County is a comprehensive community college dedicated primarily to meeting the post-secondary educational needs of individuals within District 532. The College of Lake County is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association, 30 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60602, (312)-263-0456 or (800) 621-7440.

The College of Lake County strives for excellence by responding to a wide range of transfer, career, continuing, and developmental educational needs through diverse and relevant curricular offerings. More specifically, the college pledges to provide high quality general education in the liberal arts and sciences, career education commensurate with student occupational needs and opportunities, continuing education, and basic skills that are essential for success. The college also strives to ensure that its students develop an appreciation for the diversity of world cultures and the importance of international and multicultural perspectives. As an institution that values the learning of its faculty and staff as well as its students, the college will engage in ongoing processes of assessing student achievement and providing staff development in order to improve its work and be accountable to its several constituencies.

The college pledges to support these courses and programs with an array of print, multimedia, and electronic learning resources, and flexible student services that include advising, counseling, financial aid, and placement. Throughout all of its work, the college will maintain academic standards that will lead to competence and encourage the pursuit of excellence.

Furthermore, the college affirms its commitment to fostering the cultural, aesthetic, and intellectual life of the district and assumes responsibility for providing leadership to the community in these areas. In addition, the college is committed to the advancement and development of the district's economy and recognizes its civic responsibility to provide education and training for business and industry. In these and other areas of its mission, the college will enter into partnerships that will help achieve greater efficiency and effectiveness.

The college assures equal access and opportunity for all individuals regardless of race, ethnic origin, creed, gender, age, veteran's status, sexual orientation, or non-disqualifying disability.

The College of Lake County sets forth the following goals and objectives for Fiscal Years 2008-2009:

Strategic Goal 1: Learning

The College of Lake County will enhance student learning.

This goal includes the following themes: enhancing teaching and learning, using active learning strategies and technology to enhance learning and the acquisition of knowledge, skills and abilities including general education appropriate for university transfer and enhanced skills to allow successful participation in competitive workforce.

Objective 1: The College will improve and foster student learning in general education appropriate for university transfer and career education including acquisition of critical thinking, communication, technology usage skills, quantitative literacy, social, civic, historic, cultural/and multicultural awareness.

Objective 2: The College will serve as a leader in workforce training by offering programs and courses designed to meet the current and future workforce needs of the district.

Objective 3: The College will encourage active learning approaches in instruction including innovative uses of technology, collaborative learning, service learning, work-based learning and problem-based learning.

Objective 4: The College will increase the academic success rates of students, especially those needing developmental education, English literacy skills or identified as at-risk of not meeting their educational goals.

Objective 5: The College will serve as a life-long learning resource center by offering a diverse range of cultural, humanities, civic, world culture programs and offerings that foster and enhance public understanding.

Strategic Goal 2: Outreach

The College of Lake County will strengthen its outreach to the community.

This goal includes the following themes: increasing outreach to identify and serve community needs and increasing partnerships with diverse constituent groups within the community.

Objective 1: The College will increase public awareness of its educational programs and opportunities for financial aid in order to increase higher education participation of those with the ability to benefit.

Objective 2: The College will identify and respond to the educational needs of diverse populations within Lake County, partnering with educators, businesses, social agencies, the military, governmental agencies, civic organizations and community groups to address educational issues affecting the quality of life in Lake County.

Strategic Goal 3: Access and Student Success

The College of Lake County will work to reduce barriers and increase opportunities to meet the diverse needs of the people of Lake County.

This goal includes the following themes: focusing on student-centered services, and enhancing the technology infrastructure.

Objective 1: The College will continuously improve student services, including the use of technology, to ensure that students have easy access to the information, people, and services they need to be successful and will adopt and promote academic and student policies that encourage retention, growth in personal responsibility and academic work ethic.

Objective 2: The College will facilitate educational transitions from one level to the next by forming partnerships and cooperative agreements with four-year colleges and universities and working closely with the University Center of Lake County.

Objective 3: The College will form partnerships with Lake County primary and secondary schools to promote student preparation and transition to college.

Objective 4: The College will strengthen and enhance the academic advising system to improve student decision-making in university transfer and career programs and will encourage students to develop a career plan that connects their career objectives to an educational plan.

Objective 5: The College will improve the success of students in achieving their individual academic goals.

Objective 6: The College will promote increased participation in financial aid and scholarships.

Strategic Goal 4: Accountability and Responsible Stewardship

The College of Lake County will evaluate and improve all academic and nonacademic departments to ensure high quality and utilize resources efficiently and effectively and expand facilities.

This goal includes the following themes: focusing on effectiveness and efficiency, assessing and continuously improving all academic and nonacademic departments and programs, and ensuring adequate financial resources.

Objective 1: The College will ensure its long-term financial viability including evaluating options for achieving greater cost efficiency in operations, maximizing the use of existing revenue sources and developing new revenue sources.

Objective 2: The College will incorporate the principles of continuous improvement into its functions conducting reviews of all academic and nonacademic departments and using the results in college decision making systems to ensure the highest quality of education, efficient and effective operations and superior services to students, staff and the community, measuring student and stakeholder satisfaction.

Objective 3: The College will foster a working environment which values and respects employee contributions, encourages and strengthens participation in decision-making, demonstrates internal relationships that emphasize collaboration across departments, open communication and team building.

Objective 4: The College will promote learning by fostering, modifying and expanding a safe, clean and environmentally responsible campus that enhances students' physical, social and intellectual well-being and meets the needs of the community.

Objective 5: The College recognizes the critical contribution of its faculty and staff to achieving higher education excellence in the teaching and learning environment and accordingly will provide resources for professional development.