Illinois Central College

Strategic Directions

Strategic Directions are broad directions that meet community needs, provide guidance for how ICC engages with and serves students, and support strategic approaches.

Innovation
Model agility, creativity, and progressive thinking while leveraging resources to increase student success and prepare learners to meet ever-changing community and workforce needs.

Engagement
Create a positive sense of community with internal and external stakeholders that connects with students at every level of their educational experience.

Collaboration
Seek enhanced partnerships (internal and external) by communicating effectively and by designing and implementing clearly articulated outcomes.

Alignment
Develop and refine integrated education and workforce systems based on collective understanding of student and community needs.

Goal Statements

Goal statements are measurable courses of action that move an organization forward in its approach.

• **Increase completion rates for all students, particularly underperforming student groups.**
  
  This goal will address creating systems that improve the outcomes of all students while targeting groups with high completion rate gaps (African-American, Pell-eligible, and part-time students). It will also consider the unique needs of adult students in programming redesign that aligns with career and academic goal attainment for returning adults.

• **Improve college readiness, career readiness, and student transitions across the educational ecosystem.**
  
  This goal will address issues such as early high school interventions in English and Math, creating pathways from high school to ICC to transfer institutions/workforce, and improving success rates of students who begin in developmental courses.

• **Align curricula with workforce, transfer institutions, and community needs to ensure ICC meets regional demands.**
  
  This goal will address curriculum alignment with partners, which may include businesses, community groups, economic development agencies, state and federal agencies, and funding/granting agencies. Additionally, it will address building and sustaining partnerships to guide pathways, scheduling, and work-based experiences while seeking resource-sharing around explicit outcomes.
• **Enhance the student-focused culture to increase student engagement.**

This goal addresses the redesign of our students’ experiences for ease of engagement, which may include onboarding, scheduling, advising and enrollment. Additionally, it addresses the delivery of student-learning services and ensures academic innovation.

• **Build capacity for change to support employee engagement in the strategic agenda.**

This goal addresses employee support through professional development, active involvement, and transparent communications, while enhancing employee opportunities for job-sharing and cross-training.