SACS Core Requirement 2.4

2.4 - Institutional Mission
The institution has a clearly defined, comprehensive, and published mission statement that is specific to the institution and appropriate for higher education. The mission addresses teaching and learning and, where applicable, research and public service.

Judgment of Compliance

☑ In Compliance

Statement of Rationale for Judgment of Compliance

Chipola College has a clearly-defined and widely published statement of mission and purpose (\[1\]). The current format was adopted in 1996 during an extensive revision which included Community Listening Sessions in each of the five counties in the college district. The statement was revised again in 2002 with input from the entire campus and again in 2004 to reflect the addition of Baccalaureate degrees (\[5\]; \[6\]). The statement is published in a variety of documents and on the website, as shown in (\[1\]; \[2\]; \[3\]; \[4\]).

The current statement is specific to Chipola College and appropriate for an institution of higher education. It clearly represents Chipola’s mandate to serve the varied postsecondary education needs of its large rural district. The college was led during the last three revision efforts by the Planning and Accountability Committee and the Governance Council, a 16-member group representing students, faculty, administrators, and staff. The goal of the most recent revision project was to be sure the statement clearly describes “who we are,” “what we do,” and “what we hope to achieve.” Hence the adoption of an “expanded” statement format with multiple elements, including the college’s motto, vision, mission, success factors, and institutional goals.

Teaching and learning are addressed at the heart of the mission statement as follows: “The college creates a student-oriented atmosphere of educational excellence and maintains an intellectual environment which inspires the full development of each individual’s goals, abilities, and interests. Because there is no substitute for quality instruction, the college empowers faculty members to establish and achieve the highest possible standards” (Mission, below). All resources at Chipola College are directly or indirectly focused on teaching and learning.

The following Statement of Mission and Purpose guides decision-making at all levels of the institution:
Chipola College Statement of Mission and Purpose

Motto
“A Higher Degree of Success”

Vision
Chipola College promotes learning and student achievement through excellence, opportunity, diversity, and progress.

Mission
Chipola is a comprehensive public college whose mission is to provide accessible, affordable, quality educational opportunities to the residents of Calhoun, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington counties and to all others who choose to attend. The college creates a student-oriented atmosphere of educational excellence and maintains an intellectual environment which inspires the full development of each individual’s goals, abilities, and interests. Because there is no substitute for quality instruction, the college empowers faculty members to establish and achieve the highest possible standards. The college also promotes a strong working relationship with communities, businesses, state agencies, and other educational institutions.

Chipola provides the following:
- Educational programs which include general and pre-professional classes leading to the Associate in Arts degree for transfer into baccalaureate degree programs;
- Selected baccalaureate degree programs which produce educated and capable professionals;
- Workforce Development programs leading to Associate in Science degrees, Associate in Applied Science degrees, and Certificates of Training to prepare students for careers;
- Continuing Education programs related to professional and personal development; and
- A broad range of enrollment and student services and instructional and administrative support to facilitate student success.

–Revised June 15, 2004

Success Factors and Institutional Goals

Success Factor 1: Quality Educational Programs

Institutional Goal 1: Provide quality instruction in academic, workforce development, and continuing education programs, including sufficient instructional support to meet the needs of students.

Success Factor 2: Effective Marketing, Recruitment, and Enrollment

Institutional Goal 2: Present the college and its programs in positive ways, making every effort to attract and enroll as many students as possible by marketing the college in a variety of methods and enrolling students in efficient and customer-oriented ways.

Success Factor 3: Student Retention, Satisfaction, and Completion

Institutional Goal 3: Provide a wide-range of academic, developmental and support services to help retain students in programs by increasing the percentage of students who remain continuously enrolled through completion of a degree or certificate.

Success Factor 4: Responsible Resource Management

Institutional Goal 4: Promote the responsible management of resources by maintaining sound fiscal operations, seeking additional resources, improving college facilities, and providing an environment conducive to progressive implementation of technology.

Success Factor 5: Staff and Organizational Development

Institutional Goal 5: Encourage staff and organizational development by supporting an efficient and productive work environment where employees demonstrate competence, integrity, and professional excellence.

Success Factor 6: Community Involvement and Development

Institutional Goal 6: Foster strong community involvement and workforce development by supporting local and state economic growth and encouraging civic, cultural, recreational, and service activities.

Success Factor 7: Post-Chipola Student Satisfaction and Success

Institutional Goal 7: Maintain a strong reputation for promoting student satisfaction and long-term success by equipping students with the knowledge and skills necessary to pursue their goals and become more productive citizens.

Success Factors are “the things that must go right for an organization to flourish and achieve its goals.”

DeAnza College
The college is committed to reviewing and modifying its Statement of Mission and Purpose to ensure that Chipola continues to meet the needs of its constituency. The District Board of Trustees reviews the statement annually, participates in the revision process, and approves all revisions ([5]; [6]).

Documentation:


[5] Minutes, Chipola College District Board of Trustees, June 15, 2004