

State Accountability Report 2016 - 2017

Midlands Technical College

Dr. Ronald L. Rhames, President

August 31, 2017

The vision of Midlands Technical College (MTC) is to be a premier higher education partner that creates innovative learning environments, promotes individual and business success, drives economic vitality, and enhances quality of life. With the implementation of its strategic planning model in 1984, the college developed systematic and on-going performance review systems across the institution to evaluate the success in each of these areas.

Through its strategic planning process, the college states its mission as: *Midlands Technical College is a comprehensive, multi-campus, two-year public college serving the primary region of Richland, Lexington and Fairfield counties of South Carolina. College programs and services provide accessible, affordable, quality education that prepares a diverse student population to succeed in the job market, to transfer to senior colleges and universities, and to achieve their professional and personal goals. The college equitably provides higher education opportunities, strengthens businesses and enhances the economic and social vitality of the community.*

The college has embraced the learner-centered concept to achieve this mission and to educate the region's future workforce. All college faculty members are involved in developing program/course outcomes, competencies and measures, analyzing the data collected, implementing appropriate changes, and determining the impact of these changes on student learning.

In the 2016-2018 Strategic Plan, Midlands Technical College established three Focus Goals and ten Initiatives to measure success on achieving its mission. This report summarizes the current goals and initiatives, the college's major successes throughout the 2016 - 2017 academic year, and the findings for several of its student success criteria.

Focus Goal: Growing the College

Initiatives:

- Increase enrollment in targeted STEM-related programs
- Increase the students who are dually enrolled at high school campuses
- Increase the number of current employers sponsoring training or providing tuition assistance for employees
- Increase enrollment of credit students
- Grow overall student retention rate

Focus Goal: Leveraging Goodwill

Initiatives:

- Increase the number of students receiving private support for unmet financial needs
- Increase alumni association membership
- Increase endowment

Focus Goal: Making Lives Better

Initiatives:

- Increase training that is in-demand
- Integrate Life Skills into college programs

Institutional Highlights 2016 - 2017

- Midlands Technical College students in the Nursing and Health Sciences career programs scored a 93 percent pass rate on licensure exams, a testament to the academic excellence and outstanding faculty in these areas.
- MTC created a specialized STEM Institute for local high schools in response to an initiative from the S.C. Technical College System. MTC faculty highlighted STEM programs to area high school staff, who visited four of MTC's campuses to explore a STEM career pathway through hands-on demonstrations.
- Midlands Technical College and its partner Richland School District Two's Institute of Innovation (R2i2) were awarded the Outstanding Continuing Education Cooperative Program by the South Carolina Association for Higher Continuing Education. The collaboration brought Richland Two high school students to the MTC Northeast Campus for an iOS App Development course.
- Midlands Technical College and South Carolina State University formalized a bridge agreement that will provide graduates from MTC's Associate in Arts and Associate in Science programs, as well as some MTC career programs, direct transfer of credits to SC State. MTC and Columbia College also entered an agreement that provides opportunities for students with associate degrees from MTC to transfer to Columbia College as juniors.
- The Gamecock Gateway Program expanded by eight percent, to approximately 450 Gamecock Gateway students. Additional growth is limited by dorm room availability at USC. More than 1,100 Gamecock Gateway students and parents visited MTC for an on-campus orientation session.
- MTC officially opened its new Veterans Success Center for service members and veterans to connect and network. A campus hub for veterans in terms of outreach and community resources, the center will also be the home for the college's VetSuccess on Campus counselor. Midlands Technical College was one of only 50 colleges nationwide awarded funding for such a project.
- The Midlands Technical College Student Nurses' Association (SNA) received seven state awards at the 65th Annual Student Nurses' Association of South Carolina State Convention, setting a record for the most SNA awards ever earned by a college or university nursing program in South Carolina.
- The Midlands Technical College Phi Theta Kappa Honor's Society Chapter received five awards at the Phi Theta Kappa International Convention in Nashville, Tennessee. Accolades ranged from the chapter receiving five-star status, the highest-level of recognition of nearly 13,000 chapters worldwide, to individual honors for alumni and advisors. The MTC Phi Theta Kappa Chapter is a Top 100 international chapter.
- Camp Catch Your Breath of the Midlands, the Service Learning project of Midlands Technical College's Respiratory Care program, received the annual Service Learning Award from the S.C. Commission on Higher Education (CHE). The camp is a student-driven, sustainable community outreach health promotion campaign that provides MTC's Respiratory Care students the opportunity for hands-on application of their acquired skills and knowledge.
- Michelin North America's Lexington manufacturing site held a Signing Day ceremony for area high school students who were selected to further their education at Midlands Technical College, as part of Michelin's Technical Scholar program. Eight students from area high schools in Lexington School District One and Lexington/Richland School District Five were chosen as Michelin Technical Scholars.

- In support of Black History Month, the South Carolina General Assembly passed a resolution declaring February 22, 2017, as Harbison History Day in South Carolina. Midlands Technical College pioneered the resolution, which was sponsored by more than 120 legislators and honored the long tradition of multicultural, open-door access to higher education offered on the present site of the MTC Harbison Campus.
- For the 21st consecutive year, the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) awarded Midlands Technical College the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting (CAFR) for the fiscal year 2015-2016. The Certificate is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting.
- Harbison Theatre at Midlands Technical College was named the Nonprofit Organization of the Year by the Greater Irmo Chamber of Commerce.
- MTC was awarded more than \$8.78 million in competitive federal grant funding in FY 2016-2017. Among the awards was \$4 million for Midlands TechHire, a grant that provides access to accelerated training for students in networking and programming occupations, such as computer technician, network administrator, server administrator and web developer. The program will serve 400 students and provide tuition scholarships, paid internships and extensive supportive services to qualifying students.
- The MTC Foundation raised \$235,637 in new money and pledges for the endowment. MTC Foundation's assets increased to \$11 million, the highest in the college's history. Commission members pledged approximately \$165,000, and Foundation Board members contributed \$1.7 million to the MTC Foundation (over the last two years).
- Michelin North America donated \$35,000 to provide equipment for the MTC Mechatronics Technology Certificate program at MTC. In recognition of the commitment, MTC named its Mechatronics Laboratory the Michelin North America Mechatronics Laboratory. In addition, the Flex Foundation awarded the Midlands Technical College Foundation \$20,000. MTC named a classroom in its new Advanced Manufacturing and Skilled Crafts Center after the Flex Foundation in appreciation for the gift.
- The MTC Foundation established the Dr. James R. Morris, Jr. Leadership Development Endowment Fund. Dr. Morris was MTC's president from 1982 to 1986 and Executive Director of the State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education until 1994. The fund provides leadership development opportunities for MTC employees who demonstrate interest and capabilities to become two-year college future leaders.
- All employees (full-time, part-time and contract) completed the Service Excellence customer service training program. A committee was formed to develop strategies for sustaining the future of the program. The college began naming Service Excellence Employees of the month.
- More than 200 faculty and staff participated in cross-functional teams as Midlands Technical College completed the first year of its two-year strategic plan implementation. Progress is being made on all ten initiatives.

Student Success Criteria

Fall to Spring Persistence Rates

MTC established the Fall to Spring persistence rate of 71% (+-5%) as the success criteria. Since 2011, MTC successfully met the established criteria.

Table 1. Fall to Spring Persistence Rates

MIDLANDS TECHNICAL COLLEGE - FALL TO SPRING PERSISTENCE RATES					
Term	Fall Cohort	Fall Graduates	Adjusted Cohort	Spring Retention	
				N	%
Fall 2011	11,868	572	11,296	8,420	74.5%
Fall 2012	11,678	513	11,165	7,983	71.5%
Fall 2013	11,304	570	10,734	7,708	71.8%
Fall 2014	10,892	496	10,396	7,480	72.0%
Fall 2015	10,356	468	9,888	7,157	72.4%

Source: Fall data was derived from CERS closing extract. Spring data was derived from CERS opening extract. Graduate data was derived from the CERS graduate extract.

Student Success Rates

The MTC student success rate percentage must fall between the CHE success rates of 30% to 45%. Since 2009, MTC successfully met or exceeded the established criteria.

Table 2. Student Success Rates

MIDLANDS TECHNICAL COLLEGE – STUDENT SUCCESS RATES						
Term	Cohort	Graduates (150%)	Transfers (150%)	Enrolled Fall	Student Success	
					N	%
Fall 2009	2,478	161	535	387	1,083	43.7%
Fall 2010	2,282	146	541	356	1,043	45.7%
Fall 2011	2,374	123	543	357	1,023	43.0%
Fall 2012	2,303	158	597	355	1,110	48.2%
Fall 2013	2,361	135	643	358	1,136	48.1%

Source: CERS opening extract data file, first-time freshman, certificate, degree or diploma seeking. CERS closing and graduate data file. Transfer data from National Student Clearinghouse.

Graduate Production Rates

MTC established a graduate production success criteria rate of greater than or equal to 20%. Since 2011, MTC successfully met the established criteria.

Table 3. Graduate Production Rates

MIDLANDS TECHNICAL COLLEGE – GRADUATE PRODUCTION RATE				
Year	Fall Credit Hours	Fall FTE	Annual Graduates	Graduate Production Rate
2011	118,780	7,919	1,755	22.2%
2012	116,572	7,772	1,655	21.3%
2013	114,267	7,618	1,659	21.8%
2014	112,835	7,522	1,657	22.0%
2015	109,313	7,288	1,946	26.7%

Source: CERS opening extract. CERS graduate extract Fall, Spring and Summer.

Graduate Placement Rates

MTC established success criteria of 80% for graduation placement rate. In three of the past five years, the college successfully met or exceeded the established criteria.

Table 4. Graduate Placement Rates

MIDLANDS TECHNICAL COLLEGE – GRADUATE PLACEMENT RATES					
Year	Graduates	On Job	In School	Total Placed	% Placed
2010 - 2011	1,882	1,240	297	1,537	81.6%
2011 - 2012	2,128	1,369	289	1,658	77.9%
2012 - 2013	1,869	1,158	308	1,466	78.4%
2013 - 2014	2,004	1,322	286	1,608	80.2%
2014 - 2015	1,932	1,239	488	1,727	89.4%

Source: South Carolina Technical College System (SCTCS) program evaluation exhibits
 Year: Academic year, Fall, Spring and Summer.
 Note: Total Placed is total graduates reporting they are either on job (working in their field) or in school.

Course Completion Percentages

MTC established the course completion success criteria as 70% +/- 5%. Since 2012, MTC successfully met the established criteria.

Table 5. Course Completion Percentages

MIDLANDS TECHNICAL COLLEGE – COURSE COMPLETION PERCENTAGE			
Term	Term Grades Total	Completion Percentages	
		Non Completers	% Completed
Fall 2012	32,847	9,901	69.9%
Fall 2013	31,995	9,245	71.1%
Fall 2014	31,835	9,597	69.8%
Fall 2015	30,877	9,184	70.3%
Fall 2016	30,200	8,917	70.5%

Source: CERS closing extract and CERS grades extract. Excludes developmental courses. Completion grades include A, B, C, and S. Non-completion grades include D, F, W, WF, U, NC, and I.