

OCCC Mission Fulfillment Framework

OCCC continues to use its two core themes to assess efficacy: Student Success and Educational Pathways. The core themes incorporate the mechanisms by which we assess mission fulfillment and institutional effectiveness within the standards established by NWCCU. As a rural community college, there are many vital functions we fulfill for our community, for example economic development and civic engagement, which are not fully captured within this NWCCU-driven framework, and are assessed via other methods. Our core theme framework was first developed in 2015, and has undergone review and revision since that time, most recently following upon the Board mission review process. The following definitions and “Over-Archiving Objectives” reflect the latest refinements of the Core Themes.

Student Success Core Theme Definition:

At Oregon Coast Community College, we equip students for success in college and in life by providing exemplary teaching, student development programs, and support services. Students receive customized and relevant advising and enriched supports to maximize completion and success. In response to the diverse needs and histories of our community, we are institutionalizing a philosophy of student success and strengthening the College’s policies, processes, and business practices to facilitate equitable outcomes.

Student Success Core Theme Over-Archiving Objective:

OCCC will improve post-secondary educational attainment across Lincoln County and close achievement gaps for underserved populations in our community.

Educational Pathways Core Theme Definition:

At Oregon Coast Community College, we assess the needs of individuals and employers, and respond by designing pathways and partnerships that address community and regional priorities. We create bridges into our credit pathways from high school – and other feeders – and facilitate transitions to transfer or employment. By narrowing achievement gaps in post-secondary education and raising post-secondary educational attainment, we advance the economic and civic vitality of Lincoln County and beyond.

Educational Pathways Core Theme Over-Archiving Objective:

OCCC will offer rigorous and engaging academic programs and educational options comprised of clear pathways to transfer and employment that enrich individual lives and promote the economic and civic vitality of Lincoln County and beyond.

Core Theme Assessment Tables provide indicators of achievement and corresponding achievement thresholds for each sub-objective, along with a brief rationale for the set of indicators, with methodology for the indicator if not self-evident. This framework places high value on the disaggregation of data within the various indicators, used during the evaluation process to identify potential inequities in access and to examine presence of achievement gaps within underserved populations. While disaggregated data is relied on during assessment and evaluation, the aggregated data is currently used for assessment of overall performance on an indicator.

Calculating Mission Fulfillment

OCCC calculates mission fulfillment based on achievement of thresholds on Core Theme sub-objectives, which are then aggregated into a single achievement measure for each Core Theme. Acceptable progress on each sub-objective is established as 70% achievement, with acceptable progress on each Core Theme defined as 100% of sub-objectives measured at the Acceptable Progress level. Overall College mission fulfillment is defined as “acceptable progress” or “achieved” in both core themes.

A Note on Mission Fulfillment Calculation:

OCCC received notice of its new status as an independently accredited college in February of 2020, with the college’s contracting agreement with Portland Community College ending in June 2020, the end of that academic year. Due to these unique circumstances, from the period of 2014 through the end of the 2019-20 academic year students enrolled at Oregon Coast Community College are officially considered to be and documented as Portland Community College students. Any data associated with these students belongs to and is attributed to Portland Community College. This includes all degree and certificate completion data, outcomes assessment data, course records, and any financial aid/student enrollment records.

Only students who have enrolled beginning summer 2020 term, therefore, are credited and attributable to OCCC as an independent college, with the result that OCCC student data collection and tracking begins with that term also. The absence of robust longitudinal data, with no trend analysis possible, means that effective mission fulfillment calculations and trend analysis cannot be fully realized for another 1-2 years. The college continues to assess outcomes, discuss and analyze results, and formulate improvement strategies during this interim period.