



Shawnee Community College Diversity Statement and Best Practices

Shawnee Community College values diversity and fosters life long learning for all students and communities served throughout the College District. The College is committed to equality, and embraces the diversity of the District's students, faculty, and staff. Diversity is an integral part of the District's academic mission to enrich the student's educational experiences and prepare them to live and contribute to a global society.

Our best practices include resources that exemplify our values of integrity, respect, fairness, responsibility, and diversity. Campus programs encompass activities that are beneficial educationally, economically, and socially for students and the community.

Educational

Student Success Center---The Student Success Center offers tutoring, testing and assessment services including the administration of tests for admission, placement, instructional make-up, and online courses. The tutorial program has professional and peer tutors available to help students who are having difficulty completing their college course work.

Early Alert System--- This is a retention aid used to identify students who display behaviors that can inhibit their academic success. Instructors use an online submission form to refer students to the SCC counselor who does a follow-up and meets with students and provides a plan of action for students who have erratic attendance, excessive tardiness, missed assignments, and poor performance on assignments/tests.

College and Career Readiness---The College and Career Readiness Program (CCR) is a partnership between SCC and district high schools. CCR focuses on preparing high school juniors and seniors to enter college without the need for remediation.

Bridge Program---The SCC Adult Education Bridge Program prepares adults with limited academic or English skills to enter and succeed in credit-bearing postsecondary education and training which would lead to employment in high demand, high skilled occupations. The students increase their knowledge in basic and technical skills.

Technology-----Our technology enables the College to meet the needs of our diverse student body (working adults, part-time students, senior citizens, disadvantaged students, students with disabilities). Our on-line tutoring services, distance learning courses, and on-line programs provide learning opportunities for students 24/7.

Student Support Services (SSS) ---Student Support Services (SSS) provides students with a variety of services and resources to assist in the pursuit of a 4-year degree. Academic support, cultural exposure, personal enhancement and career/transfer assistance are just some of the diverse services provided to participants in the program to increase academic performance, and promote responsibility, integrity, and personal growth. Students in the program come from a variety of backgrounds and are exposed to additional cultures through a variety of cultural and academic activities offered at the college and in the surrounding communities.

Educational Talent Search (ETS)---The TRIO Educational Talent Search Program is an academic outreach program designed to provide educational guidance to students in grades 6 – 12, who wish to pursue a post-secondary education or further training after high school. Talent Search serves a diverse population (White or Caucasian/63%, Hispanic or Latino/1%, Black or African American/32%, more than one race reported/4%).

Multicultural Programs---Our goal is to provide students with various resources that will enable them to gain an understanding of themselves as well as other cultures and their community.

- Hosts a “Kids Day” each year.
- Hosts a “Senior Citizen Day” each year.
- Hosted an International Food Extravaganza Fall Semester
- Promotes Black History Month each February by providing cultural events in the Educational Center that highlights the achievements of women, Afro-Americans and the Latino Culture.
- Sent twenty first generation students to Atlanta to participate in college tours at HBCUs and other Universities in Atlanta.
- Displayed African American Art from the Southern Illinois Art Museum for the months of December, January, and February

Economical

Job Fair-----Shawnee Community College provides an annual career/Job Fair. This gives students and members of the community an opportunity to explore employment and career options available from area employers. This occasion also gives the employers a chance to promote their businesses and identify prospective employees.

Career Services---- Students have an opportunity to identify career interests through assessments that relate their personality, interests, skills, values and aptitudes to various careers. The Career Services department also has a Co-op program (partners with seven rural K-12 school districts) which provides students with hands-on training, invaluable work experience through internships and job observations. Career Services is committed to identifying and developing the student’s skills that are critical to the success of the whole person (educational, personal and professional).

Center for Community and Economic Development---The Center for Community and Economic Development will provide comprehensive business and workforce development services to meet the needs of business and industry in the Shawnee Community College District.

Social

Student Organizations/Clubs---Shawnee Community College considers clubs and other student organizations important assets to college life and encourages their formation. Extra-curricular activities provide students with opportunities to enhance their educational experiences in a diverse environment, make new friends, develop leadership skills, gain knowledge of new skills, develop life long interests, and learn through practical experiences.

Veteran's Club----The Shawnee Community College Veterans Club is an organization that provides members with meaningful interaction and activities with other veterans who have similar past experiences and current life situations, due to prior service in the military.

Workshops,(information on the new G.I. Bill, guest speakers) are geared toward helping college veterans transition into the college environment smoothly.

Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity---Shawnee Community College is an equal opportunity affirmative action institution. Admission, financial aid, employment, curriculum requirements, extra-curricular participation, counseling, placement services and athletic programs shall be available to all, without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability.