

Guiding Principles

The Steering Committee will employ the following principles as we undertake a process to encourage further efficiencies resulting in cost savings within the community and technical college system.

1. We will recognize and build on current efficiencies that have already been achieved through college partnerships and collaborative efforts and within our statewide system.
2. We will engage our college system to look for additional cost-saving strategies that can be implemented among colleges or throughout the state system, including but not limited to: administrative functions, instructional programs and student services.
3. We will encourage and support the voluntary organization of colleges within regions of the state to discuss and recommend strategies that best respond to the needs of their communities.
4. We will encourage broad communication among stakeholders and be transparent in our processes and decisions.
5. Efficiencies will be sought among colleges and at the regional and statewide levels leading to cost savings that will be reinvested in our college system. Cost savings achieved through improved regional or statewide efficiencies will be retained by the colleges to:
 - Enhance student access and success
 - Strengthen instructional programs
 - Develop and retain high quality faculty and staff
6. We will use criteria and metrics to evaluate proposals and measure them against desired outcomes on behalf of the students, employers and communities we serve.
7. Recommended strategies will include analysis to determine:
 - Support for the goals and strategies in the State Board's Mission Study and the Higher Education Coordinating Board's Master Plan.
 - Contribution to student access to instructional programs and services.
 - Contribution to student achievement and effectiveness.
 - Applicability to regional and statewide deployment
 - Economic feasibility, sustainability and anticipated cost savings.
8. The role of the State Board is to set policy direction for the community and technical college system in collaboration with colleges and other system partners and to allocate resources to meet the goals and priorities of the system. The colleges are responsible for meeting the education needs of their communities.

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