

## State Accountability Report 2019 - 2020

Midlands Technical College

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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 four-year colleges and universities, and to achieve their professional and personal goals. The college equitably provides higher education opportunities that stimulate the local economy by generating a world-class workforce and enhancing the social vitality of the community.*

The 2018-2021 Midlands Technical College Strategic Plan was prepared to bolster MTC's role in economic development and workforce preparedness through student success, and to build an improved and sustainable college infrastructure. Programs and services from all areas of MTC will be reviewed and enhanced to meet the Goal of **Ensuring Student Success and College Sustainability**. The 2018-2021 MTC Strategic Plan established four Focus Goals and twelve initiatives to measure success on achieving its mission. This report summarizes the college's major successes throughout the 2019 - 2020 academic year and the findings for several of its student success criteria.

### Focus Goal: Enrollment

#### Initiatives:

- Increase yield of recent high school graduates
- Increase enrollment of new and first-time adult student learners
- Increase percentage of admitted to enrolled students

### Focus Goal: Advisement

#### Initiatives:

- Reduce the number of first semester students not meeting the college's standards for academic progress
- Increase average student credit hours

### Focus Goal: Retention

#### Initiatives:

- Increase success in targeted gateway courses
- Increase Fall to Spring persistence
- Increase the graduation rate of the first-time, full-time freshmen

### Focus Goal: Sustainability and Resources

#### Initiatives:

- Decrease expenses
- Increase revenue
- Automate three manual processes per fiscal year
- Increase interaction with business (Increase student placement rate by Fall 2021)

### Institutional Highlights 2019 - 2020

- Midlands Technical College (MTC) awarded almost 2,000 degrees, diplomas, and certificates to students from more than 90 academic programs for the May 2020 commencement cycle. This year, 85 college degrees and certificates were awarded to dually enrolled high school students.
- In response to the pandemic, MTC donated more than 35,000 medical supplies to the local health care community. MTC transitioned 2,400+ classes from on-campus to virtual. All other college services were moved to virtual delivery during Spring and Summer 2020. Additionally, the Office of Student Financial Services awarded \$2,230,824 to 5,501 students in Emergency Stabilizations funds as authorized from the CARES Act.
- Due to a nationwide demand for more trained first responders, MTC launched a new Paramedic program to help combat the critical shortage. The nine-month class trains students to be multi-skilled first responders and is the only program based out of a technical college in the Midlands.
- Diverse: Issues in Higher Education ranked MTC as one of the top colleges in the nation for African-American students earning associate degrees. Five MTC career areas were in the top 25. This is the 10th consecutive year MTC has been designated as a top 100 associate degree producer among the approximately 1,200 technical and community colleges in the country.
- Affirming its longstanding commitment to providing quality higher education and support service to military veterans and their families, the MTC Commission signed an agreement designating MTC as a Purple Heart College. The Purple Heart designation is part of an effort to MTC has put into place to serve soldiers, their families, and local veterans.
- MTC celebrated the fifth-annual Harbison History Day by welcoming graduates of MTC Harbison Campus. The Institute provided African-American students educational opportunities during a time when options were limited.
- Harbison Theatre at MTC was proud to host South Carolina's HBCU gospel choirs in "Gospel Live," a celebration and tribute to Black History Month. Each of the seven colleges represented performed their own set before uniting with a historic ensemble medley show finale.
- The Government Finance Officer Association awarded MTC the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for fiscal year 2018-2019. This is the 23rd year consecutive year MTC has received the prestigious national award for its financial reporting.
- The MTC Foundation received more than \$786,000 in new gifts and commitments to fund student scholarships, support programs, and meet equipment needs that help ensure quality education for MTC students.
- Aquarium Partners, a French-based company, chose the MTC Enterprise Campus as its operational center in the United States. The international aquarium distributor, which specializes in the marketing and distribution of aquarium products from Europe, was formed in 2016 to help bridge the gap between aquatic product manufacturers in the U.S. and abroad.

- MTC served 15 Youth Apprentices from Richland County School District Two and 139 Adult Apprentices who were employed at 25 businesses across the Midlands.
- MTC formed the PACT program, which stands for Prioritizing Academic and Career Training. PACT creates a lifeline for education, career skills, and hope for youth transitioning from foster care.
- MTC implemented a Quality Improvement Plan titled Maximizing Online Readiness and Excellence (MORE) to increase the success rate of students taking online courses.
- MTC teamed up with regional partners to develop an economic development action plan for promoting the growth of knowledge-based industries within the region. Partners included the Richland County Economic Development Office, Lexington County, the City of Columbia, the University of South Carolina, the S.C. Research Authority (SCRA), and the Central SC Alliance.
- MTC, Fairfield County Council, and Fairfield County School District created the Fairfield Promise Program. The program provides financial assistance to eligible citizens of Fairfield County to attend MTC and complete curriculum degrees, diplomas, or certificate programs.
- The University of South Carolina’s Darla Moore School of Business and MTC signed a transfer pathway that will facilitate MTC students transferring into the Moore School’s operations and supply chain program.
- Lander University and MTC have formed a partnership that will allow MTC students to easily transfer their credits to Lander, entering as juniors.
- Seven programs within the MTC School of Health Care passed their 2019-2020 licensure exams with a 100% pass rate. For three of those programs (Medical Laboratory Technology, Nuclear Medicine Technology, and Respiratory Therapy), this made the fifth year in a row that their students passed with a 100% pass rate.
- MTC’s National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS) chapter accepted 249 new students and celebrated the induction of 128 members who completed a step by step leadership development program.
- The college is ensuring student success through the use of \$15.5 million in continuing competitive grant awards, including \$356,563 in new competitive funds awarded during FY 2019-2020.

## Student Success Criteria

### Fall to Spring Persistence Rates

MTC established the Fall to Spring persistence rate of 71% (+-5%) as the success criteria. Since 2014, MTC successfully met the established criteria.

Table 1. Fall to Spring Persistence Rates

<b>MIDLANDS TECHNICAL COLLEGE - FALL TO SPRING PERSISTENCE RATES</b>					
Term	Fall Cohort	Fall Graduates	Adjusted Cohort	Spring Retention	
				N	%
<b>Fall 2014</b>	10,892	496	10,396	7,478	71.9%
<b>Fall 2015</b>	10,356	468	9,888	7,157	72.4%
<b>Fall 2016</b>	10,074	539	9,535	6,812	71.4%
<b>Fall 2017</b>	9,932	489	9,443	6,494	68.8%
<b>Fall 2018</b>	9,243	479	8,764	5,904	67.4%

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 2012, MTC successfully met or exceeded the established criteria.

Table 2. Student Success Rates

<b>MIDLANDS TECHNICAL COLLEGE - STUDENT SUCCESS RATES</b>						
Term	Cohort	Graduates (150%)	Transfers (150%)	Enrolled Fall	Student Success	
					N	%
<b>Fall 2012</b>	2,303	158	597	355	1,110	48.2%
<b>Fall 2013</b>	2,361	135	643	358	1,136	48.1%
<b>Fall 2014</b>	2,508	238	676	288	1,202	47.9%
<b>Fall 2015</b>	2,354	270	694	253	1,217	51.7%
<b>Fall 2016</b>	2,345	281	732	226	1,239	52.8%

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 2014, 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
2014	112,835	7,522	1,657	22.0%
2015	109,313	7,288	1,946	26.7%
2016	107,242	7,150	1,780	24.9%
2017	100,588	6,706	1,795	26.8%
2018	96,141	6,409	1,702	26.6%

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

### Graduate Placement Rates

MTC established success criteria of 80% for graduation placement rate. Over 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
2013 - 2014	2,004	1,322	286	1,608	80.2%
2014 - 2015	1,932	1,239	488	1,727	89.4%
2015 - 2016	1,931	1,401	315	1,716	88.9%
2016 - 2017	2,311	1,625	448	2,073	89.7%
2017 - 2018	2,096	1,421	463	1,884	89.9%

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 2015, MTC successfully met the established criteria.

Table 5. Course Completion Percentages

MIDLANDS TECHNICAL COLLEGE - COURSE COMPLETION PERCENTAGE			
Term	Term Grades Total	Non Completers	Course Completion Percentage
Fall 2015	30,877	9,184	70.3%
Fall 2016	30,200	8,917	70.5%
Fall 2017	28,692	8,633	69.9%
Fall 2018	27,389	8,343	69.5%
Fall 2019	27,370	8,415	69.3%

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.