

## State Accountability Report 2017 - 2018

Midlands Technical College  
Dr. Ronald L. Rhames, President  
August 31, 2018

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 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 programs and 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. The college has a continuous strategic planning process, and has begun developing its 2018-2021 Strategic Plan.

This report summarizes the current goals and initiatives, the college's major successes throughout the 2017 - 2018 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 2017 - 2018

- Midlands Technical College opened its \$14.5 million Learning Resource Center on the Beltline Campus. Representatives from local, county and state government helped cut the ribbon before touring the 43,000-square-foot facility, the newest building on any Midlands Technical College campus.
- MTC signed an academic agreement with the University of South Carolina to increase the number of students pursuing undergraduate degrees in education. The articulation agreement creates a clear path for students attending Midlands Technical College to transfer into a bachelor's degree program in early childhood, elementary or middle level education with USC.
- MTC Corporate and Continuing Education partnered with Richland School Districts One and Two, and Lexington-Richland Five in Project BOOM. BOOM, which stands for Building Occupational Opportunities in the Midlands, is geared toward high school students who struggle in traditional school. They earn a work credential through OSHA and a certificate from Midlands Technical College.
- MTC created a specialized summer STEM Institute for local high school educators and counselors to explore STEM career pathways through hands-on demonstrations at several MTC campuses. The goal was for participants to walk away with enough knowledge to help students prepare for post-secondary education in growing STEM fields.
- The South Carolina Association of Technical College Commissioners named MTC Industrial Technologies instructor Dr. Alan Grier the top Technical College Faculty Member for 2017. An exceptional faculty member at MTC for more than 28 years, Grier also has significant experience in the workforce in both engineering technology and industrial technology, producing prototypes for countless inventors and innovators in South Carolina and the nation.
- MTC Corporate and Continuing Education secured \$430,691 in funding for apprentices through the South Carolina Apprenticeship Initiative grant. Through this grant, MTC has been able to help 19 companies in the service area create more than 173 new apprenticeships in a variety of different industries, including healthcare, manufacturing and information technology.
- *Military Times* selected Midlands Technical College as a *Military Times Best College for 2018* and *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education* ranked MTC in the top 100 colleges in the United States in terms of African-American students earning associate degrees.
- Midlands Technical College President Dr. Ronald L. Rhames was elected to serve on the Board of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC). The American Association of Community Colleges is the leading proponent and the national voice for community colleges.
- Midlands Technical College second-year dental hygiene students and faculty volunteered their services to hundreds of Midlands' residents in need of free dental care. More than 800 patients received an estimated \$600,000 in free dental care from about 100 volunteers from across South Carolina and other states.
- Twenty students in MTC's Industrial Electricity program spent their summer renovating the Celebrate Freedom Foundation's headquarters building. Students spent more than 1,000 hours demolishing and renovating the aging airline hangar near the Columbia airport.

- Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin hosted more than 100 business leaders at a luncheon supporting Midlands Technical College. The event brought together representatives from small to mid-size businesses and large national corporations to talk about how supporting MTC can help ensure a healthy, stable economy and strengthen our community's business climate.
- US Army Chief Information Officer Lieutenant General Bruce Crawford visited MTC to meet with Midlands-area employers to discuss their common needs to hire and develop IT talent in Columbia. He also led a session on leadership for MTC students.
- MTC celebrated a significant birthday on its Harbison Campus during Black History Month. Rubie Schumpert, a retired math teacher and alumna of the Harbison Institute, celebrated her 100th birthday surrounded by her family and alumni friends. Every February, MTC honors the long tradition of multicultural education offered at the MTC Harbison Campus, the site of the historic Harbison Institute.
- Four local leaders joined the MTC Foundation Board. The newly elected members bring extensive talent and experience to the board.
- Tammi Byrd was named the 2018 Distinguished Alumni. She graduated with an Associate in Science in Dental Hygiene from Midlands Technical College in 1979. Today, she is the CEO and Clinical Director of Health Promotion Specialists, a school-based dental disease prevention program that provides services across the Palmetto State.
- The Midlands Technical College Sigma Alpha Pi Chapter of the National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS) celebrated the induction of 166 new student members at the Harbison Theatre at Midlands Technical College. The chapter now has 322 student leaders. Students are selected for membership based on either academic standing or leadership potential.
- Midlands Technical College and Columbia College paved the way for students to complete two degrees in four years while attending two colleges simultaneously. The colleges formalized a unique nursing agreement that creates a seamless transition for students to earn Associate in Science degrees in Nursing from MTC and Bachelor of Science degrees in Nursing at Columbia College.
- Midlands Technical College awarded more than 2,200 degrees, diplomas, and certificates to students during its annual commencement. At the ceremony, 92-year-old Annie Dillard set the record as the oldest person to ever graduate from MTC. Almost 50 dual-enrolled high school students received college degrees and certificates, making them the largest group of young graduates in MTC history.
- MTC hosted the Free Enterprise Leadership Challenge (FELC) at its Beltline Campus. FELC is a five-day, learning-intensive, non-residential summer camp that teaches important free-enterprise principles and principled-leadership traits and supports philanthropic efforts.
- The Midlands Technical College Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society chapter received six awards at the PTK centennial conference in Kansas City, Missouri. MTC's PTK chapter also received 16 regional awards at the PTK Carolinas Region Conference in Myrtle Beach earlier this year. Wendy Samuel, an MTC chapter advisor and MTC alumna, was selected as the South Carolina 2018 PTK Advisor of the Year.

## Student Success Criteria

### Fall to Spring Persistence Rates

MTC established the Fall to Spring persistence rate of 71% (+-5%) as the success criteria. Since 2012, 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 2012</b>	11,678	512	11,166	7,983	71.5%
<b>Fall 2013</b>	11,304	570	10,734	7,706	71.8%
<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%

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 2010, 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 2010</b>	2,282	146	541	356	1,043	45.7%
<b>Fall 2011</b>	2,374	123	543	357	1,023	43.0%
<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%

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 2012, 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
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%
2016	107,242	7,150	1,780	24.9%

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
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%
2015 - 2016	1,931	1,401	315	1,716	88.9%

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 2013, 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 2013	31,995	9,245	71.1%
Fall 2014	31,835	9,597	69.9%
Fall 2015	30,877	9,184	70.3%
Fall 2016	30,200	8,917	70.5%
Fall 2017	28,692	8,633	69.9%

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.