



Our Vision

Central Arizona College is the leader of innovative learner success and the center for educational opportunities in our diverse communities.

Our Mission

Central Arizona College engages our diverse communities in quality learning experiences for lifelong success by providing accessible educational, economic, cultural, and personal growth opportunities.

Our Directions

- Academic Involvement K-12
- Advanced Degrees
- Employee Development
- Facilities that Foster Learning
- Quality Programs
- Responsibility to Community
- Students

Our Values

- Student Learning
- Accountability
- Excellence
- Community
- Diversity
- Excellence
- Innovation
- People
- Respect

Operational Plan



Goal: Improve completion rates for meeting students' educational goals.

Activities:

- Promote continuous development of programs and degrees
- Create baseline date for student intent
- Review college policies for graduation
- Increase student graduation rates/student goal completion via electronic degree audit software
- Ensure academic advising information is consistent throughout the district
- Receive accreditation for fully online degrees and certificates
- Optimize scheduling of courses/classes to complete degree and certificate programs across the county

Targets:

- Forty percent of CAC degree-seeking students will graduate in 6 years
- CAC will award 400 degrees and 600 certificates in 2012

Goal: Increase number of students who transfer to colleges, universities and work force.

Activities:

- Increase number of pathways to the three Arizona universities, colleges or workforce
- Promote training all academic advisors on transfer policies
- Expand and enhance advising areas throughout the district
- Implement and evaluate a comprehensive job placement, job shadowing and internship program
- Maintain a curriculum that meets the needs of a diverse student population and is one that prepares students for university transfer or workforce entry
- Analyze prospective transfer report and distribute to advisors by student's home campus

Targets:

- The number of students who transfer to the (3) Arizona public institutions will increase by ten percent
- The number of undeclared students will decrease by 10 percent

Goal: Increase student satisfaction with programs and services.

Activities:

- Update resources on Advisor Blackboard
- Make Master Academic Plans and transcripts available electronically
- Streamline internal processes to enhance efficiency
- Improve internal communication and training in order to provide superior service and information to students
- Evaluate and update a maintenance plan for facilities
- Evaluate and improve a technology refresh and maintenance plan for infrastructure by June 2012
- Evaluate and update student financial aid disbursement process

Targets:

- Student satisfaction with programs and services will meet or exceed national benchmarks for other medium colleges as measured by CCSSE (Community College Survey of Student Engagement)
- A Technology Plan that considers infrastructure needs and current trends in mobile computing will be created by June 2012

Goal: Launch a district-wide student retention plan as developed by the Student Retention Committee.

Activities:

- Provide students with an Early Alert about their academic progress
- Expand mentor program
- Increase disability services outreach to faculty
- Increase the number of students who declare a major
- Ensure adequate instructional space is available through the ongoing construction projects
- Implement new programs that meet student interest in entertainment technology and forensic science

Targets:

- The retention of full-time and part-time degree and certificate seekers will improve by five percent
- No more than ten percent of scheduled classes will be cancelled

Goal: Enhance student performance.

Activities:

- Track students' GPAs by the student activities to which they belong: TriO, Summer Bridge, RSL, OTC, CBJT, Early College, etc
- Increase communication with students who are missing classes or not performing by implementing the Early Alert program
- Have tutors visit CPD101 classes to conduct two (2) workshops per semester
- Evaluate efficiency and effectiveness of developmental courses as well as English 101 and Math 141

Targets:

- Eighty percent of the students taking classes for credit will have a GPA of 2.0 or above
- Seventy percent of advised students will have at least two (2) appointments per semester
- Seventy percent of students who start a class will complete the class

Goal: Advance learning, communication, mutual respect and diversity among employees.

Activities:

- Hold area, department, and division weekly and monthly meetings to share information about the college and students as appropriate
- Celebrate the college's successes, activities and achievements
- Include an alignment of one or more personal goals with institutional goals during individual performance evaluations
- Create an Office of Teaching Excellence
- Increase diversity as a continuing goal so that the composition of the CAC staff and faculty mirror Pinal County's
- Encourage every full-time employee to attend at least five hours of professional development training during the year
- Create an on-line Evaluation Committee orientation for college hiring committees
- Implement a supervisory development training seminar
- Create a celebratory environment that promotes and recognizes employee contributions
- Provide training about the functional aspects of Banner during new employee in-processing
- Evaluate alternative formats for the All-College Days where formats and topics will engage employees in activities of personal interest and development

Targets:

- Eighty percent of finalized evaluations will include evaluation of personal goal based on an institutional goal
- The percentage of minority employees will be improved by five percent by June 2012
- One hundred percent of full time employees will meet the professional development training goal of five (5) hours
- Online orientation for the Evaluation Committees will be deployed by June 2012
- Supervisory training seminar deployed by June 2012
- Eighty of award recipients will be present for recognition ceremony by May 2012
- One hundred percent of new employees who will be Banner users will be trained
- Attendance at all college development days will be improved by ten percent

Goal: Expand strategic partnerships with educational institutions, business, industry, civic, cultural organizations, and government entities.

Activities:

- Improve the Pinal County high school capture by enhancing the relationships with county high schools
- Continue supporting local fund-raisers
- Increase the number of administrators and other staff who attend community events
- Increase job training activities to support county-wide economic development initiatives
- Increase attendance at CAC sponsored cultural and community events
- Increase the number of advisory boards for CAC programs and services
- Enhance all advisory boards and ensure diverse county representation as needed
- Extend fine arts performances to sites other than at Signal Peak Campus
- Increase number of K-20 sites that collaborate for CAC classes via ITV links

Targets:

- The Pinal County high school capture rate will improve by 5%
- At least two cultural performances will be held in Pinal County communities
- There will be a five percent increase in ITV connections to external educational entities

Goal: Improve internal and external stakeholder communication by promoting transparency.

Activities:

- Place strategic plan and year-end results from operational plan on the web
- Update community on progress of general obligation bonds
- Evaluate the CAC website and improve access to information
- Evaluate information on college's website and add timely information as needed
- Determine the best Intranet resource to meet CAC's needs

Targets:

- There will be an Intranet solution adopted for CAC by June 2012 enhancing internal communications
- One hundred percent of committee reports will be posted to the shared drive

Goal: Increase average class size while maintaining quality education

Activities:

- Explore implementation of purging for non-payment
- Maximize space utilization in each classroom
- Ensure full-time faculty have a full instructional load prior to assigning classes to adjunct faculty
- Identify instructional space that can serve larger classes
- Increase the upper limit set for classes where this makes sense for safety and andragogy
- Monitor class enrollments to ensure that classes with low numbers are canceled in time to move students into other sections
- Evaluate alternative schedules that maximize students' abilities to take multiple classes
- Cross-list ITV classes

Target:

- Average class size will increase to 15

Goal: Ensure that programs and services meet the highest standards of quality.

Activities:

- Participate rigorously in quality improvement programs
- Set targets and benchmarks for all current programs and services
- Continuously improve processes and institutional practices
- Use data for planning, decision-making and quality improvement
- Identify methods to gather data from local employers who hire CAC graduates
- Seek external program accreditations
- Provide mentoring, support and professional development activities

Targets:

- CAC's measures of institutional effectiveness will meet or exceed state and national benchmarks
- Obtain Governing Board approval of measures of institutional effectiveness by June 2012

Goal: Develop and maintain an infrastructure that supports technological advancements.

Activities:

- Create a three-year technology plan that addresses the direction and adoption timeline of technology at CAC
- Develop and maintain wide-area links that are scalable and reliable via redundant paths as possible
- Investigate and develop device neutral platforms for disseminating information to support learning and collaboration
- Determine best option for student e-mail

Targets:

- Draft of CAC Technology Plan will be written by June 2012
- Plan for improving capacity and redundancy of the Wide Area Network (WAN) links will be created by January 2012 and adopted by June 2012
- A new efficient e-mail system will be adopted for students by June 2012

Goal: Maintain facilities that foster learning and ensure safety.

Activities:

- Increase the effective coverage of district's emergency warning system by adding AlertUs beacons to appropriate locations
- Check buildings on a regular schedule for environmental safety concerns
- Ensure that spaces have adequate lighting, comfortable and functional furnishings, and moderate temperatures
- Implement new handheld work order processing system to decrease number of days to process work order
- Implement monthly safety awareness training to all facilities employees with updated training material
- Reduce property crimes
- Reduce traffic collisions throughout the district facilities

Targets:

- Additional emergency notification beacons will be purchased by June 2012
- A goal of 3-5 days average per work order request will be attained
- All facilities staff will receive 12 hours of safety training
- The number of property crimes will be reduced by 6 for Fiscal Year 2011-12
- The number of traffic accidents will decline by 12 for Fiscal Year 2011-12