WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §18B-3C-3

§18B-3C-3. Essential conditions for community and technical college programs and services.

The Legislature hereby establishes the following essential conditions for community and technical college programs and services:

(a) Independent accreditation by the higher learning commission of the north central association of colleges and schools (NCA), by July 1, 2005, reflecting external validation that academic programs, services, faculty, governance, financing and other policies are aligned with the community and technical college mission of the institution. An institution meets this requirement if on such date the council determines that the institution is on target to meet independent accreditation status. A community and technical college continues to share the accreditation of the sponsoring institution until such time as independent accreditation is achieved;

(b) A full range of community and technical college services offered as specified in section six of this article;

(c) Programmatic approval consistent with the provisions of section nine of this article;

(d) A fee structure competitive with its peer institutions;

(e) Basic services, some of which may be obtained under contract with existing institutions in the region. These basic services shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) Student services, including, but not limited to, advising, academic counseling, financial aid and provision of the first line of academic mentoring and mediation;

(2) Instructional support services;

(3) Access to information and library services;

(4) Physical space in which courses can be offered;

(5) Access to necessary technology for students, faculty and mentors;

(6) Monitoring and assessment; and

(7) Administrative services, including, but not limited to, registration, fee collection and bookstore and other services for the distribution of learning materials;

(f) A president who is the chief executive officer of the community and technical college appointed and serving pursuant to the terms of section six, article one-b of this chapter. The

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president reports directly to the institutional board of Governors. It is the responsibility of the board of Governors to provide sufficient time at each meeting for the president to discuss issues relevant to the mission of the community and technical college;

(g) An institutional board of Governors or an institutional board of advisors appointed and serving as required by law;

(h) A full-time core faculty, complemented by persons engaged through contract or other arrangements, including:

(1) College and university faculty, to teach community college courses; and

(2) Qualified business, industry and labor persons engaged as adjunct faculty in technical areas;

(i) A faculty personnel policy, formally established to be separate and distinct from that of other institutions, which includes, but is not limited to, appointment, promotion, workload and, if appropriate, tenure pursuant to section nine of this article. These policies shall be appropriate for the community and technical college mission and may not be linked to the policies of any other institution;

(j) Community and technical colleges designed and operating as open-provider centers with the authority and flexibility to draw on the resources of the best and most appropriate provider to ensure that community and technical college services are available and delivered in the region in a highly responsive manner. A community and technical college may contract with other institutions and providers as necessary to obtain the academic programs and resources to complement those available through a sponsoring college, where applicable, in order to meet the region's needs;

(k) Separately identified state funding allocations for each of the community and technical colleges.

(l) Full budgetary authority for the president of the institution, subject to accountability to its governing board, including authority to retain all tuition and fees generated by the community and technical college for use to carry out its mission.

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