What is the Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP)?

AQIP is a process in which a college is able to continually demonstrate that it meets accreditation standards through action projects designed to improve institutional quality and performance.

Why is MPCC involved in AQIP?

The long-standing and traditional accreditation process requires that colleges spend about two years preparing for continued accreditation. AQIP provides an alternative process for colleges and universities to be accredited.

AQIP is a continuous process for maintaining accreditation by identifying areas of needed improvement and developing action plans to make those improvements. By design, AQIP provides a method and process for continuous quality improvement.

The MPCC Board of Governors has made AQIP a priority by adopting it as the accreditation standard for the College. This process will enable the College to prepare for and embrace the 21st Century needs of our students.

How is AQIP structured?

The Higher Learning Commission serves about 1,000 colleges and universities. MPCC is privileged to become one of about 200 institutions who have been permitted to participate in the Higher Learning Commission's Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP). The MPCC Board of Governors also decided to align the AQIP criteria with the College's comprehensive plan.

The comprehensive plan is now embedded into the nine AQIP criteria. Each of the nine criteria have designated areas of improvement, which were identified by the college community and approved by the Board of Governors. During the next three years, Action Project Teams will be formed around each of these areas of improvement and will be assigned to research, design, and implement improved processes. The teams will utilize an "Action Project Process Guide" to assist them with designing and implementing Action Projects. This continuous improvement model will involve the college community in creating and promoting a 'culture of quality'.

For more information, we welcome you to visit the Mid-Plains Community College Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) website at mpcc.edu.

Mid-Plains Community College Locations

www.mpcc.edu

McCook Community College
1205 East Third Street
McCook, NE 69001

Broken Bow Extended Campus
2520 S. E Street
Broken Bow, NE 68822

North Platte Community College
North Campus
1101 Halligan Drive
North Platte, NE 69101

Imperial Extended Campus
1324 Broadway Street
Imperial, NE 69033

Valentine Extended Campus
113 North Hall
Valentine, NE 69201

North Platte Community College
South Campus
601 West State Farm Road
North Platte, NE 69101

Ogallala Extended Campus
213 North Spruce Street
Ogallala, NE 69153

MID-PLAINS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

2012 - 2015

Shaping Our FUTURE

through the

Academic Quality Improvement Program

Start	Strategic Goal	AQIP Category
2012	Develop a process for improved and streamlined intra-college communication.	Leading and Communicating
2012	Review and improve process for evaluation of current programs.	Measuring Effectiveness
2012	Restructure websites (mpcc.edu, CampusWeb, Portal).	Supporting Institutional Operations
2012	Identify and implement strategies to support technology users.	Supporting Institutional Operations
2012	Increase usage of student support services through awareness strategies.	Helping Students Learn
2013	Develop and implement strategies for meeting the needs of business and industry.	Building Collaborative Relationships
2013	Develop a college-readiness program.	Accomplishes Other Distinctive Objectives
2013	Develop and implement a comprehensive employee development training program for faculty and staff.	Valuing People
2013	Evaluate and expand college image and awareness.	Leading and Communicating
2013	Enhance holistic college-wide approach to building relationships with high schools, students, and their families.	Understanding Students' and Other Stakeholders' Needs
2013	Enhance career service offerings and explore opportunities.	Building Collaborative Relationships
2013	Develop strategies to implement technology found in business and industry.	Helping Students Learn
2013	Review feedback from Systems Appraisal and address the needs documented from AQIP Peer Reviewers.	Planning and Continuous Improvement
2014	Prepare for the Higher Learning Commission Quality Check-up visit in 2014-2015	Planning and Continuous Improvement

The mission of Mid-Plains Community College is to provide qu

AQIP Category Descriptions

1. **Helping Students Learn:** Identifies the shared purpose of all higher education organizations and is accordingly the pivot of any institutional analysis. This category focuses on the teaching-learning process within a formal instructional context, yet also addresses how the entire institution contributes to helping students learn and overall student development. It examines the institution's processes and systems related to learning objectives; mission-driven student learning and development; intellectual climate, academic programs and courses; student preparation; key issues such as technology and diversity; program and course delivery; faculty and staff roles; teaching and learning effectiveness; course sequencing and scheduling; learning and co-curricular support; student assessment; measures; analysis of results; and efforts to continuously improve these areas.

2. **Accomplishes Other Distinctive Objectives:** Addresses the processes that contribute to the achievement of the institution's major objectives that complement student learning and fulfill other portions of the mission. It examines the institution's processes and systems related to identification of other distinctive objectives, measures, analysis of results, and efforts to continuously improve these areas.

3. **Understanding Students' and Other Stakeholders' Needs:** Examines how the institution works actively to understand student and other stakeholder needs. It examines institutional processes and systems related to student and stakeholder identification; student and stakeholder requirements; analysis of student and stakeholder needs; relationship building with students and stakeholders; complaint collection, analysis, and resolution, determining satisfaction of students and stakeholders, measures, analysis of results, and efforts to continuously improve these areas.

4. **Valuing People:** Explores the institution's commitment to the development of faculty, staff, and administrators since the efforts of all are required for institutional success. It examines the institution's processes and systems related to work and job environment, work needs, training initiatives, job competencies and characteristics, recruitment, hiring, and retention practices, work processes and activities, training and development, personnel evaluation, recognition, reward, compensation and benefits, motivation factors, satisfaction, health, safety, and well-being, measures, analysis of results, and efforts to continuously improve these areas.

5. **Leading and Communicating:** Addresses how the institution's leadership and communication structures, networks, and processes guide in setting directions, making decisions, seeking future opportunities, and building and sustaining a learning environment. It examines the institution's processes and systems related to leading activities, communicating activities, alignment of leadership system practices, institutional values and expectations, direction setting, future opportunity seeking, decision making, use of data, leadership development and sharing, succession planning, measures, analysis of results, and efforts to continuously improve these areas.

6. **Supporting Institutional Operations:** Addresses the variety of institutional support processes that help to provide an environment in which learning can thrive. It examines the institution's processes and systems related to student support, administrative support, identification of needs, contribution to student learning and accomplishing other distinctive objectives, day-to-day operations, use of data, measures, analysis of results, and efforts to continuously improve these areas.

7. **Measuring Effectiveness:** Examines how the institution collects, analyzes, and uses information to manage itself and to drive performance improvement. It examines the institution's processes and systems related to collection, storage, management, and use of information and data – at the institutional and departmental/unit levels, institutional measures of effectiveness, information and data alignment with institutional needs and directions, comparative information and data, analysis of information and data, effectiveness of information systems and processes, measures, analysis of results, and efforts to continuously improve these areas.

8. **Planning and Continuous Improvement:** Examines the institution's planning processes and how strategies and action plans are helping the institution achieve its mission and values. It examines the processes and systems related to institutional vision, planning, strategies and action plans, coordination and alignment of strategies and action plans, measures and performance projections, resource needs, faculty, staff, and administrator capabilities, measures, analysis of performance projections and results, and efforts to continuously improve these areas.

9. **Building Collaborative Relationships:** Examines institutional relationships – current and potential – to analyze how they contribute to the institution's accomplishing its mission. It examines processes and systems related to identification of key internal and external collaborative relationships, alignment of key collaborative relationships, measures, analysis of results, and efforts to continuously improve these areas.

ality educational opportunities for lifelong student learning.