

Our Vision



Our Vision

Maine's community colleges build economic mobility and resilience through innovative and relevant educational opportunities, providing Maine people with lifelong learning to propel and enrich their lives and communities.

Maine businesses consistently turn to their community colleges to develop the power of their workforce through agile and responsive programming.

Our Mission

To create an educated, skilled and adaptable labor force that is responsive to the changing needs of the economy...

Our Values

Maine's community college **students** deserve the opportunity to learn, grow, and advance their careers in a safe, supportive, connected environment.

Maine **employers** need the skilled, educated, and adaptable talent we develop for an ever-evolving workplace.

The System's **employees** are our most valuable resource. We support diverse, equitable, and inclusive working environments that provide employees with the opportunities to engage in meaningful work, lead balanced and productive lives, and advance their careers.

Through a spirit of innovation and collaboration, we will build partnerships that ensure each student's success and meet the specific needs of each employer and the distinct communities we serve.

To fulfill our vision, we will need innovative delivery methods, robust information systems, and business models that sustain growth and expansion.

Our Students

Our vision for engaging and supporting Students:

Developing relevant, high-quality, affordable, and accessible life-long learning opportunities, the System and colleges will strive to help students achieve their goals by:

- Eliminating barriers to access,
- Promoting student success while supporting social and emotional well-being of our entire community, and
- Building a coordinated system of credentialling options.

Factors affecting our vision:

Everyone engaging with a community college for learning or advancing their career is a "student."

To attract students, we must be affordable, accessible and offer high-quality, relevant programs that meets their specific needs.

To retain students, we must take a holistic approach in providing student support to create a welcoming, safe, and vibrant environment.

To stay connected to our students, we must provide life-long learning opportunities that help students reach personal, professional, and academic goals at every stage of their lives.

Our Employers

Our vision for engaging and supporting Employers:

Building deep, lasting partnerships directly with businesses and industry groups, the System and colleges will support the delivery of relevant, high-quality, high-demand workforce development options.

From pre-hire training and advanced skill development to credential attainment, our employers will turn to their community colleges to develop a fully educated workforce for an ever-evolving workplace.

Factors affecting our vision:

The modern workplace is triggering new expectations for both employees and employers.

Fewer workers and new attitudes toward work have remade the workforce. Employees today want meaningful work; work-life balance; and, importantly, a clear connection between their professional advancement and professional development.

Employers, under competitive pressure driven by automation, AI, evolving tech, and other factors, need workers with ever-evolving skills and must invest in their existing workers to grow their team from within. Employers need to increasingly invest in professional development for their existing employees to remain competitive and maintain healthy staffing levels of experienced, knowledgeable, and engaged workers.

Our People

Our vision for engaging and supporting People:

Attracting and developing a diverse and passionate team committed to finding new ways to build an educated, skilled, and adaptable labor force, the System will offer a combination of competitive compensation, professional development, and flexible work environments-- respecting every voice in our community.

Factors affecting our vision:

Our employees are talented and committed to their various roles in engaging and supporting the students we serve. They are also connected to the businesses and industries that employ our students.

We must be proactive and responsive in addressing the needs of our valued employees while attracting others to join our work.

That requires a commitment to equitable compensation, an intentional work-life balance, and transparent paths toward professional growth supported through professional development.

The System and colleges must support innovative approaches and ensure that each employee has an equal opportunity to participate and grow personally and professionally. Developing new leaders is consistent with our vision to engage students in lifelong learning to achieve their goals.

The Foundational Elements

Partners:

Embracing partnerships with other education institutions, student support organizations, and the state, the System will be more effective and efficient in delivering an "educated, skilled and adaptable labor force that is responsive to the changing needs of the economy."

Facilities:

Maintaining modern, high-quality learning and administrative facilities, the System and colleges will strive to provide the resources needed to continuously renew learning facilities with innovative program delivery options, consistently maintain and renovate our buildings, and steward environmentally responsible campuses.

Approach:

Adopting a business model responsive to the realities of today's economy, the System and colleges will build a portfolio of funding sources that support a predictable financial base and embrace information management as a critical link to student success and the development of a fully educated workforce for our employers.