

Illinois Valley Community College

Academic Plan 2021-2024

Background

Illinois Valley Community College has served the educational and workforce needs of the Illinois Valley since it was founded in 1924 as LPO Junior College. Offering Associate's degrees in Arts and Sciences for transfer and Applied Associate's degrees and certificates in a variety of technical and career-related fields, IVCC remains committed to providing excellent education and career preparation to those who come through its doors.

The development of an academic plan for the college began during the fall 2016 semester at the annual in-service. Faculty collaborated in the development of an academic mission and vision. During the spring 2017 in-service, faculty were brought back together to provide input into the development of academic goals. A three-year academic plan was approved by the Teaching and Learning Committee and the Strategic Leadership Planning Council during the fall 2017 semester.

The 2021-2024 academic plan is an update of that original document. While much of the document remains the same, the members of the Teaching and Learning Committee reviewed and revised the goals and objectives during the 2020-2021 academic year. The updated academic plan was approved by the Teaching and Learning Committee and the Strategic Leadership Planning Council during the spring 2021 semester.

Institutional Priorities

Illinois Valley Community College exists to meet the learning needs of its community. In order to do so, the institution has the following priorities:

- Provide inclusive, accessible, and equitable higher education to the students of the Illinois Valley;
- Serve as the premier choice for life-long learning opportunities in the Illinois Valley;
- Contribute to the economic and workforce development of the Illinois Valley; and
- Serve as a center for arts, humanities, and cultural offerings in the Illinois Valley.

Academic Priorities

Academic priorities for Illinois Valley Community College are reflected in the goals and objectives outlined in the academic plan. These include:

- Provide a learning community that prioritizes the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion;
- Provide excellent academic and career preparation through a variety of instructional delivery methods that meet the needs of all students;
- Develop high performing instructors with instructional design skills that meet a variety of student learning needs; and
- Provide quality instructional and technological resources that facilitate learning and prepare students for the workforce.

Academic Mission

Illinois Valley Community College empowers students to become lifelong learners, pursue their passions, and achieve their goals.

Academic Vision

Illinois Valley Community College integrates creative, analytical, and ethical thinkers into the community by empowering them through excellent and innovative instruction so that they may sustain and enrich our world.

Academic Goals and Objectives

1. Provide high-quality instructional programs in recognized and emerging fields of study that lead to successful completion of degrees, certificates, employment, and transfer.
 - 1.1 Develop defined, efficient avenues to completion.
 - 1.2 Increase IVCC's online footprint.
 - 1.3 Develop new programs to meet student and community need.
2. Support excellence in teaching and learning through high-quality professional development, effective program review and assessment of institutional learning outcomes, and strategic selection and application of technological support.
 - 2.1 Provide professional development designed to develop instructors' knowledge, skills, and abilities as professional educators.
 - 2.2 Maintain the consistency of the program review process.
 - 2.3 Create a campus culture of assessment.
3. Promote student persistence, retention, and completion by integrating academic support into the overall student experience.
 - 3.1 Align personal, academic, and technical support services with instructor and student needs.
 - 3.2 Continue to deliver effective and inclusive personal, academic, and technical support services.
 - 3.3 Leverage resources to provide students and faculty with materials, equipment, and supplies to support accessible teaching and learning.
 - 3.4 Use data-informed decisions to drive enrollment and retention efforts.
4. Strengthen the campus culture of planning and informed decision-making by maximizing the use of data and communicating the results of the academic review process.
 - 4.1 Align the Internal Program Review with the planning and budget processes.

- 4.2 Incorporate the assessment of institutional learning outcomes (ILOs) into the Internal Program Review process.
 - 4.3 Communicate the results of the External Program Review, including the State's feedback.
 - 4.4 Foster open dialogue and collaboration across academic units.
5. Connect the classroom to the community through collaboration and partnerships with business, industry, education, government, cultural, and service organizations.
- 5.1 Continue relationships with district high schools designed to improve college preparedness, including meeting the requirements of the appropriate state and/or federal regulations or legislation.
 - 5.2 Develop mechanisms to award credit for experiential learning, including credit for business training and continuing education.
 - 5.3 Continue promotion of strong program advisory boards, including recruitment, development, and retention of industry-related members.
 - 5.4 Provide a community portal to the arts.
6. Promote diversity, equity, inclusion, and global understanding in the community and the classroom. *
- 6.1 Ensure fair treatment, access, opportunity, and advancement for all. This commitment underscores IVCC's mission and vision as a public College.
 - 6.2 Continue to build and maintain an inclusive and positive campus climate in which diversity is valued, and inclusion and equity are shared imperatives.
 - 6.3 Inspire students to understand and see their role in the larger global community by infusing the curriculum with multicultural and global perspectives.

*This goal will be updated once the college has created and approved a Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity Plan.

Evaluation

The success of the institution in implementing this academic plan can be monitored institutionally through several measures that are documented by the institution's key performance indicators: Student Academic Success, Success After IVCC, Support for Students, Support for Employees, District Population Served, and Resource Management. The key performance indicators include national and state normed benchmarks where available to indicate the institution's progress in these six key areas. The institution sets targets for each measure and monitors its progress in relation to meeting these institutional goals. Updated regularly, the key performance indicators may be viewed at <http://www.ivcc.edu/kpi/>.

<u>Academic Goal</u>	<u>Key Performance Indicator(s)</u>
Goal 1: Provide high quality instructional programs...	KPI 1.1 Student Success KPI 2 Success after IVCC
Goal 2: Support excellence in teaching and learning...	KPI 1.3 General Education Attainment KPI 4.3 Support for Professional Development
Goal 3: Promote student persistence, retention, and completion...	KPI 1.1 Student Success KPI 3 Support for Students
Goal 4: Strengthen the campus culture of planning and informed decision-making...	KPI 6 Resource Management
Goal 5: Connect the classroom to the community...	KPI 5 District Population Served
Goal 6: Model the values of diversity and inclusion...	KPI 4.5 Perceptions of Diversity Fairness

Conclusion

This academic plan highlights priorities that will guide the College for the next three years. First and foremost, among those priorities is the commitment to provide an education that includes all students and is delivered equitably to all students. In a time of dwindling resources and shrinking enrollments, IVCC recognizes that every student should have the opportunity to achieve their educational goals, and it is incumbent upon the college to create the conditions where this happens for each and every student.

This academic plan also ensures that Illinois Valley Community College maintains its commitment to the life-long learning needs of the Illinois Valley. Program instruction, in conjunction with the work of the Adult Education and Continuing Education and Business Services departments, fulfills a variety of education and training needs that arise during the course of a lifetime. These needs are informed through the institution’s outreach efforts to its educational and industry partners, efforts designed to engage and include the community in the work of the institution.

Finally, this academic plan places student learning at the center of the institution’s vision for its future and that of the Illinois Valley. As students complete their learning, they will take their knowledge and creativity to their homes, workplaces, and community organizations, thus affecting their families, co-workers, and fellow citizens and influencing life in the Illinois Valley for generations to come.