Developing Appropriate Measures for Community Colleges

Commonly used measures do not adequately capture data on progress and outcomes for community colleges.

For Community Colleges

- Appropriate measures based on community college students and missions.
  Graduation rates tell us very little.

  How well are our colleges helping students progress?
  Are we effectively serving developmental education needs?
  What are the outcomes of all of our students?
  Does my community college meet workforce education needs?
  What are students learning?
  How can my community college learn from peer institutions that are having success?

By Community Colleges

- Community college leaders defining more accurate ways to measure community college effectiveness and student outcomes.

  AACC, in partnership with the Association of Community College Trustees and the College Board, is developing the VFA with a steering committee and working groups comprised of nearly 60 community college leaders including presidents, trustees, institutional researchers, chancellors, accountability and effectiveness professionals, and workforce development leaders.

VFA is currently in Phase II, which is a development period for defining and testing the stage one measurement framework; modeling the data collection and display tool; writing a business plan for building the VFA; and a creating the strategic plan for rollout and growth (ending fall 2011).

A proposed VFA Phase III is being planned for building the VFA infrastructure and for rolling out the VFA to all community colleges, as well as for implementing the strategic plan to grow participation (anticipated to begin in early 2012).

Phase II of the VFA is supported through equal grants from the Lumina Foundation for Education and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.  

www.aacc.nche.edu/vfa
CHARTS AND DATA

CURRENTOUTCOMESANDSUCCESS

4. Number of students who are employed or enrolled in a graduate or professional degree program in education
3. Number of students who are employed in a high-skill, high-wage, high-capacity career field
2. Percentage of students who are employed in a high-skill, high-wage, high-capacity career field
1. Percentage of students who are employed in a high-skill, high-wage, high-capacity career field

OUTCOMES AND SUCCESS

3. Number of students who are employed in a high-skill, high-wage, high-capacity career field
2. Percentage of students who are employed in a high-skill, high-wage, high-capacity career field
1. Percentage of students who are employed in a high-skill, high-wage, high-capacity career field

PROGRESS

4. Percentage of students who are enrolled in a postsecondary education program
3. Percentage of students who are enrolled in a postsecondary education program
2. Percentage of students who are enrolled in a postsecondary education program
1. Percentage of students who are enrolled in a postsecondary education program

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

4. Percentage of students who are enrolled in a postsecondary education program
3. Percentage of students who are enrolled in a postsecondary education program
2. Percentage of students who are enrolled in a postsecondary education program
1. Percentage of students who are enrolled in a postsecondary education program

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

4. Number of students who are employed in a high-skill, high-wage, high-capacity career field
3. Number of students who are employed in a high-skill, high-wage, high-capacity career field
2. Number of students who are employed in a high-skill, high-wage, high-capacity career field
1. Number of students who are employed in a high-skill, high-wage, high-capacity career field

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

4. Percentage of students who are enrolled in a postsecondary education program
3. Percentage of students who are enrolled in a postsecondary education program
2. Percentage of students who are enrolled in a postsecondary education program
1. Percentage of students who are enrolled in a postsecondary education program

College Readiness

4. Percentage of students who are enrolled in a postsecondary education program
3. Percentage of students who are enrolled in a postsecondary education program
2. Percentage of students who are enrolled in a postsecondary education program
1. Percentage of students who are enrolled in a postsecondary education program

STUDENT PROGRESS AND OUTCOMES

3. Percentage of students who are enrolled in a postsecondary education program
2. Percentage of students who are enrolled in a postsecondary education program
1. Percentage of students who are enrolled in a postsecondary education program

Proposed State ONE VFA MEASURES (CURRENTLY BEING PILOT TESTED TO DETERMINE ABILITY TO REPORT AND UTILIZE ON MEASURE [04/2011]):