Core Component 1-A
Carl Sandburg College’s mission documents are clear and articulate publicly the organization’s commitments.

Mission Statement
Opportunity to Succeed

The mission of Carl Sandburg College is to provide accessible, quality education in a caring environment by keeping the learner’s needs at the center of decision-making and by working in partnership with communities of the College district.

The College’s mission statement is at the core of decision-making and is published in a variety of places. All items brought to the Board of Trustees must be tied to the College’s mission statement, focal points, and goals. During a January 2010 faculty survey 97.5 percent of the respondents said they included the mission statement on their syllabi.

Public Access to Mission Statement

- Web site home page and variety of other CSC related pages (i.e., Human Resources Web Site, Board of Trustees, About CSC)
- President, vice presidents, deans, and associate deans all have the mission statement hanging in their offices
- Business Cards
- Wall plaques at all entrances
- Syllabi
- Top of the agenda for Board Meetings and Faculty Assembly
- College Catalog
- Registration Publication
- Business and Community Education Class Schedule
- Academic Program Brochures
- College Letterhead
- CSC News Release Stationary

Beliefs

- We believe everyone should have equal access to education
- We believe in financial stability and responsibility
• We believe in providing a quality educational experience through faculty, staff, curricula, and physical resources
• We believe the educational experience is enriched through diversity in its people, curricula, and environment
• We believe in the value to learn never ends
• We believe community colleges are vital to economic and workforce development
• We believe in assessment and accountability
• We believe Carl Sandburg College must have a commitment to every stakeholder in the district
• We believe where you live should not determine the quality of the education you can access
• We believe in taking ownership of our future
• We believe in a safe and secure environment
• We believe in student centered decision-making
• We believe in the use of up-to-date technology
• We believe that co-curricular and extra-curricular activities are an integral part of the education experience
• We believe in the value of shared governance

**Strategies**

• We will ensure long-term financial stability and accountability
• We will implement an effective enrollment management program (housing)
• We will enhance communications internally
• We will develop and maintain partnerships with all elected officials and hold them accountable
• We will ensure vibrant curricula
• We will ensure an effective delivery of services throughout the entire district

**Focal Points and Goals**

• Learning
  o Promote and support student learning at the classroom, program, and school levels
• Provide and maintain resources, which enable and enhance student retention and learning
  • Promote and support local research on the learning process

- Caring Environment
  • Shape an environment that recognizes the need for diversity
  • Create opportunities for all within the College community to interact with understanding, tolerance, and respect for others
  • Promote sensitivity to individual needs and aspirations of those throughout the College community

- Technology
  • Establish and maintain effective technology in academic programs and support functions
  • Upgrade employee skills in use of technology

- Cooperative Alliances
  • Develop programs in cooperation with neighboring institutions
  • Maintain and expand alliances within and beyond the College district
  • Support economic development activities

- Stability
  • Establish/maintain an operating fund balance equal to five-six percent of the previous year’s adopted budget
  • Develop institutional shape/make-up that best addresses long-range fiscal concerns.
  • Maintain the College comprehensive risk management program
  • Maintain a competitive compensation program to enable the College to attract and retain a quality workforce
  • Promote operating efficiencies to accommodate growth
  • Promote the development of human resources
  • Promote and develop information management systems that facilitate decision-making

- Assessment
  • Promote and support local research on the assessment process
  • Promote student assessment at the course, program, and school levels
  • Promote assessment as an institutional way of life
Educational Purposes

- Provide associate degree level education consisting of liberal arts, sciences, and pre-professional fields designed to prepare students for transfer to baccalaureate granting institutions
- Provide business, technical, and professional education that offers associate degrees, certificates, courses, workshops, and seminars designed for career, entry level employment, retraining, and/or upgrading of skills to meet current and emerging employment needs and trends
- Provide courses and programs designed to assist academically underprepared students to be successful in their next level of education
- Provide activities designed to meet the lifelong educational needs and interests of individuals throughout the district
- Provide services designed to meet the needs of the student population including recruitment, admissions, registration, assessment, counseling, tutoring, career planning, academic advisement, financial aid, job placement, co-curricular activities, and inter-collegiate athletics
- Provide programs and services designed to meet the customized continuing education and technical assistance needs of individuals, businesses, industries, and community organizations
- Serve as a center for cultural and intellectual development