

Fort Scott Community College — Criterion 1 Summary

Mission, Public Good, and Civic Engagement

1A Mission Alignment

- FSCC founded in 1919; mission reaffirmed annually by Board of Trustees.
- Mission: provide affordable academic, technical, occupational programs while fostering community relationships.
- Strategic Plan (rev. 2022) with 5 goals: community, quality, student success, fiscal responsibility, employee engagement.
- Vision: 'Students First, Community Always'; Core Values: success, integrity, diversity, stewardship.
- Mission visibility: website, catalog, Board agendas, policy, handbooks, classrooms, orientation, onboarding.
- Affordable access: tuition lower than peers; \$300k+ in scholarships (2024–25); Bourbon County waiver; SB155 free tuition; dual/concurrent courses \$50/credit; Excel in CTE.
- Operations guided by ZBB budgeting, monthly fiscal reviews, and alignment with Strategic Goal 4 (Fiscal Responsibility).

1B Mission and Public Good

- Tiered tuition rates support affordability and transparency.
- Multi-site operations across Bourbon, Crawford, Linn, and Miami counties; 35+ degree and certificate programs.
- Advisory boards ensure CTE programs meet workforce needs; dual/concurrent enrollment expands opportunity.
- Elected Board of Trustees provides accountability; program review, assessment, and benchmarking drive improvement.
- Community engagement: clinics, fairs, festivals, Constitution Day, service-learning projects.
- Gordon Parks Museum integrates cultural enrichment and civic dialogue into FSCC life.
- Adult Education/GED partnership with NCCC expands foundational learning opportunities.
- Systemwide Transfer (KBOR), articulation agreements, and reverse transfer ensure seamless pathways.

1C Mission and Diversity of Society

- Student demographics (AY 2024): ~21% underrepresented minority enrollment.
- Institutional Learning Outcome: Social Responsibility—>70% students meet/exceed benchmarks.
- Curriculum integrates multicultural content (e.g., Children's Literature, service learning).
- Gordon Parks Museum anchors cultural programming (lectures, exhibits, celebrations).
- Events: Constitution Day, Black History Month, TRIO cultural trips, multicultural lectures.
- TRIO SSS supports 150+ underserved students with advising, mentoring, cultural engagement.
- Inclusive hiring guided by Board policy, Non-Discrimination Policy, equity-focused search committees.
- Workplace compliance with Title VI, Title IX, ADA ensures inclusive climate for students & staff.

Summary

- FSCC's mission is a living framework guiding planning, programs, and operations.
- Mission alignment demonstrated through affordable tuition, scholarships, broad academic offerings, and support services.
- Commitment to public good reflected in governance, accountability, workforce partnerships, and community engagement.
- Civic engagement, multicultural learning, and inclusive hiring practices prepare students for global society.
- Criteria 1.A, 1.B, and 1.C confirm FSCC's mission-driven role as a community-centered institution advancing student success and regional vitality.