

Fort Scott Community College — Criterion 4 Summary

Institutional Effectiveness, Resources, and Planning

4A Effective Administrative Structures

- FSCC maintains effective, transparent administrative structures aligned with mission.
- Shared governance: Board of Trustees, Executive Team, President's Cabinet, faculty/staff committees.
- Monthly Board meetings (KOMA compliant) with agendas/minutes posted publicly.
- Committees: Academic Affairs, Curriculum, Assessment, Retention/Persistence/Completion, FSCAPE.
- Executive Team meets weekly; President's Cabinet monthly for cross-functional collaboration.
- Regular in-service meetings: compliance (Title IX, VAWA, FERPA), technology, financial updates, strategic plan progress.
- Institutional Research provides validated data for enrollment, program review, budgeting, and grants.

4B Resource Base & Sustainability

- Independent audits (2022–2024) confirm fiscal stability; conservative budgeting and diversified revenues.
- Corrective actions since FY2021–2023 overspending: requisition controls, needs-based spending.
- Cash Reserves Policy (2024): 3% revenue transfer monthly; minimum \$300k (Aug 2024 balance: \$409k).
- Capital improvements: roofs, HVAC, windows, sealing, dorm repairs; ongoing facility maintenance.
- Technology upgrades: campus Wi-Fi, classroom tech, cybersecurity, transition to Jenzabar system.
- Workforce: 137 FT staff, 35 FT faculty, ~38 adjuncts; all meet KBOR/HLC qualifications.
- Recruitment, hiring, onboarding with mentoring and compliance alignment; structured professional development funded by Perkins, Bernita Hill, Faculty Dev. Fund.
- Zero-based budgeting (since 2018): requests tied to strategic plan goals; monthly departmental budget reports.
- Board workshops, public hearings, and adoption processes ensure transparency and accountability.
- Strategic investments: Jenzabar One SIS, payroll system (2025), Nursing move to Hedges Admin., GLBA compliance upgrades.
- Student-focused investments: chatbot for outreach, marketing initiatives, enhanced scholarships, facility and security upgrades.

4C Planning for Quality Improvement

- Cyclical, collaborative strategic planning (2015–16 launch; refreshed 2017; updated 2022).
- Strategic goals: community engagement, quality teaching/learning, student success, fiscal responsibility, employee engagement.
- Zero-based budgeting links requests to strategic goals; monthly Finance Committee meetings (since 2024).
- Institutional Effectiveness supported by Director and Assessment Coordinator; integrates assessment cycles and data use.
- Data sources: IR dashboards, KBOR Student Success Index, Noel-Levitz, satisfaction surveys, NCCBP, program reviews, audits.
- Enrollment forecasts drive budget modeling; Retention Committee monitors DFW rates and persistence.
- Recent improvements: expanded tutoring (Nursing/CTE), STARS early alert, EdSights chatbot, mentoring programs.
- Program responsiveness: expanded CTE programs (John Deere, Welding, Construction Tech, Heavy Equipment); grant-funded initiatives.
- Technology roadmap: Jenzabar One go-live July 2025 integrates SIS, FA, billing, and finance.
- Annual budgets balance enrollment, appropriations, grants, long-term facility/tech commitments; emergency reserves maintained.
- Four-semester assessment cycles inform academic and operational improvements; feedback via surveys and forums.

Summary

- FSCC demonstrates effectiveness through transparent governance, prudent fiscal management, and integrated planning.
- Resources and structures sustain operations, ensure accountability, and position FSCC for long-term success.

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