

## State Accountability Report 2014-15

Midlands Technical College  
Dr. Ronald L. Rhames, President  
September 15, 2015

The vision of Midlands Technical College (MTC) is to be a premier higher education partner that creates innovative learning environments, promotes individual and business success, drives economic vitality, and enhances quality of life. With the implementation of its strategic planning model in 1984, the college developed systematic and on-going performance review systems across the institution to evaluate its success in each of these areas.

Through its strategic planning process, the college states its mission as: *Midlands Technical College is a comprehensive, multi-campus, two-year public college serving the primary region of Richland, Lexington and Fairfield counties of South Carolina. College programs and services provide accessible, affordable, quality education that prepares a diverse student population to succeed in the job market, to transfer to senior colleges and universities, and to achieve their professional and personal goals. The college equitably provides higher education opportunities, strengthens businesses and enhances the economic and social vitality of the community.*

The college has embraced the learner-centered concept to achieve this mission and to educate the region's future workforce. All college faculty members are involved in developing program/course outcomes, competencies and measures; analyzing the data collected; implementing appropriate changes; and determining the impact of these changes on student learning.

Midlands Technical College has established three Goals and 13 Priority Initiatives to measure success on achieving its mission in its 2014-2017 Strategic Plan. The following four pages outline the college's major successes in the 2014-15 academic year and the findings for several of its student success criteria.

### **Goal 1: Access (Pipeline)**

#### **Priority Initiatives:**

- Optimize the student pipeline to meet student, business and community needs
- Enhance the MTC image
- Provide resources for student access
- Ensure institutional and programmatic accreditation

### **Goal 2: Learning Experience**

#### **Priority Initiatives:**

- Deliver programs and services that meet customer needs
- Enhance college infrastructure to ensure a positive campus environment
- Provide a student-centered teaching and learning experience
- Cultivate and support an exceptional, diverse faculty and staff
- Ensure the MTC experience reflects the college's brand

### **Goal 3: Student, Business and Community Success**

#### **Priority Initiatives:**

- Increase student success, retention and goal attainment
- Collaborate with all education partners
- Partner with business and industry to provide workforce solutions
- Support the economic development of the community

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## INSTITUTIONAL HIGHLIGHTS 2014 – 2015

- Dr. Ronald L. Rhames became the sixth president of Midlands Technical College. Previously serving as senior vice president at MTC, Rhames, an MTC alumnus, has been a member of the MTC senior management team since 1990.
- The largest class in the college's history graduated in 2015, with nearly 2,200 degrees, diplomas and certificates awarded.
- Midlands Technical College received the largest gift by an individual in the history of the college. The \$1 million structured gift over time from Lou and Bill Kennedy established the William Jerry Wood Life Skills Center.
- With the assistance of national consultant Ruffalo Noel Levitz, MTC developed its 2015-2017 Retention Plan which specifies the goals, strategies, and responsibilities for improving the quality of student life and learning.
- Midlands Technical College upgraded the student and employee MyMTC web portals with added features to make MyMTC the single access point for all their online needs. The new MyMTC allows users to link directly to email, D2L Brightspace, WebAdvisor and Colleague UI, college news and events, and to customize their MyMTC homepage with bookmarks and links to the web pages that are most important to them.
- Midlands Technical College launched its new brand that included a logo, new website, new social media platforms, and new advertising campaigns. The new brand positions the college as a first-tier, first-choice contender in providing credentialed education and training opportunities to the communities it serves.
- The Radiologic Technology program at MTC is one of the top 24 radiography programs in the country, scoring in the 97<sup>th</sup> percentile on the 2014 national board exam. The program's mean score of 92.6 was one of only 24 programs out of approximately 650 programs that had a mean score of 90 or higher.
- Midlands Technical College's first-time Nursing and Health Sciences graduates scored an overall pass rate of 93.5 percent on their first attempt at licensure certification. Of the 15 exams these first-time test takers sit for, 12 exams had 100 percent of MTC's graduates pass the exam on the first attempt.
- The Midlands Technical College Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society inducted 68 students. Phi Theta Kappa serves to recognize and encourage the academic achievement of two-year college students. In 2014-15, the Midlands Technical College Phi Theta Kappa Alpha Eta Kappa Chapter was rated as a 5-Star Program and in the top 100 programs internationally, garnering multiple chapter and advisor awards.
- Midlands Technical College inducted 38 new members into the National Technical Honor Society at the college's annual ceremony and reception.
- Eighteen MTC Nuclear Systems Technology students earned the Nuclear Uniform Curriculum Program Certificate. The Nuclear Systems Technology program allows students to train to become nuclear operators at the V.C. Summer Nuclear Station in Fairfield County and other nuclear plants around the country.
- Midlands Technical College opened the new Innovation Center in Educational Technology in Morris Hall on its Airport Campus in the spring of 2015. This 3,500 square foot facility will be used to provide training to faculty on the latest technology designed to enhance classroom instruction.

- Midlands Technical College began construction on the new Beltline Campus Learning Resource Center. This 43,000 square foot facility will feature technology-rich classrooms and computer labs equipped for teleconferencing, an Academic Success Center with onsite tutoring, individual study rooms, a cybercafé common area and the William Jerry Wood Life Skills Center.
- Midlands Technical College submitted its Fifth Year Interim Report to its regional accreditor, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on College's (SACSCOC).
- Dr. Ronald L. Rhames, MTC President, was chosen to chair the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) Board of Directors. NACUBO is a membership organization representing more than 2,500 two-year and four-year colleges, universities, and higher education service providers across the country and around the world.
- Midlands Technical College's Student Support Services (SSS) grant, one of the US Department of Education's TRIO Programs, was renewed for a total of \$1,407,555 over a five year period.
- The college received \$50,000 to establish the Patricia Mogel Coogler Dental Sciences Endowed Scholarship. The gift was one of the top-five one-time gifts ever received from an individual in the college's history.
- The Midlands Technical College Foundation received a \$50,000 gift from the Bank of America Charitable Foundation. The funds will be used to provide tuition assistance for unemployed or underemployed residents of Lexington and Richland to pursue QuickJobs training with MTC.
- Corporate and Continuing Education enrolled 2,331 students in QuickJobs programs and awarded \$1,491,598 in QuickJobs scholarships in the region's targeted clusters.
- Corporate and Continuing Education provided training for 186 corporate customers (an increase of 38%).
- Corporate and Continuing Education's Growing Resources in Information Technology (GRIT) grant through the US Department of Labor served 76 students, had a 78% job placement rate, a 92% employment retention rate and received the Outstanding Continuing Education Program award from SC Association of Continuing Higher Education.
- The Business Accelerator at the Enterprise Campus currently houses five (5) private businesses covering technologies ranging from laboratory diagnostics equipment, to LED lighting systems, to leading-edge medical devices. Total employment in these companies is over 30, with total revenues in excess of \$5M.
- Smoking and tobacco use became prohibited on all Midlands Technical College property. The college is promoting smoking/tobacco cessation programs through its wellness programs, and is offering resources and support to students and employees who desire to quit or abstain from smoking or using tobacco.
- The National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence named Midlands Technical College's Randy Nussler its Instructor of the Year. Nussler was selected from more 150,000 automotive service professionals for his dedicated work in educating students, as well as for his ASE certifications.
- Midlands Technical College Radiologic Technology program director, Dr. Bill Mulkey, received the 2014 William H. Meardy Faculty Member Award from the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT). The ACCT Association Award, presented at the organization's 45th Annual Leadership Congress in Chicago, is among the most prestigious awards any community college faculty can receive.

## STUDENT SUCCESS CRITERIA

### Fall to Spring Persistence Rates

MTC has established the Fall to Spring persistence rate of 72% (+-5%) as the success criteria. Since 2009, MTC has successfully met the established criteria.

**Table 1. Fall to Spring Persistence Rates**

Term	Cohort	Fall Graduates	Adjusted Cohort	Spring Retention	
				N	%
<b>Fall 2009</b>	11,458	486	10,972	8,124	74.0%
<b>Fall 2010</b>	11,744	542	11,202	8,209	73.2%
<b>Fall 2011</b>	11,868	572	11,296	8,420	74.5%
<b>Fall 2012</b>	11,678	513	11,165	7,983	71.5%
<b>Fall 2013</b>	11,304	570	10,734	7,708	71.8%

NOTE: Fall data was derived from CERS closing extract. Spring data was derived from CERS opening extract. Graduate data was derived from the CERS graduate extract.

### Student Success Rates

The MTC student success rate percentage must fall between the CHE success rate of 30% to 45%. Since 2007, MTC has successfully met the established criteria.

**Table 2. Student Success Rates**

Term	Cohort	Graduates (150%)	Transfers (150%)	Enrolled Fall	Student Success	
					N	%
<b>Fall 2007</b>	2,225	90	493	385	968	43.5%
<b>Fall 2008</b>	2,301	112	515	354	981	42.6%
<b>Fall 2009</b>	2,478	161	535	387	1,083	43.7%
<b>Fall 2010</b>	2,282	146	541	356	1,043	45.7%
<b>Fall 2011</b>	2,374	123	543	357	1,023	43.0%

NOTE: CERS opening extract data file, first-time freshman, certificate, degree or diploma seeking. CERS closing and graduate data file. Transfer data from National Student Clearinghouse.

### Graduate Production Rates

MTC has established a graduate production success criteria rate of greater than or equal to 20%. Since 2009, MTC has successfully met the established criteria.

**Table 3. Graduate Production Rates**

Year	Fall Credit Hours	Fall FTE	Annual Graduates	Graduate Production Rate
<b>2009</b>	116,259	7,751	1,568	20.2%
<b>2010</b>	118,927	7,928	1,730	21.8%
<b>2011</b>	118,780	7,919	1,755	22.2%
<b>2012</b>	116,572	7,771	1,655	21.3%
<b>2013</b>	114,267	7,617	1,658	21.7%

NOTE: CERS opening extract. CERS graduate extract Fall, Spring and Summer.

### Graduate Placement Rates

MTC has established a success criteria of 80% for graduation placement rate. Over the past 5 years MTC's graduate placement rate has been within +/-5% of the success criteria range.

**Table 4. Graduate Placement Rates**

Year	Graduates	On Job	In School	Total Placed	% Placed
2008-09	1,752	1,143	312	1,455	83%
2009-10	1,754	879	427	1,306	75%
2010-11	1,882	1,240	297	1,537	82%
2011-12	2,128	1,369	289	1,658	78%
2012-13	1,869	1,158	308	1,466	78%

Source: South Carolina Technical College System (SCTCS) program evaluation exhibits.

Year: Academic year, Fall, Spring and Summer.

Note: Total Placed is total graduates reporting they are either on job (working in their field) or in school.

### Course Completion Percentages

MTC has established the course completion success criteria as 30% +/- 5%. Since 2010, MTC has successfully met the established criteria.

**Table 5. Course Completion Percentages**

Term	Term Grades Total	Non-Completion	
		N	%
Fall 2010	30,730	8,900	29.0%
Fall 2011	30,394	8,823	29.0%
Fall 2012	29,415	8,738	29.7%
Fall 2013	28,895	8,205	28.4%
Fall 2014	28,830	8,685	30.1%

Source: IRM production files, excludes developmental courses. Drop grades include D, F, W, WF, U and I. Completion grades include A, B, C, and S.