

## Kentucky Community and Technical College System Board of Regents

**Action Question:** Should the Board approve revisions to the mission statements of Hazard Community and Technical College (HCTC), Jefferson Community and Technical College (JCTC), and West Kentucky Community and Technical College (WKCTC)?

**Recommendation:** Approve; it is recommended that the KCTCS Board of Regents approve revisions to the mission statements of HCTC, JCTC, and WKCTC to comply with Kentucky House Bill 4.

### **Background:**

KCTCS [Board of Regents Policy 1.2](#) states,

- The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) accreditation standards require that the college's statement of purpose be approved by the governing board and that the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) Board of Regents demonstrates that it periodically reviews and approves mission statements of each of the SACSCOC accredited colleges under its jurisdiction.
- Consistent with this requirement, it is the policy of the KCTCS Board of Regents that each SACSCOC accredited college have a Board-approved mission statement that is consistent with state statutes, the Council on Postsecondary Education's strategic agenda, and the KCTCS mission.
- The KCTCS President is authorized to develop procedures which assure that SACSCOC-accredited colleges' mission statements are periodically reviewed and approved. These procedures must include endorsement by the college's local board of directors, review by the KCTCS Chancellor (now Executive Vice-President and Provost), and approval by the KCTCS President and Board of Regents.

KCTCS [Administrative Policy 1.2.1](#) states,

- KCTCS Board of Regents policy and accreditation criteria require that each college's mission statement be periodically reviewed and approved by the governing board, the KCTCS Board of Regents.
- The college mission statement is to be consistent with state statutes, the Council on Postsecondary Education's strategic agenda, and the KCTCS mission. It shall be clearly defined, published, specific to the institution, and appropriate to an institution of higher education, addressing teaching and learning and, where applicable, research and public service.
- Mission Statement Approval Process
  - Review of mission statement by college faculty, staff, and administration.

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- Endorsement by local college Board of Directors.
- Review by Chancellor (now Executive Vice-President and Provost).
- Review and approval by the KCTCS President and KCTCS Board of Regents.

### **Rationale:**

The KCTCS Board of Regents reviews and approves college mission statements on a regular interval to meet policy and accreditation requirements. To expedite the review and ensure an appropriate timeline within the KCTCS strategic planning process, KCTCS Administrative Policy 1.2.1 requires a review of all college mission statements by the Board of Regents for approval at their June meeting in the fiscal year in which the KCTCS Strategic Plan is approved. However, on June 27, 2025, Kentucky House Bill 4 will go into effect requiring education institutions to be in compliance with initiatives related to diversity, equity, and inclusion. As a result, the mission statements at HCTC, JCTC, and WKCTC must be revised ahead of schedule to ensure compliance with state law. KCTCS Administrative Policy 1.2.1 allows for mission review/approval outside of the normal sequence with approval by the KCTCS President, provided regular review processes are followed.

The following pages contain revised mission statements for HCTC, JCTC, and WKCTC, as well as a summary of institutional review processes.

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## College Mission Statements and Process

### Hazard Community and Technical College Mission Statement

#### **Original Mission Statement:**

Hazard Community and Technical College empowers students by providing equitable educational opportunities that lead to student success, rewarding careers, and community enhancement.

Hazard Community and Technical College is a member of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System serving the needs of Southeastern Kentucky.

#### **Revised Mission Statement:**

Hazard Community and Technical College empowers students by providing educational opportunities that lead to student success, rewarding careers, and community enhancement.

Hazard Community and Technical College is a member of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System serving the needs of Southeastern Kentucky.

#### **Process Summary:**

Review of mission statement by college faculty, staff, and administration.	Faculty and staff provided input directly to the college President in response to an email sent on April 17, 2025. The college administration reviewed and approved the suggested change on April 24, 2025. The revised mission statement was presented at a collegewide meeting on April 25, 2025, and an email containing the revised statement was sent to all employees on April 29, 2025.
Endorsement by local college Board of Directors.	May 1, 2025
Review by Chancellor (now Executive Vice-President and Provost).	May 23, 2025
Review and approval by the KCTCS President and KCTCS Board of Regents.	Reviewed by the KCTCS President on May 30, 2025. To be approved by the KCTCS Board of Regents on June 12, 2025.

### Jefferson Community and Technical College Mission Statement

#### **Original Mission Statement:**

Jefferson Community and Technical College transforms lives and communities through educational excellence in an inclusive environment that opens doors for all students.

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Jefferson Community and Technical College is a member of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System.

### **Revised Mission Statement:**

Jefferson Community and Technical College transforms lives and communities through educational excellence in a welcoming and supportive environment that opens doors for all students.

Jefferson Community and Technical College is a member of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System.

### **Process Summary:**

Review of mission statement by college faculty, staff, and administration.	Mission was temporarily changed by college President/CEO to replace the word “inclusive” with “encouraging” in early April in response to House Bill 4. A survey to all faculty, staff, and administration was administered from April 14 – May 4, 2025. Results were reviewed by the local President’s Leadership Team on May 5, 2025, and the decision was made to replace inclusive/encouraging with “welcoming and supportive.” This language was endorsed by the Council of Deans on May 6, 2025.
Endorsement by local college Board of Directors.	May 19, 2025
Review by Chancellor (now Executive Vice-President and Provost).	May 23, 2025
Review and approval by the KCTCS President and KCTCS Board of Regents.	Reviewed by the KCTCS President on May 30, 2025. To be approved by the KCTCS Board of Regents on June 12, 2025.

## **West Kentucky Community and Technical College Mission Statement**

### **Original Mission Statement:**

West Kentucky Community and Technical College promotes equity as we champion student success, provide excellence in teaching and learning, and advance economic development within a diverse and inclusive campus community.

West Kentucky Community and Technical College is a member of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System.

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### Revised Mission Statement:

West Kentucky Community and Technical College champions student success, provides excellence in teaching and learning, and advances regional economic development. With strong community ties, we strive to create a welcoming and supportive environment where all individuals can achieve their goals.

West Kentucky Community and Technical College is a member of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System.

### Process Summary:

Review of mission statement by college faculty, staff, and administration.	Strategic Initiatives Workgroup met to develop mission options on March 27, 2025. Options were brought before the cabinet and narrowed on April 1, 2025. The draft mission was brought before Faculty Council on April 8, 2025, and Staff Council on April 16, 2025. The final draft version was brought before the full Faculty and staff April 25, 2025.
Endorsement by local college Board of Directors.	May 13, 2025
Review by Chancellor (now Executive Vice-President and Provost).	May 23, 2025
Review and approval by the KCTCS President and KCTCS Board of Regents.	Reviewed by the KCTCS President on May 30, 2025. To be approved by the KCTCS Board of Regents on June 12, 2025.

**June 12-13, 2025 Meeting**