



Henry Ford College

5101 Evergreen Road
Dearborn, MI 48128-1495
313-845-9600
www.hfcc.edu

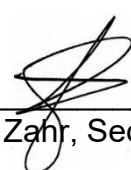
At their regular Board of Trustees meeting on September 15, 2025, the following motion, moved by Trustee D'Ambrosio, supported by Trustee Petlichkoff, was approved with a unanimous vote attached.

Local Strategic Value Resolution

Background Information: In order to receive funding under the local strategic value category, community colleges must confirm they meet four out of five of the best practices listed for each category. The wide range of educational programs and business and industry partnerships at Henry Ford College ensure that the best criteria practices are met.

Recommended action: Move to approve the following resolution as documented by Attachment A:

RESOLUTION: Henry Ford College, through its duly authorized officers, certify that Henry Ford College has met four of five best practices in each category as required by Section 230 of PA 60 of 2015, the Education Omnibus Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2026.



Amer Zahr, Secretary

Community Colleges Local Strategic Value Template

Please use this table as a method to succinctly detail what your community college is doing to meet the best practices in each category. Each category is worth one-third of the total amount available for your institution. Your institution must meet 4 out of 5 best practices in a category to receive funding associated with that category.

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
Category A: Economic Development and Business or Industry Partnerships (must meet 4 of 5)	
(i) The community college has active partnerships with local employers including hospitals and health care providers.	<p>Since its founding in 1938, Henry Ford College (HFC) has been a driving force in workforce and professional development, helping industry build a world-class, competitive workforce that supports economic growth and strengthens global positioning. From its earliest days, the College forged groundbreaking partnerships with Ford Motor Company, UAW-Ford, Chrysler Corporation, and General Motors Corporation to create educational opportunities for both new and incumbent workers. These programs not only enhanced job-specific skills but also gave employers a critical competitive advantage in rapidly evolving industries.</p> <p>Local and regional employers from business, industry and healthcare play critical roles on Advisory Boards for a wide range of career and academic programs at Henry Ford College (HFC) – helping to shape and steer curriculum and training so that students are best prepared to enter the workforce. The educational partner of choice for many employers, HFC provides customized, tailored opportunities to train as well as to upskill workers throughout their career cycles.</p> <p>With strong support from manufacturers including Ford Motor Company, General Motors, and Stellantis, HFC has built one of the largest apprenticeship programs in the nation, hosting the largest student population engaged in apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs in the State of Michigan. In addition to the more traditional career pathways offered through HFC’s Trade & Apprenticeship Programs, HFC has adopted and adapted the apprenticeship learning model in non-traditional areas such as in allied health and healthcare fields as well.</p> <p>HFC hosts a unique MAT2 (Michigan Advanced Technician Training) program – creating exceptional “earn and learn” training pathways combining</p>

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	<p>classroom instruction with on-th-job learning experience with such key employer partners as: Inergy Automotive Systems, LLC; New Center Stamping; Proper Group International; EMAG LLC; FTE Automotive USA; Brose North America; ZF North America; Heller Machine Tools; Kostal North America; Detroit Inc.; Benteler; Van-Rob; Borg-Warner; ZF, K & S Services; KlingelInberg; and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.</p> <p>HFC is home to Michigan’s only Ford ASSET program, a partnership with Ford Motor Company to train auto repair technicians for Ford dealerships. HFC also maintains a CISCO Academy preparing students for industry networking certifications.</p> <p>In partnership with Henry Ford Health (HFH) and Dearborn Public Schools (DPS), HFC maintains a nationally recognized Early College in Health Careers. Other HFC/HFH collaborations include training and employment development programs in Ophthalmic Technology.</p> <p>HFC partners with Corewell Health (CH) in providing a first-in-the-state educational/employment program guaranteeing Nursing students full-time careers with CH upon graduation and successful completion of the NCLEX exam. HFC also maintains educational and professional training partnerships with the Detroit Medical Center, Trinity Health, Michigan Medicine, Garden City Hospital, and many other hospitals, clinics, and healthcare facilities across Southeast Michigan. HFC’s unique Lactation Consultant program was developed through a partnership with Ascension St. John Hospital.</p>
(ii) The community college provides customized on-site training for area companies, employees, or both.	<p>HFC was the first community college in the nation to partner with both union and management leadership to design and deliver joint career and vocational programs. These programs trained workers in manufacturing and building trades, health care, information technology, business services and management, and hospitality/food services—setting a national standard for workforce development. As the demand for skilled workers grew in Michigan and across the nation, HFC responded by developing customized training programs tailored to the needs of local employers. These initiatives provided businesses with access to highly skilled workers and</p>

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	<p>created opportunities to retrain existing employees to meet the challenges of a global economy.</p> <p>HFC has played a pivotal role in federally funded initiatives such as the Advance Michigan Catalyst, the Multi-State Advanced Manufacturing Consortium, and AMCAI, as well as U.S. Department of Labor grants in advanced manufacturing and apprenticeship programs. Corporate-sponsored partnerships further extended HFC’s reach, including the UAW-Ford Industrial Readiness Certificate Program, MAT2, and innovative training in gas distribution, community health, industrial sewing and pattern making, and pipeline programs that link high school students to career pathways. Partnerships with employers such as Brose, Emag LLC, Dürr, and SW North America underscore the College’s ability to align workforce training with real industry needs.</p> <p>Henry Ford College (HFC), in partnership with the Michigan Community Health Worker Alliance and the Institute for Population Health, launched its Community Health Worker (CHW) training program. This initiative was developed to prepare front-line health workers to deliver culturally responsive services that address the diverse needs of Michigan communities. The curriculum is built around eight nationally recognized core competencies, delivered through modular instruction that equips students with the knowledge and practical skills necessary to secure employment as Community Health Workers or to expand the expertise of those already working in the field. A required internship component provides hands-on field experience with local agencies, enabling students to apply classroom learning directly to real-world practice. Since its inception, HFC’s CHW training program has successfully prepared more than 348 professionals, strengthened Michigan’s healthcare workforce and advanced community health outcomes.</p> <p>In addition, federal and state support—through appropriations secured by Representative Debbie Dingell, Senator Gary Peters, and former Senator Debbie Stabenow—has expanded HFC’s capacity to grow Career and Technical Education programs, including for-credit and non-credit courses, third-party certifications, dual enrollment opportunities, and advanced technology integration across technical skill programs.</p>

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	<p>While HFC’s efforts are historically rooted in industrial and manufacturing training, today the WFPD integrates durable and transferable skills across multiple disciplines. The workforce of the future requires employees who are not only technically proficient but also adaptable, collaborative, and capable of leadership in complex, technology-driven environments. HFC’s programs prepare workers to meet these demands, emphasizing productivity, quality, and innovation.</p>
<p>(iii) The community college supports entrepreneurship through a small business assistance center or other training or consulting activities targeted toward small businesses.</p>	<p>The Workforce and Professional Development Division at HFC currently supports small businesses through training, program development, and professional development opportunities. A state-supported expansion and renovation of HFC’s Technology Education Center (completed in Fall 2023) will house a new community-facing Entrepreneurship Hub offering integrated “design-create-promote” opportunities and support for small business development.</p> <p>HFC has funded a full-time faculty position to lead course and curriculum efforts regarding entrepreneurship and small business development for both credit and non-credit students.</p> <p>VP Michael Nealon and Dean Patricia Chatman were featured speakers at the City of Dearborn and the American Arab Chamber of Commerce’s inaugural Night of Innovation, including the showcasing of Dearborn-based entrepreneurs and an open pitch competition (held May 13, 2025).</p>
<p>(iv) The community college supports technological advancement through industry partnerships, incubation activities, or operation of a Michigan technical education center or other advanced technology center.</p>	<p>HFC operates an MTEC supporting the needs of the business and industry community, maintaining quality training opportunities and best practices in technological advancement since 2002. HFC’s MTEC facility is also home to our Middle College Trade School, serving numerous regional high schools and introducing students to career pathways in industry and the skilled trades. MTEC also provides learning labs for HFC’s expanding Pre-Engineering and Engineering Technology programs.</p> <p>In 2022, HFC launched an Apple Foundation Program at its East Campus, offering one- and three-month courses that introduce students to Swift, Apple’s programming language, and the fundamentals of app design and development. Using Apple’s learning framework, students</p>

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	<p>enhance their creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving skills while building app prototypes. Through Apple’s Community Education Initiative, HFC also offers two credit-bearing courses—Introduction to Mobile Application Development and Advanced Mobile Application Development (iOS)—which form part of the College’s Mobile App Development Certificate of Achievement, providing students with a clear pathway from foundational training to advanced study and credentialing.</p>
<p>(v) The community college has active partnerships with local or regional workforce and economic development agencies.</p>	<p>HFC maintains active partnerships with SEMCA; DESC; Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce; DEGC; SEMCOG; Detroit Jobs Alliance; Livonia Chamber of Commerce; and the Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce. In addition, HFC is a member of the Workforce Intelligence Network (WIN), holding a seat on its Board of Directors.</p> <p>HFC has been a recipient of funding through the Michigan New Jobs Training (MNJT) Agreement. MNJT is a training program whereby employers are allowed to set aside state payroll taxes per new hire to be diverted to community colleges to deliver training for these newly hired Michigan workers. This allows companies to expand and grow their workforce in Michigan and develop the kind of skills that will encourage employers to expand their operations in Michigan. The program promotes collaboration and partnerships between employers and community colleges. To date, HFC has written MNJT agreements with GM Romulus, Grand Rapids, and DO Apparel. HFC also maintains active agreements with LM Manufacturing and Magna Detroit Seating.</p> <p>HFC’s Workforce and Professional Development team conducts workshops throughout the year to assist employers develop grants from various public and private funding sources supporting workforce skill development. Fifteen companies have participated in this event during the past four months.</p>
Category B: Educational Partnerships (must meet 4 of 5)	
<p>(i) The community college has active partnerships with regional high schools, intermediate school districts, and career-tech centers to provide instruction through dual</p>	<p>Henry Ford College is home to the largest high school dual enrollment student population among all 2- and 4-year colleges and universities in the State of Michigan. Under its Director of K-12 Relations, HFC advances and coordinates dual- and concurrent enrollment</p>

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
<p>enrollment, direct credit, middle college, or academy programs.</p>	<p>programming to ensure alignment of services with over 68 partnering high schools and school districts across Wayne County and Southeast Michigan, providing college credit opportunities to 2500+ high school students every year.</p> <p>HFC and Dearborn Public Schools partner in offering a unique and comprehensive Collegiate Academy providing all eligible 11th and 12th graders no-cost access to most of the college's academic and career pathways. HFC also houses on-campus Early College programs enrolling students in 9th grade and focusing on career preparation in such areas as Health Career, Advanced Manufacturing, and Education.</p> <p>The Henry Ford College Middle College Trade School Program serving over 200 students offers a unique learning experience that integrates high school and college education. Designed for students beginning in Grade 11, this three-year program combines high school coursework with the first two years of college, enabling participants to earn both a high school diploma and, potentially, an associate degree. Students may pursue degrees in HFC's Trade and Apprenticeship Education programs, including Electrical Engineering Technology, Energy Technology–HVAC, Design and Manufacturing, Mechatronics, and Cybersecurity. Tuition, books, and lab fees are fully covered, ensuring no cost to students or their families.</p> <p>HFC partners with Dearborn/Detroit area's Advanced Technology Academy providing Early Middle College dual and concurrent enrollment pathways for high school students in Business, Cybersecurity, pre-Engineering, Healthcare, Mechatronics, and Nursing.</p> <p>HFC is a CISCO regional academy which coordinates CISCO networking instruction for area high schools.</p>
<p>(ii) The community college hosts, sponsors, or participates in enrichment programs for area K-12 students, such as college days, summer or after-school programming, or science Olympiad.</p>	<p>Each Fall, HFC hosts an annual Discover Day attended by up to 1,400 students from area K-12 school systems. Likewise, HFC serves as a coordinating hub for many activities related to Manufacturing Day in Southeast Michigan.</p> <p>The college works to provide enrichment programs for area K-12 students through a variety of programs</p>

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	<p>including various academic and sports camps. STEM Family Day engages students of all ages exploring a wide range of scientific interests. The college Planetarium hosts hundreds of area K-12 students for seasonal shows. HFC's Political Issues Conference draws over 500 high school students each year, and the Business Professionals Association competition brings nearly 800 high students to campus. The CISCO Olympics encourages high school students to compete in a day of networking games and exercises.</p> <p>Faculty in Science and Engineering mentor students, oversee research projects, and judge Science Fairs in the Dearborn Public Schools. HFC faculty organize an annual Engineering Competition for students in area high schools. Winners are provided with prizes including scholarships to HFC. Mentors and judges are supplied by Ford Motor Company and HFC faculty. Over 100 students participate annually. In addition, our faculty have reached out to our community with participation in Science Fair Research Projects and judging with the Dearborn Center for Math, Science, and Technology. HFC Science faculty provide resources and guidance for local high school students engaging in independent research projects.</p> <p>HFC has conducted summer camps encouraging underrepresented student populations to explore learning and career opportunities in STE(A)M fields: DNA Camp, Environmental Discovery Camp, Forensics Explorations, and Astronomy. Other "Camp Henry" programs engage students in other areas such as Culinary Arts, Cybersecurity, Computer Programming, as well as the visual and performing arts.</p>
(iii) The community college provides, supports, or participates in programming to promote successful transitions to college for traditional age students, including grant programs such as talent search, upward bound, or other activities to promote college readiness in area high schools and community centers.	<p>HFC's Hawk Advantage program has served over 400 recent high school graduates in making a seamless transition to college with a focus on closing achievement gaps and addressing "learning loss" resulting from the disruption of the COVID pandemic.</p> <p>HFC promotes additional successful transition to college for both traditional age students and adult learners through many initiatives. HFC is home to the largest population of Detroit Promise students in the state, providing tailored advising, success coaching, and support for many first- generation minority students transitioning to college from low-income, urban high school systems.</p>

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	<p>The HFC Office of K-12 Relations works with area high schools to smooth the admission process to career and technical programs. HFC also is home to Henry J. Bowers Focus Group providing both social and academic support to students while focusing on improving retention and goal completion.</p> <p>HFC has participated with the University of Detroit Mercy and Wayne State University in a grant-funded program that aims to provide research opportunities to students early in the educational pathway while also supporting professional development for faculty and staff.</p> <p>Another grant partnership with University of Michigan Ann Arbor brings post-doctoral researchers to the HFC campus to work with a faculty mentor, learning techniques to support underprepared learners. The Institutional Research and Academic Career Development (IRACDA) program is funded by the National Institute of Health and also provides funds to support student research supplies at HFC, an annual university transfer symposium, and students research opportunities at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor.</p> <p>Faculty in the HFC Math program partnered with teachers from the various Dearborn high schools to develop an Introduction to College Math course targeted to address remedial math needs prior to high school graduation and to reduce the number of students placing into Developmental Math at the college level. Co-requisite math courses have been developed for all three Math Pathways: STEM, Quantitative Reasoning and Statistics. This allows students to earn college credits while acquiring remedial skills. An online personalized math skill builder module has been developed to help students who place below college level math improve their skills so that they can re-test and attempt to place into college-level math, thus saving them time and money on their way to earning credentials.</p> <p>HFC provides an Accelerated Learning Program (ALP) for students who place below the level of college writing, allowing these students to take their college writing course a full semester early. A similar accelerated model has been adopted in HFC's English Learning Institute serving student's whose first language is not English.</p>

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	<p>Additionally, HFC has developed a series of workshops that are used to assist and prepare students for placement tests to sharpen their skills and properly place them in their chosen field of study. These workshops include placement test information given at New Student Orientation and one-on-one free tutoring assistance within the college's tutoring center. For students who are unable to place into college-level English classes, the Workforce and Professional Development Division offers low-cost, non-credit literacy training.</p>
<p>(iv) The community college provides, supports, or participates in programming to promote successful transitions to college for new or reentering adult students, such as adult basic education, GED preparation, GED testing, or recruiting, advising, or orientation activities specific to adults.</p>	<p>HFC partners with and houses on its Main campus Dearborn Public School's Adult Learner Program. HFC and DPS work collaboratively to identify and support adult learners through GED and/or completion of a college credential. In some cases, after having successfully completed at least 6 credits of college-level coursework, adult learners may enter HFC career pathways without necessarily having to complete a high school diploma or equivalent.</p> <p>Through a Center for Working Families grant, adults returning to college were supported by programs such as those providing special assistance to improve the likelihood they will graduate and obtain a job. The program was a partnership with United Way and ACCESS in which these agencies referred prospective students to the College and provided important support services to improve retention.</p> <p>The Office of Military and Veterans Services offers assistance to help veterans as well as active military and their families enroll and succeed at HFC. A series of workshops are also provided for and offer one-on-one assistance to new and existing non-traditional students, including tailored orientation sessions and tutoring to better prepare them for placement testing.</p>
<p>(v) The community college has active partnerships with regional 4-year colleges and universities to promote successful transfer, such as articulation, 2+2, or reverse transfer agreements or operation of a university center.</p>	<p>In its efforts to support the state's Sixty-by-30 initiative, HFC developed and maintains a unique and innovative Learn4ward program guaranteeing admission and seamless transfer of an earned associate degree to UM-Dearborn, Wayne State University, Eastern Michigan University, and Davenport University, saving transfer students both money and time to bachelor's degree attainment.</p>

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	<p>HFC administers more than 150 active articulations as well as a growing number of Reverse-Transfer Agreements with other 2- and 4-year institutions or higher learning both across the state of Michigan and nationally. More than fifty 3+1 agreements afford students the opportunity to complete three years toward a BA/BS degree at HFC, improving graduation rates and reducing the cost of college education. HFC actively seeks partnerships with regional 4-year colleges and universities and has articulations with the University of Michigan (at Ann Arbor, Dearborn, and Flint), Wayne State University, Eastern Michigan University, Michigan State University, Oakland University, Ferris State University, Central Michigan University, Western Michigan University, Madonna University, Siena Heights University, Rochester University, Davenport University, Walsh College, and many others.</p> <p>HFC partners with the University of Michigan in offering a Transfer Bridges to the Humanities Program supported by grant funding from the Mellon Foundation and promoting both studies and careers in the Liberal Arts.</p> <p>HFC has partnered with both Michigan State University and Eastern Michigan University in proving seamless transfer ADN-to-BSN pathways for Nursing students with support from a MiLEAP grant. These pathways are designed to maximize the credits that students bring with them from HFC (60 course credits + 30 credits for successful passage of the NCLEX exam), reducing both the time and cost of completing a BSN degree at the 4-year university.</p> <p>Henry Ford College participates in the Michigan Transfer Agreement initiative which will create seamless transfer pathways for Art, Biology, Business, Communication, Computer Science, Criminal Justice, English, Exercise Science, Mechanical Engineering, Psychology, Public Health, and Social Work.</p> <p>The University of Michigan-Dearborn awards 72 credits in Pre-Engineering for students who have completed all their required coursework at HFC.</p> <p>Students in the HFC Honors program have received numerous scholarships to 4-year colleges and universities</p>

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	including Harvard, U of M-Ann Arbor, and University of Wisconsin-Madison, to name a few. Recent articulations with Albion College and Wayne State University allow for our Honors program graduates to receive scholarships and guaranteed acceptance into the Honors College at the transfer institution.
Category C: Community Services (must meet 4 of 5)	
(i) The community college provides continuing education programming for leisure, wellness, personal enrichment, or professional development.	HFC offers robust continuing education programs through its Workforce and Professional Development office which provides classes that are focused on workforce preparedness, business development, and professional development. All courses offered via HFC's English Language Institute are made available in credit bearing as well as non-credit options (at reduced cost) to students and community members interested in advanced their English language proficiency. Most courses in HFC's Fine and Performing Arts Department are also available in credit-bearing as well as non-cred options (at reduced cost) to community members and students alike.
(ii) The community college operates or sponsors opportunities for community members to engage in activities that promote leisure, wellness, cultural or personal enrichment such as community sports teams, theater or musical ensembles, or artist guilds.	In addition to a wide range of community-focused programs, HFC offers opportunities for community members to engage in personal enrichment activities through participation in community theater, as well as community vocal and instrumental ensembles. The college also offers a variety of courses in the areas of ceramics, art, sports, fitness, dance, and wellness.
(iii) The community college operates public facilities to promote cultural, educational, or personal enrichment for community members, such as libraries, computer labs, performing arts centers, museums, art galleries, or television or radio stations.	<p>Numerous community and arts organizations utilize the college's Adray Theater, Forfa Auditorium, 5101 Restaurant, the Administrative Services Conference Center, the Welcome Center Community Rooms, the Berry Amphitheater, and the McKenzie Performing Arts Center, to produce and host events as well as for cultural outreach to the greater community.</p> <p>HFC recently invested in the renovation of its Sisson Art Gallery, drawing art lovers and students of all ages from across the community for a wide range of carefully curated exhibitions and shows as well as a variety of cultural and educational programs.</p> <p>HFC maintains and operates its own radio station, WHFR, supporting and promoting community activities and events.</p>

Best Practices by Category	Examples of Adherence
	<p>The Dearborn Symphony, Dearborn community's Vanguard Voices, the Detroit Youth Choir, and the Dearborn Summer Chorus all enjoy holding rehearsal at the college.</p> <p>HFC Science labs host HFC's annual STEM Family Day. In addition to conducting public shows that draw hundreds of K-12 students as well as community members to HFC's Planetarium each year, HFC also hosts the Ford Amateur Astronomers Annual Swap.</p>
(iv) The community college operates public facilities to promote leisure or wellness activities for community members, including gymnasiums, athletic fields, tennis courts, fitness centers, hiking or biking trails, or natural areas.	<p>HFC supports the wellness of our community through our fitness, sports, and dance classes and through an open Fitness Center. HFC offers a hiking and biking pathway at the western edge of the campus that extends from Dearborn to Northville.</p>
(v) The community college promotes, sponsors, or hosts community service activities for students, staff, or community members.	<p>HFC hosts and supports a wide variety of community service activities for students, staff, and community members. Students, faculty, staff, and community members participate in volunteer activities that include Make a Difference Day, MLK Service Day, and other days of service, to name a few.</p> <p>Students participate in service learning that is integrated into their course work in many disciplines across the college. Honors program students and student athletes are required to participate in volunteer service, and the Community Service Student Club is one of the most active on campus. The Honors Program also offers a Service Learning Directed Study (HON-236) wherein students work individually or in small groups with a faculty member on a special project anchored in community service while applying both their knowledge and research skills.</p> <p>The School of Health and Human Services holds a flu clinic for faculty, staff, administrators, and students. The Ophthalmic program assists with eye exams at Focus Hope and the Respiratory Therapy program participates in "Climb for Air" with the American Lung Association annually. The Student Nurse Association has over 100 members and participates in many community service activities. HFC hosts the Michigan Ophthalmic Personnel Society (MOPS) meeting each year.</p>