

HISTORY OF MCC

Metropolitan Community College (MCC) is a comprehensive, full-service public community college supported by the taxpayers of Dodge, Douglas, Sarpy and Washington counties. Its mission is to deliver relevant, student-centered education to a diverse community of learners.

The present community college system in Nebraska started in 1971 when the Nebraska Legislature created eight technical community college areas across the state. One of these new areas was called the Eastern Nebraska Technical Community College Area, which encompassed Dodge, Douglas, Sarpy and Washington counties. An area vocational technical school operated by the Omaha Board of Education already served part of this area.

Metropolitan Community College was created in 1974 when the Legislature consolidated the original eight technical community college areas into six. That year, the programs, personnel, assets and liabilities of the former Omaha Nebraska Technical Community College Area merged with the Eastern Nebraska Technical Community College Area under a new name stipulated by amended legislative statutes: the Metropolitan Technical Community College Area. In 1992, the Nebraska Legislature voted to change the College's name to Metropolitan Community College Area.

MCC is currently one of the fastest growing postsecondary institutions in Nebraska. Three state-of-the-art buildings, the Construction Education Center, Center for Advanced and Emerging Technologies and the Career and Academics Skills Center, are now open on the Fort Omaha Campus. MCC North Express opened at the Highlander Accelerator project near 30th and Parker streets and offers a mix of continuing education, workforce training and outreach services. One of South Omaha Campus' newest buildings, the Center for Advanced Manufacturing, is complete and the new Automotive Training Center is nearing completion and will open for classes in Fall 2021. The addition and enhancement of instructional facilities are geared specifically to prepare students for success in college and workforce in the four-county area for years to come.

ACCREDITATION HISTORY

During MCC's accreditation history, evaluation teams have visited the College seven times, and MCC has submitted three special reports since it applied for candidacy in 1974.

- MCC had its first evaluation visit in December 1974, which resulted in candidacy status approval in April 1975.
- In November 1976, the College hosted a biennial visit and was approved for continuing candidacy status and for moving toward accreditation.

- After the initial accreditation visit in November 1978, MCC was granted accreditation for five years in April 1979; however, a mandated focused visit was scheduled in 1980-81 to fulfill the requirements of initial accreditation.
- Based on the April 1981 mandatory focused visit, the visiting team thought the College had not yet resolved issues raised earlier: developing a long-range master plan and reducing the Board of Governors' involvement in administrative matters. A follow-up focused visit was scheduled for the following year.
- In March 1982, the visiting team conducted a focused visit and concluded that the College had addressed the master planning concern but had not fully addressed the concern about board involvement in administrative matters. Because of this, the next comprehensive visit was moved forward one academic year to Spring 1983.
- In March 1983, the first evaluation visit for continued accreditation occurred. The commission stipulated that the College submit a five-year status report in 1987-88.
- In October 1992, a second evaluation visit for continued accreditation occurred. The visiting team recommended a ten-year continuing accreditation status with the next scheduled visit occurring in 2002-03; however, the College was required to provide a detailed description of its institutional program for the assessment of student academic achievement during 1995-96.
- In May 1996, the college submitted the requested report, which was subsequently approved.
- In October 2002, the evaluation team from the Higher Learning Commission returned and "enthusiastically and unanimously" recommended another ten years of accreditation. The College was asked to prepare a progress report due in 2005 on assessing student achievement and integrating the assessment into curricula development, relevant planning and budgeting processes.
- In May 2013, MCC's institutional accreditation was reaffirmed by the Higher Learning Commission through the 2022-2023 academic year.

MCC CAMPUS LOCATIONS

Metropolitan Community College's (MCC) campuses and centers are as diverse as its students. Our campuses change from urban to suburban settings. All campuses provide a complete array of programs and services. Students can access most of our programs and services at the four conveniently located centers.

Applied Technology Center

10407 State St., Omaha, NE 68122

Opened summer 2007, the Applied Technology Center is home to a number of MCC's trades programs. The space was acquired to accommodate growth in both MCC enrollment and in the trades programs themselves. The new location allows ample space for the special classroom and lab facility needs of trades programs such as Diesel Truck Driving, Utility Line Technician and Diesel Service Technology.

Elkhorn Valley Campus

North 204th Street & West Dodge Road, Elkhorn, NE 68022

The Elkhorn Valley Campus opened in 1980 and is located at 204th Street and West Dodge Road. EVC provides educational experiences for western Douglas County and portions of Dodge and Washington counties.

As a single building on a 51-acre site, the Elkhorn Valley Campus is a full-service facility offering classrooms, four computer and visual arts labs, library services, instruction, public safety, counseling, student services, a career network center and technical support to staff and students. Enrollment at this campus continues to increase as the city of Omaha expands toward the west.

Gallery of Art and Design at Elkhorn Valley Campus

In Fall 2008, the Gallery of Art and Design opened at the Elkhorn Valley Campus. The 1,100 square foot space is dedicated to exhibiting the works of visual arts faculty and students. Exhibitions change throughout the year, and admission is free.

Do Space

7205 Dodge St., Omaha, NE 68114

Together with our partners at the non-profit Community Information Trust, MCC houses a modern training center that brings the best of today's technology to central Omaha utilizing the second floor of Do Space. Flexible, active learning opportunities are offered for all types of learners, including older adults, job seekers, incumbent workers, emerging entrepreneurs, parents with young children, teens and college-bound students. Do Space is a technology library, a digital workshop and an innovation playground.

Fort Omaha Campus

5300 N. 30th St., Omaha, NE 68111

Tucked away minutes from the North Freeway to the south and I-680 to the north is the historic Fort Omaha Campus on 30th and Fort streets, an instructional facility with 82,000 square feet of modern classroom, lab and student-dedicated space which opened in 1984. Obtained from the federal government in 1975, the campus is the oldest of the college system and serves as the second highest-attendance site for students.

The majority of administrative and maintenance staff provide area-wide services from this location. The campus sits on 73 acres of land and contains 32 buildings, which encompass 377,701 square feet of space.

The buildings and grounds are maintained in the original 19th century architectural theme, yet the classrooms and offices have been upgraded to accommodate new technology and educational needs of the 21st century. Opened in 2010, the Institute for the Culinary arts added 35,000 square feet of state-of-the-art classroom and meeting space to the campus, including the Sage Student Bistro that offers a fine dining experience to the community and on-the-job training for culinary arts students.

In Fall 2017, the Career and Academic Skills Center, Center for Advanced and Emerging Technology, and Construction Education Center opened on the Fort Omaha Campus.

Fremont Area Center

835 N. Broad St., Fremont, NE 68025

The Fremont Area Center serving Dodge County opened in 1986 in a leased location. Since 2007, the fast-growing location has been located in a former junior high school building and offers 11 classrooms, student services, computer labs, a state-of-the-art certified nursing assistant lab. Additionally, the center anchors the Data Center Management program; a data center lab connects students both physically and digitally to courses. The Data Center Career Academy gives high school students the opportunity to tackle special topics in IT.

MCC North Express

2112 N. 30th St., Omaha, NE 68111 (Highlander Accelerator Building, third floor)

MCC North Express encompasses more than 9,000 square feet on the third floor of the community Accelerator building. The learning center is strategically positioned in the middle of the neighborhood, enabling students and community members the ability to have educational resources close by. Services provided are purposefully designed as stepping stones to initiate next steps toward college or a career.

MCC South Express at Vinton Square

3002 S. 24th St., Omaha, NE 68108 (Vinton Square)

As a one-stop-shop for Adult Education services at the neighborhood level, MCC Express addresses a critical need for GED, English-as-a-Second Language (ESL) and transition services in Omaha. Opened in 2012, MCC Express aims to help individuals master basic skills, set educational and career goals and access occupational programming or employment. In addition to traditional Adult Education classes, MCC Express offers special programs and support services individualized and streamlined to fit the needs of each student. This more personalized approach is meant to increase students' abilities to persist, master course content and attain their educational goals.

Sarpy Center

9110 Giles Road, La Vista, NE 68128-3081

The Sarpy Center and La Vista Public Library is a partnership between Metropolitan Community College and the city of La Vista to combine resources to serve students, city library users and the community. The Sarpy Center opened in 1999 and is located at 91st and Giles Road in the heart of one of the fastest-growing counties in Nebraska.

The Sarpy Center offers an array of general education/academic transfer and career education courses. A one-stop student services area provides personalized service and attention to help students get started and stay on track to reach their educational goals. Outstanding faculty dedicated to teaching help create a positive, supportive learning environment for students.

South Omaha Campus

South 27th & Q Streets, Omaha, NE 68107

Nebraska State Legislator Eugene T. Mahoney had an active interest in the revitalization of South Omaha and the creation of jobs and job training in the former packing plant area. He was responsible for passage of legislation funding the College's purchase of land in the earlier developed stockyard area. In 1975, the College purchased the site which is currently the South Omaha Campus. The Mahoney building, named after State Legislator Mahoney, opened in 1978. The College's Industrial Training Center was constructed in 1979 with a federal grant under the Federal Government's Economic Development Act of 1976. Construction on the Connector building began in December 2005 and the building was opened to students in July 2007. The South Omaha Campus consists of three buildings located on 40 acres in the heart of south Omaha at 27th and Q Street. The Mahoney and Center for Advanced Manufacturing (CAM) buildings house many credit and specialized programs. The Connector building, a two-level building, houses Student Affairs (registration, financial aid, testing, and career services), Book Store, Writing, Math and the Learning and Tutoring Centers, Food Court and Metro bus hub. A joint library venture at South Omaha Campus with the City of Omaha opened in 2008.