

Assurance Argument

Introduction

Pima Community College (PCC) has had a long-standing federal Hispanic-serving Institution designation, located just one hour north of the US/Mexico border in Tucson, Arizona, is dedicated to serving its diverse community with academic excellence, equity, and economic opportunity. Governed by a duly elected [Governing Board](#), with one representative from each of the five districts of Pima County, PCC serves both Pima County and Santa Cruz County. PCC is a multi-campus district with a centralized District Office that provides resources and support for educational services. PCC provides instruction at [five campuses, three learning centers, and multiple additional locations](#) across Pima County and Southern Arizona. PCC also offers online asynchronous courses, many of which are designed and facilitated through [PimaOnline](#).

In August 2024, [PCC welcomed](#) a new Chancellor, Dr. Jeffery Nasse, who brings fresh leadership and a renewed commitment to our mission of excellence and inclusivity as we continue to serve our vibrant and diverse community.

Our student population of approximately 16,000 reflects the rich cultural backgrounds of our community. We offer a broad range of educational opportunities, including Associate degrees for transfer, Associate degrees of Applied Science, Certificates, and FastTracks (micro-pathways). Additionally, we provide on-ramps to higher education through high school equivalency programs and dual enrollment options. However, we understand that true excellence in serving our students extends beyond enrollment metrics. It requires a comprehensive and holistic approach that strategically addresses both qualitative and quantitative factors to respond to inequities and promote student success.

At PCC, we believe in the power of data-driven decision-making to create pathways that lead to social and economic mobility for our students and their families. Our [Strategic Plan Extension](#) includes two ambitious institutional goals:

- **Increase completer counts to 6,000 by 2024-2025:** This goal represents a 65% increase over the past six years, demonstrating our commitment to significantly boosting overall student success rates.
- **Double the completer counts of Hispanic or Latino, American Indian, Alaska Native, and Black or African American learners by 2024-2025:** This goal underscores our dedication to diversity, equity, inclusion, and access by focusing on these specific underrepresented groups to transform our community through affordable education.

Through these strategic initiatives, PCC aligns its resources and efforts to create a supportive, inclusive environment that fosters the success of all students. We continuously strive for excellence in teaching and support services to ensure that every student experiences a welcoming and empowering educational journey.

Our commitment to excellence, equity, and economic opportunity extends beyond academic success to include the holistic well-being of our students. Through advising and counseling, out-of-class supports that range from academic coaching to addressing food insecurities, and

community collaborations, we aim to create an ecosystem where every student feels valued and supported throughout their educational journey.

In 2022, only [48 percent](#) of Arizona's high school graduates enrolled in postsecondary education, falling short of the national average of 62 percent. Our state, local, and institutional data highlight the need for progress, especially given the challenges within our community. Driven by our new Chancellor and Governing Board, our organizational culture is focused on accelerating student success by removing barriers and empowering students while addressing the challenges and opportunities within our community.

Pima Community College actively cultivates and fosters partnerships with universities, high schools, municipalities, and businesses and industries. These collaborations are essential to our mission of providing high-quality education and creating pathways to success for our students. By working closely with our partners, we enhance educational opportunities, support workforce development, and contribute to the economic vitality of our community. Through these strategic alliances, PCC ensures that our programs remain relevant and responsive to the needs of our diverse student population and the broader community we serve.

By fostering a culture of continuous improvement, PCC is committed to adapting and evolving in response to the diverse and changing needs of our students.