

Description of Program Review Purpose and Process

Purpose

The current program review process at MECC for the career and technical programs has three primary purposes:

- (1) to provide faculty members a systematic process for program improvement,
- (2) to serve as a basis for operational and strategic planning, and
- (3) to meet external mandates (SACS, SCHEV, and VCCS) for program review.

Elements of the Program Review

MECC is using the WEAVE online planning and evaluation system.

WEAVE provides a structure for a comprehensive review of the myriad aspects of a collegiate academic program. For each academic program, a mission statement, program goals, expected student outcomes, and measures of outcomes have been developed by faculty members, with input from advisory committees.

Annual Process for Program Review

Information and data are reviewed annually:

- (1) to evaluate each program for currency, viability, and effectiveness,
- (2) to identify areas for program improvements, and
- (3) to provide a basis for annual/operational planning.

The annual review provides for both objective and subjective assessments by the faculty members. Where available, the elements being assessed are accompanied by data, e.g., figures for enrollment, retention, graduates, employment, and student learning outcomes in the major. Extensive efforts are made to incorporate measures that provide external validation of the programs, such as licensing exams. SCHEV, Perkins, and VCCS standards are used where available.

Utilization of Program Reviews

All academic programs are reviewed each year to ensure their currency and make improvements. The results serve as the basis for annual operational planning of the academic division. The program review process in place at MECC allows the College to incorporate VCCS program viability standards for review.