

Community Colleges Local Strategic Value

September 2026
Glen Oaks Community College

As per Section 230(2) of the State School Aid Act (MCL.338.1830), a community college must demonstrate that it meets the Local Strategic Value qualifications to receive the portion of each college's performance funding appropriation earmarked for local strategic value. The statute lists 15 separate best practices for community colleges to achieve. Institutions must satisfy 4 of 5 best practices in each of 3 different categories.

A community college must certify by means of a board of trustees resolution that the college has met 4 of 5 best practices in each category. Further, each board resolution "shall provide specifics as to how the community college meets each best practice measure within each category." This resolution must be properly passed by the board and submitted to the State Budget Office on or before October 15, of each academic year. However, if a resolution from a prior year is still in effect and factually correct, you may resubmit this resolution.

Please use this table as a method to briefly 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.	Glen Oaks Community College (GOCC) partners with multiple local employers, including: Over 25 hospitals and health care providers to deliver clinical and internship education for allied health and nursing students. Examples include Beacon Health System, Bronson Healthcare Group, Thurston Woods Village, and Oaklawn Hospital. Burnips Equipment Co. in Three Rivers for the Agricultural Equipment Technology courses. Other local employers for customized and short-term training programs. Examples from 2025-2026 include, Ox Engineered Products, Armstrong, Morgan Olson, American Axle Manufacturing, XL Machine Company Inc., Kadant Fluid Handling, etc.
(ii) The community college provides customized on-site training for area companies, employees, or both.	In 2025-26 GOCC provided customized on-site training for Saint Joseph County and surrounding areas that included Armstrong International, Fibre Converters, XL Machine, DeNooyer Automotive, Morgan Olson, Il Stanley, American Axle, and Burr Oak Tool. Customized Training served 165 employees from these companies and focused on approximately 16 different topics, with People Leadership being the most popular topic taught across multiple organizations. Additional customized training included Panel Build and Construction, Coordinate Measuring Machine, Arc Flash, SharePoint I and II, Excel I and II, Fanuc Robotics - Operation and Programming, Fanuc Robotics - Electrical and Maintenance, Basic Blueprint Reading, OSHA 30, PLC Programming and Operation, High Voltage, Supply Chain, Advanced Robotics Training, Sales, and Leadership topics. GOCC had 10 enrollments in online Foundational (Ed2Go) Training Programs including Quickbooks Online Series, Total Quality Fundamentals, Six Sigma Total Quality Applications, Fundamentals of Supervision and

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	Management (Levels I and II), Introduction to Microsoft Excel, and A to Z Grant Writing. Five students enrolled in online Advanced Career (Ed2Go) Training including Residential Electrician, Veterinary Assistant, Optician Certificate, Maintenance Technician, and ACE Personal Trainer.
(iii) The community college supports entrepreneurship through a small business assistance center or other training or consulting activities targeted toward small businesses.	In addition to the above-mentioned items, details to support entrepreneurship through a small business assistance center are documented on the GOCC website including opportunities provided by our sister community colleges. At this time, GOCC has not provided training or consulting directly targeted toward small businesses.
(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.	As recognized in (ii) above, GOCC works directly with multiple regional industries to support their needs, including technological advancement. GOCC does not operate a M-TEC Center; however, the college works directly with the St. Joseph County Intermediate School District (SJCISD) to host seven Career and Technical Education (CTE) high school programs on campus that enroll over 250 CTE dual enrolled students annually. Hosted programs include Automotive Technologies; Aviation; Computer Coding and Gaming; Computer Science and Technology; Graphic Design; Public Safety; and Welding. GOCC also partners with the SJCISD and local high schools to provide dual enrollment credit through additional CTE programs including AgriScience; Architecture; Engineering, Design, and Manufacturing; Engineering Design Technologies; Health Science; Marketing; Manufacturing; Heating, Ventilation, Airconditioning, and Conditioning; Safety; and Teacher Academy. GOCC partners with the Calhoun Area Career Center to deliver dual enrollment credits through the Automotive Service Technology CTE program.
(v) The community college has active partnerships with local or regional workforce and economic development agencies.	GOCC partners with Southwest Michigan First, EDGE, Three Rivers and Sturgis Chambers of Commerce, various Michigan Works! departments, such as Employment and Business Services, Adult and Dislocated Worker Services, Employment Services and Path programs. GOCC is Pearson testing site and administered 892 Pearson tests during the 2025-2026 academic year.
Category B: Educational Partnerships (must meet 4 of 5)	
(i) The community college has active partnerships with regional high schools, intermediate school districts, and career-tech centers to provide instruction through dual enrollment, concurrent enrollment, direct credit, middle college, or academy programs.	GOCC has strong partnerships with regional high schools and intermediate school districts that provide high school students with the opportunity to earn dual enrollment credits. This includes dual enrollment in career and technical education programs, GOCC classes offered in local high schools and taught either by GOCC employed faculty or high school GOCC credentialed faculty, the Early Middle College program, and traditional dual enrollment where high school and home school eligible students can take online or on-campus classes through GOCC. GOCC partners with two intermediate school districts and depending on the year, upwards of 17 schools. Examples include SJCISD, Bronson High School, Constantine High School, Marcellus Community Schools, Michigan Great Lakes Virtual Academy, Sturgis High School, and many more.
(ii) The community college hosts, sponsors, or participates in enrichment programs for area K-12	GOCC sponsors K-12 students for college nights, campus tours, and several college informational

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students, such as college days, summer or after-school programming, or science Olympiad.	sessions. The College supports students in CTE programs through competitions in the skilled areas including welding and automotive. Staff participate in local Business Partner programs with area K-12 schools.
(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.	GOCC offers a summer tutoring program and placement test preparation for traditional-age students to assess their skill level and build college readiness. All gateway college math and English courses have co-requisite developmental education courses that students can take to obtain just-in-time remediation while completing the college-level course.
(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 and testing, or recruiting, advising, or orientation activities specific to adults.	The College works with the ABEL, GED, and literacy agencies and supports adult learners through testing and tutoring services. GOCC serves as St. Joseph County's GED testing site. Through a MCAN Adult Student Success grant, GOCC academic advisors were trained in appreciative advising techniques and provided wrap around services to adult learners, incentivize completion of academic plans, and provided numerous career and student success workshops. GOCC supports Project Reconnect students and holds FAFSA education sessions specifically for adult learners.
(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.	GOCC has articulation agreements with Arizona State University, Baker College, Central Michigan University, Davenport University, Eastern Michigan University, Ferris State University, Goshen College, Grand Valley State University, Indiana Tech, Kellogg Community College, Michigan State University, Saginaw Valley State University, Trine University, the University of Olivet, and Western Michigan University. GOCC is in the process of developing additional agreements with some of the above universities as well as Indiana Wesleyan University, Northern Michigan University, and Northwood University. Many of these agreements are either 2+2 or 3+1 and include components of reverse transfer and guaranteed admissions. GOCC is in the process of wrapping up a two-year Innovations Investment Award grant (2024-2026), in partnership with the University of Olivet and the Michigan Center for Adult College Success, to increase pathways from GOCC to UO.
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.	GOCC held the following continuing education programming: Summer 2026 art courses: Watercolor Workshop and I Can't Draw, I Can't Paint. Motorcycle safety (MSF) short-term training. This program, pending student performance, can end with community members receiving a State of Michigan motorcycle endorsement on their driving license. The MSF program is open from April through September. During the 2025-2026 year, 309 took Basic Riding 1 and 76 took Basic Riding 2 for a total of 385 community member participants. Online personal enrichment courses through the Ed2Go educational partnership. Registrations included 15 courses taken by 10 individual students on topics from ACE Personal Training to introductions to QuickBooks and Microsoft Excel.

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(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.	GOCC provides opportunities for community members to engage in a variety of cultural or learning activities. 2025-2026 examples include: • The Viking Speaker Series with Jim Abbott (2026) • College athletic events • Bad Art Nights in the Learning Commons (LC) • Board game nights in the LC • Blind Date with a Book event in the LC • Holiday Make & Take program in the LC
(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.	GOCC's Learning Commons works closely with the county's local libraries on book sharing as well as with the state library system. The Learning Commons area has many different services and resources available for students, staff and the community including a virtual reality room, one button recording studio, smart boards, computers, etc. The college holds an annual Viking Speaker Series that brings well-known presenters to the community to talk about a variety of important topics. The Flora Kirsch Beck Art Gallery hosts art shows throughout the year including one nationally known artist annually supported by the Flora Kirsch Beck endowment.
(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.	The GOCC campus hosts a disc golf course and walking trails throughout the 330-acre campus for public use. It is common to see community horse owners use the college trails for horseback riding. The college also promotes the use of its trails through cross-country events held on campus. Soccer fields and baseball and softball diamonds are used by community members, local schools, and travel teams when not in use by GOCC Athletics. Each Spring, Athletics hosted the Prep Baseball Report tournament with athletes from across the Midwest.
(v) The community college promotes, sponsors, or hosts community service activities for students, staff, or community members.	Through student clubs and organizations, students have volunteered at blood drives, local schools, athletic events, churches, senior health fairs, the St. Joe County Fair, and the Humane Society. In spring 2026, GOCC held its second annual Day of Service. During this day, and extending before and after this day, members of the college participated in volunteer activities around the St. Joseph County to give back to the community. Activities included painting a shelter for the unhoused; food distribution for the elderly; cleaning, organizing, and grounds cleanup for a community mental health clubhouse; and sorting clothing for a foster youth program, etc. GOCC provides meeting rooms for several community organizations, hosted a supply drive for a local nonprofit agency, and hosts Oaks Fest each Fall to provide students with a review of all the College's student clubs and campus resources. College staff volunteer for the Michigan Career Quest event which is hosted each Spring to highlight employment opportunities at 50 plus employers. GOCC also partnered with Versiti to host blood drives during the fall and winter semesters.