STATE OF TRAILBLAZER NATION 2024/2025

LEWIS & CLARK
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DISCOVER

BY THE
NUMBERS
2024 - 2025

4,606 **CREDIT STUDENTS** FALL 2024

+ 9.8% FROM FALL 2023

4,547 **CREDIT STUDENTS** SPRING 2025

+ 7.2% FROM SPRING 2024

18:1
STUDENT-TO-FACULTY RATIO

58,021 **TOTAL BILLABLE CREDIT HOURS** 2024 - 2025 (As of April 26, 2025)

548
FULL-TIME & PART-TIME
TEAM MEMBERS

ACTUAL LEVY RATES **DECREASED ALMOST** ↓**11.3%**

over the last three years (2022-2024)

$0.6453 for 2021 real estate taxes collected in 2022 to $0.5724 for 2023 real estate taxes collected in 2024

LONG-TERM BORROWING

DEBT DECREASED ↓ **20%**

From 6/30/22 to 6/30/24

WITH A FY24 TOTAL OF $74,281,974

PROJECTING AN ESTIMATED LONG-TERM DEBT BALANCE OF $61,378,082 AS OF 6/30/2025.

Letter From the President

Dear Friends of Lewis and Clark Community College,

As another academic year comes to a close, we embrace refreshed perspective and renewed readiness for our future as educators.

I am impressed by our team's dedication to collaborating with one another to stay relevant and deliver a meaningful educational experience.

Our focus is being flexible and dynamic and to remain curious and communicate with one another, no matter the role we play or the challenges we may face — this is the very heart of who we are as a college.

Making progress around our mission, vision and key directions is of utmost importance, and this resolve is where we hold strong as a culture.

Exciting progress is being made. Enrollment continues to strengthen. The main complex renovation timeline has moved up to a projected 2027 completion. Our PACE (competency-based education) programs are expanding with the development of two new pathways. Engagement with artificial intelligence is advancing to support student success, teaching, learning and operational efficiencies.

Thank you for your unwavering support.

Kindly and in appreciation,

Dr. Ken Trzaska
President, Lewis and Clark Community College

KD1
Create Enrollment & Retention Improvement

Enrollment and retention at Lewis and Clark Community College continue to improve through streamlining current practices and innovating new efforts to attract and keep students. Billable credit hours surpassed our 2025 goal of 56,100 by more than 3 percent, totaling 58,021 as of April 26, 2025. LC's retention rate from Fall 2023 to Fall 2024 was 59.7 percent, which exceeded our goal of 58 percent.

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Targeted Recruitment:** Engaged 41 Illinois High School Diploma students through their own "Discover Your Path" Day. (April 2025)

- **Marketing Initiatives:** Developing full-color LC "lookbooks" for traditional and non-traditional students (Summer 2025) and evolved the "Discover Your Path" Video Campaign to featuring alumni from programs across campus (Summer 2025).

- **Streamlining Processes:** Utilized an impact/effort matrix to prioritize strategic efforts and integrated AI for meeting documentation, problem solving and assistance with content creation. (Spring 2025)

- **Enrollment Services:** Surveyed students for feedback to guide advising model changes with increased budgeting for professional development. (Ongoing)

- **Cross-Campus Collaboration:** Established KD1 subgroups for recruitment, advising, persistence, and enrollment marketing (Fall 2024) and increased appearances by LC's Mascot Blazer and Student Ambassadors at local schools and community events across the district. (Spring 2025)

KD2
Invest in Program and Curriculum Development

The recent allocation of nearly $900,000 in Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) grants has acted as a catalyst for remarkable growth and development in diversified educational and vocational training programs. This financial boost is propelling several pivotal initiatives aimed at equipping individuals with essential skills and fostering community advancement.

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Avionics Program:** We are working with our partners, Gulf Stream and West Star, to develop the program.

- **Drone Pilot Training:** Transitioned our non-credit drone pilot course to vocational credit, leading to the creation of GIS-120, a credit-bearing drone pilot training course. A goal is to create a short-term GIS Certificate in the future.

- **Human Services AAS Program:** Fully approved by HLC, with courses starting in Fall 2025.

- **Sport Management:** ICCB approved three new Sport Management courses (Intro to Sport Management, Sport Marketing and Sport Law), with the intro course scheduled for Fall 2025.

- **Data Science:** Introduction to Data Science course was approved by ICCB, and is scheduled for Fall 2025.

- **Payroll Accounting:** Course approved by ICCB; scheduled to be offered in Summer and Fall 2025 in CBE format.

- **Data Analytics in Accounting:** Course approved by ICCB.

- **LPN Program:** Approval process underway, with courses potentially starting as early as Spring 2026.

- **Truck Driving CDL-B:** Courses underway now.

- **Assessing Programs:** Developed tools for annually assessing the health of all programs/disciplines and a new assessment plan in concert with HLC's Assessment Academy.

- **CBE:** Created a PACE (Performance Assessed Competency Education) "bundle" of five general education core courses; developed additional CBE courses; Child Development pathway with HLC for approval; consultants hired to help design the CBE courses and Child Development offering.

KD3
Improve Lewis and Clark's Internal and External Stakeholder Engagement

Key Direction 3 has seen a great deal of measured improvement since last year across all measurable categories. Of particular note is the continued increase in participation in the annual culture survey, and ongoing improvement in all culture benchmarks.

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Culture Survey:** Results illustrated a growing sense of belonging and collaboration among team members (see graphic).

- **Trailblazer Tokens:** The Blue Crew awarded 322 Trailblazer Tokens to 162 team members for displaying core values: Diversity & Inclusion, Student-Focused, Integrity, Valuing People, Responsibility, and Building Community Relationships. Two team members received recognition for receiving all six tokens this year. Congratulations to Diane McDonough and Sylvia Russell!

- **Digital Message Boards**: Installed message boards across campuses to highlight events and important messages and keep team members, students and the general community engaged in campus activities and programming.

- **Alumni Relations:** Increased alumni association membership by 14% over last year. Current membership is 895 members (as of April 24, 2025).

- **Capital Campaign Feasibility:** In the process of conducting a feasibility study, in partnership with the Lewis and Clark Foundation, for a potential capital campaign focused on renovating the Main Complex, which will begin this year.

TEAM MEMBER CULTURE SURVEY

83.1%
80% IN 2022
82% IN 2023
2024
Feel like they belong at L&C.

85.7%
76% IN 2022
81% IN 2023
2024
Feel respected and valued by their direct manager/supervisor.

87.3%
80% IN 2022
83% IN 2023
2024
Feel respected and valued by their coworkers at L&C.

83.8%
73% IN 2022
79% IN 2023
2024
Feel the overall culture in their department/area is good at L&C.

75.4%
64% IN 2022
75% IN 2023
2024
Feel the overall culture at L&C is good.

77.9%
69% IN 2022
75% IN 2023
2024
Feel comfortable sharing their thoughts and ideas with L&C team members.

79.8%
79% IN 2022
73% IN 2023
2024
Feel the working relationships between faculty and staff in their department are successful.

72.8%
71% IN 2022
66% IN 2023
2024
Feel the working relationships between faculty and staff at L&C are successful.

KD4
Invest in Data and Technology Transformation

Technology continues to be a driving force in efforts to enhance efficiency, knowledge, and collaboration across college departments. The KD4 team has been developing ways for departments to obtain key data necessary for making well-informed decisions, enhancing IT governance to enforce standards, and planning for the future. KD4 is continuing to innovate to ensure technology is an asset, not a barrier, to academic success and institutional growth.

HIGHLIGHTS

- **IT Staffing:** Increased positions in IT to meet new workload demands.

- **Data Dashboard:** Released key dashboards to help departments make data-driven decisions; formed a data discovery committee which has defined 65 common data points for data classification and a consistent understanding across campus.

- **Self Service Migration:** Migrated features away from Blazernet and consolidated them in Self Service.

- **Policy Implementation:** Standardized policies for cybersecurity and technology.

- **Risk Assessment:** Completed a written risk assessment and created a vulnerability management strategy.

GOALS & ASPIRATIONS

- Develop data dashboards with KPIs for departments to make well-informed decisions.

- Streamline manual processes to lower overhead costs and allow departments across campus to focus on meaningful work.

- Implement Standard Operating Procedures for IT to reduce training time, enforce best practices, and increase security posture.

- Through close collaboration with the IT department, KD4 laid out the 1-year IT strategic plan highlighting our technology plans for fiscal year 2026.
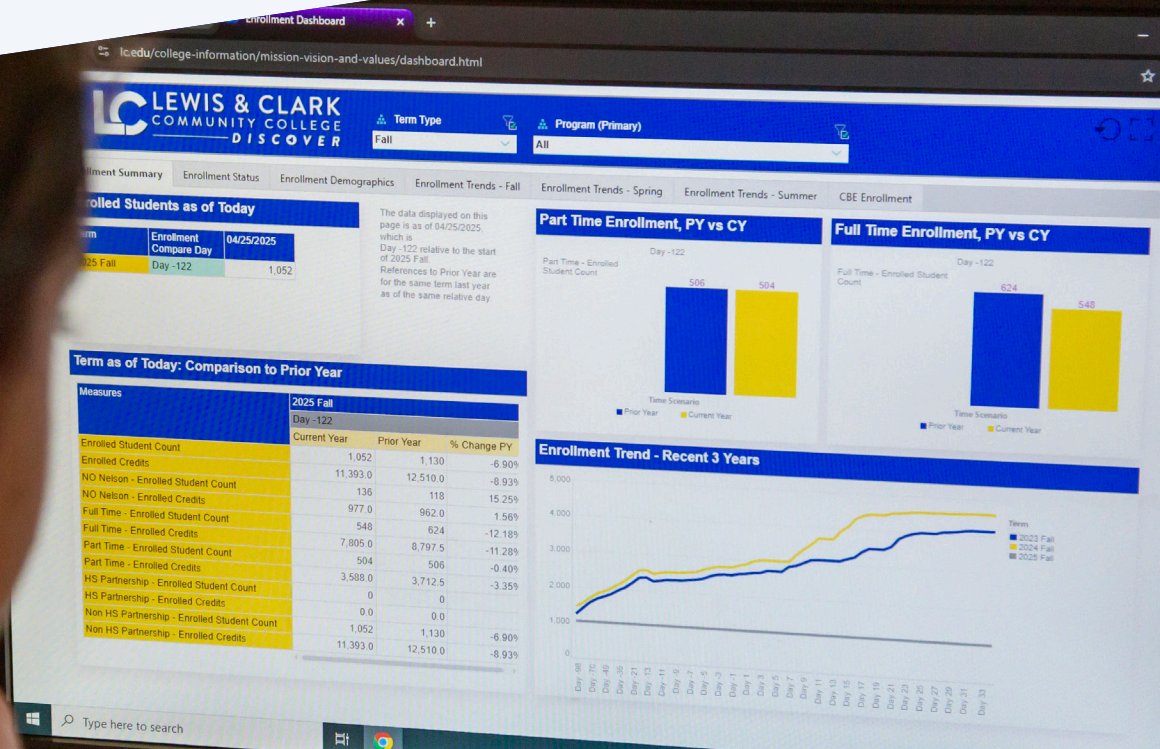
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