

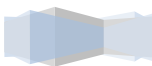


# IOWA WESTERN

The world is waiting

## Iowa Western Strategic Planning Assumptions 2017-2018

1. The population of the metropolitan Council Bluffs/Omaha area will increase while the overall population in Area XIII will decline.
2. The number of high school graduates in Area XIII from 2017-2022 will decrease in total graduates, while Omaha graduates are projected to increase.
3. Funding controlled by the State of Iowa will be insufficient to meet the financial needs of the college.
4. Because traditional sources of federal funding have not kept up with the cost of education, new sources of grant funds, and direct appropriations need to be pursued.
5. Due to the stagnant growth of federal grant aid and increased tuition and fees, students will rely more heavily on student and parental loans.
6. The public and government will expect that we improve retention and completion rates.
7. Demands and expectations will continue to exceed the physical and academic resources of Iowa Western.
8. As alternative sources of information, training, and certification become increasingly viable options to future students, the accreditation of Iowa Western Community College will be central to its survival.
9. It is fundamental for Iowa Western to embrace diversity, innovation, collaboration, and sustainability.
10. To achieve enrollment growth, Iowa Western will need to recruit a larger proportion of recent high school graduates as well as non-traditional, minority students and international students.
11. Distance, cost, and reputation are highly significant factors in deciding to enroll in a community college.
12. Both non-traditional and distance learners will require different recruitment, scheduling, advising, career services, and learning techniques.



13. It will be necessary to cultivate relationships involving economic development, grants, work sites, and collaboration with educational institutions, businesses, industries, and individuals.
14. Regional labor market demands will make it necessary for Iowa Western to be coordinated, and responsive to current and projected workforce needs.
15. Quality instruction, facilities, technology, and educational value along with consistent, caring faculty and staff are essential to remain competitive in the marketplace.
16. Instructional programs, course delivery, and services must address changing student expectations.
17. The number of students needing academic, financial, social and psychological assistances will increase.
18. Classroom and employer expectations will require students to not only be able to retrieve information from infinite, readily available resources, but also to effectively and persistently analyze and evaluate that information for context and authority.
19. A significant number of Iowa Western students will not be college ready and/or able to do standard college level work upon entry into college.
20. On-campus residents will require additional non-academic resources for student support.
21. To compete in a global society, the educated person must demonstrate competence in reading, writing, mathematics, technology, and in life skills such as communication, self-motivation, collaboration, tolerance, and adaptability.
22. Increasing accountability from the government and accrediting bodies will necessitate that the college collect, analyze, assess and disseminate data to develop performance based evidence.
23. Improving students financial literacy skills will increase retention rates and decrease default rates.
24. College enrollment, both credit hour per student and the number of students, goes down in times of a strong economy, and increases during economic downturns.

