

Chief Academic Officer, New Jersey Council of County Colleges

The New Jersey Council of County Colleges seeks a Chief Academic Officer to lead statewide efforts to promote academic excellence and innovation in the state's 18 community colleges. The Chief Academic Officer will provide critical leadership to the Council and to the state's 18 community colleges in the support of community college efforts to provide high-quality, innovative academic programs that serve to expand access to higher education, address equity gaps in higher education, increase adult engagement in community colleges, and support student progress and success. The Chief Academic Officer will lead the effort to create a strong statewide culture of excellence, innovation, and collaboration built on a commitment to assessment.

The Chief Academic Officer will join a team of professionals to support and strengthen the work of the state's independent community colleges, to build a strong, collaborative network of community colleges, and to shape state policy decisions with a focus on the wide variety of academic issues at the core of the state's community colleges.

The Chief Academic Officer will play an important role in realizing an expansive and brave vision of the future of higher education—a future that is agile, collaborative, and innovative, and that prepares individuals, at varying stages of their lives and careers, for success in an increasingly diverse society and global economy.

The Chief Academic Officer will be a member of the leadership team of the Council and will report to the President of the Council. The Chief Academic Officer will work closely with staff of the Council and of the Council's Consortium for Workforce and Economic Development. The Chief Academic Officer will provide leadership to the Council's Learning Innovations Committee, the community college Presidents, the Academic Affairs Affinity Group, the Council's Executive Committee, and the full Council to ensure full participation of community college Presidents, Trustees and the colleges' academic leaders in statewide academic issues.

The Chief Academic Officer will work with Council leadership to seek additional funding to support priority projects and initiatives.

The Chief Academic Officer, working with Presidents, Trustees, and Academic leaders at the 18 community colleges, will develop statewide policies to advance the delivery of high-quality, innovation academic programs, including:

- Supporting efforts of community colleges in new approaches to general education,
- Expanding and fortifying "dual credit" programs with high schools that address equity gaps and increase access to higher education,
- Strengthening of transfer culture through the expansion of partnerships between community colleges and four-year colleges and universities,
- Further development of pathways to degree and credential attainment, including the strengthening of pathways between noncredit and credit programs,
- Strengthening assessment practices,
- Expansion of the use of Prior Learning Assessments / Credits for Prior Learning, and
- Other priority issues as determined by the Council's committees and the Presidents.

The Chief Academic Officer will facilitate and support the meetings of task forces and ad hoc committees of Presidents and Trustees and will interface with state government leaders as needed. The Chief Academic Officer will also interact with the Council's State and Federal Policy Committee and other Council committees as needed.

The Chief Academic Officer will play a critical leadership role in the development and refinement of a strategic direction for the Council that fully supports the state's 18 autonomous community colleges and will also contribute to the development and implementation of an ambitious Policy Agenda in support of community college priorities. The Chief Academic Officer will collaborate regularly with the staff of the Council's New Jersey Pathways to Career Opportunities Initiative (www.njpathways.org) and other Council initiative and functions.

The Chief Academic Officer will work to connect the work of the Council and New Jersey's community colleges to national organizations and thought leaders to support key priorities, projects and initiatives.

About the Council: The New Jersey Council of County Colleges was created by state statute (18A:64A-26) in 1989. The Council, a body corporate, operates under bylaws approved by its membership and has tax-exempt status under Section 501-C-3 of the IRS Code. The Council joins the leadership of trustees and presidents to strengthen and support New Jersey's network of community colleges.

New Jersey's community colleges are essential institutions of higher education and economic opportunity able to reach a significant proportion of the state's population and to offer high quality education that serves the needs of students, employers, and local communities. Created in the 1960s, New Jersey's community colleges now enroll over 180,000 students at over 60 campuses throughout the state, making them the largest provider of higher education in the state. The mission of the New Jersey Council of County Colleges is to provide statewide leadership for the advancement of the eighteen community colleges of New Jersey and perform sector coordinating responsibilities as required by state law.

Minimum Qualifications:

Education/Experience:

- Ph.D. or Ed.D. is required.
- Experience of a minimum of 10 years as an academic leader at a college or university
- Experience as an academic leader at a community college required.

Candidates must have:

- Strong knowledge of the various academic issues impacting community colleges.
- Proven commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion.
- Strong commitment to expanding economic opportunity and addressing equity gaps.
- Organization, analytical, and interpretive skills.
- Successful experience supervising employees and managing teams.
- Experience working with diverse teams.
- Excellent writing and communication skills.
- Demonstrated ability to work under changing priorities and manage multiple tasks and deadlines.
- Well-honed problem-solving skills.
- Demonstrated commitment to innovation.
- Established relationships with national organizations that support community colleges.

To apply:

- Submit cover letter, and résumé or CV. <https://www.indeed.com/job/-c07300349607cd3b>
- Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until position is filled.

Job Type: Full-time

Location: Hamilton, New Jersey, In-person