

## **Director, Innovation and Partnerships** ***New Jersey Council of County 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 225,000 students at over 60 campuses throughout the state, making them the largest provider of higher education in the state.

The New Jersey Council of County Colleges seeks a Director, Innovation and Partnerships to join a team of committed professionals to support and strengthen the work of the state's community colleges. The Director will play an important role in implementing Vision 2028 (<https://www.njccc.org/vision-2028>) and in realizing an ever-expansive 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 Director will provide critical leadership to the Council and of the Council's Community College Consortium for Workforce and Economic Development in the support of community college efforts to expand **Access** to higher education, address **Equity** gaps in higher education, increase **Adult Engagement** in community colleges, and support student **Progress / Success**.

The Director will be a member of the leadership team of the Council and will report to the President of the Council. The Director will lead a team of 3 professional staff members and will manage existing projects with a budget of more than \$2.5 million. The Director will work with Council and Consortium leadership to seek additional funding to support priority projects and initiatives. The Director will provide staff leadership to the Council's Economic Mobility, Racial and Social Justice and Student and Alumni Committees to ensure that efforts are informed and guided by the input of trustees, presidents, students and alumni.

The Director will contribute to the development and refinement of a strategic direction for the Council that fully supports the state's 18 community colleges and will also contribute to the development and implementation of an ambitious **Policy Agenda** in support of community college priorities. The Director will collaborate regularly with the staff of the Council's New Jersey Pathways to Career Opportunities Initiative ([www.njpathways.org](http://www.njpathways.org)) to ensure alignment of Council and Consortium projects and initiatives.

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

**PARTNERSHIPS:** The Director will lead efforts to implement and expand **Partnerships** in support of community college priorities with a focus on increasing attainment of credentials and degrees by adults, expanding connections between adult literacy programs and degree and credential programs, strengthening programs to prepare high school students for college, expanding social service supports to community college students, advancing racial and social

justice priorities, and strengthening community college services to individuals with disabilities. The Director will work with community colleges, state and federal agencies, foundations, employers, labor unions, community-based organizations, local Workforce Development Boards, high schools, four-year colleges and universities, and other stakeholders.

**INNOVATION:** The Director will lead the Council's efforts to promote community college **Innovation** through convenings, professional development, and leadership development that foster a strong sense of community among and between community colleges, build community college capacity, and expand partnerships. Efforts will focus on the Council's Trustee Leadership Academy, convenings and conferences to advance racial and social justice priorities, professional development and technical assistance to promote apprenticeships, student and alumni engagement, leadership development for community college staff, and professional development in the implementation of career pathway programs.

**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.

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, perform sector coordinating responsibilities as required by state law, and coordinate statewide efforts to improve student success.

### **Minimum Qualifications:**

Education/Experience:

- Master's degree in education, higher education, public policy, government, business or a related field and twelve years experience in higher education, policy analysis, and workforce development,
- Bachelor's degree and fourteen years experience in higher education, policy analysis, and workforce development,
- Associate's degree and fifteen years experience in higher education, policy analysis, and workforce development
- Experience in higher education strongly preferred.
- Experience in workforce development strongly preferred.

Candidates must have:

- 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.

- Knowledge of and experience with cutting-edge higher education and workforce development strategies.
- Demonstrated commitment to innovation.
- Commitment to expanding economic opportunity, addressing equity and improving access to a post-secondary degree or credential.
- Strong commitment to expanding economic opportunity and addressing equity gaps.

To apply:

- Submit cover letter and résumé to [Careers@njccc.org](mailto:Careers@njccc.org)
- Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until position is filled.

Job Type: Full-time

Location: Trenton, New Jersey, In-person

Benefits:

- Dental insurance
- Health insurance
- Life insurance
- Paid time off
- Retirement plan
- Tuition reimbursement

Schedule: Monday to Friday