



MINNEAPOLIS
COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL
COLLEGE™

MINNEAPOLIS COLLEGE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

As a comprehensive, public community and technical college, Minneapolis College offers more than 100 academic programs in the liberal arts as well as career and technical programs. Minneapolis College has strong ties to industry partners that help fund scholarships, provide training and equipment as well as valuable internship and employment opportunities.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Minneapolis College provides access to the transformative power of education in a diverse and dynamic downtown environment.

OUR VISION

We see a college that provides access to excellence and pathways to opportunity.

OUR VALUES

Student-centered

Anchor all decisions, programs and services around student needs

Inclusion

Create a climate that empowers, supports and invites participation in the college and the community

Community

Build an interdependent community allied with our external partners

Excellence

Work daily to create an outstanding environment for learning and success

Integrity

Be guided by honesty, fairness, and compassion in all our dealings

Two Focus Areas of Minneapolis College's New Strategic Plan for 2021-2025

- ▶ Eliminate achievement gaps
- ▶ Improve student outcomes

A Note from President Sharon Pierce



As you know, legislative support for higher education makes a real difference in the lives of our students and neighbors. This support is essential now as we serve those who have been most impacted by the pandemic as well as social and systemic inequities.

Looking ahead, the transformative educational experiences provided in our diverse and dynamic downtown environment will help our region recover economically. Our students will be a critical component of rebuilding Minneapolis' business community and meeting the state's equity and social justice goals. Supporting Minneapolis College and other Minnesota State colleges and universities helps Minnesota's college students achieve their higher education goals affordably.

Our campus is a good investment for the state because we provide high quality, affordable and transformational educational pathways for community members who face significant challenges to elevating their socio-economic status.

When the legislature faces difficult decisions this session regarding the Minnesota State biennial budget and bonding bill, please keep in mind the power of colleges and universities to drive Minnesota's economy by training and educating the workforce. Your commitment to education directly influences our students' ability to achieve their academic goals. I hope we can count on you to advocate for higher education in these discussions.

Thank you, once again, for your commitment to Minnesota during a time when decision-making is so extremely difficult and important. Please reach out if you would like additional information about our students or Minneapolis College to help you in your discussions and decisions.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sharon Pierce

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharon J. Pierce". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Our campus is a good investment for the state because we provide high quality, affordable and **TRANSFORMATIONAL** educational pathways for community members who face significant challenges to elevating their socio-economic status.

Amplifying Voices for Change

EQUITY STATEMENT

Minneapolis College reaffirms its commitment to equity, inclusion and supporting the success of all our community members by:

- ▶ Addressing individual acts of racism, overt or veiled and working across society to dismantle and rebuild systems that perpetuate privilege for some while disadvantaging the majority of those whom we serve.
- ▶ Recognizing and acknowledging that we do not share the same experiences nor perspectives as one another.
- ▶ Continuing to ensure our pedagogy, policies and services reflect and embrace the diversity of our community to thwart the harm caused by color-blind racism.

Last summer, Minneapolis College boldly proclaimed its commitment to becoming an anti-racist institution through its new Equity Statement. This public reaffirmation commits the institution to helping create a more equitable, inclusive and just future by fulfilling its mission to provide transformational educational experiences that elevate the socio-economic status of community members. By achieving this mission, the racial divide experienced across our city and, in turn, across the state and the nation, will be reduced. This Equity Statement has been signed by hundreds of students, staff, faculty and community partners pledging their personal support for the important work that lies ahead to fulfill this commitment.



To meet the labor demands of the future, Minnesota needs to maximize its talent and diversify its workforce. Minneapolis College plays a critical role in this effort by producing graduates who are prepared to meet today's workforce needs and who are adept at functioning in a diverse environment.

Minneapolis College is an active voice in the community for desperately needed change and is taking actions to bring attention to and address inequities by embracing human diversity, communicating with respect and by understanding, disrupting and dismantling systemic racism.

By creating new knowledge for the campus community in an environment which all community members can flourish, Minneapolis College is helping enact progress and tangible change.

2020 In Review **BY THE NUMBERS**

900+

courses were transitioned from face-to-face or hybrid to an online format to help students when COVID-19 impacted Spring semester

964

students were celebrated in our 2020 online Commencement

764

new students (130 full time equivalent) enrolled Summer Semester – an increase of 16% over Summer 2019

2,113

new students enrolled Fall Semester



1,267

students were treated through the Boynton Student Health Clinic on campus (504 of those through telehealth)

376

students were provided technology support to attend classes online

- loaner laptops
- internet service
- mobile hotspots



1,620

students received food donations through the campus Food Pantry



59

students received support to help cover childcare expenses



103

students received donated winter weather clothing for themselves or their children



Supporting Students

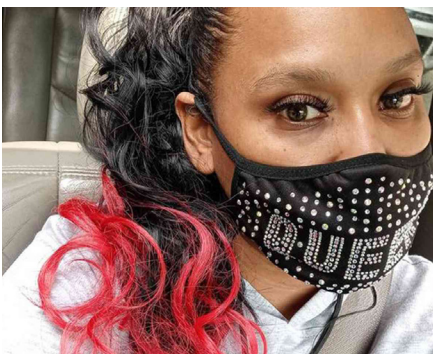
The Minneapolis College Foundation provides nearly **\$600,000** annually in scholarships, emergency assistance and other grants to support highly motivated, low-income students and merit-based scholarships to highly prepared students seeking an affordable education. Last year, the Foundation collected 17 percent more in pledges and cash donations over the previous year.

Minneapolis College launched its **Bridging the Equity Gap Initiative**, shaped by the social justice movement of 2020 and tragic death of George Floyd. This five-year, \$2 million initiative is designed to eliminate educational inequalities by supporting students who identify as African American, Black, or American Indian. Participating students will be provided supportive faculty, staff and student-centered services and resources. They will be equipped with the information, assistance and interventions needed to attain their education, achieve their career goals and become leaders in their fields.



Last year, State funding for **workforce scholarships** (combined with philanthropic matching gifts from our corporate, Foundation and individual donors) provided 85 scholarships for Minnesota residents to pursue careers in high-demand fields through our Advanced Manufacturing, Early Childhood Education, Healthcare Services, Information Technology and Aircraft Maintenance programs.

Minneapolis College was awarded \$2,320,061 in federal **CARES Funds** to distribute directly to students. 5,386 students were determined to be eligible. 1,050 eligible students received grants to help cover emergent expenses related to the pandemic.



Through all I do, I want to continue to empower myself and my community. Minneapolis has been put on [the map] for violence, but we can also be put on for empowerment.

— FOFO BRISTOL

Minneapolis College Apparel Technologies Student

Partnerships with Real Impact



Minneapolis College has strong partnerships with many area businesses, the Minneapolis Public School District, other higher education institutions and workforce agencies providing education and employment connections across many high demand fields, largely to underserved populations. Such partnerships also extend across many community-based organizations such as Project for Pride in Living, Emerge, East Side Neighborhood Services, Hired, CAPI USA, Migizi and others to provide training opportunities to underserved populations that will lead to living wage employment.

Minneapolis College is an anchor partner with Cedar Riverside Opportunity Center providing career exploration events in Nursing, Information Technology, Machine Tool, Architecture, Dental Assistant, Addiction Counseling, Welding, Apparel Technologies, Pharmacy Technician, Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning Refrigeration and Video Arts.

Regional employers such as US Bank, Wells Fargo, City of Saint Paul, Metropolitan Council Hennepin County, City of Minneapolis, Fairview, Hennepin Healthcare, ACR Homes, H&R Block, Verizon Wireless and others offer paid internships that lead to full-time employment and ensure individuals accelerate their path to achieving their career goals.

A growing number of companies and organizations such as Graco, Xcel Energy, CenterPoint, Pentair, Lube Tech, Resideo, Delta Airlines and the American Welding Society are currently partnering or exploring partnerships with Minneapolis College to fill their technical and trades workforce pipeline. Many of these companies match State of Minnesota Workforce Development Scholarships with private donations.



Minneapolis College works alongside junior and senior high schools and metro-area nonprofits serving youth. Northside Achievement Zone, College Possible, Achieve Minneapolis, Gear Up, Avid, Genesys Works and others demonstrate possibilities of college and career training and offer a supportive pathway.



To me, community is looking at a group of people at a place in time and thinking about how to build relationships and have goals in a united way so that everyone can progress together. You have to include everyone, even those who are hard to include. They probably need it the most. ”

— EMILY SAMUELSON

Minneapolis College Nursing Student

Maintaining a Safe Campus

To date, there are no known cases of COVID-19 transmissions on campus. This is a result of stringent cleaning and distancing protocols and shifting to online formats for course and service delivery.

On-campus support and required face-to-face classes have been provided for students as needed throughout the pandemic with the strictest virus prevention protocols. This includes making available tutoring, technology, quiet study spaces and food donations.

Because of the Minneapolis College Public Safety Department's ongoing commitment to employee safety, the Minnesota Safety Council awarded them the Meritorious Award in Occupational Safety recognizing how our effective health and safety programs create a safe work environment for employees as indicated by our very low employee injury rate when compared to peer institutions.



I look forward to listening and better understanding the challenges people face, educating myself on potential solutions and collaborating with my peers to impact positive change on campus.

— IBTISAM MOHAMOUD

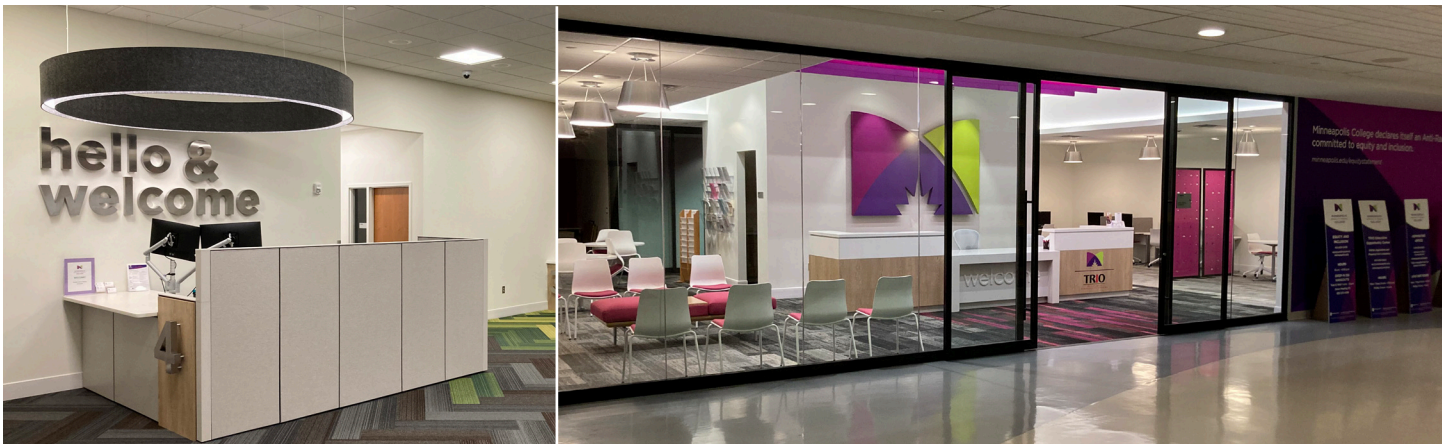
Minneapolis College
Political Science Student



Rethinking Campus Spaces

Minneapolis College's long-term plans projecting the needs of future students drive innovation and a continuous improvement approach. The following are examples of how campus spaces were impacted last year through these efforts:

- ▶ The \$7 million burden of maintaining and restoring the H. Alden Smith/Wells Mansion was alleviated when the College finalized a pass-through sale of the property via the City of Minneapolis to a local development team.
- ▶ The full design of our Management Education Center is set to begin due to the \$900,000 in capital bonding money allocated to modernize this shared space with Metropolitan State University. This space will serve the most diverse business school in Minnesota.
- ▶ The second phase of the Technical Building redevelopment project has been completed. This ongoing project is a comprehensive update of second floor spaces to provide for current and future Student Affairs operating needs. This most recent phase features the College's first-ever Welcome Center and a flexible group space to use for student orientations and other activities.



03//22/2021



MINNEAPOLIS
COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL
COLLEGE™

**A Member of
Minnesota State**

Minneapolis College is an equal opportunity educator and employer. This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling Accessibility Resource Center at 612-659-6730 or by emailing accessibility@minneapolis.edu. Gainful employment disclosure minneapolis.edu/gainful