



Update on Merger Plans for IHCC and DCTC

DAKOTA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING
2 DECEMBER 2024

dctc.edu • inverhills.edu

Members of Minnesota State and affirmative action, equal opportunity educators and employers.

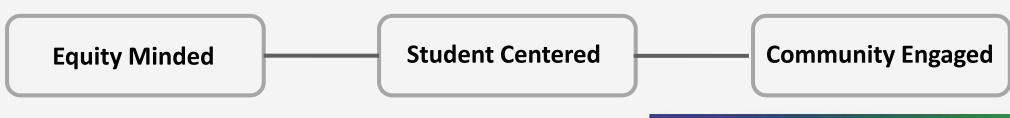
History of Collaboration

- 64 shared employees (28% of staff and administration) resulting in \$3.7M in annual salary savings
- 107 students were enrolled at both colleges in FY24; this number increases every year
- Shared president in FY2014; current senior leadership team is mix of shared and campus-specific leaders
- Shared 50th anniversary—Two Proud Histories, One Bold Future; aligned strategic plan developed in 2020



Our Vision

A transformational education for every student founded on *belonging*, *learning*, *support*, *clear pathways*, and *community engagement*.



Our Values



Decision Process & Timeline

- Phase One (June to Oct. 2024): Assess the Situation and Set Direction for Alignment or Merger – COMPLETED
- Phase Two (Nov. to May 2025): Develop the Plan. This phase has four major components.
 - **Governance**: Define leadership and governance structure
 - **Support**: Define project management approach
 - **Planning**: Develop a comprehensive plan for merging the two colleges
 - **Engagement**: Define approach to communications and stakeholder engagement
- Phase Three (Aug. to May 2026): Secure formal approval from governing bodies.
- Phase Four (Aug. to Dec. 2026): Continue implementation and assessment.



Merger Vision

Dakota County Technical College and Inver Hills Community College will pursue a bold new future as a comprehensive community and technical college. One college, two unique locations, offering the South Metro over 100 programs of study, robust and inclusive support services, and extensive business and community partnerships.

Together we will deliver our mission to provide education for employment, transfer and life-long growth and our vision to provide a transformational education for all students that emphasizes belonging, learning, support, clear pathways, and community engagement.



Benefits of Merger

- Lower operating costs
- Increased capacity



- Increased recruitment
- Improved student retention
- Improved learning
- More flexibility in program location

- Improved service to the community
- Brand rejuvenation and community engagement







Merger Challenges

- Bringing together distinct organizational cultures
- Strengthening infrastructure to support two sites
- Managing institutional and system capacity





MEMBERS OF MINNESOTA STATE