

# Criterion 1 Summary

## Strengths

- The mission statement, vision, and values of WSC are a priority for all employees to offer students the best education possible.
- The four parts of the mission statement, “affordable, accessible, life-changing, and life-long educational pathways,” align with the purpose of WSC as well as the needs of the community and the region.
- Community and regional constituents have a vested interest in the continued success of the college and its students.
- WSC employees embrace diversity while striving to build a strong sense of community within the college and outside the college in western North Dakota and eastern Montana.

## Areas of Growth

- The college plans to expand outreach to more fully serve public schools in the region and promote regional scholarships throughout northwestern North Dakota and northeast Montana. This will also retain youth in the region.
- Continuing to develop relationships between WSC and regional high schools will create a pipeline wherein students can attain an associate’s degree in a shorter time frame and be transfer-ready after graduating from the college.
- WSC will explore bachelor’s degree attainment in person by creating co-matriculated programs with all six North Dakota University System sister institutions.