DAKOTA COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE
Chapter 1 – College Organization and Administration
Section A – College Operations
1A.1 – Dakota County Technical College

Part 1. Name of Organization
The name of the organization is Dakota County Technical College (DCTC), hereinafter referred, interchangeably, to as “the College” in policy and procedure statements.

Part 2. Member of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
Dakota County Technical College is part of the colleges and universities that comprise the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) system. A Board of Trustees governs this statewide system of technical and community colleges and state universities. MnSCU is dedicated to providing students with a wide array of opportunities for life-long education in both technical and academic fields, ranging from short-course certificate programs to the doctorate-level degree.

Part 3. Accreditation and Approvals
- Dakota County Technical College is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

Dakota County Technical College also holds program-specific accreditations as follows:
- The Automotive Technician, GM Automotive Service Educational Program (ASEP) and Auto Body Collision Technology programs are accredited by the National Automotive Technician Education Foundation (NATEF).
- The Dental Assistant program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association.
- The Heavy Construction Equipment Technology program is accredited by the Associated Equipment Distributors (AED) Foundation.
- The Interior Design and Sales Program is accredited by the National Kitchen & Bath Association.
- The Landscape Horticulture program is nationally accredited by the Professional Landcare Network, or PLANET.
- The Medical Assistant program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) on recommendation of the Curriculum Review Board of the American Association of Medical Assistants Endowment (AAMAE).

Dakota County Technical College also holds program-specific approvals as follows:
- The Medical Coding Assistant program is approved by the Council on Accreditation of the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) through Anoka Technical College, Anoka, Minn.
- The Practical Nursing program is approved by the Minnesota Board of Nursing.
- The Nursing Assistant program is approved by the Minnesota Department of Health.
- The EMT courses meet the approval of the Minnesota Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board.
- The First Responder courses meet the approval of the Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board.

- Dakota County Technical College was created by the 1969 Minnesota State Legislature and approved in 1970 by the Minnesota State Board of Education.
- Programs and facilities of Dakota County Technical College meet standards established by the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges & Universities.
- All Faculty are fully credentialed.
- Local advisory committees evaluate and approve all program majors.
- Dakota County Technical College offers higher education in accordance with the standards prescribed by the United States Department of Education, Vocational Division, through the Smith-Hughes National Vocational Education Act of 1917 and all subsequent acts.
- Dakota County Technical College is approved for Veterans Educational Benefits by the Minnesota State Approving Agency.
Part 4. Strategic Statements

Subpart A. Vision statement. Dakota County Technical College will be recognized as a center of excellence for providing quality technical and general education needed for employment in an ever-changing work environment.

Subpart B. Mission statement. The mission of Dakota County Technical College is to provide collegiate-level education for employment that will empower individuals to enhance their opportunities for career advancement and success in a global economy.

Subpart C. Strategic Goals.
  - Goal 1 – Diversity
  - Goal 2 – Enrollment
  - Goal 3 – Engagement
  - Goal 4 – Teaching and Learning
  - Goal 5 – Financial Stewardship

Subpart D. Statement of Values. The College is committed to the following values:
  - Excellence – Focusing on quality in programs and services
  - Diversity – Demonstrating acceptance, openness, and fairness to all individuals
  - Innovation – Encouraging and rewarding new ideas, proactive thinking, and use of evolving technology
  - Respect – Fostering trust, courtesy, and open communication
  - Integrity – Exhibiting ethical and honest behavior
  - Accountability – Maintaining effectiveness and efficiency in programs and services
  - Collaboration – Working cooperatively in a supportive environment
  - Access – Increase access and opportunity

Subpart E. Purposes. The purposes of Dakota County Technical College are to:
  - Provide technical education that meets employment needs.
  - Provide general education that enables students to succeed in an increasingly complex world.
  - Provide developmental education that prepares individuals to succeed in collegiate-level education.
  - Provide learning resources and support services needed to promote student success.
  - Provide customized training and technical assistance for business and industry to promote economic development.
  - Develop partnerships with business, industry, and education to strengthen and expand educational opportunities.

Subpart F. Statement of Philosophy
DCTC is a public two-year institution of higher education dedicated to the philosophy that there is dignity in all work and value in individual growth and learning. It is the philosophy of the College that all of its students should have access to a quality education that prepares them for rewarding careers. The College values its role in contributing to economic development by providing a knowledgeable and skilled workforce. The College views itself as a full partner in the higher education community and recognizes its contribution to lifelong learning.

References: Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
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