

DCTC Policy 1A.2 Legal Status of the College

Part 1. Policy Statement.

The legal basis for Dakota County Technical College is established under Minnesota Statutes 136F. Minnesota enacted legislation in 1945 to offer post secondary vocational technical education for students living in the state, providing them with an additional educational choice from the traditional college or university track.

This legislation authorized the Minnesota State Board of Education/Minnesota State Board of Vocational Education to designate communities as sites for area vocational technical institutes. Institutes had to be at least thirty-five miles from one another. Local boards of education were given governance powers over the institutes and were provided supplemental revenue by annual legislative appropriation. The growth of vocational institutes in Minnesota quickly expanded to thirty-two campuses.

Dakota County Technical College traces its beginning to the 1969 Minnesota State Legislature that approved the formation of Dakota County Area Vocational Technical Institute as part of Intermediate School District 917. In 1987, the State Board mandated that all the Area Vocational Technical Institutes be renamed Technical Institutes. In 1989, the College underwent another name change following a legislative mandate, and Dakota County Technical Institute became Dakota County Technical College.

Also, in 1989, the College embarked on a massive restructuring process to convert all clock-hour-based instruction to credit-based instruction.

In 1995, at the direction of the Minnesota State Legislature, all public colleges in Minnesota were merged into one system: The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. This included Dakota County Technical College as well as all other technical colleges, community colleges, and state universities.

On July 1, 1999, the MnSCU Board of Trustees implemented Board Policy that authorized technical colleges to offer stand-alone degrees. In concurrence with this policy change, DCTC began offering its own A.A.S. degrees and general education effective the 1999-2000 academic year.

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Related Documents:

- MS 136F

Policy History:

Date of Adoption: 02/01/1996

Last Review Date: 05/23/2017

Date most recent policy revisions go into effect: 05/23/2017

Subject and Date of Revisions:

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