Becoming a Student-Centered College

LABOR MARKET

VC will align efforts to the job market in the region.

Creating viable, inter-related pathways that allow students to choose their best mix of ‘learn and earn’ is a challenge. When done well, students could enter as a nurse’s aid and – over time – complete as a registered nurse. The challenge is making sure VC credentials match our service area’s job market, and making sure those credentials lead to a living wage that supports our alumni in living and choosing their best life.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

• Are there careers in our service area that require skills VC can provide for which VC does not currently offer training?
• Are there programs at VC that do not lead to living wages?
• Does VC partner with area employers to ensure graduates of those programs have access to additional pathways for promotion and advancement?

(Questions from Texas Guided Pathways)

Population with less than a high School Diploma

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Age: 18-24</th>
<th>Age: 25+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
<td>16.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calhoun</td>
<td>26.6%</td>
<td>19.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeWitt</td>
<td>20.4%</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gonzales</td>
<td>23.3%</td>
<td>22.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>14.9%</td>
<td>16.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lavaca</td>
<td>14.9%</td>
<td>14.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refugio</td>
<td>28.1%</td>
<td>19.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
<td>16.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source: US Census & American Community Survey 2018)

SUGGESTED METRICS

• % of degrees/certs with potential to earn a living wage
• THECB Working or Enrolled

3 out of every 20 people in our service area live in poverty.

STUDENT CENTERED COLLEGE
Ensuring every member of our community has access to our college and equitable opportunities for success in our college. Improving lives – one student at a time – is VC’s way of supporting a stronger community.

POVERTY RATE
The U.S. Census Bureau’s Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) program produces single-year estimates of income and poverty for all U.S. states and counties.

SERVICE AREA POVERTY
VC’s seven county service area averages a 15.3% poverty rate. This is higher than the US nationwide rate of only 13.1%.

SERVICE AREA EDUCATION
Having less than a high school education almost triples the chance of living in Texas poverty versus having an associate degree according to US Census educational attainment and poverty data.

VictoriaCollege.edu/StrategicPlan