Tracking Cougar Curriculum

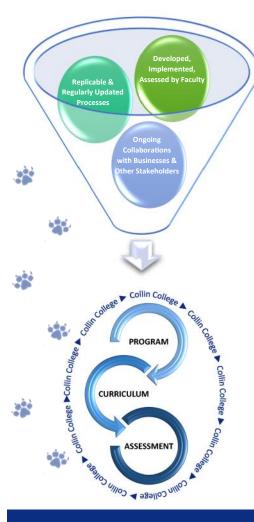**November 2018**

COLLIN COLLEGE™

Linking Programs/Curricula to Marketable Skills

There is no question that the relationship between higher education and employers is strong, but it is not always straightforward. The idea that **students seek to acquire career skills in college and employers seek college graduates** is more complex now than ever before.

Recommended Essential Components for Effective Marketable Skills

Within the milieu of rapid changes in technology, industry innovations, and a greater demand for soft and technical skills, continuous assessment of programs and curricula are inevitable. As the needs of employers shift, so should programs, courses, and student readiness. The outcome of this interplay is the way in which students will learn skills, market themselves to potential employers, and apply learned skills in the workplace. To balance this delicate combination, it is imperative that institutions of higher education plan and design flexible and sustainable processes within their programs, curricula, and assessment practices. Essential to these processes are (a) the authentic engagement of faculty in the development, implementation, and assessment design, (b) the ease with which these processes can be replicated and regularly updated, and (c) the procedures established to facilitate ongoing collaborations with businesses, the community, and other stakeholders.

GENERAL EDUCATION CORE OBJECTIVES

- Critical Thinking
- Communication
- Empirical and Quantitative Skills
- Teamwork
- Personal Responsibility
- Social Responsibility

FOUNDATIONAL COMPONENT AREAS (with credit hours)

- American History (6)
- Communication (6)
- Creative Arts (3)
- Government/Political Science (6)
- Language, Philosophy and Culture (3)
- Life & Physical Sciences (6)
- Mathematics (3)
- Social & Behavioral Sciences (3)
- Component Area Option [distributed across the components] (6)

CURRICULUM ADVISORY BOARD UPDATE

PROPOSED NEW PROGRAMS AND CERTIFICATES FOR COLLIN COLLEGE STUDENTS: Members of the Curriculum Advisory Board (CAB) continue to review and recommend new programs and certificates to Academic Leadership. The AAS in Veterinary Technology was reviewed and recommended to Academic Leadership during the November 2018 CAB meeting.