



Community Perception Survey 2025

Lower Columbia College conducted a Community Perception Survey in spring 2025 to gauge progress toward accomplishing its mission and goals. The online survey included questions directly related to each of the college's Mission Areas. There were 48 responses, compared to 125 in the prior administration.

Workforce and Economic Development

	2012	2015	2018	2021	2025
LCC does a good job of providing students with the education and training needed to get a job or to get a better job.	93.5%	93.8%	92.7%	98.0%	97.8%
LCC does a good job of helping employers in this community train their employees.	87.7%	83.9%	82.7%	89.9%	92.1%

Academic Transfer

	2012	2015	2018	2021	2025
LCC does a good job of providing students with the opportunity to obtain the first two years of a bachelor's degree.	97.4%	96.3%	99.1%	97.0%	100.0%
LCC does a good job of providing students with the opportunity to earn bachelor's degrees.*	-	-	-	-	97.6%

*New question starting in 2025.

Preparation for College Level Studies

	2012	2015	2018	2021	2025
LCC does a good job of providing people in our community with the opportunity to complete high school or earn a GED.	94.8%	98.3%	95.3%	98.9%	100.0%

LCC does a good job of providing non-native English speakers in the community with the opportunity to learn English.	90.0%	94.8%	95.2%	96.2%	96.9%
LCC does a good job of providing educational opportunities for students who are not yet ready to take college level courses.	96.7%	94.2%	94.2%	97.5%	97.6%

Student Access, Support and Completion

	2012	2015	2018	2021	2025
LCC does a good job of making college accessible to the community by offering a wide variety of programs and services that are open to everyone.	96.0%	99.3%	95.7%	99.0%	100.0%
LCC does a good job of making college accessible to the community by offering classes in convenient locations.	89.8%	99.2%	93.9%	99.0%	97.6%
LCC does a good job of making college accessible to the community by offering a variety of online classes.	88.6%	95.3%	95.5%	98.8%	100.0%
LCC does a good job of making college accessible to the community by keeping tuition costs lower than four-year institutions.	96.2%	92.9%	96.4%	95.9%	100.0%
LCC does a good job of providing people in the community with the opportunity to graduate with a certificate or degree.	97.5%	97.7%	98.2%	98.0%	100.0%

Institutional Excellence and Community Enrichment

	2012	2015	2018	2021	2025
LCC consistently provides high quality programs and services.	95.6%	96.8%	94.5%	96.0%	97.7%
LCC does a good job of enriching the community with cultural events and opportunities.	NA	94.9%	94.3%	93.5%	100.0%
LCC does a good job of enriching the community with athletic events and opportunities.	NA	95.8%	99.0%	94.8%	97.6%

Comments

If you are currently unemployed and not enrolled in school/college, what is preventing you from pursuing additional education or training?

- Money

If you are considering a career change, what skills or resources do you need to make it happen?

- Money
- Being able to afford it.
- foreign language courses

Do you have any other comments or suggestions for LCC?

- LCC is a terrific community asset!
- Continue to expand your community ed program by adding additional courses. It seems that many community members I talk to about community ed are unaware of the offerings and affordability. Until very recently it was extremely difficult to find these courses on the website - this has improved. However, advertising these would increase enrollment, in turn promoting LCC in all areas; AA, AA-DTA, BA and technical certs. Although LCC maintains a presence in local high schools, I'm not sure parents understand fully the value LCC offers to local students. By promoting community ed, you are raising awareness of all programs.
- Good job!
- Thank you for all that you do for our community!
- Sure hope the rumor of the last year with Black Bears is not true.
- Is there help navigating how to be a college student while you have a child who is a college student? How do you navigate the FAFSA, etc?
- "LCC is a gem for our community....incredible leadership, forward thinking, diverse opportunities, always willing to sit at the table and work through challenges that improves programming, and the list goes on!
I can't thank LCC enough for their partnership and impact with our community!!"
- Keep up the good work
- Keep up the great service you provide!
- Keep with educating about math, history, reading, & writing.
- Leadership training for new leadership
- Better running start advisors - advisors who connect with their students and get to know them. Every single quarter it's like my running start advisors has never seen me before despite the fact that I meet with her every quarter.
Same course curriculum throughout the English 101 classes please!
- Most importantly is the opportunity for high school students to have an affordable route to obtain the first two years of college, compared to other universities' tuition/costs. The only drawback is sometimes it appears that high school graduates may not be as invested in completing courses at community colleges and then drop out. This could be due to the commuter setting as opposed to the more goal-oriented residential student setting offered by 4-year college campuses that also seem to offer more student all-around opportunities and resources aimed primarily at people between the ages of 18 and 24.