

Summary and Request for Continued Accreditation

Blue Ridge CTC has conducted a comprehensive and rigorous self-study for the purpose of institutional improvement and continued accreditation. Blue Ridge CTC has devoted eight sections in the self-study to proving in detail how it meets the criteria for continued accreditation. This last section presents both a final summary of the previous sections and includes Blue Ridge CTC's formal request for continued accreditation. This document and the supporting materials demonstrate that Blue Ridge CTC meets the five criteria for accreditation as outlined by the Higher Learning Commission.

With respect to Criterion One, Blue Ridge CTC operates with integrity in the fulfillment of its clearly articulated mission through structures and processes that involve the board, administration, faculty, staff, and students. The college has publicly announced its mission statement and recognizes the diversity of learners throughout the college in its publications, policies, and procedures. The college's mission and strategic plan directly support the mission, vision, and values.

With respect to Criterion Two, Blue Ridge CTC has utilized and continues to collect and analyze data to understand and plan realistically to meet the needs of the college. Blue Ridge's resource base supports its quality educational programs, and ongoing evaluation and assessment provide evidence of institutional effectiveness which lead to continuous improvement.

With respect to Criterion Three, the organization provides evidence of student learning and teaching effectiveness that demonstrates it is fulfilling its educational mission. Each educational program has clearly stated student learning outcomes that make effective assessment possible. Blue Ridge CTC values and supports effective teaching and creates effective learning environments. Student learning and effective teaching are supported by adequate learning resources.

With respect to Criterion Four, Blue Ridge CTC values a life of learning. The college demonstrates that it responds to the needs of its community by offering programs of study that are useful and provide for our students who will live and work in a global, diverse, and technological society. The college also provides support to ensure that faculty, students, and staff discover and apply knowledge responsibly.

With respect to Criterion Five, Blue Ridge CTC clearly demonstrates commitment to engagement and service of its constituencies. The College learns from its constituencies and demonstrates responsiveness to those that depend on it for service. There is also clear evidence that internal and external constituencies value the services the organization provides.

Blue Ridge CTC respectfully requests continued accreditation for a period of ten years by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.