

PENINSULA COLLEGE, Port Angeles, Washington Presidential Profile



PENINSULA COLLEGE

The Board of Trustees invites nominations and applications for the position of President of Peninsula College (PC), located in Port Angeles, Washington.

About the College

Founded in 1961, Peninsula College is a public, comprehensive community college, one of 34 community and technical colleges serving the residents of Washington State. The College service district encompasses both Clallam and Jefferson Counties on the Olympic Peninsula in northwest Washington. The board seeks a president with a deep commitment to student success, who will honor the unique culture, traditions and history of Peninsula College and lead the College to its next level of success.

The College is honored to directly serve six sovereign nations: Hoh, Quileute, Makah, Port Gamble S'Klallam, Jamestown S'Klallam, and Lower Elwha Klallam. ṽaṽk'ustəṽáwtx'w House of Learning, Peninsula College Longhouse was created in collaboration with these six Nations and is a special gathering place to teach, learn, and share cultural traditions, knowledge, and identities for all students and community members. ṽaṽk'ustəṽáwtx'w House of Learning, Peninsula College Longhouse is the first longhouse built on a community college campus in the nation.

Peninsula College's main campus is in Port Angeles on 75 acres in the foothills of the Olympic Mountains. Peninsula College is the only resident institution of higher education on the North Olympic Peninsula. Extension sites are located in Forks, 57 miles west of Port Angeles, and in Port Townsend, 46 miles to the east. The campus features state of the art and accessible facilities, technically advanced classrooms and equipment, international learning programs, competitive athletic teams, and online course options.

Tucked in the shadow of the Olympic Mountains, Port Angeles is located at the center of the Olympic Peninsula. As the gateway to the Olympic National Park, one of most beautiful national parks in the nation, this seaside-meets-mountain town has history, fame, natural beauty, and culture. Port Angeles's art scene includes art murals and sculptures located throughout the town, as well as monthly and annual arts and cultural events that highlight the talents and dedication of area residents.

Peninsula College is fully accredited by the Northwest Commission of Colleges and Universities (NWCCU). Its last visit was in 2018. Over 2,500 students attend the college each year. Approximately one-third of Peninsula students are students of color, with 13.4% identifying as multi-racial, 5.6% Native American, 5.3% Asian, and 3.1% African American. With an average age of 28, the majority (56%) of Peninsula students attend full time. Fourteen percent (14%) are running start students, 14% Transitional Studies students, and 15% Incarcerated Individual students. Approximately 37% of the students are enrolled in academic/transfer programs, while 35% are enrolled in career/technical programs. The College manages an annual operating budget of approximately \$24,000,000. Peninsula was one of the first community colleges in Washington to offer BAS degrees. In addition to bachelor's degree programs, Peninsula offers direct transfer degrees (DTA) including Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, Business, Computer Science, and Nursing. The college also offers professional/technical programs including Early Childhood Education, Medical Assistant, IT and Cybersecurity, Multimedia Communications, Business Administration, Welding, and Addiction Studies.

Peninsula College seeks a visionary and inspirational leader who appreciates the unique culture and history of the college and the community, and who works with faculty, staff, students, and the community to create opportunities for all to reach their fullest potential.

Challenges and Opportunities

- Position Peninsula College as a catalyst for strengthening existing relationships and building new alliances among community organizations, business and industry, tribal governments, education, and elected officials to meet the region's educational and workforce needs.
- Maintain the outstanding and nationally recognized culture, traditions, and reputation of Peninsula College, while expanding capacity for future opportunities at the college.
- Foster a commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion through the expansion of programs and services that lead to success for all students, including underrepresented constituencies. Promote an inclusive culture and climate for students and employees.
- Collaborate with faculty and staff to strengthen strategic enrollment management, expand student access, and increase retention and attainment of student learning goals. Identify and serve new student populations through targeted outreach, innovative programs, technology, and partnerships. Support creative strategies to address the challenges of low enrolled programs.
- Expand innovative programs and delivery options that respond to changes in technology, education, and the economy - programs that align with regional workforce training needs and expand economic opportunities throughout the service region. Expand globalization of curriculum and international connections.

- Advance Guided Pathways and other equity initiatives that increase retention and completion for all students. Work with faculty and staff to create a culture where students feel a sense of belonging and develop confidence in their ability to succeed. Support professional development of faculty and staff to support students' educational journeys, from onboarding to completion.
- Apply lessons learned during COVID-19 to improve delivery systems, utilize technology more effectively, and better serve the diverse needs of students and communities located throughout Clallam and Jefferson Counties. Optimize teaching and learning through multiple modalities and adapt responsively to rapid change.
- Develop an in depth understanding of and foster relationships with the distinct communities throughout Peninsula's service area, building on the unique characteristic of each community, including demographics, industries, economic challenges, and attributes.
- Serve as a visible advocate for Peninsula College, communicating the value of higher education. Work to make PC a college of choice by increasing local, regional, and global outreach.
- Articulate and build support for the unique challenges/opportunities of a rural community college.

Ideal Characteristics

Peninsula College seeks a president who is an effective communicator and tireless advocate for the College and its students. The new leader will strengthen alliances in the community, strengthen academic programs, and be visible and accessible both on campus and throughout the community. Preferred leadership characteristics include:

- A student-focused leader who communicates a vision and creates a foundation of trust, transparency, and collaboration to achieve that vision. An exceptional communicator and listener who is visible and accessible, both on campus and throughout the community.
- A leader who values employees' expertise and contributions and has a track record of recruiting and retaining well-qualified employees. Demonstrated success fostering a shared governance culture where employees are valued and empowered to work together to achieve college goals.
- A leader with a demonstrated record of fostering and implementing public/private partnerships with education, government, business, tribal, and multicultural communities to meet regional education and workforce needs.

- A culturally responsive administrator who advances equity and social justice by promoting an inclusive learning environment and has demonstrated success in Guided Pathways. An evidence-based commitment to close equity gaps in access, achievement and completion of underrepresented populations and a commitment to college and community outcomes that reduce inequities.
- A courageous leader who models empathy, actively listens, fosters collaboration, and demonstrates resiliency - one who addresses challenging situations and makes difficult decisions with grace and dignity.
- A community-minded leader who understands the roles and contributions of all sectors in rural communities – one who creates opportunities for the community and the college to work collaboratively on an agenda based on the community’s needs and aspirations. A record of creating and sustaining partnerships that prepare students for successful careers and provide employer’s access to a well-trained workforce.
- A strategic leader who can define a path and work with faculty, staff, students, and the community to achieve a vision and goals. Demonstrated success setting measurable goals, assessing progress, and using data to make informed decisions.
- A creative leader who can successfully connect the curriculum with the attributes of the community and the natural environment of the Olympic Peninsula.
- An articulate communicator and effective advocate for the college both regionally and statewide, who increases the college’s visibility and support, with a demonstrated ability to raise funds for programs and student success.
- A fiscally astute leader who develops and implements a sustainable funding model and a transparent budget process that supports the college strategic plan.
- A leader with experience working with an appointed board of trustees. An administrator with an understanding of, and experience with shared governance and collective bargaining.

Minimum Qualifications

- Master’s degree required; earned Doctorate from a regionally accredited college or university is highly preferred.
- Significant progressive senior level administration in higher education.
- Community College experience.
- Teaching experience.