

# What are the operating budget priorities for two-year colleges?

## ***Economic Demand – closing the knowledge & skills gap***

- Prepare more skilled employees for the workforce
- Shrink the literacy gap by educating more adults
- Create capacity for the next wave of population growth
- Help businesses and employees gain updated skills and knowledge by expanding the Job Skills Program and customized employee training
- Help more students efficiently gain college-level experience while in high school through improved access to dual credit programs

## ***Student Success – Supporting student achievement***

- Make higher education more affordable for low-income adults by expanding Opportunity Grants
- Create more literacy and English language skills classes by providing state funding to make up for the minimal tuition
- Hold the line on tuition, which has increased much faster than family income, by asking the state rather than students to pay for increased costs for essential college operations
- Increase retention and help more students who start out at CTCs meet their goals efficiently by expanding essential advising and direct student services

## ***Innovation – Better serving businesses, students, faculty***

- Better serve technologically savvy young people and busy working adults by expanding distance learning and online resources
- Make the learning environment mirror the earning environment. Meet the demand for employees who are ready to work by keeping educational programs up-to-date with high tech equipment. Pay our faculty and staff fair and equitable salaries based on the market.