Learning Centers
Southeast Community College | July 2015

As part of the 2015-2019 Strategic Plan, Southeast Community College (SCC) is making plans to expand program and continuing education opportunities by establishing new learning centers across the 15-county service area. This report provides an overview of the demographic and population statistics of the SCC service area and the rationale for the proposed locations of the learning centers.

The following assumptions were used in identifying potential locations for these centers include:

1. Learning centers should be located to ensure SCC meets the needs of as many individuals as possible within its 15-county service area.
2. Service areas should be within or near the largest cities excluding the cities where SCC already has a campus.
3. The location of learning centers should be geographically distributed across the service area to maximize the number of individuals living within a 30 mile radius from the center.
4. The programming offered at each center will depend on industry and community needs. Programming decisions will be made in collaboration with local communities and employers based on their educational/training needs.

Proposal (as of 7/9/2015)
SCC proposes establishing new learning centers in York, Nebraska City, Plattsmouth, Falls City, Wahoo, and Hebron.

Rationale
The following was the rationale for the proposal.

1. The most populated cities\(^1\) in the service area without an SCC presence are York, Nebraska City, Crete, Plattsmouth, Falls City, Wahoo, and Fairbury. Using population as the first criterion, these were the first locations considered.

   Considered: York, Nebraska City, Crete, Plattsmouth, Falls City, Wahoo, and Fairbury.

2. Crete was removed from consideration because it is near the current SCC campus in Milford and it is home to Doane College. The other cities being considered as possible locations for learning centers are distributed across the service area and at least 20 miles away from a current SCC campus.

   Considered: York, Nebraska City, Plattsmouth, Falls City, Wahoo, and Fairbury.

3. Though Fairbury has more population on its own, nearby Hebron would be more easily accessible to other locations via the Highway 81 corridor.

   Proposed: York, Nebraska City, Plattsmouth, Falls City, Wahoo, and Hebron.

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\(^1\) Source for data was U.S. Census Bureau and the American Community Survey as compiled by the Missouri Census Data Center [http://mcdc2.missouri.edu](http://mcdc2.missouri.edu).
The proposed locations are shown in orange on the following map; current SCC campuses are shown in blue; and current Southeast Nebraska Career Academy Partnership (SENCAP) locations are identified with a star.

Potential locations include: Falls City, Nebraska City, Plattsmouth, Wahoo, York, and Hebron. The remainder of this document provides information about (1) the population and cities within a 30-mile radius of each proposed location (including areas in adjacent states), (2) a profile of each county in the service area, and (3) comparisons among the counties in the service area on population, age, income, educational attainment, employment, and location of businesses.
The following figures provide locations and approximate population within a radius of **35 miles** (as the crow flies) for each of the proposed learning center locations. Please note that each circle indicates a zip code. With the exception of Lincoln and the Omaha Metro area, most cities have just one zip code.

**Falls City**
The population within 35 miles of Falls City is approximately **53,000**.

**Nebraska City**
The population within 35 miles of Nebraska City is approximately **180,000**.

**Hebron**
The population within 35 miles of Hebron is approximately **34,000**.

**Plattsmouth**
The population within 35 miles of Plattsmouth is around **830,000**, including the city of Omaha.
Wahoo
The population within 35 miles of Wahoo is approximately 950,000, including parts of both Omaha and Lincoln.

York
The population within 35 miles of York is approximately 66,000.
Locations within 35 miles of SCC Campuses and Proposed Learning Centers

*Areas are approximate*
Comparison of Counties

This section includes comparisons by county on a variety of demographic measures.

Adult, young adult, and high school age population

This graph shows the count of individuals who are (1) 18 years of age or older, (2) between 18 and 25 years old, and (3) enrolled in grades 9-12 during 2014-15. Because the population of Lancaster County is so much higher than all others, the bars for Lancaster County are not proportional.

Median age

This graph shows the median age by county in the SCC service area.

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2 Sources for data were the American Community Survey and the State of Nebraska (for high school enrollment).
**Income levels**

This image shows a map and graph for (1) median income and (2) mean income by county in the SCC service area.
Educational attainment
This image shows a map and graph by county for (1) the percent of individuals who were 25 or older who received a bachelor’s degree or an advanced degree (referred to as educational attainment) and (2) the percent of individuals over 25 with no post-secondary experience.
Employment

This image shows a map and graph by county for (1) employment rate and (2) unemployment rate of individuals who are 16 or older. The bottom graph includes the percent of population who are not in the labor force. Generally, these individuals are not in the labor force due to retirement; in Johnson County many are incarcerated.

Values in the bottom graph may not add to 100 percent because the small number of those in the Armed Forces have been excluded. The percent of the population in the Armed Forces does not exceed 0.22% for any county except Cass County, where the value was 0.92%.
Number of businesses

This page shows (1) a map and graph of the number of business establishments in each county\(^3\) and (2) a map of the number of businesses by zip code. Because the number of businesses in Lancaster County is so much higher than all others, the bar for Lancaster County is not proportional.

\(^3\) The source for these data was the *County Business Patterns, 2013* from the U.S. Census Bureau.
Broadband availability
The following pages show maps of the locations that have (1) wireline download speed greater than 3Mbps\(^4\), (2) upload speed greater than 3Mbps, and (3) fiber optic network to the end user.

*Wireline download speed >3Mbps*

Wireline upload speed >3Mbps

Fiber optic available to the end user