DECISION Making
AT COLLEGE OF THE CANYONS

YOUR ROLE IN DECISION MAKING AT COLLEGE OF THE CANYONS
The planning and budgeting process is conducted within the context of our Strategic Plan. The charts in this section describe the systematic processes we use as we:

- Reflect on what progress we have made toward our strategic goals.
- Identify critical areas that need our attention as we work toward improvement.
- Continue internal dialogue on priorities and actions.
- Continue to design ways to implement fundamental changes via the development of specific plans (i.e., technology, facilities, educational curriculum, deferred maintenance, etc).
- Engage external audiences in the dialogue.
- Build internal and external coalitions for change.
- Identify and align financial resources allocation with our priorities for the future.
- Describe the outcomes achieved.
- Identify how we can continue to improve.
- Get results!

College of the Canyons follows a comprehensive planning process (see chart at right) to ensure its programs and services are aligned to meet the needs of the dynamic, growing community we serve.

The College Planning Team (CPT) is the umbrella decision-making group, consisting of campus-wide representation, that serves as the venue in which the campus collectively assesses, plans, and evaluates how and in what ways the College is achieving its mission, purpose and strategic goals. This group synthesizes and articulates the College’s priorities based upon the planning activities of the academic, student services, fiscal, human resources, and research and development departments, and also considers external community, state and national factors that impact institutional planning.
Internal and external information sources, such as local workforce and economic trends, accreditation requirements, enrollment analyses, state policies, and program review data and recommendations, form the basis of department plans, which roll up into district-wide plans like the Educational Master Plan, Technology Plan and Staffing Plan. Because form follows function, we use the district-wide plans to create our Facilities Master Plan and design and build classrooms, labs, and offices that will enable us to carry out our Strategic Plan and Educational Master Plan.

Planning at College of the Canyons is a loop of continuous feedback. We constantly analyze the results of our planning, and use the data and outcomes to inform the development of future plans. We determine what worked, what didn’t and make any needed adjustments to ensure continued efficiency and effectiveness in our programs and services.

The district-wide plans also drive our budget development process (Appendix G). Individual college units develop their budget priorities in alignment with district-wide plans and program review. Those plans are reviewed by the President’s Advisory Council – Budget (PAC-B), which then makes recommendations to the Chancellor. The Chancellor submits the budget to the Board of Trustees for final approval. Once the board has approved the budget, individual units move forward with their spending plans.