

Center for Student Outreach and Success (SOS)

Individualized Service to Empower Success

We offer . . .

Personalized Academic Coaching
Help with FAFSA
Textbook & Calculator Lending Services
Help with Testing Fees
Goal Setting
Assistance with Academic Processes
And More!



Kayla Stapleton graduated with an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Computerized Manufacturing Technology: Electromechanical Technology Specialization

College Success Coaches

The Chancellor's College Success Coach Initiative is intended to increase student persistence and attainment of success through support services to a cohort of 200 underserved students as well as the campus population as a whole.

The Success Coaches are available to assist students on an as-needed basis. No appointment necessary!

The coaches strive to problem-solve with students to assist in overcoming barriers and connecting with resources on campus. They are available to answer questions about financial aid, academic advising, withdrawing from a course, referrals to tutoring and Academic Services and also community resources.

Student Advocacy

SAILS (Student Assistance and Intervention for Learning Strategies)

SAILS is an early alert program designed to identify students who are in danger of not being successful academically. In this program, faculty identify students who display behaviors that may prevent academic success. MECC student support staff follow up with the identified student regarding the concerns and offer assistance.

Fox Food Pantry

Many of our students commute long distances to campus and are here all day without resources to obtain food. In 2014, MECC established the Fox Food Pantry to serve these students as well as their families off campus and on. There are minimal eligibility guidelines and the cause has been a great success. We provide a variety of non-perishable foods, hygiene items, and basic household items. The program is supported by the campus community and sustained through various events involving both faculty/staff and students as well as community organizations. Faculty will often give extra credit to students who donate to the food pantry. Our Fox Food Pantry allows students the opportunity to focus on academic success without worrying about basic needs.

Referrals

The SOS staff provides support to students who are referred by faculty and staff for problems that may be hindering their ability to succeed in college. The staff works with students to identify barriers, or perceived barriers, to academic success including transportation, job changes, familial problems, financial situations, poor course progress and more. Once the barriers are identified, the staff work to ease the decision making process and explain options and potential outcomes. Through word of mouth, many students refer other students to us because of the individualized assistance we provide. The SOS Center maintains an up-to-date Community Resource Guide to refer students off campus for assistance and support that may not be available on-campus.

DICKENSON COUNTY

WISE COUNTY
● Norton

SCOTT COUNTY

LEE COUNTY



ARIETTA HARVEY

*Completed Certificate
in Clerical Assistant and
A.A.S. in Medical Office
Specialist and is now
employed at
MECC in the Division
of Health Sciences.*

“I wanted to have a career and a job that I could support me and my daughter. I would not be where I am today if it wasn’t for the Center for Student Outreach and Success. It was good to have someone to talk to and support you.”

— Arietta Harvey



JT WHITE

*AAS General Studies
Transferred to
UVA-Wise in Business.*

“The SOS center has been a great blessing for students. It is a one stop shop for registration, advising, food pantry for those without, and financial aid. Without this place students would be lost and retention would be low. Personally my time there was great, the employees were friendly and helping. This is a great setup by the VCCS and I think it is vital for every successful university and college in America.”

— JT White

Center for Student Outreach and Success

MISSION

The Center for Student Outreach and Success will endeavor to identify and reduce barriers to success in order to retain, encourage, and advocate for students at Mountain Empire Community College.

Mountain Empire Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award the associate degree. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404.679.4500 for questions about the accreditation of Mountain Empire Community College. The Respiratory Therapy program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care. The Nursing program is approved by the Virginia State Board of Nursing and accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850, Atlanta, GA 30326). The Practical Nursing and Nursing Assistant programs are approved by the Virginia State Board of Nursing. The Emergency Medical Services Technology program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs. The Phlebotomy program is approved by the National Phlebotomy Association. www.mecc.edu/degree-programs/gainful-employment-programs/. Important Information about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students who attended MECC is available at www.mecc.edu/about-mecc/consumer-information/.

It is the policy of the Virginia Community College System and Mountain Empire Community College to provide equal employment and educational opportunities for all persons without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, political affiliation, veteran status, gender, age, or sexual orientation and for all otherwise qualified persons with disabilities. This policy permits appropriate employment preference for veterans. This institution promotes and maintains educational opportunities without regard to race, color, sex, ethnicity, religion, gender, age (except when age is a bona fide occupational qualification), disability, national origin, or other non-merit factors. This institution prohibits sexual harassment including sexual violence. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies: Ron Vicars, Vice President of Financial and Administrative Services. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding student misconduct or equity issues based on gender: Brandon Dotson, Dean of Student Services. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding employee misconduct or equity issues: Pam Giles, Human Resource Manager. For more information, contact 276.523.2400, 3441 Mountain Empire Rd., Big Stone Gap, VA, 24219. Virginia relay users dial 711.



**Mountain Empire
Community College**

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Community College**

MONDAY–FRIDAY, 8:00 AM–4:30 PM

Holton Hall • 276-523-2400, ext 674
www.mecc.edu/csos/