



EDISON STATE
COLLEGE

POSITION PROFILE

DISTRICT PRESIDENT





Service, Innovation, Leadership

Spanning five counties across Southwest Florida, Edison State College has served its communities for 50 years, providing innovation and leadership to propel the region's workforce forward. In 2009, the College earned recognition as the fastest growing public two-year college in the state and the 12th fastest growing in the nation from the U.S. Department of Education.

Serving more than [26,000 students](#), Edison State College offers a wide range of [educational opportunities](#), including Certificate programs, Associate in Science, Associate in Art and Bachelor's degrees. The College also operates a Collegiate High School in Lee and Charlotte counties and will open its first [student housing](#) complex on the Lee Campus this year.

A 13-member Presidential Search Advisory Committee represents diverse Edison State College stakeholders who share a strong commitment to finding the right leader and visionary to move the College forward as it begins the next era.

EDISON STATE COLLEGE: A PROUD HERITAGE

History

Since 1962, the College has sought to meet the burgeoning demand for higher education within its geographic region in accordance with the intent for the Florida Legislature.

Located in one of the fastest growing regions of the country, the College has broadened its reach to include three campuses and one center, evolving to meet the needs of its widely diverse communities. The College has undergone several name changes, most recently adopting the name Edison State College to reflect its enhanced mission as a baccalaureate granting Florida State College.



Edison remains committed to its core mission of accessible, affordable education for students in the first two years of college while providing additional opportunities for advancement through workforce baccalaureate degrees.

College Mission

The mission of Edison State College is to inspire learning; prepare a diverse population for creative and responsible participation in a global society; and serve as a leader for intellectual, economic, and cultural awareness in the community.

College Governance

Edison State College is governed by its [District Board of Trustees](#), composed of nine representatives from Lee, Charlotte, Collier, Hendry and Glades counties. Members are appointed to four-year, staggered terms by the Governor of Florida.

Edison State College Campuses, Centers and Online

Our enrollment growth testifies to the fidelity of our mission to provide an affordable education that prepares students to be enlightened and productive citizen. We accomplished this, even in difficult economic times, thanks to the dedication and hard work of our faculty and staff.

While holding true to our founding purpose, we have expanded opportunities to include baccalaureate degrees and charter high schools, as authorized and encouraged by the Florida Legislature and the State Board of Education. We awarded 2,215 associate degrees and certificates this year, many in occupations of critical need such as nursing, respiratory care and emergency medical services. We have also awarded 188 baccalaureate degrees, in the fields of education, nursing, public safety administration, and supervision and management. Our first class of charter high schools students scored in the top two percent in math and the top three percent in writing on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT).

With the first students admitted to Edison in the Fall of 1962, Edison State College celebrates 50 years of service to Southwest Florida this year. Its three campuses, one center and online program offer students excellent educational opportunities at an affordable cost.

Lee Campus

Opened in 1965, the 142-acre Lee Campus in South Fort Myers serves the College's largest population of students and includes approximately 700,000 square feet of facilities, including classrooms, buildings, administrative offices, and a 60,000 -square-foot nursing facility that includes [The Museum of Medical History](#). The Lee Campus Collegiate High School opened in 2010, and its achievements created a competitive wait list for admittance. The Lee Campus is home to ARTS Edison, which features frequent student and musical performances, and exhibits and cultural programs. Lee Campus is also home to the [Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall](#) and the iconic [Bob Rauschenberg Gallery](#).

Partnerships with regional employers infuse vitality into a wide array of academic programs designed to meet the needs of a burgeoning workforce. Read more about [Lee County](#).



Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall

Edison State College's Lee Campus is home to Southwest Florida's premier venue for world-class theater, concerts, speakers and events.

The Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall opened in 1984 and draws audiences from throughout the region.



Bob Rauschenberg Gallery

Edison State College's Lee Campus is home to the only Art Gallery outside of New York's Guggenheim to bear the name of the late Bob Rauschenberg. For more than 30 years, the College enjoyed a richly rewarding relationship with Mr. Rauschenberg, including world-class exhibits of his work.

Charlotte Campus

The Charlotte Campus spans 204 acres of oak hammocks and nature trails, with 12 buildings covering 151,823 square feet of space, and unique attributes that characterize the communities of Punta Gorda and Port Charlotte. The Charlotte POPS at sunset draws an appreciative audience every October, and students and residents share an enthusiasm for astronomy at the James & Barbara Moore Observatory.

As the first collegiate high school in Southwest Florida and the state's only collegiate high school to incorporate ninth graders when it opened its doors in August of 2009, ECHS Charlotte provides an opportunity to graduate with both a high school diploma and an Associate of Arts (AA) degree.

A geological and paleontological fossil collection on display in the Vernon Peeples Library represents over 25 varieties of organisms found on the Charlotte Campus site, including horse, llama, mammoth, mastodon, turtle, alligator, giant beaver, shark, and whale. Read more about [Charlotte County](#).



Collier Campus

A spirited vitality permeates the Collier Campus where community involvement sets the tempo for growth. A recognized leader in student life, the Student Government Association consistently wins statewide accolades for civic engagement. A pivotal partnership with the [Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve](#) offers hands-on research opportunities. The dental school is the result of a partnership with the University of Florida and the Naples Children Education Foundation. The Collier Campus is a proud member of the Association of Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education and hosted the County's first green living festival to draw attention to products and services that are healthy and good for the economy. The two newest buildings, Weiss Health Sciences Hall and Student Services, were designed and constructed according to the U.S. Green Building Council's green building standards for commercial buildings and exceed Silver level certification standards. A campus-wide computer controlled indoor climate system reduces energy consumption by more than 50 percent. Read more about [Collier County](#).



Hendry/Glades Center

Edison's newest facility, the Hendry Glades Center occupies 19 acres on Cowboy Way in La Belle and serves a diverse student population spanning two counties. Celebrating the can-do attitude that built the Florida frontier, the campus provides a full-service experience for local students provided through a faculty-driven library; full student services, including, advising, financial aid and student activities; a Math and Writing Center staffed with professional, full-time tutors; a college placement and college course testing center; a spacious student lounge; and several fully technologically equipped classrooms, including a satellite classroom equipped to stream live classes. Generous endowment funding provides Edison State College scholarships to qualified local high school graduates.

A recently acquired building now houses the Center for Workforce and Innovation, which provides increased opportunity for area residents, housing the Florida Works Center, Farmworkers Jobs and Education Program, Goodwill Job-Link, and High School / High-Tech program.

Read more about the [Hendry/Glades](#) area.



Edison Online

Edison State College offers more than 100 online courses and 55 web-enhanced courses using the latest technology and certified online professors. Students can earn an entire Associate in Arts degree online and nearly complete all of the requirements for the Bachelor of Applied Science in Supervision and Management taking online courses. It's a fast growing sector of Edison State College.





Geographic Area and Population Statistics

Edison State College District

Charlotte County

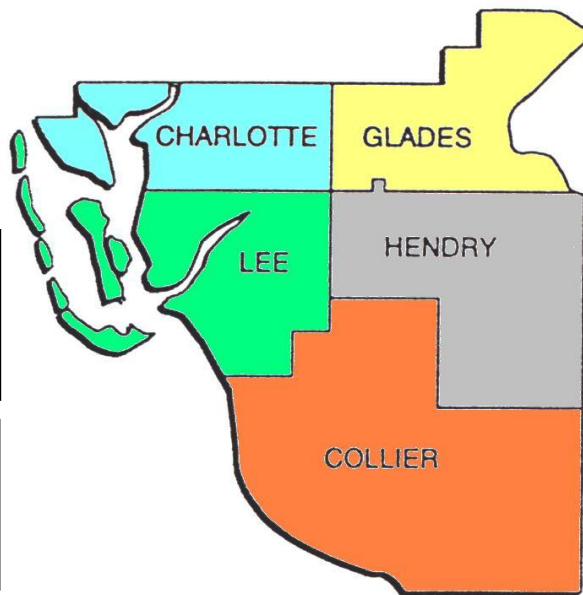
Population – 159,978
ESC Student – 2,889
FTE – 1,413.5

Lee County

Population – 618,754
ESC Student – 14,120
FTE – 7,231.8

Collier County

Population – 321,520
ESC Student – 4,096
FTE – 2,018.2



Glades and Hendry Counties

Population – 52,024
ESC Student – 739
FTE – 356.1

Online

ESC Student – 2,766
FTE – 1,195.2



College Financial Facts

College budget total: \$63,136,621

Lee: \$39,649,798

Collier: \$10,038,723

Charlotte: \$8,207,761

Hendry/Glades \$1,957,235

Edison Online \$3,283,104

Financial Aid

More than \$23 million disbursed in federal, state and institutional aid

College Foundation Endowment: \$35 million

Scholarship Awards: \$1.6 million

In-State Tuition

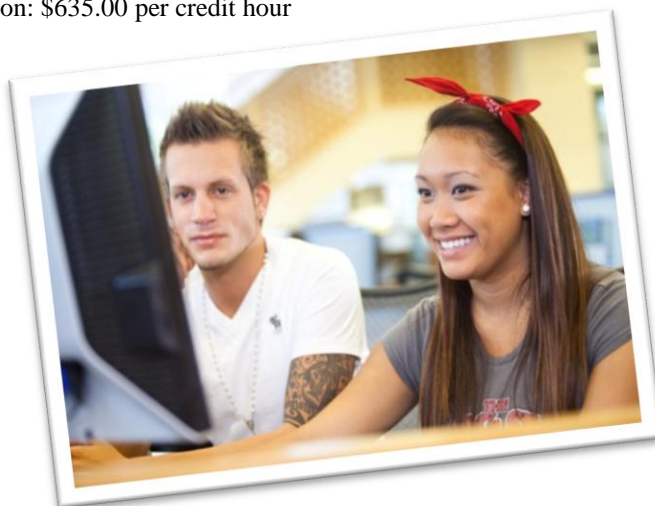
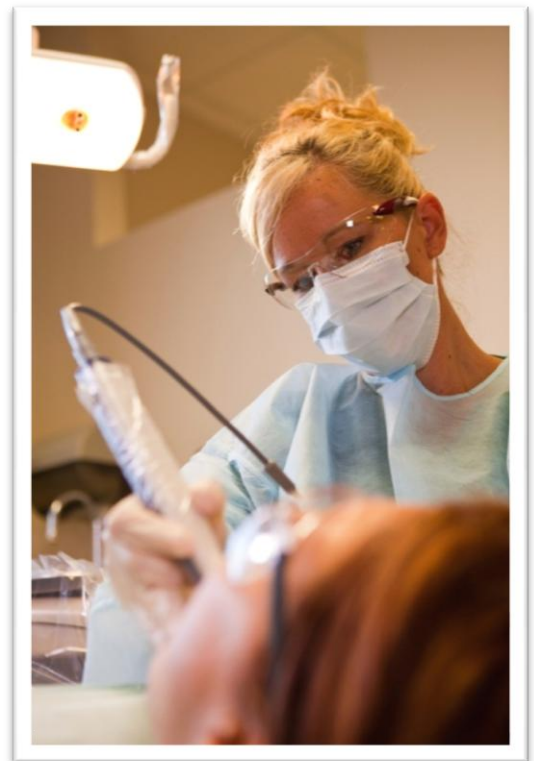
Lower Division \$102.48 per credit hour

Upper Division: \$113.64 per credit hour

Out-of-State Tuition

Lower Division: \$386.52 per credit hour

Upper Division: \$635.00 per credit hour



Student Achievement

The College's progress maintaining [Accountability Goals](#) established through Florida Statute (1008.31) to track student performance has been significant. Tracking student success since 2006, this annual report reflects Edison's commitment to continuous improvement through responsiveness to the Legislature's standardized quality measures. The document highlights areas that demonstrate excellent progress toward established goals as well as deficiencies that warrant attention.

The College and Community

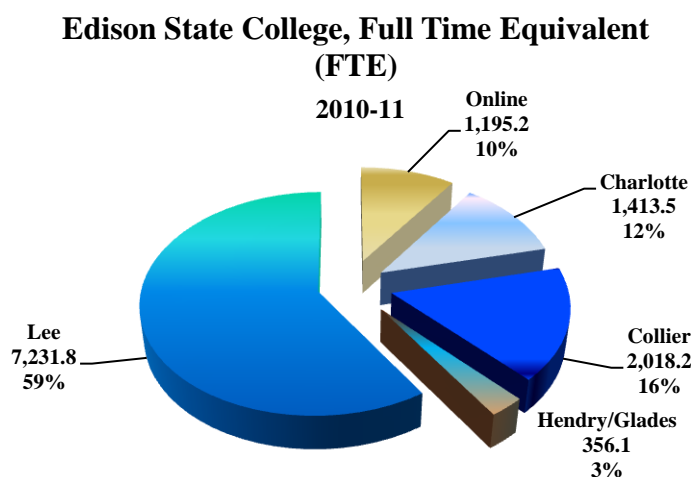
Edison State College has cultivated a wealth of working partnerships within its communities. As the largest provider of health professions education in the region, the College enjoys collaborative arrangements with area hospitals that offer clinical sites and technologically advanced simulation labs. Other strong College partnerships include the Lee County Office of Economic Development/The Horizon Council, several chambers of commerce and [Alliance for Educational Leaders](#).

The College fosters positive community relations through student and faculty involvement in research, civic engagement, and volunteerism, including a partnership with the 110,000-acre [Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve in Collier County](#). It is part of [The Florida College System](#), which includes all [28 of the state's community colleges](#).

Of the 2,743 colleges in the United States awarding associate degrees in 2007, ESC is listed as a top producer in nursing and health professions. The June 16, 2008 Community College Week Special Report ranks Edison College as:

- 13th in the Top 50 Associate Degree Producers for Nursing
- 39th in the Top 50 Associate Degree Producers for Health Professions
- 68th in Associate Degrees: All Disciplines - Non Minority
- 90th in Associate Degrees: All Disciplines

The pie chart below illustrates the full-time equivalent as a measurement of total number of credit hours earned by Edison State College students at different campuses during the Academic Year beginning in Summer 2010.



The Edison State College Foundation

Through the generous support of the community, the [Edison State College Foundation](#) enhances the access and quality of education for Edison State students. Managed by a voluntary Board of Directors of business and civic leaders from all five counties served by Edison State College, the Foundation is a private non-profit entity recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization and by the State of Florida as a direct support organization for the benefit of Edison State College.

Edison State College Foundation seeks to provide the margin of excellence for which Edison has long been known. Through positive community relations and the development of private funds and partnerships, we strive to advance the education and welfare of the institution, its students, its faculty and staff, and the community it serves.

As a partner in building a better community, the Edison State College Foundation promotes higher education with student scholarships, support of academic programs, technology enhancements, and new and improved facilities. Over the last decade, the Foundation:

- Received \$20,902,025 in new gifts, and \$10,322,958 in state matching gifts.
- Awarded \$7,572,303 to Edison State College students for scholarships.
- Provided \$4,907,842 for academic and instructional support.
- Staged an annual POPS at Sunset event at the Charlotte and Lee County campuses.
- Received a \$4.2 million estate gift from Marjorie H. Kelly, a long time resident of Clewiston.
- Received an estate gift of \$728,000 for the Lee Campus School of Nursing in 2012.



Alumni Organization

Growing Strong

Edison's 35,000 graduates now hail from 48 states and nearly a dozen countries across the globe.

[The Edison State College Alumni Association](#) is committed to creating quality connections and helping to build enduring relationships through ongoing communications, networking events and opportunities for continuing involvement in the life of the College.



In 2011, Edison State College graduate Maria Cardenas won the LeRoy Collins Distinguished Alumni Award *Against the Odds*.

Cardenas, a third-grade teacher at Orange River Elementary, was born the second of eight children in San Luis, Mexico. Then seven, she moved with her family to the United States in hopes of better opportunities. But her migrant parents spoke no English, and the family traveled the country in the back of a pickup truck chasing work.

“In a migrant camp, like everywhere, you have an upper class and a lower class,” she said. “If your father was the crew leader – the boss man – you were the rich kids. You had new clothes, and sometimes you even got to go to the movies. If your dad was an OK guy who worked hard, you were in the middle class. But if your dad was the camp drunk, you were the bottom of the barrel. That was us: the trash of the trash.”



Dreams of becoming a college graduate seemed impossible, even foolish to some. But Cardenas taught herself to read and eventually passed the GED exam. She was accepted into Edison's HOPE Scholarship Program.

Cardenas went on to earn an Associates' Degree from Edison State in 1999 despite scoring at a 10th-grade level on college placement tests. She transferred to Florida Gulf University to complete her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education.

A role model to others facing tough obstacles, Cardenas' unbridled confidence and determination empowers her students every day to dream big and not be afraid to take risks. Each year her students visit Edison's Fort Myers campus and current HOPE scholars often visit her classroom.

“Even if you grew up in poverty, there are still chances to change it through education,” Cardenas said. “If I did it, you can do it.”

Contact Barbara S. Wells, Director of Alumni Relations at 239-433-6951 for more information.



Strategic Planning

Destination 2020: Creating a Pathway for Our Future

From December 2009 through February 2011, members of the College faculty and staff discussed the strategic direction of the College and prepared the framework for the 10-year

strategic plan, entitled *Destination 2020: Creating a Pathway for Our Future*. As we launched our vision for the coming decade, we built on the *Decade of Promise* (2001-2010) and the thoughtful consideration that accrued through planning, coupled with our collective commitment to the mind's potential. The guiding initiatives, adopted by the College's District Board of Trustees in February of 2011, appear below.

1. Develop and maintain a **learning-centered culture**

- Develop a shared understanding, application and accountability of learning-centered culture
- Identify and remove barriers

2. Provide educational pathways for **under-prepared students**

- Assess and refine current Academic Support Services
- Build a program to foster learning relationships and bridge the gap between ESC faculty and district K-12 faculty in their common disciplines
- Conduct a research based curriculum/program review of Developmental Education
- Develop programs that target ESL students

3. Provide **vibrant relevant programs**

- Develop a robust program review model
- Build and implement strategies to identify new programs
- Identify and address the programmatic needs of the socio-economic diversity in the region

4. Provide an array of effective **student support services**

- Develop a comprehensive academic support system
- Assess, enhance and implement an effective enrollment and registration process

5. Identify and develop short and long-term **financial, facility** and **technology resources** of the College
 - Allocate financial resources aligned with College priorities
 - Develop a process to plan and prioritize facility expansion
 - Engage faculty and staff to create a comprehensive plan that will provide the necessary technology for learning and productivity
 - Ensure a safe and attractive learning environment
 - Develop business guidelines for academic productivity and effectiveness, while preserving academic integrity
6. Promote, develop and retain a culture that supports **professional growth** of faculty and staff
 - Develop a faculty mentoring program
 - Develop an administrative leadership program
 - Develop Edison State orientation for all faculty and staff
7. Develop, maintain and enhance **collaborative partnerships**
 - Develop a strategy to capitalize on our partnerships (Internal & External)
 - Create and advocate the legislative agenda while including our partners
 - Develop a grant process to serve key aspects of the organization
8. Enhance the **regional image** of Edison State College
 - Develop a comprehensive marketing plan for the College
 - Expand Edison State College's engagement in the region



Safety First



In 2011, Edison State College earned the proud distinction of being named the 10th safest college campus in America and the safest in Florida by StateUniversity.com.

Two years ago, Edison established a police force to ensure campus safety. The Lee Campus has four police officers and nine civilian public safety officers. Collier and Charlotte each have one sworn officer, and both contract with a private security firm for additional safety personnel. The Hendry/Glades Center also employs full-time security.

Security cameras are located around all of the campuses and security officials are working 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Tobacco Free

Edison State College is dedicated to providing a safe, healthy, comfortable, and productive learning environment for students, faculty, staff and visitors. Research findings show that tobacco use in general, including smoking and breathing secondhand smoke, constitutes a significant health hazard. Therefore, Edison State College in 2010 elected to become entirely tobacco-free. Tobacco use, distribution, or sale, including, but not limited to smoking, is prohibited on College-owned, operated or leased property.



Edison State College District President

Opportunities and Challenges

The Board of Trustees of Edison State College (www.edison.edu) seeks an experienced, people-oriented community college leader who will guide a large and diverse community of students, faculty and staff in this vibrant five-county area along Florida's magnificent southwest Gulf Coast.

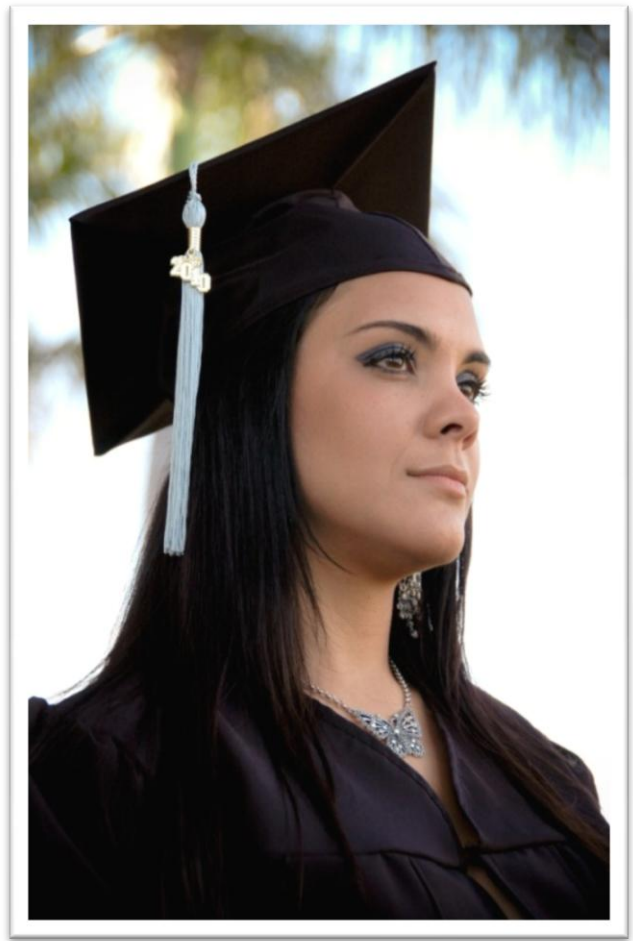
Celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2012, Edison State serves more than 26,000 students and is home to acclaimed academic programs and cultural facilities. As a community-based institution, Edison State College offers a wide array of associate and baccalaureate degree programs, certificates and continuing education options with emphasis on workforce-related areas. Through its "open door" policy and the First Year experience program, the College meets the needs of all citizens in the District who seek innovative educational opportunities.

As its next President, the successful candidate will be responsible for the oversight of three state-of-the-art campuses and one vibrant full-service academic center located in Lee, Charlotte, Collier, Hendry and Glades Counties.

Opportunities and challenges awaiting the successful candidate in this broad national search include:

Administrative and Governance Priorities

- Represent Edison State College in a positive and professional manner that inspires others, encourages excellence and evokes confidence across the campuses and throughout Florida as well as nationally and globally.
- Work collaboratively with the District Board to ensure the College's organizational structure emphasizes sound policies and performance-based strategies in keeping with Edison State's 21st century community-based mission of teaching, workforce development and public service.
- Continue to build the College's reputation as a welcoming destination of choice for the District's diverse student population who seek certificate, two-year and four-year degree programs on campus or via distance education through "Edison Online."



- Focus on the College’s mission and the unique strengths of each location in the District, gain maximum value from the College’s extensive inventory of assets: energetic and dedicated personnel and students, cutting-edge academic programs, pristine physical plants and sound strategic partnerships.
- Build a sustainable mechanism for shared governance that is customized to fit the unique structure of the College and gives stakeholders a meaningful role in decision-making and problem-solving.
- Lead efforts to forge successful outcomes for the College’s current priority projects (i.e. on-campus housing, charter schools, growing academic programs) before embarking on new initiatives.

Faculty/Staff Advocacy

- Utilize past knowledge and experience regarding best practices in higher education management to identify and implement effective professional development programs for staff and faculty (including adjuncts) and foster an atmosphere where their success is affirmed and encouraged.
- Cultivate a positive working relationship with the Faculty Senate that fosters shared governance and ensures academic excellence and learning-centered decisions.
- Continue the ongoing comprehensive review of the College’s compensation structure and ensure it is fair and competitive among peer institutions.
- Commit to improving full-time faculty ratios and adequately staffing student services by recruiting highly qualified candidates for faculty and staff positions into an organization where roles are defined, reporting relationships are clear and established policies are followed.

Participation in Campus Life

- Participate energetically in all aspects of campus life – cultural programs, extracurricular student activities, faculty presentations and community service projects.
- Provide sufficient funding and staffing for student-centered support services, including those for students who will reside in the College’s first residence hall, opening in Fall 2012 on the Lee campus in Fort Myers.
- Recognizing the extraordinary cultural and economic diversity in the District and our core mission as an “open door” institution, ensure that the College is uniformly welcoming and responsive to the needs of students from all backgrounds.



Emphasis on External Relations

- Build and sustain effective partnerships across the spectrum of educational entities in the region: K-12 schools, the District's five post-secondary vocational schools, Florida Gulf Coast University and private institutions, including Hodges University and Ave Maria University.
- Work effectively with all constituent groups – elected officials, business and community leaders, alumni, accreditation organizations and others.
- Earn stature as a respected team builder and innovative problem solver in the communities served as well as throughout Florida.
- Develop Gulf Coast community networks/ advisory groups that will ensure responsiveness to the College's community-based charge and help ensure the College fulfills its mandate in workforce training and are the catalyst for innovative partnerships and successful economic development initiatives.
- Lead efforts to build the College's base of extramural funding support from state and Federal agencies, area foundations, corporations and individuals.
- Advance lifelong learning and support a learner-centered and learning-centered environment throughout the District.

Attributes of Excellence

The next Edison State College District President will provide leadership and vision for the College's future that will propel it to new levels of excellence in all endeavors, inspire and energize the faculty and staff, broaden the foundation of public support and extend the College's reach in the region, across the state of Florida and beyond.

Read more about the [position description and classification](#). Attributes of excellence the Search Advisory Committee considers required as well as others that are preferred include:

- A history of progressively responsible management experience and thorough understanding and appreciation for the innovative role of a community-based College (preferably one with multiple locations) that offers a wide array of associate and baccalaureate degree programs, certificates and continuing education options with a proven reputation for excellence in workforce development programs.
- Reputation as an individual of the highest personal integrity and sound judgment with an engaging, inclusive and people-centered management philosophy and excellent communication skills that will stimulate mutual respect, innovative collaboration and the healthy exchange of ideas and information within the College and externally to the communities and constituents it serves.
- Proven fiscal management skills and the ability to aggressively and effectively monitor prudent use of the College's financial resources and ensure timely, accurate reports and in-depth analysis of long- and short-term trends.
- Experience with or the ability to comfortably operate under the State of Florida's laws regarding transparency and accountability and the complex nature of state funding for higher education.
- Classroom teaching experience and an earned doctorate are preferred; candidates with an extensive background in educational and corporate leadership will be considered.
- Accomplished and visionary leader with a clear sense of direction, the ability to delegate successfully, advocate persuasively and exude an approachable personal style – a leader whose door is open to the campus and the community for input and ideas.
- Demonstrated success in operating within the context of a strategic plan with stated goals and measurable outcomes.
- In-depth experience with SACS and other academic program accrediting agencies.
- The ability to work effectively with the Faculty Senate and others in an environment of shared governance and faculty collective-bargaining.
- Confident and current knowledge of technology to implement innovative strategies for the delivery of off-site instruction to all locations, provide training and support for faculty and staff, and prepare students for the evolving technology demands of the ever-changing contemporary workplace.
- Entrepreneurial approach to exploring and devising ethical alternative funding sources, including demonstrated expertise in securing private funding, competing for state and Federal contract and grant awards and developing auxiliary revenue streams.

Search Process

The Search Committee will begin reviewing resumes in late spring with initial interviews to follow shortly thereafter. This search is assisted by John B. Hicks, Senior Consultant Academic Search, Inc., and is conducted under the Public Records Act and the Government in the Sunshine Laws of the State of Florida. These require that all documents related to the search, including letters of nomination and applications, be available for public inspection.

However, telephone conversations with John Hicks can be held in confidence and provide an excellent opportunity to ask questions and gain additional perspective on the position. For a telephone appointment, email Disa Mason (disa.mason@academic-search.com).

Formal applications should include a detailed letter of interest reflecting on the desired attributes, CV and a list of five references with email/telephone contact information. Materials should be electronically submitted via MS Word or Adobe pdf to Edison@academic-search.com. For further information:

John B. Hicks, Senior Consultant
Academic Search, Inc.
John.hicks@academic-search.com
205-345-7221



Affirmative Action

All programs, activities and facilities of Edison State College are available to all on a non-discriminatory basis, without regard to race, sex, age, religion, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, marital or veteran's status. The college is an equal access/equal opportunity institution. Questions pertaining to educational equity, equal opportunity, or equal access should be addressed to the College's Equity Officer at 239-489-9293.

