



MCC—A LOOK BACK AT 50 YEARS OF DELIVERING EDUCATION IN MCHENRY COUNTY

Pre-1967

In the 1890s, University of Chicago President, William Rainey Harper, introduced the concept of two-year junior colleges.

In 1901, the first public junior college in the nation was established—Joliet Junior College.

In 1961, a citizens committee launched the concept of McHenry County College.

On July 5, 1965, the Junior College Act of 1965 was approved by the Illinois State Legislature.

- April 1, 1967** McHenry County College is established by passage of referendum.
- June 1, 1967** Organizational meeting of the first Board of Trustees held. The officers and members of the charter Board: Mr. E. C. Nichols, Chairman; Mr. Cal Skinner, Sr., Vice Chairman; Mr. J. William Banker, Secretary; Dr. J. F. Harris; Mrs. Joan Hill; Dr. A. D. Leschuck; Mr. Thomas Parsley.
- November 20, 1967** Forest D. Etheredge, vice president of Rock Valley College, Rockford, Illinois, is appointed founding president of McHenry County College.
- 1968** The first McHenry County College catalog (1968–1969) is published. It includes these programs of study:
- Associate in Liberal Arts
 - Associate in Science
 - Associate in Applied Science
 - Agriculture Chemicals Technology
 - Accounting
 - Business Mid-Management
 - Business Data Processing Technology
 - Industrial Supervision Technology
 - Secretarial Science
 - Electronics Technology
 - Mechanical Technology; Design and Drafting Options
 - Associate in General Education
 - 9 certificate programs
- January 3, 1968** First three members of the professional staff assume responsibilities on a full-time basis. David Hill, history; John Konitzer, chemistry; and Erwin Cornelius, political science and foreign languages.
- June 1, 1968** MCC assumes responsibility for the Adult Education programs in McHenry County. Adult Education programs are designed for adults to learn basic academic skills, GED preparation, and English as a Second Language (ESL).
- June 5, 1968** The Pure Oil Building in Crystal Lake (current Jewel shopping area) is established as an interim campus for the 1968–69 year.

September 16, 1968	MCC opens its doors at 8 a.m. to 312 full-time and 1,045 part-time students. Tuition is \$5.60 per credit hour.
1968	The <i>MCC Tartan</i> , the student newspaper, makes its debut.
June 3, 1970	MCC's first commencement honors 42 graduates.
June 1, 1971	Dr. James R. Davis becomes the second president of MCC.
December 1971	Weber site on Route 14, northwest of Crystal Lake, selected for the permanent site recommendation.
February 26, 1972	Successful building bond referendum for \$3,100,000 conducted for permanent campus for the College. Vote totals were 7,745 Yes, 2,415 No.
July 4, 1972	Original 66.56 acres purchased from Weber Machines for \$199,680.
Fall 1973	Tuition is \$12.50 per credit hour.
August 23, 1973	Approval of Joint Nursing Agreement and Cooperative Ag Program with Elgin Community College. This was the first cooperative agreement.
October 16, 1973	Release of state funds for college construction by State of Illinois, Office of Governor, \$3.675 million.
March 10, 1974	Groundbreaking ceremony at construction site for the Applied Science Building, now known as Building D.
Spring 1974	MCC's first student literary magazine, <i>McScripsit</i> , is published.
May 24, 1975	The Pure Oil building is vacated and college operations are moved into permanent campus facilities.
August 25, 1975	Applied Science Building (Building D) occupied for fall classes.
November 15, 1977	Dr. Robert Harris becomes the third president of MCC.
June 28, 1979	Board approves establishment of the first MCC licensed child care center (in an off-campus facility) to be opened Fall 1979.
May 22, 1980	Robert C. Bartlett becomes the fourth president of MCC.
November 20, 1980	Groundbreaking for gym/multi-purpose building.
February 1981	MCC Foundation re-organized and renamed to McHenry County College Foundation.
October 1983	Women's volleyball team wins first of many conference championships.

March 24, 1987	Board approves Center for Business and Industry Employee Training, which eventually became the Shah Center.
March 1988	George H.W. Bush visits MCC on campaign tour.
Fall 1988	Tuition is \$30 per credit hour.
July 30, 1989	Groundbreaking for Buildings B and C.
November 15, 1989	College purchases 43.9892 adjoining acres for \$615,848.80.
October 5, 1991	Groundbreaking for Fire Science Building.
Spring 1992	MCC celebrates 25 years. Adds crimson to its school colors as part of the celebration.
May 25, 1992	Grand Opening of Small Business Development Center, which is part of the current Shah Center.
August 1993	MCC receives first Adult Volunteer Literacy Tutoring program grant from the Illinois Secretary of State Office.
April 1994	MCC men's tennis selected as an NJCAA National Qualifying Team for the first time.
April 24, 1995	Work begins on library addition.
1995	Academy for High Performance (now known as Fast Track) begins.
May 20, 1996	Groundbreaking for Center for Advanced Technology (Building E).
Summer 1996	MCC begins "Kids on Campus." This program has expanded to students in grades 1–12.
May 1996	Men's baseball team wins first conference championship and are NJCAA Region IV Champions.
July 1, 1997	Dr. Daniel J. LaVista becomes the fifth president of MCC.
July 1998	Governor Jim Edgar visits the MCC campus to release the \$1 million planning grant funds for a new Student Services and classroom building addition.
September 1998	MCC agrees to operate a Traffic Safety School.
November 1998	MCC receives a \$100,000 grant from the Grace A. Bersted Foundation to be used for strategic planning, the largest private grant in the College's history.
November 1998	MCC women's volleyball team advances to the National Junior College Athletic Association's national tournament, becoming the first volleyball team in MCC history to compete at this level.

February 1999	Women's basketball team wins conference, its first of nine conference championships.
November 1999	MCC receives an Award of Excellence in Learning-Centered Instruction from the Illinois Community College Board for its Plastics Academic Program.
December 10, 1999	Board approves \$12.7 million student services and classroom addition—State of Illinois provides \$9.5 million of the cost.
Fall 2000	Running Start, the first high school dual-enrollment program, begins at MCC. Running Start is now under the umbrella of High School Plus, which offers several options for students to earn college credit while in high school.
November 2000	November 7, 2000 referendum passed. Last referendum brought to voters.
March 2001	MCC is recognized for Financial Reporting Excellence from the Government Financial Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada. This was the first of many awards.
June 28, 2001	Groundbreaking for Student Services building.
Fall 2001	MCC women's tennis team advances to the National Junior College Athletic Association's national tournament.
December 7, 2001	MCC's Manufacturing Management Program wins national award.
April 2003	McHenry County College wins the Spring Regional Tournament of the Academic College Bowl.
June 1, 2003	Dr. Walter J. Packard becomes the sixth president of MCC.
March 19, 2004	MCC's Center for Commerce and Economic Development receives \$440,000 grant from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, the largest workforce training grant awarded to an Illinois community college at that time.
November 30, 2004	MCC's Forensics team qualifies for nationals for the first time and takes third place.
December 2004	The Friends of MCC Foundation kicks off the Corporate Training Center Campaign for the College's first permanent satellite location primarily dedicated to serving the business community.
October 3, 2005	MCC receives \$350,000 Workforce Training grant from the Employer Training Investment Program (ETIP), the largest ETIP grant awarded to an Illinois Community College.
September 2005	Groundbreaking for the Shah Center for Corporate Training and the Illinois Small Business Development Center in McHenry, made possible by a lead gift of \$25,000 from the Pratima N. Shah Family Foundation.

January 2006	MCC offers first group of new courses that combine classroom and online instruction, now called blended courses.
February 23, 2006	Illinois Senator Barack Obama holds Town Hall Meeting at MCC.
October 20, 2008	The MCC Promise Scholarship is announced by the Friends of MCC Foundation to pay two years of MCC tuition to graduating district high school seniors. The success of this program led to the largest increase of students that the College had seen.
August 16, 2010	Dr. Vicky Smith becomes the seventh president of MCC.
Summer 2012	The cafeteria and commons area go through a remodel, adding a state-of-the-art culinary lab, as well as increasing student space.
January 23, 2014	MCC named as one of top 150 community colleges in the country by the Aspen Institute in Washington, D.C.
June 2014	MCC ranked one of the most affordable and successful community colleges in Illinois by CNN and College Measures.
July 2014	MCC selected for an \$825,000 grant awarded by the National Science Foundation to help build an open online course.
Spring 2014	The arrival of six new manual mill and lathe machines expands the manufacturing lab at the College. The new Black Box Theatre has opening night.
June 2015	MCC receives a \$199,612 National Science Foundation grant, which comes from the Advanced Technological Education grant program, to train faculty toward launching two new innovative certificate programs and a new associate's degree in mobile application design and development.
November 2015	Women's volleyball team wins NJCAA Region IV Championship and qualifies for NJCAA National DII Tournament.
January 11, 2016	Dr. Clinton E. Gabbard becomes the eighth president of MCC.
May 2016	Men's baseball team advances to the NJCAA national tournament for the first time.
Summer 2016	MCC Board of Trustees approves building a Science Center. MCC announces initial, large donor for Science Center project, officially naming the facility the Liebman Science Center.
Fall 2016	Tuition is \$104 per credit hour.

2016

The McHenry County College 2016–2017 catalog is published. It includes these programs of study:

- Associate in Arts
- Associate in Science
- Associate in Engineering Science
- Associate in Fine Arts; Art or Music Option
- Associate in Applied Science:
 - Accounting
 - Administrative Office Management
 - Automotive Technology
 - Automotive Technology, Management Option
 - Baking and Pastry Management
 - Business Management
 - Computer Information Systems
 - Construction Management
 - Criminal Justice
 - Culinary Management
 - Digital Media
 - Early Childhood Education
 - Emergency Medical Technician—Paramedic
 - Engineering Technology
 - Fire Science
 - Graphic Arts
 - Health and Information Technology
 - Horticulture
 - Manufacturing Management
 - Marketing
 - Network Security
 - Nursing
 - Occupational Therapy Assistant
 - Paralegal Studies
 - Robotics
 - Web Design and Development
- 59 Certificate programs

