



Strategic Plan | 2022 – 2025

MISSION (what good we do and for whom)

MHEC brings together leaders from midwestern states to develop and support best practices, collaborative efforts, and cost-sharing opportunities. Through these efforts it works to ensure strong, equitable postsecondary educational opportunities and outcomes for all.

VISION (the impact we seek)

To improve individual career readiness and regional economic vitality through collective problem-solving and partnerships that strengthen postsecondary education.

VALUES (what guides our decision making)

Collaboration. We believe working together in an open, respectful environment creates the foundation for cooperation and innovation that allows us to research, share, pilot, and scale ideas to improve our individual institutions, states, and region.

Innovation. We believe that bringing creativity and tenacious problem solving to the challenges and opportunities in higher education helps produce excellent results for our states, institutions, and students.

Diversity, Equity, Access, and Inclusion. We believe that the diversity of our members is one of our greatest strengths and is a driving force in helping our region build access for all to a postsecondary education and inclusive environments that promote success.

Excellence. We believe that high standards together with effective and efficient use of our resources are at the core of producing exceptional outcomes for our member states and their respective institutions.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES (our focus for the next 4 years)

Advance innovation, efficiency & effectiveness.

- Serve as an incubator, conducting research, pursuing ideas, and piloting potential solutions in a low-risk environment.
- Study challenging topics (such as declining enrollment, learning gaps, affordability) and determine how MHEC could play a valuable role in addressing the issue.

Develop collaborative solutions to regional problems and opportunities.

- Take on projects, issues and opportunities that are too big for one state to do alone, working jointly to improve higher education and to strengthen the Midwest region.
- Serve as a conduit, convening and connecting leaders to share successful models and actionable approaches that institutions and states can adopt and tailor.

Drive cost savings & business solutions.

- Devise opportunities for institutions, states, and students to save money.
- Collaborate to reduce risk and take advantage of opportunities that solve business issues.

PRINCIPLES OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN

- We will continually evaluate the purpose and impact of our work to provide the leadership, responsiveness, and value needed by our members.
- We will integrate diversity, equity, and inclusion into all aspects of our planning and operations.
- We will be intentional within each priority about articulating who is served, who we want to participate, and who benefits.