

COLUMBIA COLLEGE

Supports to the Community

NOTE:

Must; Shall; Will:

Should:

May or Could; Can:

Clarification of Terms

These words or phrases indicate actions or activities that are *essential* or *mandatory*.

This word implies that it is highly desirable to perform certain actions or activities, but not essential or mandatory.

These words imply freedom or liberty to follow an alternative to the action or activity being presented in a document.

Columbia College is a responsible citizen that supports its community. For example, all programs at the College have a Board of Advisors. Each Board consists of a group of individuals from the community, made up of leading professionals and practitioners, graduate students, as well as professional body representatives (where applicable). The primary role of our Boards is to help program leaders and faculty members keep in tune with the changing nature of the occupations and professions students are being trained to enter. Their input affects the educational content of each program.

The College also feels an affinity to the broader community and provides its citizens with support and services. These include access to the College facilities for individual or group use. Free workshops and courses are also offered to members of the community on a regular basis. For example, Columbia's Dental Assistant Program offers dental services (x-rays, polishing and fluoride) at a nominal fee and its students perform dental health education services to community members. Other programs also require their students to engage in one or more service learning experiences where students are voluntarily able to apply what they are learning in support of the community. In this way Columbia is forging partnerships within the community to address real issues that affect the quality of life, both in the community and on campus. This provides an opportunity for the institution to cultivate mutually beneficial connections with the community.

The College has altered the more traditional learning space to enhance the interaction between faculty and students. This includes putting a ceiling on class size of 36 students which means classes tend to average about 20 students. The College has clearly stated that lecturing is to be kept to an absolute minimum (i.e., no more than 25% of a class period), and that faculty will follow a facilitational delivery model that focuses on students' active and collaborative participation in discussions, case studies, debates, presentations, etc. In most programs students complete their program as a cohort. This allows them to get to know each other better, develop relationships, and reduce feelings of anonymity. In fact, students as professionals are encouraged to respect each other's differing views and help each other succeed.