

## Lake Superior College Grant Template Information

*The following summary information about LSC may be used in developing grant applications.*

Lake Superior College (LSC) is a public two-year institution and a leader in higher education whose mission is to prepare learners of all ages for a rapidly changing global and regional economy through academic and technical offerings, customized training, and continuing education. It delivers excellent instruction, innovative programming, and dedicated service to the Duluth-area community and surrounding regions.

LSC was founded in July 1995 when two institutions with a collective history of 56 years were merged. Prior to the merger, the two institutions existed with two separate campuses – Duluth Technical College and the Duluth Community College Center (a branch of Hibbing Community College in Hibbing, Minnesota).

More than 125 certificate, diploma, and degree programs in career and technical fields are currently available at LSC. The attached brochure further highlights programs, services and opportunities for postsecondary education at Lake Superior College.

Through its varied programs LSC assumes a vital leadership role to improve the economic health and vitality of Duluth and the surrounding region. Its technology and industry programs maintain partnerships with area businesses and employers that endeavor to train a workforce to be competitive in the global economy. Its Workforce and Community Development division maintains close ties with regional planners, workforce development, and community organizations to design effective programs for displaced and unemployed workers to return to sustainable incomes and meaningful careers.

LSC's priorities that will be used for strategic development and planning for 2010-2013 are: Impact Student Success, Increase Access to Learning, Promote Financial Stewardship, Meet Regional Business Needs, Living and Leading Sustainability. These priorities are aligned with the four MnSCU system directions: 1) Increase access and opportunity for higher education and vocational training; 2) Promote and measure high quality learning programs and services; 3) Provide programs and services integral to state and regional economic needs; and 4) Innovate to meet current and future educational needs efficiently.

*Other information that may be included as needed:*

### **Value of Training in an Economic Downturn**

Training for prospective ‘gaps’ and workforce shortages becomes critical particularly during a period of economic decline. Investment in training during the recession creates an opportunity to cultivate talent of individuals and communities to meet the long-term workforce needs of the region. This talent development then becomes a key resource to fill workforce needs as the economy recovers.

### **Programs and Awards**

LSC awards the following degrees: Associate in Arts, Associate in Fine Arts, Associate in Science, and Associate in Applied Science, in addition to occupational diplomas and certificates. Highlights of the college’s learning programs include more than 125 majors, programs for transfer, continuing education, and customized training for businesses. Its most popular programs include Associate in Arts degree, practical nursing, radiologic technology, associate degree nursing, dental hygiene, and fire technology and administration.

### **Online Education**

LSC is the first and only Minnesota public higher education institution authorized by the Higher Learning Commission to offer *any* of its degree programs via the Internet. LSC’s online or “e-learning” has been recognized by Governor Tim Pawlenty as among the nation’s top examples of technology delivery in higher education amid mid-sized Community Colleges. A small sample of the online programs includes Hemodialysis patient care, accounting, business administration, and transfer degrees. During Fiscal Year 08, 3,637 students took online courses at LSC, compared to 1,385 students during Fiscal Year 07.