



# HCC Service Plan for the North Forest Community

## HCC'S VISION

Houston Community College will become the nation's most **relevant** community college by providing **opportunity** and ensuring we are **essential** to our community's success.

## HCC'S COMMITMENT TO THE NORTH FOREST COMMUNITY

HCC has been serving North Forest area residents since 1971. During the 2007-2008 academic year, 800 North Forest residents attended one of the HCC campuses. The highest percentage impact has been made in North Forest high school students enrolling in Dual Credit courses.

Since 2005, residents of North Forest have saved \$350,000 in HCC Board approved waivers for North Forest juniors and seniors enrolled in the Dual Credit program. Over 1,137 courses have been offered for students who completed as many as 12 semester credit hours that are transferable to a university.

HCC is committed to the educational and economic development of the communities that it serves and offers **high quality, affordable** education for:

- academic advancement
- career and technical training
- online classes
- lifelong learning

HCC currently employs 72 residents of the North Forest community.

The HCC Board of Trustees commits to use 100% of the **property** tax dollars from North Forest to support education in the North Forest community.

### What Does Annexation Mean?

The community of North Forest Independent School District (NFISD) has petitioned to vote to be annexed by the HCC District. NFISD will continue to retain its identity and separate Board. The HCC District will receive property taxes and will provide expanded benefits and reduced tuition as described in this Service Plan. The community of NFISD will **vote for or against** annexation on November 3, 2009.

**Final plan approved by the HCC Board on August 20, 2009.**

## BENEFITS OF BEING PART OF THE HCC DISTRICT

By expanding the Houston Community College District to include the North Forest Independent School District (NFISD), North Forest residents will benefit from the following services and programs.

ACTION	BENEFIT
HCC will reduce tuition for North Forest residents effective January 1, 2010.	A <b>50% reduction</b> to current tuition saves approximately \$1,000 per year for a full time student.
HCC will leverage resources and dollars in the community to provide quality programs while keeping taxes low.	Return of <b>\$5.10 for every \$1</b> of taxes invested while expanding our support and working to provide important services to the community.
HCC will develop an <b>Early College High School*</b> in the North Forest Community.	The ability to earn a high school diploma and up to 2 years of college credit simultaneously with the benefit of a waiver. Dual credit enrollment is a returning benefit to voters.
HCC will develop a North Forest Vocational/Technical Training facility that incorporates career and technology training, academic transfer courses, an economic development center, and a small business incubator that prepares residents for employment, for entrepreneurship opportunities, or for transfer to a four-year institution.	Support of community needs for workforce development and higher educational attainment. Increase the educational attainment of residents and improve the economic vitality of the North Forest community.
HCC will offer <i>Dual Credit</i> academic and vocational/technical courses for North Forest students.	Conveniently serve more students in Dual Credit academic and technical programs at either low cost or no cost to students.
HCC will develop learning resources to prepare students with 21st century workforce and academic skills.	Create on-line library resources for students to access current and up-to-date reference information.
HCC will work with NFISD and community partners to develop an Early Childhood Education Program that provides North Forest students internship training at the NFISD Childcare Center and an alternative certification program for paraprofessionals to enter the teaching profession.	Access to community child care services and early learning opportunities to increase the availability of trained teachers for employment in the district and surrounding communities.
HCC will have the capacity to expand its offerings of hundreds of programs and courses.	Added access to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transfer to a four-year institution</li> <li>• Classes in science, technology, engineering, math, energy, and other high-tech training programs</li> <li>• Math, English and reading classes that prepare students for success in college</li> <li>• Cultural enrichment courses</li> <li>• GED and English as a Second Language classes</li> <li>• Continuing education classes for seniors</li> </ul>

\***Early College High School** is a unique school on a college campus, providing junior and senior high students the opportunity to earn a high school diploma and a college associate's degree simultaneously and, at this time, tuition free.

## TAX RATE AND TUITION\*

- The tuition rate that would apply after annexation for a student who resides in North Forest or in other in-district areas is **\$57.00** for one credit hour.
- The tuition rate that would apply for a student who resides outside the HCC district is **\$114** for one credit hour.
- A general fee waiver for adults over 55 is \$10 per semester hour.
- The most recent property tax rate adopted by the Board, including any tax rate increase proposed or anticipated to occur after annexation, is \$.092 per \$100 of assessed value.
- HCC has no proposed plans for a tax increase after annexation. In fact, HCC decreased its tax rate for 2008 and 2009 as property values went up.
- The homestead exemption is a minimum of **\$5,000** or 10% of the assessed value, whichever is greater.
- The exemption for taxpayers ages 65 and older is **\$100,000**.

## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

HCC plans to continue to partner with the following North Forest agencies as well as expand its partnerships with other agencies and organizations throughout the community.

COMMUNITY PARTNER	RELATIONSHIP
North Forest Independent School District	Providing Dual Credit and other University Parallel Courses, College Connections Program, Early College High School, North Forest Vocational and Technical Training
Northeast YMCA	Senior Citizens Program and Back to School Drive
North Forest Council of PTA's	Provide Workshops and Sponsorship Support
North Forest Parental Engagement Project	Provide Financial Aid Workshops and College Readiness for Parents
North Forest Chamber of Commerce	Membership and Support for Economic Development of the Community
North Forest Ministerial Alliance	Provide Educational Outreach Support
The North Forest Source for Women	Provide College Readiness Workshops for Clients
Tidwell Park Community Center	Recruitment and Outreach in College Day Activities
Hobart Taylor Community Center	Partner for Recruitment and National Night Out Activities

\*Tuition and fees are calculated separately and additional fees may apply. The fees vary depending on the programs.

COMMUNITY PARTNER	RELATIONSHIP
Northeast Beyond 2000	Partnership for Economic Development of the North Forest Community
Super Neighborhoods 47 and 49	Partnership for Civic Engagement in the North Forest Community
Allied Waste	Workforce Advisory Committee/Develop Training Programs
Central Freight Lines, Inc.	Workforce Advisory Committee/Develop Training Programs
Houston Police Department	Workforce Advisory Committee/Develop Training Programs
SIG Southwest, Inc.	Workforce Advisory Committee/Develop Training Programs
ADVO System, Inc.	Workforce Advisory Committee/Develop Training Programs
Fiesta Mart	Workforce Advisory Committee/Develop Training Programs
H & I Boring & Tunneling	Workforce Advisory Committee/Develop Training Programs
Omni USA, Inc.	Workforce Advisory Committee/Develop Training Programs
Southwest Freight, Inc.	Workforce Advisory Committee/Develop Training Programs

## The WorkSource High-Skilled Targeted Occupations for Houston and Surrounding Communities

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Architectural &amp; Civil Drafters</li> <li>• Carpenters</li> <li>• Computer Software Engineers</li> <li>• Computer Support Specialists</li> <li>• Computer Systems Analysts</li> <li>• Customer Service Representatives</li> <li>• Electricians</li> <li>• Exec. Secretaries &amp; Admin. Assistants</li> <li>• Medical Assistants</li> <li>• Medical &amp; Clinical Lab Techs</li> <li>• Medical Records/Health Information Techs</li> <li>• Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanics</li> <li>• Nurses-LPNs, LVNs, &amp; RNs</li> <li>• Pharmacists</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operating Engineers &amp; Constr. Equip. Operators</li> <li>• Plumbers, Pipefitters, &amp; Expediting Clerks</li> <li>• Radiologic Technologists and Techs</li> <li>• Respiratory Therapists</li> <li>• Sheet Metal Workers</li> <li>• Structural Iron &amp; Steel Workers</li> <li>• Truck Drivers, Heavy &amp; Tractor-Trailer</li> <li>• Welders, Cutters, Solderers, &amp; Braziers</li> </ul> <p><b>Teachers at all levels:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nursing Instructors &amp; Teachers, Postsecondary</li> <li>• Elementary &amp; Secondary School Teachers</li> <li>• Special Ed Teachers</li> </ul>
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**HCC offers academic courses in 40 discipline subjects and offers 70 workforce programs.**