**2.4 The institution has a clearly defined, comprehensive, and published mission statement that is specific to the institution and appropriate for higher education. The mission addresses teaching and learning, and where applicable, research and public service. (Institutional Mission)**

***Minimum Documentation Required*** *1. Copy of mission statement as it appears in the catalog and other institutional documents. Indicate any change to the mission statement which accommodates the initiation of new programs at a more advanced degree level.
 2. A description of how the mission statement was developed and approved and how it is reviewed.*

Valencia is a publicly supported, comprehensive Florida college that continually identifies and addresses the changing learning needs of the communities it serves. The College provides:

* Associate-degree programs that prepare learners to succeed in university studies.
* Courses and services that provide learners with the right start in their college careers.
* Associate degree, certificate, and continuing professional education programs that prepare learners for entering and progressing in the workforce

Section 1004.65, Florida Statutes provides the definition, governance, mission, and responsibilities of a Florida college.

Valencia’s Statements of Institutional Purpose (inclusive of the Vision, Mission, and Values statements) were developed through collegewide collaboration and presented by the College Planning Council to the District Board of Trustees for approval (see Minutes of the District Board of Trustees for June 2008 – need to prepare a PDF to link here). In June 2008, the District Board of Trustees approved the Vision, Mission, and Values statements as they are contained in the Valencia 2008-13 Strategic Plan. The Vision, Mission, and Value Statements clearly reflect the purpose of the institution and distinctly convey the significance of teaching and learning as determined by the faculty, administration, and District Board of Trustees. The College’s Mission - *Valencia provides opportunities for academic, technical and life-long learning in a collaborative culture dedicated to inquiry, results and excellence* - is systematically aligned with the college’s Strategic Plan as well as all operational planning.

The Strategic Plan is designed to guide the college in fulfilling its Mission. Strategic goals address the college’s role in learning and fostering academic achievement as well as in support of economic development and public service. The objectives and related outcomes are available for review in the Plan. A summary of the four goals follows.

Goal One, Build Pathways, includes measurable objectives aimed at assisting students in transitioning to college, persisting in college and achieving their academic and career goals. It also includes objectives that address the alignment of the college programs with regional economic development needs, and providing access to associate degree and higher level programs.

Goal Two, Learning Assured, includes measurable objectives that address learning outcomes, college-level writing, mathematics completion, completion of college level credit courses, and closing achievement gaps among students from diverse backgrounds.

Goal Three, Invest in Each Other, includes measurable objectives that address advancing the college in its mission through collaboration, and support for employee and faculty professional development and wellness.

Goal Four, Partner with the Community, addresses measurable objectives that provide for student, alumni, faculty and staff engagement with public service, for the fulfillment of community workforce needs, and for community investment in the college.

The Statements of Institutional Purpose are periodically reviewed by the College councils and a broad representation of faculty, staff, and administrators within the college. Each year, the College recruits volunteer groups to monitor progress toward the strategic goals and objectives. Those teams report to a collegewide “Big Meeting” at which time proposals to make changes to the Strategic Plan may be put forward (see Big Meeting 2009-10 & Strategic Goal Teams – for full functionality of this site please go to <http://valenciacc.edu/strategicplan/big_2009.cfm>). Changes to the mission could be suggested and discussed at that time if it were deemed appropriate due to changes in the college environment. As a formal part of each multi-year planning cycle, a Mission, Vision, and Values Task Force will provide for collegewide review and comment on the Mission Statement (see Minutes of the Mission, Vision and Values Task Force – for full functionality of this site please go to <http://valenciacc.edu/strategicplan/minutes.cfm#mission>). The next review led by the Task Force is scheduled for 2012, as the Strategic Plan for 2013-2018 is developed.

The Statements of Institutional Purpose are published and effectively disseminated through inclusion in the Valencia Catalog and Online Faculty Handbook.