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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MCC receives \$2.1 million grant for academic advising

OMAHA, Neb. — Metropolitan Community College is the recipient of a \$2,141,378 grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Title III Strengthening Institutions program. The five-year grant will aid in enhancing the capacity of the College's advising services to help students meet their academic and career goals.

The grant will be used to hire additional advising staff, coordinate professional development, and design and implement a comprehensive new student experience program. Together, these activities will promote a student-first culture and give students a clear roadmap to early success. The program will serve students across MCC's service area but will eventually be housed at the College's academic skills center, currently under construction and scheduled to open at the Fort Omaha Campus in fall 2017.

"This grant is a true reflection of our commitment to student success," said Arthur Rich, vice president of student affairs. "The academic skills center, designed to be the first welcoming stop for our students, will be the ideal place for these student-centered advising initiatives to grow and make a lasting impact on student achievement."

The purpose of the Title III Strengthening Institutions program is to help institutions of higher education expand their capacity to serve students by improving the quality of academic programs and services, institutional management and fiscal stability.

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Metropolitan Community College, accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, is a comprehensive, public community college that offers affordable, quality education to all residents of Dodge, Douglas, Sarpy and Washington counties. Founded in 1974, MCC has the largest enrollment out of six community colleges in Nebraska and is the second largest postsecondary institution in the state. MCC serves more than 40,000 unique credit and noncredit students.