SOUTHWEST
TENNESSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Pathways to Prosperity: Strategic Reform 3.0

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Pathways to Prosperity: Reform 3.0 – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. What is Reform 3.0?

Pathways to Prosperity: Reform 3.0 is the institutional framework guiding Southwest's transformation through 2030. It focuses on two core priorities:
• Strengthening workforce programs that lead to good jobs
• Increasing successful transfer to bachelor's degree programs

Since 2016, Southwest has engaged in national reform through Achieving the Dream (ATD). Our work has followed a national trajectory:
• 1.0 – Access: Expanding opportunity by getting more students through the door
• 2.0 – Retention and Completion: Supporting students to stay and graduate
• 3.0 – Post-Graduate Success: Ensuring graduates are prepared for transfer, employment, and long-term success

Reform 3.0 does not replace previous efforts—it refines and elevates them. It requires us to redefine success based not just on enrollment and retention but on what happens to students after they graduate.

2. Why are we doing this now?

Memphis faces deep economic disparities and limited mobility for too many residents. Reform 3.0 positions Southwest as a key driver in expanding opportunity and preparing students for family-sustaining careers.

3. Who is responsible for this work?

Everyone. Reform 3.0 is a college-wide effort that requires collective engagement and alignment across all departments, teams, and roles.

4. How will this affect my department or daily work?

Depending on your role, it may involve rethinking programs or processes, joining a committee, redesigning curriculum, or shifting policies. Change will happen in phases, and your input will shape the approach.

5. Is this replacing our Strategic Plan?

No—it is the Strategic Plan. Reform 3.0 drives the direction, strategies, and priorities outlined in Strategic Plan 2030.

6. How is success being measured?

Six presidential metrics will guide our progress:
• Enrollment in high-opportunity programs
• Credential completion
• Employment in field of study
• Attainment of family-sustaining wages
• Transfer rates
• Bachelor's degree completion after transfer

7. Will there be support or professional development?

Yes. Training, tools, and technical assistance will be provided to ensure all employees are equipped to contribute to Reform 3.0.

8. What if I have feedback or concerns?

You are encouraged to share feedback through listening sessions, committee participation, and campus communication channels. Your voice matters.

9. What happens next?

Reform committees are launching. Planning for high-impact initiatives begins this fall. Department-level engagement and phased implementation will continue through 2030.

10. What's at stake if we don't do this?

Without transformation, we risk graduating students who are unprepared for the next stage of life. Reform 3.0 ensures our graduates are career- and transfer-ready, capable of building better futures and contributing to regional prosperity.