

President's Report to the **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**



SOUTHERN STATE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SSCC's mission is to provide accessible, affordable, and high-quality education to people in southern Ohio.

MARCH 2025 | DR. NICOLE ROADES, PRESIDENT

Southern State Welcomes Chancellor Duffey to Speak at the 50th Anniversary Commencement Ceremony

We are delighted to announce that the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education, Mr. Mike Duffey, has graciously accepted our invitation to speak to our graduates during the upcoming Commencement exercises in May.

About Chancellor Duffey:



Mike Duffey was appointed by Governor Mike DeWine as the eleventh Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) in January 2024.

As Chancellor, he oversees the state's two-year and four-year colleges and universities and Ohio Technical Centers. In addition, the Chancellor provides policy guidance to the Governor and the Ohio General Assembly and carries out state higher education policy.

Prior to being named Chancellor, Mike Duffey served ODHE as Senior Vice Chancellor for five years, collaboratively working on policy proposals for the administration, including tuition guarantees, transcript release, student debt relief, short-term credentials, Ohio's new merit scholarship, increases to need-based aid, and support for innovation and technology commercialization, among other topics.

Before the DeWine-Husted administration, Duffey served eight years in the Ohio House of Representatives, where he chaired the Higher Education and Workforce Committee, vice-chaired the legislature's Joint Committee on College Affordability, and co-chaired the Ohio Tuition Trust Authority.

Duffey currently serves as the Governor's designee on the Midwestern Higher Education Compact. From November 2021 to August 2022, he chaired the State Committee on Computer Science. From 2019 to 2021, he also served as deputy director of InnovateOhio, an initiative led by Lt. Governor Jon Husted in support of innovation and entrepreneurialism.

As State Representative, Duffey sponsored legislation that established the Chancellor's authority to review special fees, and the state auditor's authority to conduct performance audits of Ohio's public colleges, and he led efforts to involve students in college governance. Duffey was the primary sponsor of HB1, the legislation that created JobsOhio in 2011.

Among sports fans, Duffey is known for having initiated the legal theory and evidentiary basis for the state lawsuit that saved the Columbus Crew Major League Soccer franchise. For this work, he received the Spirit of Columbus award from The Columbus Foundation.

Duffey has a Master of Business Administration from The Ohio State University and a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Michigan. He graduated as a Weidler Scholar at The Ohio State University. Prior to serving in the legislature, Duffey was twice elected to Worthington City Council and worked in the private sector in external relations, communications, and journalism.

Duffey and his wife, Lindsay, a publicschool teacher and librarian, live in Worthington and are the parents of two children, Jack and Annie. The family has two goldendoodles, Comet and Clover.

State Share of Instruction Funding Expected to Include Employment and Wage Outcomes in FY26/27

Governor DeWine has proposed that \$100 million of the \$2.1 billion in the FY26/27 State Share of Instruction (SSI) funding be based on employment and wage outcomes. This results-based budgeting approach aligns with the goals of Ohio students and families and is consistent with an increased level of accountability for higher education. Over the next few months, the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) will support a consultation aimed at understanding the new component of the model. To this end, ODHE has requested institutional representation in this stakeholder engagement. **Dr. Steven Hinshaw**, Vice President of Financial Services, has graciously agreed to serve as our primary contact, and **Ms. Jessica Steadman**, Data and Research Manager, will support our participation as a secondary contact.

Proposed HB 62

As I shared with the Board in late February, we have been keeping a watchful eye on proposed HB 62. This bill proposes several significant changes to the College Credit Plus (CCP) program, including new requirements around textbook costs and changes to payment structures. I have included a Bill Analysis Summary in your packet that can be explained in more detail during the Board Meeting. In its present form, this bill has potential financial implications for Ohio's community colleges, particularly Southern State, given that we enroll a large percentage of CCP students. The Ohio Association of Community Colleges (OACC) is aware of our concerns and is advocating on behalf of all community colleges. They are currently collecting data to run projected scenarios to share with the bill sponsors.

Strategic Enrollment Planning Work Continues

The Strategic Enrollment Planning (SEP) continued March 3-4, 2025. During this third onsite consultation, the working groups continued putting the final touches on their situational analyses and the initial strategy ideas. Several groups have been challenged to continue their work to capture a more comprehensive report for more meaningful strategy development. During visit four (April 10 & 11) teams will work on drafting action plans. The project is progressing and includes some distinct bright spots. Appreciation is extended to those who have been actively participating and helping lay the groundwork for transformational change in our enrollment efforts.

President's Activities and Involvement

Since my last report, I have been involved in the following meetings, calls, and events:

- Unlocking AI Together Workshop
- SSCC Faculty Senate Meetings
- SSCC All-College Meeting
- Meeting with RNL Representative | Survey Review
- Various Calls and Meetings | SSCC Sale of Property to Adams County Regional Medical Center
- Ohio TechNet Consortium Meetings
- Highland County Chamber of Commerce | Board Meetings
- OACC Presidents Meetings
- Amazon Web Services (AWS) and Southern State | Introductory Meeting
- Adena and Southern State Partnership Meetings
- OACC Presidents Meeting with Senator Cirino

- SOESC Regional "Grow Your Own" Education Pipeline Meetings
- OMD + CCA + OACC One-on-One Meeting with SSCC
- SSCC Foundation Board | Quarterly Meeting
- Call with RWE Representative | Solar/Renewable Energy Programs
- New SSCC Board Member Orientation | Karen Daniels
- RNL Phase 1 Site Visit | Two-Day Conference
- Deep Data Dive | Every Effort Counts: ODHE Affordability and Efficiency Report
- RNL-Academic Program Demand Analysis Presentation
- SSCC Special Board Meeting
- HUB International | Pre-Renewal Meeting
- Administrative Meeting | SSCC Commencement
- Understanding the Dear Colleague Letter with AACC Representative
- Meeting with Graduation Alliance Representative
- Student Success Leadership Institute (SLI) Conference
- Fairfield-Leesburg HS | Innovation Lab Groundbreaking
- RNL Phase I Site Visit | Preparation and Data Analysis
- Meeting with National Cooperative Bank (NCB) Representative re: Scholarship Fund
- Informative Call with Potential Scholarship Donor
- Deep Data Dive | The Power of First Impressions: Marketing and Messaging by the Numbers
- Marketing Subcommittee Meeting | SOESC Regional "Grow Your Own" Education Pipeline
- Everything You Wanted to Know About Data Centers (Webinar)
- Federal Update - Higher Education (Webinar)
- Highland County Chamber of Commerce | Business After Hours | Hillsboro Elks

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Fall 2025 Schedule

Fall term registration began Monday, March 17. The chart below shows the schedule's original course modality makeup.

MODALITY	% OF CLASSES	MODALITY DESCRIPTION
Online	53%	Courses offered exclusively online in CANVAS
Face-to-Face	27%	Courses offered in the classroom typically meeting 2 days per week
Hybrid	11%	Courses where instruction is split 50 50 in person and online
Flex	7%	Course provided in an accelerated format, such as 8 weeks vs 15 weeks
Virtual	2%	Online course with a ZOOM component at a set day/time

Health Sciences Update

Sunrise Sunset Child Care & Developmental Center is a new clinical partner for pediatric care.

The Practical Nursing Program 2024 Graduates have completed the NCLEX-PN licensure exam with a 94.44% first-time pass rate.

Education Program Update

Education faculty, **Nicole Shepperd**, has been active with the local Educational Service Centers in developing future teacher initiatives. **Dr. Roades** and **Dr. Goodwin** have also been involved with this initiative. On January 30 and February 27, both attended meetings at SOESC in Hillsboro and Wilmington, respectively, on the development of a formalized "Grow Our Own" Educator Pipeline program. This program allows students in our region to learn more about a career in education and provides concrete steps for working towards a career in teacher education in our region's school districts. Partnerships were developed and pathways with area high schools to begin implementing the program. The next meeting is on April 8.

On February 14, we attended a meeting with Brown County ESC to launch the development of an innovative *Grow Your Own* (GYO) program to create an Education Training Graduation Pathway Seal and Degree Program for students enrolled in the Eastern Brown and Fayetteville-Perry School districts. This initiative aims to inspire and prepare students for careers in education while addressing the needs of our local schools and communities.

Key Program Highlights:

- Target students starting in high school.
- Engage participants in education coursework and career exploration.
- Provide hands-on teaching experiences and academic, social, and financial support.

To begin, we have assembled a development committee. The development committee will determine other diverse stakeholder group members, including district and school leaders, teachers, counselors, union members, students, and families. Next, we will design and

implement this pathway, ensuring it meets the needs of participants and the broader educational community.

On March 6, we attended the Ohio Educators Rising Next Steps Expo College Fair at Capital University. This event was attended by hundreds of Ohio's high school juniors and seniors interested in the teaching profession. We handed out some fun SSCC-branded items and provided information on our teacher education pathways. It was a great day!

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Lunch & Learn Series

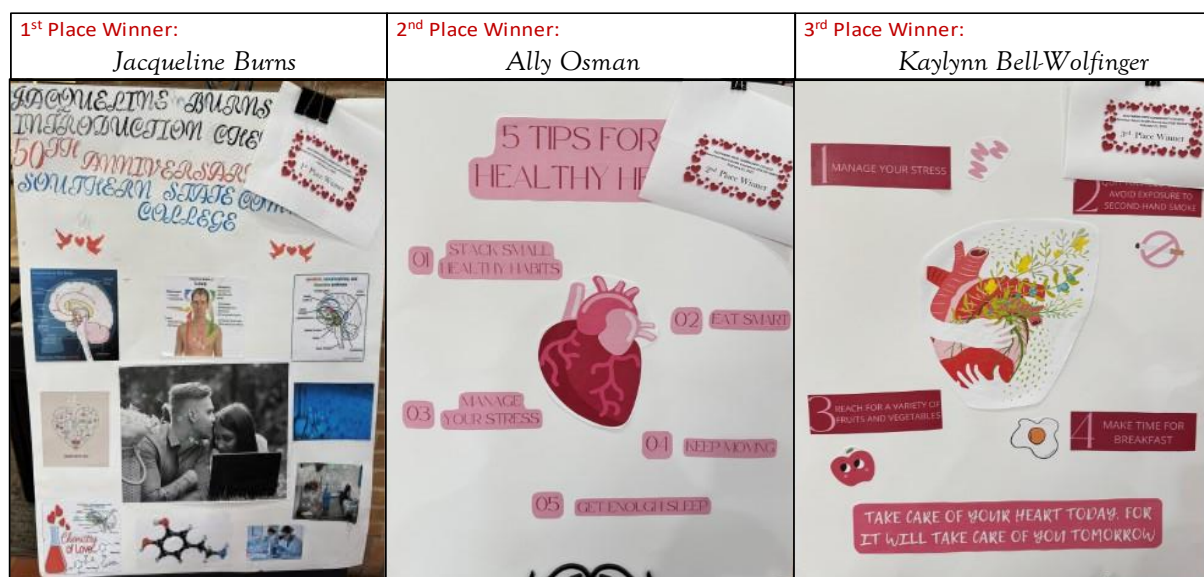
Twenty-five students, staff, and faculty attended the February 12 Lunch & Learn event. **Jody Bishop**, Sociology professor, presented information about Human Trafficking. On March 19, **Tom Payton**, Psychology professor, and **Elizabeth Crabtree**, in-house counselor, spoke on the topic: Sexual Assault | Violence Awareness.

Pathway to CCP College Success Program

The College hosted an in-depth College Credit Plus (CCP) program for interested high school students and their parents on March 6, where nearly 120 people were in attendance. Thanks to **Lauri Bolitho**, Admission/CCP Specialist for organizing the event. The program outlined guidelines and information for making the most of your CCP experience and offering various other tips for success. Faculty and staff who provided sessions at the program included: **Lauri Bolitho, Dr. Erika Goodwin, Amanda Thompson, Jeff Tumbleson, Bob Krauss, Sam Ginn, Ryan Hall, Stephanie McKinney, Luke Shelton, and Breana Fair**. Student testimonies were provided by **Nia Gibson, Anna Shelton, and Addison Smith**. Special thanks to **Tyler Bick** for his assistance with the program as well.

Poster Party

Student Affairs hosted a Poster Party in February relating to Heart Health. The display was set up in the lobby. The 1st place winner was student, Jacqueline Burns; 2nd place SSCC employee, Ally Osman; and 3rd place, Kaylynn Bell-Wolfinger. Thanks for participating!



Personnel News

Darlene Thacker is the new Student Affairs Office Specialist, replacing Fran Roberts after retirement. Darlene has worked in Academic Affairs for the past few years and prior to that was the office associate at the North Campus in Wilmington. Darlene is a graduate of Southern State and has a passion for seeing students achieve their academic goals. We are glad to have the opportunity to bring Darlene on full-time. In addition to working in the Records office, she continues to work with the Curriculum Committee, textbooks, room assignments, etc.

Academic Advisors

The chart below gives an overview of academic advising appointments at Central and Brown County Campuses during the month of February 2025.

MONTH	NEW: TRAD/NON- TRADITIONAL	NEW: CCP	TOTAL NEW	RETURNING: TRAD/NON- TRADITIONAL	RETURNING: CCP	TOTAL RETURNING	TOTAL ADVISING*
FEB '25	30	4	34	93	43	136	170

Records | Registrar

2024 Fall Semester Graduates

There are 66 students who completed graduation requirements at the end of the Fall semester. Additionally, 18 students earned their SSCC Real Estate Certification.

DEGREES CERTIFICATES	CONFERRED 12/14/2024
AA – Associate of Arts Degree	22
AS – Associate of Science Degree	6
AAB – Associate of Applied Business Degree	4
AAS – Associate of Applied Science Degree	4
ATS – Associate of Technical Studies Degree	1
Certificates	29

Less-Than-One-Year (LT1) Certificates	
Real Estate	18

2025 Summer and 2025 Fall Semester Registrations

The 2025 Summer Semester registration has been open since February 18, 2025. Current enrollment numbers are promising. Registration for the Fall Semester is scheduled to open upon return from Spring Break campus closure with a one-week priority registration offered to our Veterans/Service Members.

FALL 2025 REGISTRATION	
Registration Begins for Veterans/Service Members	March 17, 2025 (Monday)
Registration Begins for Sophomores	March 24, 2025 (Monday)
Registration Begins for Freshmen	March 25, 2025 (Tuesday)

Accessibility and Learning Services (A&LS)

Ryan Hall, Learning Services and Accessibilities Coordinator, participated in the PRAC Lunch & Learn session at Mt. Orab on February 26. He shared information about Accessibility and Learning Services resources.

Accessibility Services (AS):

- Mr. Hall is now serving on SOCHE's Accessibility and Disability Services Advisory Committee.
- Currently, 60 students are registered with Accessibility Services for the Spring term.
- Partnered with various team members to arrange a dedicated testing space for AS students to take their proctored exams at Central Campus; now have dedicated space on both campuses
- Proctored 20 AS exams in February

Learning Services (LS):

- Spring term Tutors/Coaches have had 75 tutoring sessions with students since the start of the term. Offering 70-80 hours of tutoring per week on both campuses and online
- **Alicia Wagner**, a nursing student, has been added as a Peer Academic Mentor (PAM) for the Spring term. There are currently four PAMs offering assistance on both campuses.

Financial Aid

February was financial aid awareness month. We offered open FAFSA sessions to help students and the community complete their FAFSAs every Wednesday through the month of February from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Spring Financial Aid was awarded as follows:

Pell Grant	\$977,322
Federal Student Loans	\$723,565
SEOG Grants	\$43,200
Trustee Scholarships	\$52,841
Foundation Scholarships	\$135,268
State Aid	\$139,346
Outside Aid	\$26,622
Sallie Mae Loans	\$29,702

The total disbursed for Spring semester through February 28 was **\$2,127,866**.

Testing Center

The following chart shows the February 2025 testing activity of the testing centers at both the Hillsboro and Mt. Orab Campuses. Testing is provided for those testing with Pearson Vue, taking an Accuplacer, the HESI exam for the nursing program application, ACT WorkKeys, Certiport, and proctored exams.

Eighty-six (86) Accuplacer tests were given offsite at the following high school locations: Blanchester and Hillsboro.

FEBRUARY 2025 TESTING ACTIVITY LOG			
TEST	HILLSBORO TESTING CTR	MT. ORAB TESTING CTR	TOTALS
Pearson Vue	48	21	69
ACCUPLACER	221	30	251
HESI	19	0	19
ACT WorkKeys	0	0	0
Certiport	0	0	0
Proctored Exams	7	0	7
TOTALS:	295	51	346

Brown County/Mt. Orab Campus

Campus Activities

Mental Wellness is the theme for our Spring term at Mt. Orab. Educational displays, local resources, and stress reduction opportunities are a part of the outreach to students.

Topics that are being shared/planned for the Spring term:

- Lunch and Learn | Human Trafficking
- Academic and Emotional Skill Sets and Resources
- CCP Pathway Planning/ Fall Registration

Student Engagement: March Madness and Reds Opening Day Rallies are two March campus activities to launch the Spring season.

Community Activities

Local High School Athletic Event Concession Stand Coverage in February: 50th Anniversary | 50 Tasks Unsurpassed.

Round Table Discussions and Training updates for community members by local community partners (Chamber, Congressional Representatives, County Courts, Law Enforcement Industry updates) continue to put SSCC at the forefront of community education.

Spring Transfer Events

Transfer Fair with Tech Pathway Partners

SSCC's Spring Transfer Fair, is scheduled for the last week of March at our Central campus, is spotlighting College partners aligned with our technical programs. Our loyal partners for all pathways will share their opportunities for AA/AS students and CCP who are still exploring. Nursing programs that offer Rn-BSN pathways, Computer Science partners, and Engineering Tech bachelor agreements are the highlights of our face-to-face programs. Pathway opportunities for Education and Business are also emphasized with links to online connections to those partners.

Southwest Ohio Transfer Consortium

SSCC has been a founding member of the Southwest Ohio cluster of state and independent partners. This group started hosting semi-annual summits to plan agreements, understand the transitions to Ohio Guaranteed Transfer Pathways, and create specific transition partnerships for our students continuing their education. The advantage of this consortium is the strong incentives from our bachelor partners for students to complete their associate's degree before moving to the universities. Partners in this group include Miami University, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati State Community College, Southern State Community College, Northern Kentucky University, Wilmington College, University of Dayton, Xavier, and Sinclair (Mason).

ODHE Research Project on Transfer Compliance among USO Community

The Ohio Department of Higher Education invited Southern State OATN coordinator to participate in a research cluster of State Community College and Universities (University System of Ohio) to evaluate issues with compliance and acceptance of OATN-recognized courses. This project began at the end of February and will continue over the next year. The desired outcome is a support community focused on communication for transfer compliance (similar to the activities of the Southwest Ohio Transfer Consortium).

Instructional Technology

The Department of Instructional Technology continues to support academic excellence and student success through strategic initiatives, faculty development, and instructional design support. Below is a highlight of **Dr. Angel Mootispaw's** recent activities and accomplishments:

- Engaged in discussions at the Online Learning Consortia meeting, sharing best practices and strategies for improving distance education.
- Represented the institution at Ohio Quality Matters (QM) Executive Committee meetings, as well as Quality Matters Coordinator (QMC) and QM Instructional Designer Association (IDA) meetings, ensuring alignment with national best practices for distance learning course quality.
- Completed Cengage MindTap training to better support faculty in integrating digital learning tools into their courses.
- Attended the Canvas Customer Success Manager (CSM) monthly webinar to stay informed on learning management system enhancements and best practices.
- Submitted draft reports for the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Criterion, contributing to institutional accreditation efforts and compliance with federal and state regulations.
- Continued development of Political Science, Criminal Justice, and Health, Fitness, & Exercise Science courses, ensuring they meet quality standards and align with institutional goals.
- Provided multiple support services for faculty in instructional design and andragogical best practices for online learning, including course revisions, accessibility compliance, and innovative engagement strategies.

Security

Gary Heaton, the College's Security and Emergency Response Coordinator, recently attended the following meetings/events:

- All College meeting
- January HFC Safety Council
- Lunch & Learn on Human Trafficking Problem
- Ohio School Safety Center Reunification training
- March HFC Safety Council
- SSCC Safety Grant meeting
- Monitored several activities on Central Campus—Ag Day, Regional Transition Expo, Addiction Policy Forum training
- Assisted in several student conduct incidents
- Received new MARCS radios, batteries, and chargers and have them ready to be programmed, waiting on Ohio MARCS for ID verification, was advised by MARCS it may take up to 3-4 months due to staffing problems in Columbus.

People in the News

Congratulations to **Eric Dick, Dr. Jessica Wise, and Glen Ragan** for completing INST 501: Facilitating Distance Learning, a professional development course designed to enhance online teaching effectiveness.

Math faculty, **Zac Kronick** and **Bob Krauss** are presenting at the two-day International Symposium on Numeracy Education. Their presentation is entitled *Implementing Quantitative Reasoning to Empower Diverse Learners in Rural Appalachia* and is being hosted in Ireland this month. Thanks to both of them for representing the College internationally.

Computer Science faculty, **Dr. Josh Montgomery**, and Dean, **Dr. Jeff Montgomery** helped to present the OSCN Instructor Success Accelerator, a webinar designed to help new instructors in the Ohio Semiconductor Collaboration network to get classroom icebreaker and syllabus development skills. The other instructors in this webinar were Nora Hatem from Clark State College and Elizabeth Azhikannickal from Marion Technical College.

Dr. Erika Goodwin spent spring break in Northern Michigan doing an HLC comprehensive visit for a community college there as a peer reviewer with the Higher Learning Commission. HLC sends a team of five peer reviewers for comprehensive visits. Dr. Goodwin enjoyed networking and working with her peer review team members from Wisconsin, Illinois, Colorado, and Minnesota. They were all administrators from other community colleges including a current sitting President, retired Provost, and administrators in Strategic Planning and Assessment. HLC maintains a Peer Corps of approximately 1,450 faculty, staff, and administrators who are currently employed by or recently retired from colleges and universities in the United States. One of the biggest benefits of being a peer reviewer is gaining insight from colleagues and developing a comprehensive understanding of HLC's accreditation to help your home institution.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Central Campus HVAC Renovation

Some unanticipated challenges with Square 1 Heating and Cooling caused extensive delays in starting the project, unfortunately leading to them backing out. Fortunately, the cooling tower,

purchased independently by the College, was delivered on February 4 and installed on March 21 to replace the failed tower in time for cooling season. We are currently working with Heapy Engineering and the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) to evaluate the project, determine the best path for moving forward, and address the most critical areas of the building while we rescope the project.

Computer Science Renovation Project

On January 23, Southern State worked with the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) to select BHDP as the A/E firm for the Computer Science Renovation Project design portion. The Controlling Board is scheduled to approve funding for BHDP on April 7, followed by OFCC completing the contract documents and allowing BHDP to begin the design work shortly after.

Student Technology Survey

A technology survey was completed by 166 students in November 2024. The breakdown included 60 full-time, 47 part-time, and 59 College Credit Plus (CCP) high school students. The survey elicited information about such topics as technology equipment, Internet availability, and feedback about several core IT systems students interact with.

Of the 166 participants, 33 take classes online, 25 on campus, and 49 online and on campus. One hundred one complete assignments with a laptop, 26 with a tablet, and 53 with a smartphone, while 35 students rely on public Internet access, 22 rely on a friend or family member's Internet access, and 55 rely on the College's Internet.

When asked to rank the quality and reliability of non-college Internet access used for attending SSCC courses or completing assignments, the average score was 4.37 out of 5, with the same group ranking the speed of their non-college Internet as 4.14.

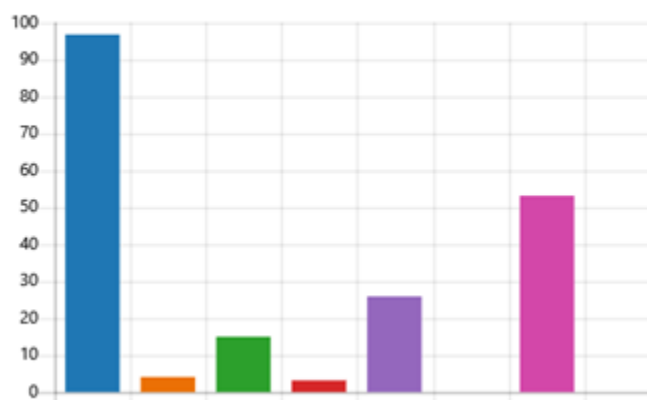
Additionally, participants provided suggestions for improvements to the sscc.edu website, MyRecords, and Canvas. Their suggestions resulted in several changes to the MyRecords student page to provide an improved student experience with more straightforward navigation and a more intuitive layout.

The technology department began administering the survey tool in the fall of 2023 to monitor trends and inform decisions about how best to support students with future initiatives and

projects. Special thanks to **Tyler Bick** (Technology Coordinator) for developing, improving, and administering the survey tool. Additionally, thanks to **Katy Markey** (Information Systems and Telecommunications Manager) for enhancing the MyRecords experience based on the survey feedback. Additional selected survey results are listed below.

3. I use the following device(s) to attend Southern State and complete assignments:

Laptop I own	97
Laptop I borrow	4
Desktop I own	15
Desktop I borrow	3
Tablet I own	26
Tablet I borrow	0
Smart Phone	53
Other	0

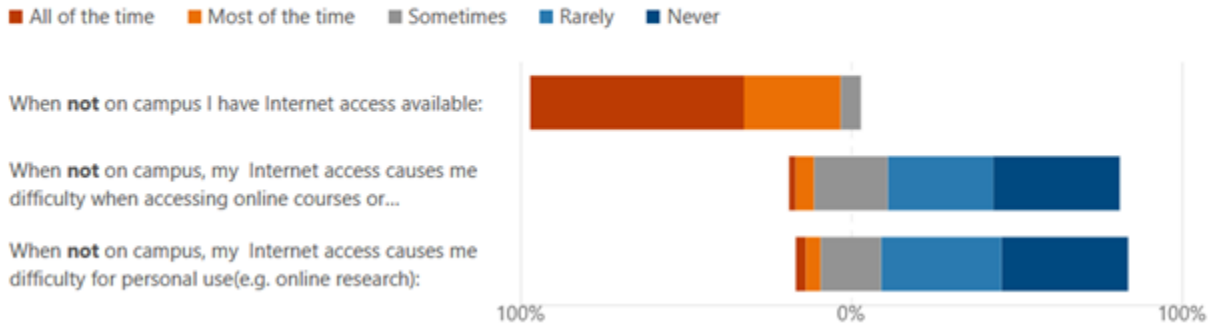


4. I access the Internet when completing assignments or attending an online course from the following location(s):

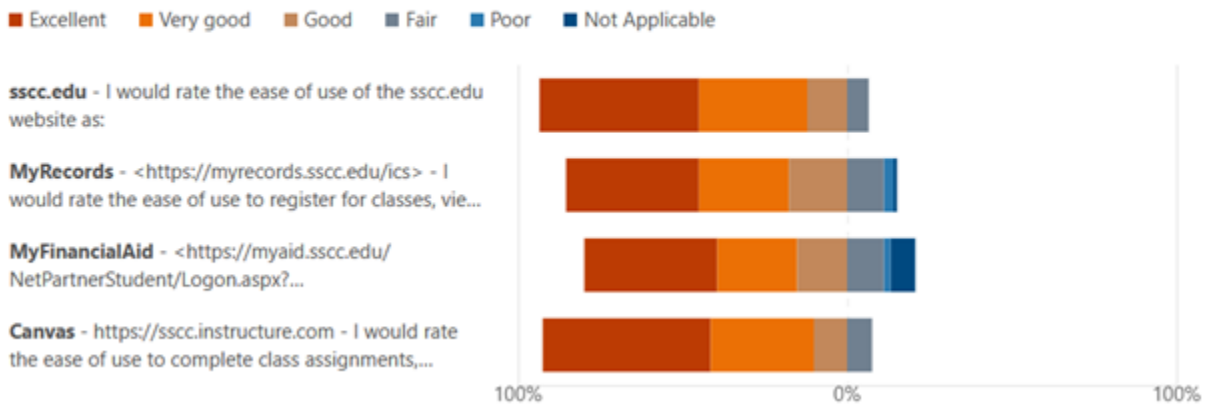
My house	106
A friend or Family member's h...	22
A public location (restaurant, c...	35
The College	55
Other	5



5. Please rate the following statements:



14. Please rate the following statements:



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNICATIONS

Grants

ASPIRE

Performance targets of Measurable Skill Gains, Persistence and Progress Test Rate are evaluated monthly through a state data pull. The following chart compares our January and February 2025 SSCC Aspire data. We received a Certificate of Recognition from the State Aspire Office for

Marked Program Improvement in February. We are currently tenth in the state in both Persistence and the percent of our students who have achieved Measurable Skill Gains this year, ranking the SSCC Aspire program in the top quartile in the state. This award reflects the importance our students place on regular class attendance and the great work our instructors are doing in the classroom!

Performance Target	January 2025	February 2025	Increase
Measurable Skill Gains	46.15%	52.27%	6.12%
Persistence	46.79 hours	51.59 hours	4.80 hours
Progress Test Rate	38.46%	40.23%	1.77%

To date, fifteen students have earned their High School Equivalency (GED) this fiscal year. Several more students have passed three sections of their test and are working on the last section. Recognition will be held on June 12 this year. 22+ graduates will once again be invited to participate in the ceremony. Plans are well under way for the event.

Choose Ohio First

Currently, students are being recruited for the second cohort of the Choose Ohio First Scholarship program. This will be the second cohort in a five-year cohort model. This program is led by Strategic Support Specialist, **Lisa Hord**.

Certified Fiber Optics Technician Certification

As a part of the Super RAPIDS II funding, the Fiber Optics Technician certification is currently taking enrollments for its first class. Computer Science Navigator, **Blaine Parker**, and the FOT program have been certified by the Fiber Optics Association. This is an industry-recognized credential that can be completed in 40 hours. This is a non-credit program.



Fiber Optic TECHNICIAN TRAINING
5 WEEK COURSE!

This comprehensive 40-hour course provides hands-on training in splicing, terminating, testing, and commissioning fiber optic cable.

- **Cost - \$850** | Includes the cost of certification exam
- 15 classes (30 hours in-person, 10 hours online)
- Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
- Tuesday, March 25, 2025 - Thursday, April 24, 2025

Southern State Community College | Central Campus | 100 Hubart Drive, Hillsboro

Scan here to learn more and register! 

Funding support may be available to those who qualify. Funding is limited.

Ready to register? Contact Amanda Lewis at 937.393.3431 x3523.
For program questions, contact Blaine Parker at 937.393.3431 x2585.

SOUTHERN STATE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Strategic Support Specialist

As a part of the 50th Anniversary Celebration, **Lisa Hord** has organized for Southern State to work the concession stands for the Hall of Fame night at Georgetown, a baseball game at

Eastern Brown, and the C103-SHAC All-Star game at North Adams. Additional county events are being coordinated for the Spring.

Ohio Code Scholar Program

Computer Information Technology students and **Blaine Parker** have been traveling to support this year's project. Recently, support teams have visited Unioto Elementary, Chillicothe Elementary and Middle School, and Georgetown Elementary.

Set-up and preparations for the May 13 celebration continue as we prepare as a college to welcome 800 + visitors to campus. The program will be utilizing the Patriot Center, Auditorium, and some of the classrooms on the Central campus.

Workforce Development

Truck Driving Academy (Class A and Class B)

	2023/2024	2024/2025
July	43	8
August	14	17
September	25	9
October	17	17
November	22	14
December	2	15
January	19	10
February	18	12
March	0	
April	26	
May	14	
June	17	
Y-T-D	217	102

Most recently, all tractors and trailers passed the Ohio Department of Transportation inspections. Congratulations to **JT Smith and the TDA team** for all their efforts and attention to detail to keep the fleet maintained and scheduled for routine maintenance.

Continuing Education

Professional Development training on *DiSC in the Workplace* was offered on January 15 at Central Campus. The five attendees learned how to navigate with their personality traits in the workplace along with others of like or differing characteristics. The trainer was Filomena Nelson of APEx Consulting, and the feedback was all positive on the impact and delivery of the training. These leadership and management training sessions will continue throughout the 24-25 academic year.

Miscellaneous

Amy McClellan, Executive Director of Workforce Development, attended the annual meeting of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) Workforce Development Institute in January. Mrs. McClellan presented with two other institutions to discuss the college's Cyber Range and its funding and utilization around the various upgrades.

Amy McClellan is also serving as the alternate for the OACC Government Relations team. This is a team that meets bi-monthly to discuss the government movements associated with higher education.

Communications and Marketing

Presence Report

Southern State Community College

Marketing Area	December	January	February
Press Release	5	5	6
Advertising / Print	5+	14+	14+
Email Campaigns	1	1	1
Emails Deployed	25,000	25,000	25,000
Number Opened	5,394	5,010	3,617
Percentage Opened	21.58%	20.04%	14.47%
Clicks within content	680	688	567
Percentage of total clicks	2.72%	2.75%	2.27%
Social Media/Geofencing			
Impressions/ads Deployed	50,984	47,350	10,398
Clicks	1,108	944	104
CTR (click through rate)	2.17%	1.99%	1.00%
Top 3 locations of activity	Wilmington, Georgetown, Greenfield	Wilmington, Greenfield, Georgetown	Georetargeting, Wilmington, Greenfield

Truck Driving Academy

Marketing Area	December	January	February
Email Campaigns			
Emails Deployed	25,000	25,000	25,000
Number opened	3,544	4,336	4,806
Percentage Opened	14.18%	17.34%	19.22%
Clicks within content	657	527	714
Percentage of open and clicked	2.63%	2.11%	2.86%
Audience Management			
Impressions/ads Deployed	67,908	65,309	65,829
Clicks	98	92	96
CTR (click through rate)	0.14%	0.14%	0.15%

Recent Southern State Appearances

Since the last report, Southern State has appeared in the following media outlets:

- **Press Releases**

SSCC Board of Trustees to meet January 16

Southern State Celebrates 50 Years of Excellence in Higher Education ([Enrollment](#), [Workforce Development](#), [Relevance & Excellence](#), [Student Success](#))

Southern State Announces Honors Lists for Fall Semester ([Student Success](#))

Southern State Announces Human and Social Services Faculty Member

Fall Semester scholarship application opens on February 1 at Southern State ([Enrollment](#))

Southern State to offer FAFSA Walk-in Clinics during February ([Enrollment](#))

Southern State offers Streamlined Teacher Education Pathways ([Enrollment](#))

Application Deadline Announced for SSCC Nursing Program ([Enrollment](#))

SSCC Board of Trustees to meet on February 19

Apply for the Choose Ohio First Scholarship at Southern State to receive Free Education ([Workforce Development](#), [Enrollment](#))

Southern State Announces New 5-Week Fiber Optic Course ([Workforce Development](#), [Enrollment](#))

- **Advertising/Print/Direct Mail:**

January e-blast promoting ONLINE programming to adult students ([Enrollment](#))

January e-blast promoting Dec. – Feb. start dates for the TDA program and featuring new 30-second video/commercial ([Enrollment](#), [Workforce Development](#))

February e-blast promoting affordability/financial opportunities to income-based potentials ([Enrollment](#))

February e-blast promoting spring start dates for the TDA program ([Enrollment](#), [Workforce Development](#))

Highland County Tomorrow/Progress Edition ads plus an article highlighting 50th

2025 Fayette Co. Fair Book ad

2025 Highland Co. Chamber Partners Program renewal

Special publication – 50th-anniversary ad series (7 ads – multiple news outlets)

Cardinal Contributor for the Highland Co. – Day at the Statehouse event

2025 Brown Co. Resource Guide ad

2025 Fayette Co. Sheriff's Calendar ad

2025 Fayette Co. Chamber Directory publication ad

2025 Clinton Co. Chamber Directory publication ad

Hillsboro Elks Event Advertising Sponsor

2025 Billboard design – highlighting 50th

Fayette Co. Christian School Yearbook Ad

Highland Co. Christian Academy – banner for their school/gym

2025 WNJ Spring Sports publication ad

812 piece student mailing – HS CCP students with credit hours ([Student Success](#), [Enrollment](#))

Highland Co. Proud ad, plus article, plus cover highlighting our 50th

- **Social Media:**

50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday Campaign (*Relevance & Excellence*)

Student Spotlight – Riley Cook, HSSR Student (*Relevance & Excellence, Student Success*)

Brownie Around Townie visit at the Brown County Campus – Took over our social media pages to spend the day on campus (*Workforce Development, Relevance & Excellence*)

Scholarship Portal Now Open post (*Enrollment, Workforce Development, Relevance & Excellence, Student Success*)

Facebook: (*Relevance & Excellence*)

- Views: 67,760 (+32.5%)
- Interactions: 1,468 (+3.2%)
- Content Interactions: 1.5K (+44.3%)
- Reach: 16.9K (14.9%)

Instagram: (*Relevance & Excellence*)

- Accounts Reached: (+2.4K%)
- Profile Visits: 53 (+17.7%)
- Followers: 288 (+1.4%)

LinkedIn: (*Relevance & Excellence*)

- Impressions: 2,863
- Engagement Rate: 4.9%
- Search Appearances: 79 (+43.6%)
- Page Views: 135 (+77.6%)
- Followers: 5,397

Designed the cover for Highland Co. Proud, highlighting our 50th Anniversary (*Relevance & Excellence, Workforce Development*)

Creating a flyer for Choose Ohio First (*Enrollment, Workforce Development, Relevance & Excellence, Student Success*)

- **Events/Publications**

50th Anniversary activities – ongoing thru Dec. 2025 (*Relevance and Excellence, Enrollment*)

February Employee Email

Dean/President Lists Certificates (*Student Success*)

Text schedule for students created and launched (*running Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2025*)

At-A-Glance Brochure revisions

Academic Program rack card revisions

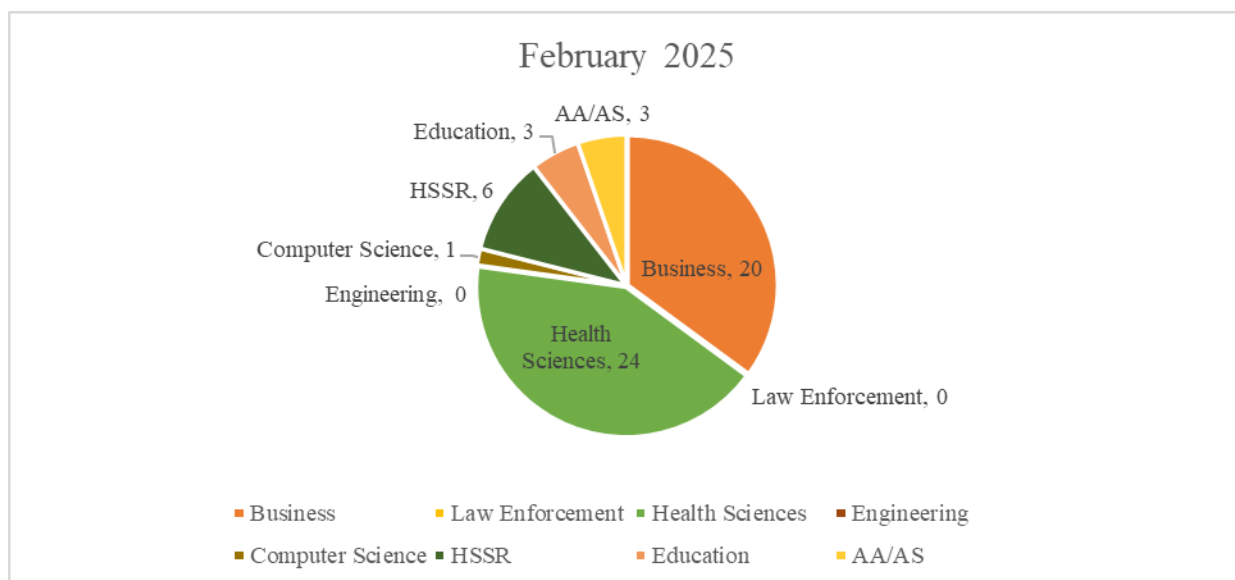
2025-26 Academic Catalog proofing process begins

2025 Fall Semester Registration Guide

RNL-SEP Working Group (*Enrollment*)

Recruitment

Presence Report | February 2025



Events Attended

Community Resource Field

Real Money, Real World

Credit College Plus Nights (McClain, Lynchburg, Hillsboro, Manchester, West Union, Williamsburg, Ripley, Washington Court House)

Events

Leesburg Fairfield Local STEM students (16) visited on February 26 on our Central campus. Fairfield Local, in collaboration with Laurel Oaks Career Campus, reached out with the idea of bringing a classroom of students to the Central campus for an engaging exploration of Engineering and Robotics. Engineering faculty showcased their expertise by creating a "bat signal" in the shape of Fairfield's lion head mascot, while computer science faculty led an interactive session on ethical hacking and the fundamentals of how the internet works. The event was a success, and the teacher expressed their appreciation for the experience, expressing interest in organizing similar events in the future. Thanks to **Kaylynn Bell-Wolfinger, Jim Barnett, Brian Birkhimer, and Dr. Joshua Montgomery** for their preparation, time, and interactions with this student group.



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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

H.B. 62
136th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Pizzulli and Bird

Jessica Sutton, Research Analyst

SUMMARY

College Credit Plus

Textbooks

- Requires each public and participating private college to endeavor to use open source materials, instead of purchase-only textbooks, in courses with College Credit Plus (CCP) students.
- Requires a college to pay the textbook costs for CCP students if it uses purchase-only textbooks in a course for which open source materials are available.
- Requires a college and the CCP student's secondary school to each pay 50% of textbook costs if the institution uses purchase-only textbooks in a course for which no open source materials are available.

Payments to colleges

- Modifies the default state payment structure for a public or nonpublic school student taking a CCP course through a public or private college.
- Reduces the permitted maximum sum of (1) the state payment for and (2) the amount charged to a public school student taking an online course through a private college with which the student's school has entered an alternative payment agreement.

Course withdrawal notification

- Requires each public and private college participating in CCP to provide notice to a student's school if the student withdrawals from a CCP course offered by the college.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

College Credit Plus

The College Credit Plus (CCP) Program allows students in grades 7-12 who are enrolled in public or nonpublic high schools or who are home-instructed to enroll in nonsectarian college courses to receive high school and college credit. CCP courses may be taken at any public or participating private college.¹

Textbooks

The bill requires each public and participating private college to endeavor to use open source materials, instead of purchase-only textbooks, in courses with CCP students. For the purposes of the provision, “open source materials” means free and publicly available educational materials, including free textbooks. “Purchase-only textbooks” are textbooks that are not free and must be purchased.

If a public or participating private college uses a purchase-only textbook in a course with CCP students when there are open source materials that may be used instead, the institution must pay the textbook costs of the CCP students.

If a public or participating private college uses purchase-only textbooks in a course with CCP students because there are no open source materials that may be used, the institution must pay 50% of textbook costs of the CCP students and the student’s secondary school must pay the remaining 50% of the cost.²

Under continuing law, a student may choose to participate in CCP under “Option A” (the student is responsible for all costs related to participation) or “Option B” (the state, through the Department of Education and Workforce, pays the college on the student’s behalf). For public school students participating under Option B, the Department deducts the costs associated with the student’s participation in CCP from the state funding received by the student’s school. Under current law, the cost of college textbooks are one of the costs deducted from a school’s funding.³

The bill’s provision regarding textbook costs only applies to students who participate in CCP under Option B.

Payments to colleges

Under continuing law, the amount of state payments for a student participating in CCP under “Option B” depends on several factors, including the type of high school and college in which the participant is enrolled, how the participant receives instruction, and whether the high school and college are operating under the default payment structure or an agreement specifying an alternative payment structure.

¹ R.C. 3365.03 and 3365.033, neither in the bill.

² R.C. 3365.072; conforming changes in R.C. 3365.07.

³ R.C. 3365.07.

Default payment structure changes

First, the bill changes the default payment structure for public and nonpublic school students taking a CCP course through a public or private college. Under current law, if a student is enrolled in a CCP course delivered by a public or private college either online or on the college's campus, the state pays the college the lesser of the default ceiling amount or the college's standard rate.

Under the bill, if a student is taking a course on the college's campus *and* the student's school offers the same course taught by a high school teacher who has earned the required credential to teach the course, the state must instead pay the default floor amount to the college at which the student is taking the course. For a student enrolled in a CCP course delivered online by a public or private college, the bill requires the state to instead pay the college the lesser of 50% of the default ceiling amount or the college's standard rate.⁴

The default floor and ceiling amounts are calculated based on (1) the per pupil formula amount established in state law (currently \$6,020) and (2) whether the college operates on a semester or quarter schedule.⁵

Maximum payments under an alternative payment agreement

The bill also prohibits the sum of (1) the payments made by the Department for a public school student enrolled in a private college with which the student's school has an agreement specifying an alternative payment structure and (2) the amount charged to that student under the agreement, from exceeding \$125 if the course in which the student is enrolled is offered online and taught by college faculty. Under current law, the sum for such a state payment and charge to a student for an online course offered by a private college is prohibited from exceeding the maximum per participant charge.⁶

The maximum per participant charge is calculated based on (1) the per pupil formula amount established in state law (currently \$6,020), (2) whether the college operates on a semester or quarter schedule, and (3) the student's number of enrolled credit hours.⁷

⁴ R.C. 3365.07(A)(1)(a), (B)(1), and (C).

⁵ R.C. 3365.01(B), (C), and (F), not in the bill.

⁶ R.C. 3365.07(B)(2)(b)(iii).

⁷ R.C. 3365.01(F), (I), and (K), not in the bill.

The table below summarizes each of the changes to CCP payments described above:

Summary of changes to CCP payments		
Scenario	Payment under current law	Payment under the bill
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A public or nonpublic school student is taking a CCP course on a public or private college's campus when the student's school offers the same course on its campus taught by a high school teacher with the required credential. The student's school and the college are operating under the default payment structure. 	The lesser of the default ceiling amount and the college's standard rate.	The default floor amount.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A public or nonpublic school student is taking a CCP course delivered online by a public or private college . The student's school and the college are operating under the default payment structure. 	The lesser of the default ceiling amount and the college's standard rate.	The lesser of 50% of the default ceiling amount or the college's standard rate.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A public school student is enrolled in a CCP course through a private college that is delivered online by college faculty. The student's school has an agreement with the college specifying an alternative payment structure. 	The sum of (1) the CCP payments made by the Department and (2) the amount charged to the student under the agreement must be <i>less than</i> the maximum per participant charge.	The sum of those payments must be <i>less than</i> \$125.

Notification of course withdrawal

Lastly, the bill requires each public and participating private college to provide notice to a student's school if the student withdrawals from a CCP course offered by the college.

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	02-05-25

ANHB0062IN-136/ar