



Annual Report

FISCAL YEAR 2025

Table of Contents

3	LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
4	MCCB HISTORY
5	MCCB BOARD MEMBERS
6	ENROLLMENT
7	FISCAL REPORT
10	EDUCATION CAREER PATHWAYS/E-LEARNING
11	ADULT BASIC EDUCATION
13	MIBEST
14	CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION
15	POSTSECONDARY STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS
17	PROPRIETARY SCHOOLS





Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

On behalf of the Mississippi Community College Board (MCCB), I am pleased to provide you with the agency's FY 2025 Annual Report.

The MCCB was created by the Legislature in 1986, and since that time, we have played a part in what has been recognized as the best community college system in the nation. §37-4-3, the statute that establishes the MCCB, says in part "the board shall provide general coordination of the public community and junior colleges". Therefore, a large portion of the accomplishments included in this report are a result of the hard work at each of the 15 community colleges.

Specific accomplishments I would like to bring to your attention include:

*In the fall 2024 semester, total credit headcount enrollment was 67,585 with 52% enrolled in academic courses, 22% enrolled in career-tech programs, and 26% enrolled in non-degree programs.

*Since its inception, the MIBEST program has enrolled 4,244 students in programs such as welding, HVAC, industrial maintenance, and culinary arts.

*Disbursed state appropriations of nearly \$300 million to the community colleges.

*3,356 students were enrolled in the Smart Start program.

*4,799 students enrolled in online courses through the Mississippi Virtual Community College.

*Collaborated with business and industry partners to develop or revise 24 career-tech pathways to ensure alignment of instruction with business and industry needs.

*Issued 39 new or renewed certificates of registration for proprietary schools.

Again, these are just a few of the many accomplishments achieved by the community college system in FY 2025, all of which are possible through the hard work and dedication of faculty, staff, and other employees.

Thank you for your support of the Mississippi community college system. MCCB looks forward to continue serving the community colleges, their students, and all of Mississippi in providing educational and training opportunities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kell Smith", is positioned above the printed name.

Kell Smith
Executive Director

While the name, “Mississippi Community College Board” dates back to 2011, the coordinating agency was established as the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges (SBCJC) by the Mississippi Legislature in 1986. Even though the agency was created in 1986, the Mississippi community college system, recognized as the oldest in the nation, began in the early 1900s through county agricultural high schools.

OUR STAFF

Initially, there were five staff members that made up the first SBCJC staff. Currently the agency is comprised of approximately 40 staff members who work in various divisions of the agency. The increase in staff can be attributed to additional responsibilities given to the agency since its inception.

OUR MISSION

The mission of the MCCB is to advance the community college system through coordination, support, leadership, and advocacy.





JOHN PIGOTT, CHAIR
Fifth District



**CHERYL THURMOND,
VICE CHAIR**
First District



VIDET CHARMICHAEL
Third District



DONNIE CAUGHMAN
Fourth District



BUBBA HUDSPETH
Third District



DOLLY MARASCALCO
Second District



JOHNNY MCRIGHT
Second District



LUKE MONTGOMERY
First District



DR. DIANNE WATSON
Fourth District



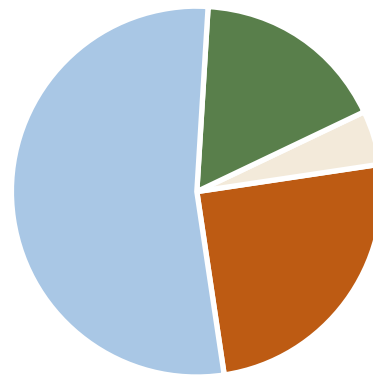
WILL SYMMES
Fifth District

In order for a student to be classified as full-time at a Mississippi community college, the student must be enrolled in a minimum of 12 semester credit hours of instruction at an approved district site. Students who are enrolled in 11 semester credit hours or fewer are considered to be part-time students. However, full-time equivalence (FTE) is calculated by adding all the hours a student generated during an academic year and dividing by the sum of 30.

For the fall 2024 semester, total credit headcount enrollment in Mississippi’s community college system was 67,585. Of those students, 52% were enrolled in academic courses, 22% were enrolled in career-tech programs, and 26% were enrolled in non-degree programs. Chart 1 provides specific enrollment figures for these programs.

**Chart 1 -
Headcount Enrollment from Fall 2024**

	FALL 2024
Academic	35,257
Technical	11,521
Career	3,122
Non-Degree	17,685
TOTAL	67,585



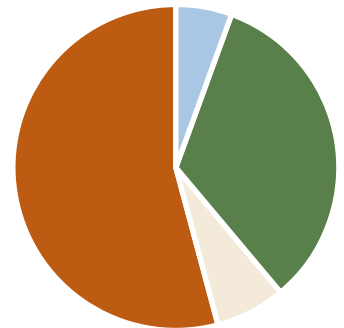
MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGES TOTAL ENROLLMENT FALL 2024	
Total Credit (Non-duplicate*) - Fall 2024	67,585
Average Age	22
Female Students	62.90%
In-State Students	95.90%
Students Admitted/H.S. Diploma	50.90%
Full-Time Students	62.90%
Students in an Academic Curriculum	52.2%
Students in a Career Technical Curriculum	22.90%
Average ACT Score	19.1

In FY 2025, the Mississippi Community College Board (MCCB) was responsible for administering an agency budget of approximately \$86.6 million. 2025 General Funds appropriated were \$5,639,780. Chart 3 identifies the various revenue sources. State General Funds accounted for 6.51% of the revenues while 9.56% of the revenues were from federal sources.

Chart 4 identifies the major objects of expenditures. The overwhelming majority of expenditures (89%) in FY 2025 were in subsidies, loans and grants. The funds in this category flowed primarily to community colleges, public schools, community based organizations and other state agencies. Some of the programs of expenditure in FY 2025 consisted of adult education, post-secondary career & technical education, workforce training, proprietary school and college registration, recurring education technology, the Mississippi Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training (MIBEST) program, and the Mississippi Virtual Community College (MSVCC).

**Chart 3 -
MCCB Revenues- FY 2025**

SOURCE OF FUNDING	REVENUES	% OF TOTAL
General Fund	\$5,639,780	6.51%
Educational Enhancement Funds	\$26,837,326	30.96%
Federal	\$8,285,404	9.56%
Special	\$45,915,233	52.97%
TOTAL	\$86,677,743	100.0%



**Chart 4 -
MCCB Expenditures- FY 2025**

AMOUNT OF EXPENDITURE	EXPENDITURE	% OF TOTAL
Salaries	\$4,520,777	5.22%
Travel	\$250,179	0.29%
Contractual Services	\$3,933,773	4.54%
Commodities	\$85,318	0.10%
Capital Outlay-Equipment	\$8,405	0.01%
Subsidies, Loans, & Grants	\$77,879,291	89.84%
TOTAL	\$86,677,743	100.0%
General Fund Lapse	\$641,620	
Education Enhancement Lapse	\$18,674	

In addition to administering the agency’s budget, the MCCB was also responsible for allocating and disbursing state appropriated funds to the fifteen community colleges. These state support flow-through funds totaled nearly \$300 million in FY 2025, which includes \$230.2 million in General Funds and \$69.7 million in Education Enhancement Funds.

The operating budgets of Mississippi’s community colleges are funded primarily by state appropriations, student tuition and fees, and local property taxes.

For FY 2025, the community colleges expended a total of \$763.1 million with approximately \$300 million, or 39.32%, of that amount provided from state sources.

Community colleges have consistently expended a majority of their funds on instruction (44.2%).

**Chart 5 -
Community Colleges Revenue by Source- FY 2025**

REVENUE BY SOURCE	AMOUNT	PERCENTAGE
General Fund	\$230,162,672	30.15%
Education Enhancement	\$69,785,786	9.15%
Capital Expense Fund	\$6,000,000	.79%
Indirect State	\$44,491,548	5.83%
Federal	\$68,721,095	9.01%
Student Fees	\$232,678,228	30.48%
District Taxes	\$85,860,594	11.25%
Other Revenue	\$25,472,381	3.34%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$763,172,304	100%

**Chart 6 -
Community Colleges Expenditures by Program- FY 2025**

E & G EXPENDITURES BY PROGRAM	AMOUNT	PERCENTAGE
Academic Instruction	\$171,058,857	22.42%
Career-Technical Instruction	\$117,117,042	15.34%
Other Instruction	\$71,773,585	9.41%
TOTAL INSTRUCTION	\$359,949,484	47.17%
Instructional Support	\$25,512,044	3.34%
Student Services	\$122,272,272	16.02%
Institutional Support	\$153,128,883	20.06%
Physical Plant Operation	\$102,309,621	13.41%
TOTAL E & G EXPENDITURES	\$763,172,304	100.0%

State appropriations are made annually to the MCCB for allocation to the fifteen community college districts in accordance with formulas contained in the appropriations bill. In FY 2025, the funding formula amount distributed for state support was \$221 million.

**Chart 7 -
Community Colleges- Support
Comparison of Revenues by Source- FY 2000-FY 2025**

REVENUE BY SOURCE	FY 2000	% OF TOTAL (FY 2000)	FY 2025	% OF TOTAL (FY 2025)
General Fund*	\$133,671,168	39.6%	*\$230,162,672	30.15%
Education Enhancement	\$54,674,084	16.2%	\$69,785,786	9.15%
Capital Expense Fund			\$6,000,000	.79%
STATE SUPPORT TOTAL	\$188,345,252	55.8%	\$305,948,458	40.09%
Indirect State	\$37,979,952	11.2%	44,491,548	5.83%
Federal	\$16,540,982	4.9%	\$68,721,095	9.01%
Student Fees	\$60,086,183	17.8%	\$232,678,228	30.48%
District Taxes	\$33,185,278	9.8%	\$85,860,594	11.25%
Other Revenue	\$1,832,364	0.5%	\$25,472,381	3.34%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$337,970,011	100.00%	\$763,172,304	100.0%

* Includes MCCB General Fund education technology funding of \$2,444,914.

When comparing the combined state funding of both the MCCB and the fifteen community colleges, the community college system received cuts from FY 2001 to FY 2005, from FY 2009 to FY 2010, from FY 2016 to FY 2017, from FY 2018 to FY 2019 and from FY 2020 to FY 2021. As a result, the percentage of revenue to total revenue has seen dramatic shifts. For example, Chart 7 demonstrates that for community college support only, the percentage of state funds to total has declined from 55.8 % in FY 2000 to 38.15% in FY 2025. On the other hand, the percentage of student fees to total revenue has increased from 17.8% in FY 2000 to 30.96% in FY 2025.

Education Career Pathways

Mississippi’s community colleges offer the following programs: academic (university parallel), technical, career (vocational), adult basic education, adult continuing education, high school equivalency, job training partnership, and industry related training.

The Associate of Arts degree is awarded to students who complete a minimum of 60 semester credit hours of academic courses. The Associate of Applied Science degree is awarded to students who have completed a minimum of 60 semester credit hours of courses in a technical program, including a minimum of 15 semester credit hours of core academic courses. In addition to the Associate degrees, the community colleges also award one-year and two-year certificates in occupationally-specific career and technical fields.

Mississippi Virtual Community College

TRANSFORMING EDUCATION THROUGH COLLABORATION

The Office of eLearning and Instructional Technology provides coordinated oversight of the Mississippi Virtual Community College (MSVCC), a consortium formed between Mississippi’s 15 community colleges to leverage distance learning resources, including faculty, courses, support services, and technology. The Office of eLearning and Instructional Technology assists the MSVCC by providing robust technical support, facilitating contract adoptions, and delivering tailored professional development opportunities to empower excellence in distance learning.

Enrollment Data

SEMESTER	MSVCC ENROLLMENT	MSVCC COURSES
Fall 2024	2,502	1,276
Spring 2025	2,297	1,346

Academy Data

FISCAL YEAR	PARTICIPANTS	SESSIONS
2025	586	38



Adult Education in Mississippi continues to play a pivotal role in strengthening the state's talent pipeline, improving literacy, and increasing economic mobility for residents. Through statewide partnerships, evidence-based instruction, sector-focused training, and innovative credentialing pathways, the Mississippi Community College Board's Office of Adult Education (OAE) remains committed to advancing student success and meeting the workforce needs of employers across all 82 counties.

Adult Education provides comprehensive academic and workforce preparation services through face-to-face, online, and hybrid delivery models, ensuring Mississippians have equitable access to education and training opportunities. Services include Adult Basic Education (ABE), Adult Secondary Education (ASE), High School Equivalency (HSE) preparation, and English as a Second Language (ESL).

Mississippi offers four recognized pathways to earning a High School Equivalency Diploma—GED, HiSet, Competency-Based Diploma, and Total Transcript—each fully accepted by employers, licensing agencies, and postsecondary institutions. These options ensure adults can transition seamlessly into employment, training, or higher education.

The Smart Start Pathway Course serves as a cornerstone of the state's workforce preparation strategy. MIBEST also remains a premier model for accelerated entry into high-demand workforce programs.

FY 2025 National Reporting System (NRS) Performance Outcomes

The National Reporting System (NRS) released the 2024-2025 Performance Outcomes Quartile Rankings, and Mississippi once again demonstrated national leadership in adult education performance. These results reflect the exceptional work of our community colleges, adult educators, and the commitment of adult learners across the state:

- 5th in the Nation: Adult Basic Education Measurable Skill Gains
- 6th in the Nation: Overall Measurable Skill Gains
- 9th in the Nation: Students are employed in the 2nd Quarter after they exit
- 7th in the Nation: Students are employed in the 4th Quarter after they exit

During FY 2025, the adult education programs across the state served to 8,465 adult learners, with outcomes reported in accordance with the National Reporting System (NRS). The following outcomes reflect the impact of instruction and workforce preparation activities statewide:

Attained a Secondary School Diploma (HSE)	2,338
Achieved at Least One Educational Functioning Level (EFL) Gain	4,594
Enrolled in the Smart Start Pathway Course	3,356
Attained a Smart Start Credential/Certificate	1,728
Attained a National Career Readiness Certificate	3,230
Enrolled in PS Ed/Training	1,670
Enrolled in Integrated Education & Training (MIBEST)	249
Attained a PS Ed/Training Credential/Certificate	602
Attained a Digital Literacy Certificate	41
English Language Learners Served	464
Measurable Skill Gains Percentage (Federal Target for MS = 56%)	68.86%

Mississippi Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training (MIBEST)

The Mississippi Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training (MIBEST) program began in 2015 and is a model inspired by the I-BEST framework. MIBEST integrates contextualized learning by concurrently enrolling Adult Basic Education (ABE) students in Career and Technical Education (CTE) or Workforce Training programs. This approach enables individuals who have dropped out of high school to potentially earn a High School Equivalency diploma while simultaneously gaining CTE or workforce credentials from a community college, allowing them to potentially complete these educational achievements in half the time.

MIBEST provides low-skilled, low-wage workers with a pathway to enter careers that lead to postsecondary degrees and/or industry-recognized credentials, ultimately improving their ability to earn self-sufficient wages.

As of June 30 2025, 4,244 students have enrolled in MIBEST programs in fields such as welding, healthcare, industrial maintenance, and commercial truck driving since program inception dating back to 2016. Of those students, 1,288, have obtained a High School Equivalency diploma and 1,958 have earned one or more occupational credentials.

Career and Technical Education

Currently, community colleges in Mississippi offer degrees and certificates in 156 different career and technical program areas at their various campuses, comprehensive centers, and extension centers throughout the state. These programs range from less than one year to two years in length and prepare individuals for employment in a variety of fields, from industrial maintenance technology to information systems technology to healthcare. The following requests were made by the community colleges in FY 2025:

- Three requests for new programs were received from two institutions, and all were approved.
- Nineteen requests for new program options were received from five colleges, and all were approved.
- Twelve requests for a new location were received from four institutions, and all were approved.
- Three requests to close a program were received from two institutions.

State articulations were continued and/or developed between 35 secondary career and technical programs and 65 postsecondary career and technical programs. These agreements allow students to earn college credits for demonstrated competencies gained in high school and provide a sequence of coursework leading to postsecondary career and technical degrees or credentials.

The Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment is tasked with developing statewide Career and Technical Education curriculum, assessments, and professional development to meet the local and statewide economic demands. Our mission is to develop an innovative curriculum that aligns to industry certifications/national standards, and professional training that facilitates seamless educational delivery by well-trained professionals who are focused on preparing skilled workers in the 21st century economy.

The goals of the division are to:

- * Produce research-based, high-quality curricula aligned to industry needs and national certifications (where applicable).
- * Provide outcome-based, professional development teaching, learning, and leadership strategies.
- * Support the implementation of groundbreaking career pathways, innovative instructional design and delivery.
- * Decrease the labor market shortage of skilled workers in Mississippi by closing the middle-skills gap that exists in the Mississippi workforce.

In FY 2025, the Division achieved the following:

- * Collaborated with faculty/administration at the community colleges along with various business/industry partners to develop/revise 24 career-tech pathways.
- * The Institute for Teaching and Learning is the professional development for new CTE instructors. The 2025 institute had 43 participants from programs, including cosmetology, business office technology, health science, architecture and construction, hospitality and tourism, information technology, transportation, human services, agriculture, engineering, and marketing. The institute offers both in-person and online training. Participants gain essential knowledge and support to navigate the CTE classroom, drawing on their expertise in their respective fields.
- * The Office of Instruction collaborated with the Office of Career Technical Education (CTE) to organize professional development opportunities for CTE instructors from all 15 community colleges during the annual CTE conference. The event attracted over 400 participants, 18 vendors, and 37 presenters.
- * The Leadership Academy offers both in-person and online training. The Leadership Academy is designed to develop leadership skills with a focus on topics such as Building Employee Morale, Coaching & Conflict Resolutions, Community College Budgeting, Difficult Conversations, Effective Communication, Ethics in the Workplace, Keys to Happiness as Leaders, Legislative Process, Personality Profiles, Return on Investment, and Socioeconomic Impact on Lower Income College Students.

Mississippi Postsecondary Student Organizations

The Division of Collegiate/Postsecondary Student Organizations oversees the Career and Technical Education Student Organization (CTSOs) chapters at all postsecondary institutions in the State. CTOS are viable solutions to workforce shortages and are a key to transforming Mississippi's workforce. There are four CTOS currently under our oversight at the Mississippi Community College Board (MCCB): Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA), Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA), and SkillsUSA.

Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) are 501 (c)(3) co-curricular student organizations that can aid in academic success. The four Mississippi Collegiate CTOS are part of the coalition of national career and technical student organizations. CTOS serve career and technical education and academic students and teachers in one or more of the 14 Career Clusters[®] identified in the National Career Clusters[®] Framework. CTOS are an integral component of the classroom curriculum and instruction. CTOS build upon employability and career skills and concepts through the application and engagement of students in hands-on demonstrations and real life and/or work experiences through a Career and Technical Education (CTE) program.

The 2025 DECA State Career Development Conference (SCDC) was held in Biloxi, while the International Career Development Conference (ICDC) took place in San Francisco. At the 2025 ICDC, ten Northeast MS Community College and three Southwest MS Community College members were recognized as recipients of the Individual Leadership Passport Program, and Jones College and Northeast MS Community College members were recognized as recipients of the Chapter Leadership Passport Program. Some members of Mississippi Collegiate DECA attended the 2025 ENGAGE Leadership Conference in Tampa. Mississippi Collegiate received the President's Diamond Award for a 10% or higher increase in membership for the 2024-2025 program year.

The FBLA 2025 State Leadership Conference (SLC) was also held in Biloxi and the National Leadership Conference (NLC) was held in Dallas. Two MS College chapters, Jones College and East Central Community College, were awarded Gold Seal Chapters at the 2025 NLC. One student from Mississippi Delta Community College was recognized as a Who's Who recipient at the 2025 NLC. Thirty-six students attended the 2025 NLC and received an award of \$325 each from the FBLA Foundation to assist with costs to attend the 2025 NLC. Some FBLA Collegiate members attended the 2025 Career Connections Leadership Conference in Des Moines.

The SkillsUSA Postsecondary State Leadership and Skills Conference was held in Jackson. Mississippi College/Postsecondary was honored to receive the SkillsUSA 2025 State Standards of Excellence - Gold Level Designation for the 2024-2025 program year. A member from one of the chapters designed the Mississippi Postsecondary State Pin that was used for trading at the 2025 NLSC in Atlanta.

The 2025 Fall Leadership Conference was held in Oxford, and provided members with opportunities to engage with business and industry partners, attend relevant sessions, participate in teambuilding sessions, and hear from a dynamic keynote speaker. They were able to participate in engaging network opportunities using the Goosechase application. Members took the opportunity to tour two local businesses in the Oxford area. Students attending the fall conference had the opportunity to tour the Haley Barbour Center for Manufacturing Excellence and the Jim and Thomas Duff Center for Science and Technology.

2024-2025 Statistics

ORGANIZATION	DECA	FBLA	SKILLSUSA
2025 Membership	117	164	198
Number of Chapters	6	12	9
2025 STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE			
Students Attending	63	65	44
Chapters	5	6	4
Competitive Events	20	34	23
Placements	50	73*	19
State Officers	2	1	0
2025 NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE			
Students Attending	41	35	21
Chapters	5	6	4
Competitive Events	14	18	14
Placements	1 Finalist	5 Finalists	2 Top Online Test Scorers
2025 FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE			
Attending	32	18	6
Chapters	3	5	2

*Due to students being in multiple competitions.

Proprietary Schools

The Commission of Proprietary School and College Registration, the entity that oversees the state's proprietary schools, is housed at the Mississippi Community College Board. The MCCB's responsibilities include the appointment of a five-member Commission; providing staff for the administration of the Commission; and serving as the appellate organization for decisions rendered by the Commission.

During FY 2025, the Commission met six times and 39 new or renewed certificates of registration were issued; 163 agent permits were approved; 129 new instructors were approved; and 76 new program were approved. There were two official complaints received.





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