

# Taking The Next Step

CVCC

2025

ANNUAL REPORT



# CVCC 2025 SNAPSHOT

- Center of Excellence for Veteran Student Success (CEVSS) served over 300 student veterans and their family members that were enrolled at the College.
- The Title III Strengthening Institutions grant (SENSE) established a permanent advising and early alert model that will continue to support persistence and completion.
- The Metallica Scholars Grant helped CVCC students by providing scholarships and equipment for career and technical education programs.
- The Hall of Fame raised \$109,000 to support college scholarships for a total of over 750,000 since 2014.
- The Lady Pirates Basketball Team won the ACCC State Championship and the Gulf South District Championship.
- CVCC baseball alum Connor O’Neal was drafted by the Los Angeles Dodgers in 2025.
- CVCC was one of five colleges in the nation that was awarded a grant from the prestigious Lumina Foundation to support marketing efforts at the College.

## OUR MISSION

Chattahoochee Valley Community College (CVCC) promotes student success and is committed to enriching our community by offering accessible, quality, and engaging educational opportunities through academic transfer, career technical education, workforce development, and adult education. CVCC fosters an environment in which all members are respected, appreciated, and empowered to reach their full potential.

## OUR VISION

Chattahoochee Valley Community College (CVCC) will be a dynamic engaged institution of higher learning dedicated to serving the community and students by providing excellent educational, cultural, and career opportunities allowing individuals to be successful and achieve their goals. CVCC will provide quality services through innovative practices state-of-the-art facilities, and an understanding of meeting individuals where they are. CVCC will enhance the lives of its students, faculty, staff, and the community by:

- Promoting instructional excellence in all program areas;
- Expanding and enhancing programs to meet the needs of the area’s workforce;
- Strengthening partnerships to advance the mission of the College;
- Creating a supportive teaching and learning environment;
- Integrating technology to support all programs and services;
- Implementing the use of evidence-based decision-making;
- Providing exceptional student support services.

# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Friends,

As my educational career sunsets in December 2025, I find myself reflecting with gratitude and pride on how far we have come, and how ready Chattahoochee Valley Community College is to take the next bold step forward. Since joining CVCC in 2018, and throughout my 38 years in higher education, I have witnessed countless lives transformed through the power of higher education. What happens here each day extends far beyond classrooms and coursework. It is the spark of potential realized, the moment confidence takes root, and the steady pursuit of a better future.

Over these years, CVCC has grown stronger in every sense of the word. We have expanded our academic and technical programs, deepened our partnerships with local industries, and created new pathways in healthcare, public safety, and applied technology. We have celebrated the achievements of our students, not only in classrooms and labs, but also on athletic fields and

courts, in the arts, and throughout our community. Each success story reminds us that when opportunity meets determination, remarkable things happen.

We have also invested deeply in the tools and environments that help students thrive. From technology upgrades and facility enhancements to tutoring, advising, and mental health support, every initiative has been guided by one goal: to meet students where they are and help them reach their full potential. Today, our campus stands as a place of inclusion, encouragement, and growth, where learners of all backgrounds find not only knowledge, but also belonging and hope.

None of this progress has happened by chance. It has been built through the unwavering dedication of our faculty and staff, the visionary leadership of our administrative team, and the steadfast support of our community partners. Together, we have shaped a college defined by collaboration, resilience, and an enduring belief in the transformative power of education.

The theme of this year’s Annual Report, “Taking the Next Step” captures this moment in time. As I take my own next step into retirement, CVCC stands poised for continued growth and innovation. I have complete confidence in the extraordinary team that will carry this mission forward, keeping student success at the heart of every decision. It has been the greatest honor of my career to serve this College and this community. CVCC is more than a campus; it is a living, thriving testament to what is possible when people believe in second chances, new beginnings, and bold futures. As I look ahead, I do so with deep gratitude for all we have achieved together and with abiding faith that CVCC’s brightest days are still to come.

With heartfelt appreciation and pride,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jackie Screws". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jackie Screws  
President, Chattahoochee Valley Community College

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For almost eight years, President Jackie Screws has led Chattahoochee Valley Community College through a period of extraordinary progress and renewed purpose. Her presidency has been defined by growth, stability, community engagement, and a clear vision for helping students—and the college itself—take the next step.

One of the most significant milestones during her tenure was CVCC's successful SACSCOC reaffirmation, a comprehensive process that validated the college's academic excellence and institutional strength. This achievement positioned CVCC for sustained growth and paved the way for major upgrades across campus.



Under President Screws' leadership, the college expanded its footprint with the acquisition of Adams Hall, the new Maintenance Building, and the Bookstore, each enhancing the campus infrastructure and improving the student experience.

Throughout her presidency, President Screws fostered a culture of visibility and connection. She strengthened relationships with community partners, expanded industry collaborations, and celebrated the achievements of students, faculty, and staff.

Her vision for workforce development materialized with the opening of the Workforce Training Center, celebrated with an energetic ribbon-cutting and rapidly becoming a regional hub for short-term training, certifications, and employer partnerships.

President Screws also prioritized student-centered spaces. The College opened a remodeled Student Center, creating a vibrant,

collaborative area designed for engagement, connection, and campus life. The refurbished Welding Lab provided students with a modern, industry-ready environment for hands-on learning, one of many investments in technical and workforce programming.

Her presidency brought new and expanded workforce programs that aligned with the needs of local employers. CVCC added or strengthened programs; such as CDL Training, Medical Laboratory Technology, Pharmacy Technology, and Paramedic training, giving students new pathways to take the next step into high-demand careers. Dual enrollment and adult education offerings also grew, opening doors for both high school students and adult learners to earn credentials and advance their futures.

Athletics thrived during her tenure as well, bolstered by significant facility improvements to the softball and baseball fields. These upgrades provided student-athletes with competitive, modernized spaces to practice and excel.

President Screws has fostered a culture of visibility and connection. She strengthened relationships with community partners, expanded industry collaborations, and celebrated the achievements of students, faculty, and staff. Her focus on planning and transparent data, through updated Fact Books and multi-year strategic initiatives, kept the College moving forward with purpose.



As she prepared for her retirement in December 2025, CVCC hosted a reception at the Workforce Training Center, honoring her 38 years of service to the Alabama Community College System. Colleagues, alumni, community leaders, and friends gathered to celebrate her legacy—one marked by leadership, dedication, and steady progress.

## PRESIDENT JACKIE SCREWS A LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP, GROWTH, AND TAKING THE NEXT STEP



# 2025: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

## ADULT EDUCATION GRADUATES TAKE THE NEXT STEP TOWARD THEIR FUTURE

Last May, Chattahoochee Valley Community College proudly celebrated the accomplishments of 33 Adult Education graduates—each taking an important step toward a brighter future. The ceremony, held on campus, recognized the dedication, perseverance, and courage it takes to return to the classroom and complete this life-changing milestone.

Guest speaker Kevin Messer, representing ABEL Ministry, delivered an inspiring message about the power of second chances and the impact of education on families and communities. His words reminded graduates that no matter where their journey began, education provides a pathway forward.

The evening was filled with emotion and pride as family members, friends, and instructors cheered for each graduate walking across the stage. Many students are already planning to continue their education through CVCC's academic and technical programs or to pursue new career opportunities.



**2025 Adult Education Graduates:** Drayden Berg, Kiragan Bledsoe, Kendall Bowman, Lindsey Crawford, Connie Clark, Noah Gamble, Isaias Gonzalez, Caleb Harrell, Tabatha Henson, Mayomi Harrison, Abigail Humphreys, Keyonna Hunter, Cayden Hurst, Grace Jenkins, J'Carus Jordan, T'Keyah Unique Knox, T'asha Lawrence, Erica Lance, Clint Langley, Breighana Martin, Stephon McEwen, Johnnie McGlothlin, Rodolfo Moreno, Robert Moore, Aubrey Mooneyhan, Brittany Diane Nolen, Haley Rollins, Shania Shabazz, Cole Sherman, Kansas Singleton, Autumnrose Stephenson, Joseph Vanderford III, and Damari Waldon.

## CVCC INDUCTS STUDENTS INTO PHI THETA KAPPA HONOR SOCIETY

In April, CVCC proudly celebrated academic excellence with the induction of 18 outstanding students into the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society.

The induction ceremony recognized students who have demonstrated exceptional academic achievement, leadership potential, and a strong commitment to scholarly excellence. Faculty, staff, family, and fellow students gathered to honor the newest inductees and celebrate this academic milestone. **This year's inductees include:** Venson Carpenter, Valorie Gibson, Ryan Haywood, Joshua Hernandez, Alyssa Holloway, Ansley Hutto, Jada Jones, Andrew Jolley, William Kerr, Kyndal Keyt, Alexis Michel, Daesha McKissic, Ryan Olson, Ebony Payne, Olivia Smith, Maya Sports, Alexander Strickland, and Jaxon Upshaw.



**This year's inductees include:** Venson Carpenter, Valorie Gibson, Ryan Haywood, Joshua Hernandez, Alyssa Holloway, Ansley Hutto, Jada Jones, Andrew Jolley, William Kerr, Kyndal Keyt, Alexis Michel, Daesha McKissic, Ryan Olson, Ebony Payne, Olivia Smith, Maya Sports, Alexander Strickland, and Jaxon Upshaw.



## HONORING ACHIEVEMENT: CVCC STUDENTS RECOGNIZED FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

In March, CVCC hosted its annual Academic Awards Ceremony, celebrating students' exceptional accomplishments across various programs and disciplines.

This special event highlights students earning their Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degrees each year who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in their chosen fields. Honorees are nominated by their instructors for academic excellence and professional promise. Recognized programs include Nursing, Business Entrepreneurship, Fire Science, Cyber Defense, and Visual Communications.

In addition to program honors, the ceremony also celebrated students who achieved a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher, an acknowledgment of their dedication, resilience, and pursuit of academic excellence.

This year's ceremony also included the presentation of several prestigious transfer scholarships. Scholarship recipients received awards from partner institutions such as the University of Alabama, the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Alabama State University, Auburn University at Montgomery, and Jacksonville State University.

In addition to program and academic honors, the ceremony recognized several standout groups from the 2025



graduating class. CVCC's All-Alabama Academic Team nominees were honored for their exceptional academic performance, leadership, and service. Academic Athletes, students who balanced the demands of collegiate sports with academic excellence, were also celebrated for their achievements. Special recognition was given to graduates who served as CVCC Ambassadors, Leadership Program participants, Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society members, and Student Government Association (SGA) representatives. These students excelled in the classroom and made significant contributions to campus life through their leadership, service, and dedication to the College community.

### AAS HONOREES

Ritu Bartaula  
Paul Blair  
Brandon Le  
Lakeitha Manuel  
Sue McConnell  
Kaleb McLeod  
Marie Ryan  
Hellen Tucker  
Drake Watson

### 4.0 GPA HONOREES

Shandi Bruce  
Naomi Frierson  
Rebecca Fox  
Jennifer Jones  
Brandon Le  
Mary Nichols  
Nisa Sisario  
Kyandra Smith  
Tiffany Woods

### 3.5-3.99 GPA HONOREES

Michel Alexis  
Deandre Arnold  
Natasha Beining

Isabella Benavente  
Gavin Blair  
Josslyn Carretti  
Danielle Dockery  
David Evans  
Holly Gilbert  
Carter Hayes  
Chase Hayes  
Ryan Haywood  
Tyrese Hicks  
Emily Hull  
Ansley Hutto  
Jacob Johnpeer  
Cedreko Johnson  
Jacqueline Johnson  
Andrew Jolley  
William Kerr  
Jaxson Lee  
Andrea Long  
Jessieca Long  
Silas Mason  
Ryan McCorkle  
Alexandria McCoy  
Ty Medders  
Shley Miller  
Brenda Nyaga  
Jada Odo  
Aaron Perez

**TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**  
**Auburn University at Montgomery**  
Silas Mason  
Shania Thomas

Rhiannon Powell  
Pamela Raney  
David Renteria  
Avery Ricketts  
Alexandria Rodgers  
Taraji Sharp  
Maya Sports  
Shania Thomas  
Nelleke Valdez

**TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**  
**Auburn University at Montgomery**  
Silas Mason  
Shania Thomas

**Jacksonville State University**  
Katelyn DiMattia  
Noah Higdon  
Madison McGowan  
Jada Odom  
Aaliyah Thomas

**Troy University**  
Deandre Arnold

**University of Alabama**  
Alexa McCoy  
Maddie McGowan  
David Renteria  
Maya Sports  
Shania Thomas

**University of Alabama at Birmingham**  
Brielle Melendrez  
Jennifer Nguyen

**All-Alabama Academic Team**  
Deandre Arnold  
David Renteria

**ACADEMIC ATHLETES Baseball**  
Jacob Johnpeer

**Basketball (Men's)**  
Talan Woodham

**Basketball (Women's)**  
Jada Landers

**SOFTBALL**  
Shea Hathcock

**AMBASSADOR GRADUATES**  
Joseph Abbott  
Deandre Arnold  
Chase Hays  
Noah Higdon  
Maya Sports  
Breckyn Waller  
Glory Williams

**LEADERSHIP GRADUATES**  
Hardy Davis  
Izabella Hawthorne  
David Renteria  
Olivia Smith  
Mathew Ward

**PTK GRADUATES**  
Deandre Arnold  
Natasha Beining

**SGA GRADUATES**  
Venson Carpenter  
Ashley Grantham  
Chase Hayes  
Ryan Haywood  
Andrew Jolley  
Jessica Long  
Cathy McConnell  
Daesha McKissic  
Elise Brenda Nyaga  
Ryan Olson  
David Renteria  
Olivia Smith  
Amelie Song  
Maya Sports  
Shania Thomas  
Kumeko Weilbacher

# HONORING DEDICATION AND COMPASSION: CVCC'S 2025 HEALTHCARE GRADUATES

2025 has been an exceptional year for the healthcare programs at Chattahoochee Valley Community College, marked by measurable growth, program expansion, and the continued success of students preparing to enter critical roles across the medical field.

In May and December, CVCC recognized its Allied Health and Nursing graduates through formal pinning and recognition ceremonies that honored both achievement and professional readiness. The Nursing Pinning Ceremonies, an enduring tradition, marked the transition from student to professional nurse, underscoring the clinical competence, accountability, and dedication required in today's healthcare environment. Graduates from Allied Health Sciences programs were also recognized for completing training in EKG Technology, Nursing Assistance, Medical Assisting, Medical Laboratory Technology, and Phlebotomy, each representing high-demand areas within the regional workforce.

A significant highlight of the year was the continued advancement of CVCC's partnership with East Alabama Medical Center (EAMC). The inaugural EAMC Licensed Practical Nurse

(LPN) cohort took a major step forward in addressing local workforce needs by combining rigorous classroom instruction at CVCC with hands-on clinical experience at EAMC. This collaboration reflects a practical, workforce-driven approach to healthcare education and provides students with clear pathways from training to employment.

Throughout the year, students were also recognized for excellence through honors such as the Spirit of Caring Award and the Rose Awards, which acknowledge professionalism, service, and patient-centered care. At the same time, the Medical Laboratory Technician program continued to strengthen its foundation, expanding access to real-world laboratory experience and supporting the growing demand for skilled diagnostic professionals.

From nursing and allied health training to hospital-based partnerships, CVCC remains focused on preparing students to take the next step into meaningful healthcare careers effectively equipped with the skills, experience, and confidence to serve their communities.



Workforce Development Medication Aide



Workforce Development Phlebotomy



Pharmacy Technician

*I solemnly pledge myself before God and in the presence of this assembly, to pass my life in purity and to practice my profession faithfully. I will abstain from whatever is deleterious and mischievous, and will not take or knowingly administer any harmful drug. I will do all in my power to maintain and elevate the standard of my profession, and will hold in confidence all personal matters committed to my keeping and all family affairs coming to my knowledge in the practice of my calling. With loyalty will I endeavor to aid the physician in his work, and devote myself to the welfare of those committed to my care.*

-The Nightingale Pledge

In July, CVCC held its first pinning ceremony recognizing graduates of the nursing program developed in partnership with East Alabama Medical Center (EAMC).

"The launch of this program and the success of these graduates exemplify CVCC's commitment to meeting the needs of our community," said CVCC President Jackie Screws. "Through partnerships like the one we have with EAMC, we can prepare skilled, compassionate nurses who will make a difference in the lives of patients in our region."

This first class of graduates from the CVCC-EAMC nursing program represents a successful beginning for a collaboration that will continue to support and grow the region's healthcare workforce for years to come.

**Graduates honored were Rebecca Fox, Alex Henderson, Leah Johnson, Laurae Kaytlin Reaves, Jazzlyn Ciara Moon, Christina Nelson, Mia Andrea Pitts, JaKoya Ayana Robinson, and Audrie Chaquita Simmons.**



MAT AAS Degree

## Allied Health Sciences Spring 2025

### MAT AAS Degree

Briana Vazquez

### Nursing Assistant

Ashanti Brady  
Grace Buttacavoli  
Octavia Fields  
Covee "CJ" James  
Cyane Joseph  
Briana Lara  
Kayla Littleton  
Anna Morales

Ayden Otwell  
David Thomas

### MAT EKG Technician

Zeraya Dudley  
Tanjania Haynes  
Makayla Jackson  
Kahlisia Ryles  
Amaya Sanks  
Jaqueline Soto  
Jessica Taylor  
Amiah Waker  
Journey Westbrooks

### MAT Phlebotomy

Taryn Cantrell

KayIn Johnson  
Kimberly Lopez

### Workforce Development Medication Aide

Alecia Lowe  
Sherrie Chambers  
Stephanie Dilorenzo  
Tanisha Hartsfield

### Workforce Development Phlebotomy

Demetrius Gregory  
Kelsey Jones

Na'Tyia Howard  
Omar Jakes  
Keyonna Hunter  
Lindsay Crawford

### Pharmacy Technician

Ja'Koryous Brown  
Logan Flynn  
Elizabeth Nichols  
Makayla Nichols  
Damon Ragins  
Consuela Washington



Nursing Assistants



MAT EKG Technician



MAT Phlebotomy



## Direct Entry Nursing Spring 2025

### Daytime Cohort (left)

Jequavia Armour, Ciara Barber, Shatterria Boykins, Kelli Celestine, Amy Clark, Marissa Davis, Janessa Eiland, Amy Forshee, Tiffany Hall, Anne Le, Samantha Martinez, Ashley Miller, Danielle Miller, Elsie Brenda Nyaga, Madison Poznanski, Britini Randall, Joe Sellers, Siera Sneed, and Stephanie Tillotson.

### Nighttime Cohort (right)

Kierra Couch, Sierra Kilpatrick, Lanayah King, Felicia Reid, Clara Rivera, Jazmine Sharrit, Brittany Tanner, and Kelsey Turcotte.



**Allied Health Sciences  
Fall 2025**

**Nursing Assistant**

Alicia Brant  
Brittany Carter  
Natalie Greer  
Shawntel Hargrove  
Victoria Kyles  
Ivy Linton  
Kamya Mitchell  
Courtney Niles  
Cameron Pitts  
Breanna Reeves  
Adyson Romanishan  
Semajah Street  
Pamela Rainey  
Allison Upshaw  
Brianna Wink

**MAT EKG Technician**

Sashae Brown  
Victoria Davis  
Kimberly Fortson  
Jovann Garnetto  
Amanda Hunt  
Brailyn Joseph

Kayla Littleton  
Johnnie McGlothlin  
Ebony Payne  
TraNyah Thomas

**MAT Medical  
Administrative Assistant**

Angelica Houck  
Kayla Littleton  
Jaqueline Soto

**MAT Certified Clinical  
Administrative Assistant**

Catherine Casindad  
Kimberly Lopez

**MAT Phlebotomy**

Camaree Cox  
Jasmine Nguyen  
Trinity Tab  
Estala Bautista-Pablo  
Jazlyn Gosha

**Medication Aide**

Kiana Adams  
Cyane Joseph  
Eddie Mosley  
Shatundria Taylor

**Practical Nursing - Fall 2025**

Adenike Alawode, Aleta Brooks, Aliyah Dean, Danielle Dockery, Jasmine Feltus, Stephanie Ferguson, Brittney Garrett, Carleitha Grier, Macy Jones, Shaquelle Lindsey, Andrea Long, Joseph Lovell, Heather Lowery, Nicole Martin, Lazahria Miles, Mia Norris, Andrew Paisley, Yanisell Quinones, Moesha Russell, Gloria Screws, Aracelys Smith, Kierra Swanson, Pier Taylor, Sania Thomas, Friday Ufot, Arlenna Williams, Maci Wright



**Associate Degree Nursing - Fall 2025**

Yalonda Agnew, Tamika Allison, Shatara Anderson, Amy Andrews, Erin Ball, Hayley Bowers, Ashley Brown, Marybeth Calhoun, Shantell Daniels, Shonta Davis, Caroline Fuller, Shamira Hansen, Tiffany Harris, Trevor Herndon, Savannah Hornsby, Bobbie Hughes, Eunique Jackson, Jacqueline Johnson, Ambria Ligon, Lashaina Lovelace, Joshua McCrory, Jeremy McCollough, Maria Melendrez, Marteniece Moore, Jessica Nyantakyi, De'Airra Porsche, Nisa Sisario, Kayla Sparkman, Mariah Stutes, Kenita Thomas, April Toombs, Crystal Williams



**Summer Nursing Assistants**



**Fall Nursing Assistants**



**MAT EKG Technician**



**Medication Aide**



**Clinical Medical Assistant**



**Medical Administrative Assistant**



**MAT Phlebotomy**



# CVCC HONORS DUAL ENROLLMENT GRADUATES AT 2025 AWARD CEREMONY

CVCC proudly recognized the outstanding accomplishments of its 2025 Dual Enrollment graduates during a special award ceremony held on campus in April. The celebration honored high school students who successfully completed college-level coursework through CVCC's Dual Enrollment Program by earning valuable college credentials before receiving their high school diplomas.

This year, four students earned Associate Degrees, while an additional 52 students were awarded short certificates in high-demand fields including welding, general studies, phlebotomy, and information technology.

"These students have shown incredible commitment, maturity, and resilience," said Demeka Daniels, Dual Enrollment Coordinator and Success Coach at CVCC. "Balancing high school responsibilities with college coursework is no small task, and we are thrilled to celebrate their success."

CVCC's Dual Enrollment Program continues to grow thanks to strong partnerships with local school districts and community support. By offering high school students the opportunity to earn college credit in a supportive environment, the program empowers students to save time, reduce college costs, and gain



confidence in their academic abilities.

The event brought together proud families, faculty, school leaders, and community members to honor these determined young scholars and celebrate their academic journey.

## 2025 Dual Enrollment Graduates

### Central High School

Trevon-Nay Bailey  
Marleecia Baldwin  
Abigail Browder  
Taryn Cantrell  
Tai Cole  
Auston Davis III  
Joshua Epps  
Miley Gallman  
Joseph Garcia  
Jessica Griggs  
Kalven Hall

Carter Hayes  
Avery Grace Ingram  
Nevaeh Jackson  
Majastey James  
Kalyn Johnson  
Josphine Kelley  
Mardelle Lee  
Kimberly Lopez  
Morgan Massey  
Kyle Matthews  
Torrian McCants  
D'asia McKenny

Kisten McRoy  
Coco Meacham  
Erin Miller  
Valencia Moffett  
Martrelius Newsome  
Nakiya Porter  
Brennan Rey  
Landyn Robinson  
Makayla Ross  
Kahlisia Ryles  
Amaya Sanks  
Victor Savell

Taraji Sharp  
David Sherman  
Ramya Short  
Ariauna Shorter  
Shawn Smith  
Semajah Street  
Jhaylin Taylor  
Samantha Tillery  
Myles Walden  
Journey Westbrooks  
Trinity Whittington  
Mya Williams

Riaeyana Williams  
Margaret Yeilding

### Russell County High School

Halle Crowell  
Zeraya Dudley  
Makayla Jackson  
Amiah Walker

### Smiths Station High School

Cristian Bryant  
Addison Frander  
Emily Hull

# CVCC STUDENTS HONORED AT ALL-ALABAMA ACADEMIC TEAM RECOGNITION PROGRAM

In April, CVCC students DeAndre Arnold and David Renteria were honored at the 2025 All-Alabama Academic Team Recognition Program in Birmingham for their academic excellence, leadership, and service.

Hosted by the Alabama Community College System (ACCS), the annual event highlights top scholars from Alabama's 24 community and technical colleges as part of Community College Month.



**DeAndre Arnold**, a General Studies major with a 3.89 GPA, serves as a student ambassador and work-study student in the Marketing Department, capturing campus life through photography. He has earned the Troy University Transfer Presidential

Scholarship and plans to pursue a Business degree with goals of launching and managing his own companies.

**David Renteria**, who holds a 3.68 GPA, balances his studies with a work-study role in the IT Department. He plans to major in Kinesiology at the University of Alabama and pursue a career in physical therapy. He is the recipient of both the Leadership Scholarship and the University of Alabama's Community College Presidential Scholarship.



recognizes students for academic excellence and positive community impact.

Sponsored by ACCS, Phi Theta Kappa, and the American Association of Community Colleges, the program

# CIRSS: BRIDGING THE GAP FOR RURAL STUDENT SUCCESS

In 2025, CVCC launched the **Center to Improve Rural Student Success (CIRSS)** to expand educational access and achievement for students in rural communities. Funded through the U.S. Department of Education's Rural Postsecondary & Economic Development (RPEDS) program, CIRSS is a multi-year initiative designed to remove barriers that often limit opportunity for rural learners.

The program focuses on students in Russell, Barbour, Macon, and Bullock counties, as well as surrounding rural areas. CIRSS provides personalized advising, career coaching, and outreach to middle and high schools, helping students explore college and career pathways early. The program also supports digital access, ensuring students can connect to enrollment and learning resources online.

By combining outreach, technology, and student support, CIRSS is strengthening the bridge between rural communities and higher education. The initiative reflects CVCC's commitment to helping every student take the first step toward college, career, and lifelong success.



**The CIRSS Team: (l-r) Antwan Hill, Charon Austin, Kia Lewis, and Saige Valfre.**

# NEXT-STEP SUPPORT FOR EVERY PIRATE: CREATING PATHWAYS THAT MATTER

At CVCC, student success is a daily commitment. The College is focused on making higher education accessible and ensuring that students have the necessary resources to stay on track academically, personally, and professionally.

Much of that support begins in the classroom. From one-on-one tutoring services to workshops that reinforce study skills, CVCC ensures that students have the academic foundation they need to thrive. When coursework extends beyond traditional settings, the **College's Canvas Support**



**Student Ambassador, Taylor Crawford, helps organize the Pirate Thredz closet.**

**Service** in Owen Hall Library provides step-by-step guidance on everything from uploading assignments to navigating discussion boards. A laptop lending program further strengthens access, allowing every student to stay connected to their studies regardless of personal technology challenges.

But CVCC understands that success requires more than academics. Emotional well-

being plays a vital role in learning, and the College's **mental health support services** give students a safe and confidential space to seek help during difficult times.

CVCC is also committed to serving those who have served our country. The College's **veteran support services** help military-affiliated students and veterans transition into college life. Assistance with benefits, guidance through academic processes, and a supportive campus community create an environment that enables veterans to focus on achieving their educational and career goals.

Equally important are the resources that address life's day-to-day challenges. Through **Pirate Pantry and Pirate Thredz**, students can access food and clothing at no cost. These services help alleviate the financial strain that often accompanies college life, enabling students to focus on their studies instead of worrying about basic needs. CVCC recognizes that success in the classroom is directly tied to stability outside it.

Together, these services form a strong network of support that extends beyond academics. They reflect CVCC's mission to meet students where they are and to provide resources that help them move forward. Whether it is tutoring, technology access, counseling, veteran services, or everyday essentials, the goal is the same: to remove obstacles so that students can succeed.

At CVCC, support is built into the student experience. By addressing academic, emotional, financial, and personal needs, the College reinforces its belief that every student should have the opportunity to achieve at the highest level.



## CVCC CELEBRATES LADY PIRATES' HISTORIC CHAMPIONSHIP WINS

In April, CVCC proudly honored the Lady Pirates basketball team with a celebration recognizing their 2025 State and Gulf South District Championship titles. Held in the Phenix City Room of Key Hall, the event brought together students, faculty, staff, and community supporters, including a special appearance by Phenix City Mayor Eddie Lowe.

The ceremony spotlighted the team's remarkable season and collective achievement, with each player receiving a special commemorative award. One of the event's most memorable moments was the unveiling of the official championship ring design, followed by the ceremonial cutting of the net, a time-honored basketball tradition that marked the team's hard-fought journey to the top.

"We are incredibly proud of what these young women have accomplished," said CVCC President Jackie Screws. "Their commitment, teamwork, and perseverance have brought pride to CVCC and inspired our entire community."



Mayor Lowe praised the Lady Pirates for their exceptional leadership and representation of Phenix City on the court and beyond. "This team has not only made history, they've made our city proud," said Lowe.

The Lady Pirates, led by Head Coach Joe Richardson, capped off a dynamic season

that included a trip to the NJCAA Division II National Tournament in Joplin, Missouri. A driving force behind the program's success, Coach Richardson has built a culture rooted in discipline, preparation, and belief. This year, his leadership earned him ACCC Division II Coach of the Year honors, while players Zy Thompson and Aaliyah Younger also received All-ACCC recognition for their standout performances.

The championship celebration served as a fitting tribute to a team that demonstrated resilience, talent, and Pirate pride throughout the season.

## ASHLEY LANDI NAMED ACCC ATHLETIC DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR



CVCC's Ashley Landi has been recognized as the Alabama Community College Conference (ACCC) Athletic Director of the Year, honoring her outstanding leadership and impact on CVCC athletics and student success.

A certified athletic trainer and long-time health and physical education instructor, Landi has served

the College in multiple roles, including interim and acting director, before being officially named Athletic Director. One of only four female athletic directors in Alabama's community college system, she continues to break barriers and inspire others in a traditionally male-dominated field.

The ACCC's Athletic Director of the Year award recognizes excellence in athletic administration, student development, and service to college communities.



## FORMER CVCC BASEBALL STANDOUT DRAFTED BY LOS ANGELES DODGERS

Former Pirate baseball player Connor O'Neal, was selected in the 9th round of the 2025 Major League Baseball Draft by the Los Angeles Dodgers.

A native of Columbus, Georgia, O'Neal is a Northside High School graduate who played catcher for CVCC during the 2022 and 2023 seasons. Known for his leadership behind the plate and powerful presence at bat, he helped lead the Pirates to consecutive winning seasons. He established himself as one of the top junior college catchers in the region.

After graduating from CVCC, O'Neal continued his athletic and academic career at Southeastern Louisiana University, where he continued to impress scouts with his performance at the Division I level. His hard work and talent paid off when the Los Angeles Dodgers selected him as their 9th-round pick in this year's draft.

"We knew from day one he had the potential to go far, and we're incredibly proud to see him take this next step in his career," said CVCC Head Baseball Coach Hunter Vick.

O'Neal's journey from local high school standout to future Major Leaguer is a testament to the opportunities and development available at CVCC. The College congratulates him on this outstanding achievement and looks forward to watching his continued success at the professional level.



## KEY HALL UPGRADED WITH NEW EQUIPMENT FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES

Back in the spring, CVCC installed new workout equipment in the campus gym to better support its student-athletes. The upgraded strength and conditioning equipment provides athletes with improved resources for training, recovery, and overall performance. Funding for the project was made possible through support from the Wiregrass Resource Conservation and Development (WRC&D) Council, along with additional funding secured by State Representative Jeremy Gray.

These enhancements help ensure CVCC student-athletes have access to a dedicated space designed to meet the physical demands of collegiate athletics.

# TECHNICAL AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

## CVCC RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS METALLICA SCHOLARS INITIATIVE GRANT

Chattahoochee Valley Community College (CVCC) is proud to announce its selection as one of 15 nationwide recipients to join Year 7 of the prestigious Metallica Scholars Initiative (MSI). Supported by a generous \$75,000 grant aimed at enhancing the following:

- Tuition assistance for up to nine credit hours will be available to students within the HVAC, industrial maintenance, advanced automotive manufacturing, and welding programs
- \$230 will additionally be provided to each student in the above-mentioned programs to help with personal equipment, examination fees, etc.
- The goal is for all 30 of the students to receive an industry-recognized credential within the applied technologies program by the completion of the grant cycle

All Within My Hands (AWMH), the non-profit, philanthropic organization created by the members and management of Metallica, recently announced its Year 7 of its Metallica Scholars Initiative (MSI) with its largest grant to date, totaling approximately \$3M. MSI now has a presence in 75 colleges across all 50 United States and the territory of Guam and is expected to reach approximately 10,000 students.

Launched in 2019 by All Within My Hands in partnership with the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC), MSI began with 10 colleges focused primarily on Manufacturing programs. The workforce initiative has since expanded to offer opportunities in diverse fields for students interested in gaining the skills and training necessary to establish meaningful careers that provide family-sustaining wages.

“2025 is a watershed moment for the Metallica Scholars Initiative,” stated Peter Delgrosso, Executive Director, All Within My Hands. “With the addition of 15 new schools this fall and USC’s independent research articulating the strength of our results, we are eager



to tackle the quantifiable shortage of skilled labor our nation faces. If we extrapolate these ROI numbers over a career, it demonstrates how effective and profitable learning a trade can

be for the individual, and how society as a whole also benefits from community college graduates. This insight will profoundly affect MSI going forward, impacting how people view careers in the trades, encouraging more corporate and individual sponsorship, and driving its advancement across the country.”

Year 7 also marks the renewal of AWMH’s partnership with the Lowe’s Foundation, which has provided \$1 million in support as part of its five-year, \$50 million commitment to prepare 50,000 people for skilled trades careers.

It takes a village to achieve these results, including the continued support from many long-time corporate partners of AWMH, notably workwear manufacturers Carhartt, Wolverine, and CNH, a global leader in agricultural and construction equipment. The aforementioned, along with the extended Metallica Family of fans,

-Robert Trujillo  
Metallica Band Member

have supported AWMH from day one and worked tirelessly to advance its mission.

“I could not be any prouder of our Metallica Scholars. We know that our country needs millions of skilled tradespeople, and it warms my heart to know that our Foundation’s efforts are making a positive impact and putting hard-working people on the path to careers in the trades. Whether it’s a school visit or a meet and greet before a show, there is no better feeling than meeting our Metallica Scholars in person and hearing their stories of grit and determination firsthand, along with their pride and commitment. It is truly inspiring. To think we started with a few schools and a couple hundred students, and we’re now in 75 schools nationwide, about to reach 10,000 students. It’s just incredible.”



CVCC is officially on the road with its brand-new Commercial Driver’s License (CDL) Training Program, part of the Alabama Community College System’s (ACCS) Skills for Success initiative.

The new program offers no-cost, behind-the-wheel training for Alabama residents and workers looking to start or advance a career in commercial driving. It also provides a valuable opportunity for local employers who want to upskill their workforce and meet the region’s growing demand for skilled drivers.

“Through Skills for Success, we’re able to give our students and community members access to real, hands-on training that leads directly to good-paying jobs,” said Bobby Cook, Associate Dean of Workforce Development and CTE. “Our CDL program is designed to move people quickly from training to employment, meeting a critical need for qualified drivers in Alabama.”

The CDL training is designed to meet real employment needs throughout Alabama. Participants must have a valid CDL permit to enroll, and once completed, they’ll be ready to join Alabama’s

essential workforce of professional drivers.

In addition to CDL, Workforce development added Electrical Technology to the CTE program offerings.

The Electrical Technology program provides hands-on, industry-aligned training that prepares students for high-demand careers in residential, commercial, and industrial electrical work. With a focus on safety, technical skills, and real-world application, the program helps students gain the competencies employers are seeking while supporting the region’s growing need for skilled trades professionals.

Together, the CDL Training Program and the Electrical Technology Program demonstrate CVCC’s commitment to taking the next step in strengthening workforce pathways and creating clear, accessible opportunities for students to advance their careers. These initiatives not only support local employers but also empower individuals to gain the skills needed for long-term success in high-wage, high-demand fields.

## CVCC EXPANDS STEAM INNOVATION WITH NEW AI-POWERED ROBOT DOGS

CVCC is taking another bold step in career technical education with the addition of two state-of-the-art robot dogs, funded through an Alabama Community College System Workforce STEAM Grant. The \$84,000 investment brings artificial intelligence into the

classroom and enhances programs such as Emergency Medical Services, Fire Science, Criminal Justice, Cybersecurity, and Advanced Manufacturing.

The robot dogs Ceva and Zeus, use fully programmable 360-degree LiDAR technology to scan their surroundings, create 3D maps, and move safely through real-world environments. Ceva is being used in a Computer

Information course, while both dogs made their debut at the 2025 Career Exploration Camp, where students observed how LiDAR helps them detect and respond to obstacles in real time.

With two dogs, CVCC can dedicate one to recruitment, STEAM camps, and community outreach, while the other supports academic instruction. Their presence continues to grow: Zeus is scheduled to appear at the 7th Annual Let’s Grow STEAMx Youth College & Career Expo in Columbus, Georgia, on February 10, 2026.

Together, Ceva and Zeus demonstrate CVCC’s innovative approach to AI and its commitment to preparing students for the next step in an evolving workforce.



# COMMUNITY IN ACTION:

## EXPANDING CONNECTIONS AND EMPOWERING THE CHATTAHOOCHEE VALLEY

### CVCC HOSTS BUSINESS & INDUSTRY LUNCHEON FOCUSED ON WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIPS

In May, CVCC hosted its annual Business & Industry Luncheon, bringing together employers, community partners, and workforce leaders to discuss regional needs and strengthen collaborative efforts. President Jackie Screws opened the event, welcoming guests and emphasizing the importance of partnership in preparing students to take the next step into high-demand careers.

The centerpiece of the event was a panel discussion, "Empowering Tomorrow's Workforce: Navigating Regional Perspectives," featuring representatives from business, workforce development, nonprofit, and military sectors. Panelists shared insights on hiring trends, skills gaps, and the essential role of community colleges in training the region's workforce.

The luncheon also included updates from CVCC's Workforce Development team, spotlighting current initiatives and grant-funded opportunities that support students and local employers. Closing remarks reinforced the Alabama Community College System's continued focus on strengthening workforce pathways across the state.



### CVCC HOSTS ANNUAL MINISTERIAL LUNCHEON

In November, CVCC once again welcomed local pastors, ministry leaders, Foundation Board members, and staff to campus for its annual Ministerial Luncheon. Led by President Jackie Screws, the event provided an engaging look at the college's latest programs, scholarship opportunities, and financial aid resources.

College administrators shared updates on enrollment, new workforce pathways, and student support initiatives, offering church leaders practical information they can bring back to their congregations. The luncheon strengthens a longstanding partnership between CVCC and the faith community—helping ensure that students and families across the Chattahoochee Valley are aware of the educational options available to them.

By connecting directly with local churches, CVCC continues to broaden its outreach and encourage more students to take the next step toward their academic and career goals.



United Way Chili Cookoff and Costume Contest



Breast Cancer Awareness Walk



Fall Kickoff



Crawford Park Christmas

We ♥ Our Community



Track or Treat 5-K



Career Discovery Camp



Bi-City Christmas Parade



Campus Clean Up



Storytime with Santa



Alternative Baseball

# THREE NEW INDUCTEES WELCOMED INTO THE HALL OF FAME



**Dr. Donna Fleitas**



**Dr. Bridgett Jackson**



**Isabella Walker**

In March, CVCC hosted its 2025 Hall of Fame celebration in grand style at the Columbus Convention and Trade Center, bringing together alumni, supporters, faculty, staff, and community members for an evening of recognition, inspiration, and generosity.

This year's event drew a full house with 334 tickets sold and an incredible \$109,000 raised for the CVCC Foundation Scholarship Fund. These funds will help continue the Foundation's important mission. Last year alone, the Foundation awarded \$124,582 in scholarships to 109 deserving CVCC students.

The evening was made even more special thanks to the support of 78 sponsors, an elegant silent auction, and a raffle for a stunning pair of diamond earrings that added a touch of sparkle to the night.

Guests were warmly welcomed by smooth sounds from The Saxman, Warren Thornton, followed by lively performances from the Smiths Station High School Jazz Band and a moving selection from the CVCC Chorale Ensemble, led by Rhonda Turner.

Following a delicious plated dinner, Sherry Martin, Chair of the CVCC Foundation, offered opening remarks and welcomed the evening's emcee, Teresa Whittaker. Ms. Whittaker reflected fondly on her time at CVCC, setting the stage for President Jackie Screws, who shared her thoughts on the significance of the Hall of Fame before beginning the evening's highlight: the induction ceremony.

This year, CVCC proudly recognized three outstanding honorees:

**Isabella Walker, Distinguished Athlete**

**Dr. Donna Fleitas, Distinguished Service**

**Dr. Bridgett Jackson, Distinguished Alumna**

Each honoree exemplifies the Pirate spirit, demonstrating excellence, service, and impact in their respective fields and communities.

The 2025 Hall of Fame was not just a celebration of the past but a powerful investment in the future of CVCC students. We thank everyone who helped make this night unforgettable.



CVCC  
CHATTAHOOCHEE VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
FOUNDATION

INVITES YOU TO THE  
**2026 HALL OF FAME**  
THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2026 @ 6:00 PM  
COLUMBUS CONVENTION & TRADE CENTER

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES:  
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE  
**HEATH TAYLOR**  
DISTINGUISHED ATHLETE  
**TREVOR KIEBOOM**  
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI  
**NATALIE KIRKLAND**

DINNER, ENTERTAINMENT, AND AUCTION  
**TICKETS: \$100**  
SCAN HERE TO PURCHASE TICKETS

# THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

- |                            |                                     |                                 |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Paula Acton                | Franchise Missionary Baptist Church | Sherry Martin                   | Jackie Screws                 |
| Anne Agers                 | Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Fulmer           | Melissa Mason                   | Pamela Smith                  |
| Yalonda Agnew              | Funderburk Law Group                | Mr. and Mrs. John Mayhall       | Shana Smith                   |
| Sanquita Alexander         | Amanda Gamble                       | Anna McGhee                     | Mr. and Mrs. James Smith      |
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| Brannon Bass               | Goodwyn Mills Cawood LLC            | Anne Messner                    | Smurfit WestRock              |
| Beam                       | Taffy Hall                          | Mt. Mariah Baptist Church       | Joshua Sowell                 |
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| Mr. and Mrs. Steve Butler  | Stewart Hoven                       | Mr. and Mrs. Larry Pharo        | Doris Thornell                |
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| Nicole Cameron             | Dr. Bridgett Jackson                | Piedmont Healthcare             | Jamie Thrasher                |
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| Tracie Chancey             | Patricia James                      | Deairra Porsche                 | Nekita Tingle                 |
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| Coca-Cola                  | The Honorable David Johnson         | Providence Staffing, LLC        | Rhonda Turner                 |
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| Dr. Brenda Coley           | Kenneth Jones                       | David Quinney                   | William Turner                |
| Eric Colley                | Michael Jones                       | Susan Rapier                    | Samantha Vance                |
| Columbus & The Valley      | Robin Jones                         | Mr. and Mrs. Rick Ray           | W.C. Bradley Co.              |
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If you would like to support Chattahoochee Valley Community College through its Foundation, please visit [cv.edu/foundation](http://cv.edu/foundation).

# BY THE NUMBERS



2024-25 Annual Enrollment

**2,420**

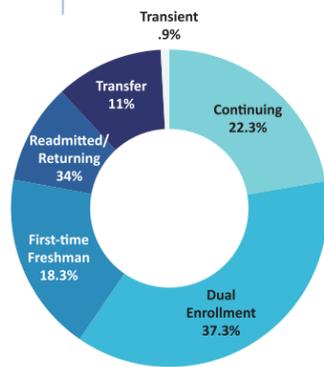


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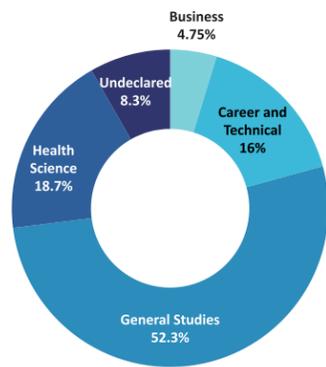
Student to Faculty Ratio

**903**

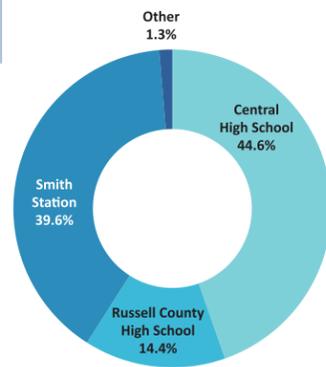
Dual Enrollment Students



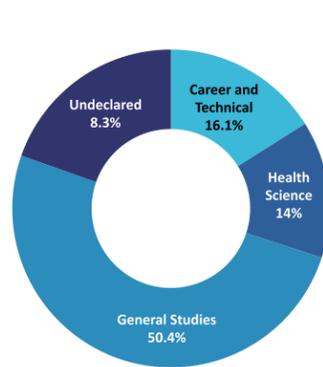
Student Type  
Total Enrollment



Programs of Study  
Total Enrollment



High Schools  
Dual Enrollment

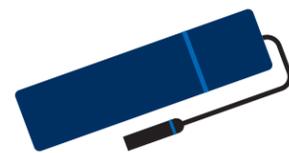


Programs of Study  
Dual Enrollment



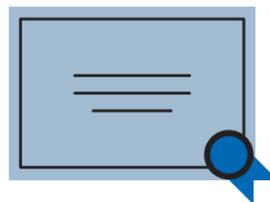
Graduates

**348**



Degrees Awarded

**189**



Certificates Awarded

**203**

# LOOKING AHEAD TO THE FUTURE



Chattahoochee Valley Community College marked an important moment of transition on December 1st with the appointment of Annette Funderburk as Interim President. The announcement was made on campus by Jimmy H. Baker, Chancellor of the Alabama Community College System, signaling both continuity and a clear focus on the future.

Funderburk steps into the role following the retirement of Jackie Screws, who concluded 38 years of service to the Alabama Community College System. As CVCC moves forward, the transition reflects a natural next step, one that builds on momentum while positioning the College to respond to evolving student and workforce needs.

With a career rooted in system-level leadership, workforce development, and institutional planning, Funderburk brings a broad perspective to CVCC. Since 2018, she has served as President of J.F. Ingram State Technical College, providing correctional education and statewide career and technical education, Adult Education and GED programming, and

workforce training initiatives. Her work included overseeing 19 instructional programs, strengthening business and industry partnerships, securing state and federal funding, and guiding long-range planning efforts to ensure programs remained responsive and sustainable.



Before leading Ingram State, Funderburk held several leadership roles within the ACCS, including Interim President, Director of External Affairs, and Workforce and Governmental Affairs Officer. In those positions, she worked closely with the Alabama Legislature, the Governor's Office, and state agencies, gaining valuable insight into how colleges can align education and workforce priorities to support economic growth across the state.

Funderburk holds a Master of Public Administration from Troy University and is a Certified County Administrator. Chancellor Baker noted that her depth of experience and strong

statewide relationships make her well prepared to guide CVCC during this transition period.

As Interim President, Funderburk brings a steady, forward-looking approach focused on collaboration and continuity. Her leadership supports CVCC's ongoing efforts to strengthen academic and workforce pathways, expand partnerships, and ensure students are prepared for what comes next. As the College looks ahead, her experience and perspective help set a clear course for continued progress. She and her husband, Ken, have three adult children and two grandchildren.





CHATAHOOCHEE VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE



2602 College Drive  
Phenix City, AL 36869

334.291.4900

For a complete listing of programs or for more information, visit us online at [www.cv.edu](http://www.cv.edu).

Chattahoochee Valley Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award Associate degrees. Chattahoochee Valley Community College also may offer credentials such as certificates and diplomas at approved degree levels. Questions about the accreditation of Chattahoochee Valley Community College may be directed in writing to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097, by calling 404-679-4500, or by using information available on SACSCOC's website ([www.sacscoc.org](http://www.sacscoc.org)).

Chattahoochee Valley Community College (CVCC), as one of the postsecondary institutions under control of the Alabama Community College System (ACCS) Board of Trustees, adopts the official policy of the ACCS System office, that no person, on the basis of any impermissible criterion or characteristic including, without limitation, race, color, national origin, religion, marital status, disability, sex, age, or any other protected class as defined by Federal and State Law, shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program, activity, or employment. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Human Resources Director, 334-291-4927, and Associate Dean of Student Development and Success, 334-214-4803. Offices are located at 2602 College Drive, Phenix City, AL 36869. For further information on notice of nondiscrimination, visit <http://wdcrobcopl01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm> for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.