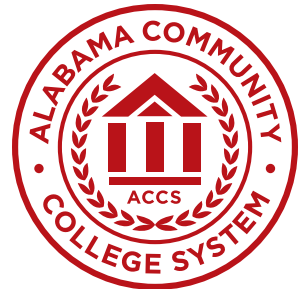
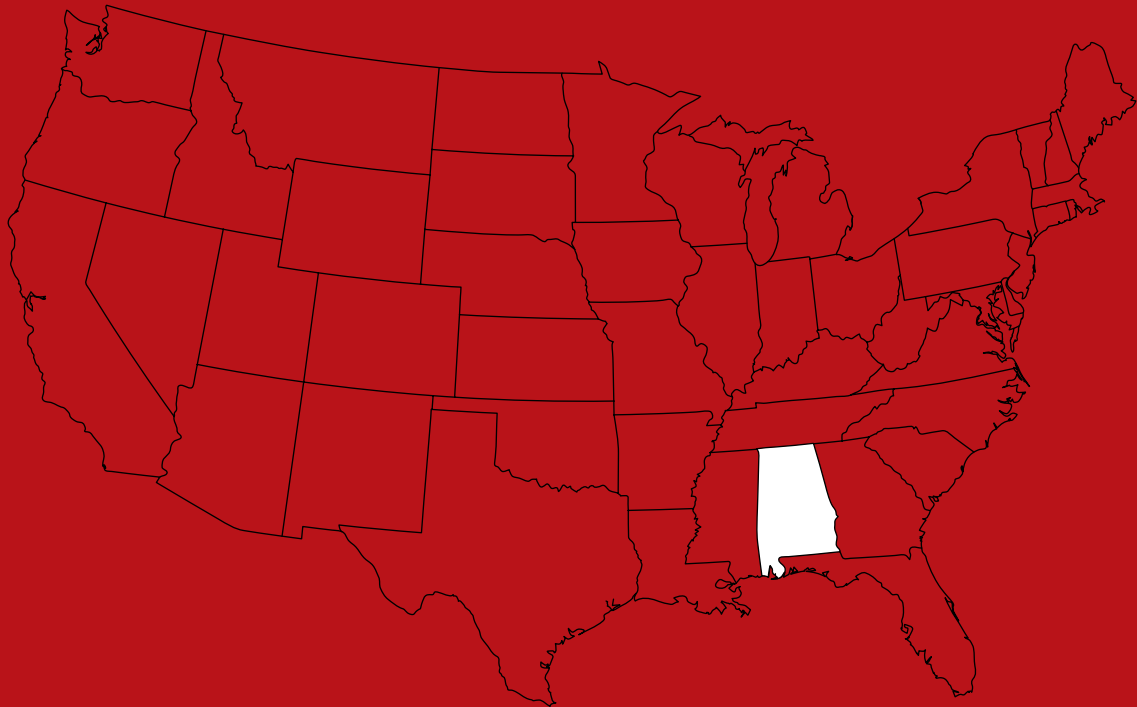


Alabama's biggest
success story
is being written
as we speak.

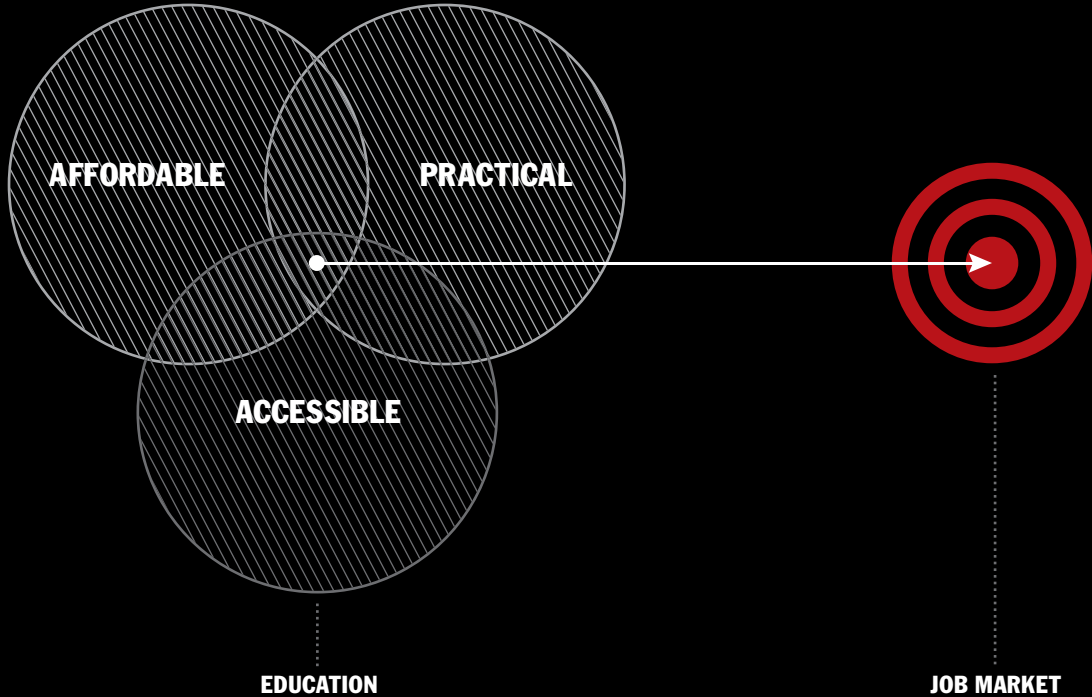




“Alabama leads the U.S.
in education.”

That's how the story ends. But where does it begin? How does Alabama become a state where education is not only a priority, but a point of pride?

In the Alabama Community College System, we believe it's a matter of making quality education affordable, practical and accessible. Tailoring education to the demands of the job market, as well as the needs of our students. Producing more effective graduates for a more efficient workforce. Ultimately attracting more industry, sparking more growth and elevating the entire state in the process.





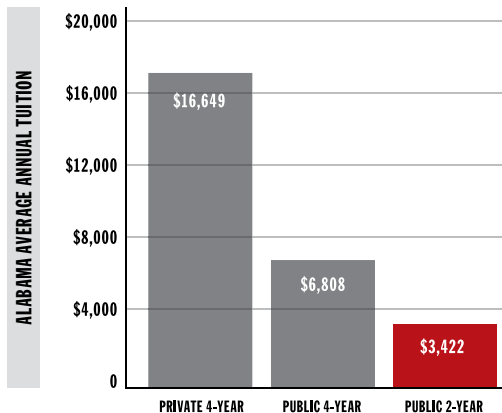
“Community colleges are the Cinderella story of our education system – doing the hard work, quietly. They provide a pathway to the American Dream for millions of people, whether they enter the workforce immediately afterward or decide to continue their education.”

– *Forbes*

World-class education. Real-world affordability.

Higher education in America is at a crossroads. The perception held by many is that a college degree now costs a whole lot more than it's worth. The ACCS, however, continues to stay firmly on the right side of that value equation.

The average cost to attend an ACCS institution is only about half that of most other public institutions in the state. And keeping education affordable and accessible for Alabamians is how we continue to strengthen our state's workforce and economy.



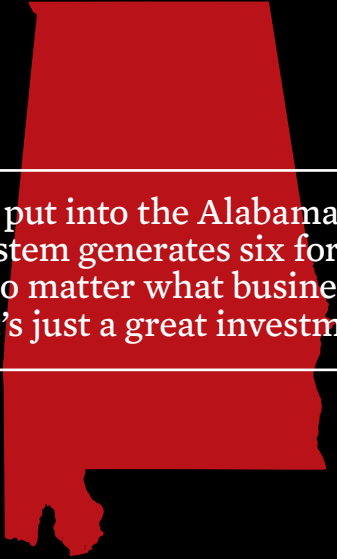
**“3 IN 4 AMERICANS NOW SAY
THAT COLLEGE IS TOO EXPENSIVE
FOR MOST PEOPLE TO AFFORD.”**

— ARNE DUNCAN, U.S. EDUCATION SECRETARY



Fig. 2 **RETURN ON INVESTMENT**

6:1



Every dollar put into the Alabama Community College System generates six for our state's economy. No matter what business you're in, that's just a great investment.

“Economic Impact and Return on Investment Analysis: Alabama Community College System”
conducted by Dr. M. Keivan Deravi, Professor of Economics at Auburn University at Montgomery.

Degrees of distinction.

ACCS schools are the most affordable higher education options in the state. Is this important? Absolutely. Is it enough? **Not by a long shot.**

The value of our institutions goes far beyond just a palatable price tag. Alabama's community colleges provide an exceptional higher education experience. The quality of an ACCS education, and what it means for the resulting success of our students, is where you find our true value.

FOR EXAMPLE: Studies have shown that ACCS students who transfer to 4-year schools are as successful as those who started there—if not more. Plus, our nursing students consistently and significantly beat the national average for licensure testing.



**TOP 10% OF
COMMUNITY
COLLEGES
NATIONWIDE**

**WHITE HOUSE
“CHAMPION
OF CHANGE”**

**TOP 10 DIGITAL
COMMUNITY
COLLEGES**

ENTERPRISE STATE

NORTHEAST-ALABAMA

WALLACE STATE-HANCEVILLE

LAWSON STATE

JEFFERSON STATE

“By 2018, an estimated 63% of all new U.S. jobs will require workers with an education beyond high school.”

– Bill Gates, Chairman,
Microsoft Corp.



VISION

A state of progress.

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE. At its core, this is the essence of education. And in the Alabama Community College System, it's the singular focus of everything we do.

STEM EDUCATION

In order to meet the rapidly growing demand of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) occupations, the ACCS has initiated partnerships with K-12 schools, four-year schools and companies in order to ensure Alabama can meet the needs of burgeoning industries.

DUAL ENROLLMENT

For some students, ACCS dual enrollment programs are an opportunity to get a head start on career training. For others, dual enrollment increases graduation rates and provides a gateway to higher education they might not pursue otherwise.

CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS

To help secure the futures of the people and companies who call Alabama home, the ACCS partners with more than 1,000 corporations like Bell Helicopters and Mercedes-Benz to provide high-skill training for the engineering and manufacturing jobs of the future.

77,000+

Alabama students in
career tech education.

“I tell companies all over the world that the best training programs are right here in Alabama. They want well-trained workers. The two-year system is what makes the difference.”

– Governor Robert Bentley



Closing the skills gaps. Opening new doors.

What put Alabama on the map for so many international companies? Our workforce, and our steadfast commitment to its development. As more medium-skill and high-skill workers are trained, more and more companies like Mercedes-Benz, Hyundai, Honda and Airbus take notice—and take us seriously.

That's exactly why, in 2011, Governor Robert Bentley appointed the ACCS the “lead agency in creating a workforce training system that is the best and most efficient in the country.” And that's why we're more than happy to accept the challenge.

Alabama's three automakers combined to produce more than 880,000 vehicles last year, a 17 percent increase from 2011 and a record high level for the industry that kicked off nearly 20 years ago.

*- The Birmingham News
January 07, 2013*

“We are going to create great jobs and generate growth right here. We know in aerospace, when we create one job, there are about four related jobs, so we could bring as many as 5,000 jobs.”

- Fabrice Bregier, Airbus CEO



Education for all.

Why do we at the ACCS hang our collective hat on the affordability of our education? Simple: education is something everyone should be able to earn.

**A better educated
state is a more
successful state.**

▶ That's why we go to great lengths to provide opportunities for the underserved, undereducated and underemployed; from our adult education initiatives and community scholarships to the Rural Education Alliance and our TRIO scholarships, which help lower income students from middle school all the way through college.

Fig. 3 **ACCESSIBILITY**

50%+

ACCS students account for more than 50% of college freshmen and sophomores in the state of Alabama.



The Alabama Community College System is vital to:

- A) the future of our workforce
- B) the future of our economy
- C) the future of our state
- D) all of the above

Answer: **D**) all of the above

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DISTRICT 2

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Bishop State Community College
Marion Military Institute
H. Councill Trenholm State
Technical College
George Corley Wallace State
Community College

DISTRICT 6

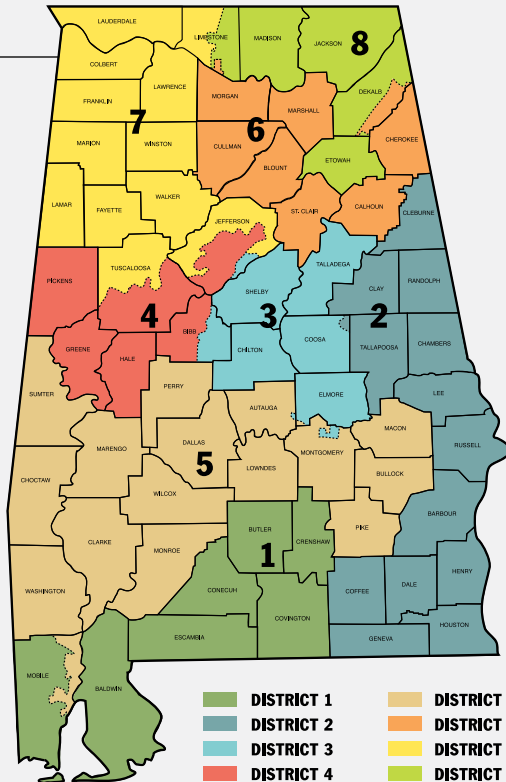
John C. Calhoun Community College
Gadsden State Community College
– Ayers Campus
Snead State Community College
Wallace State Community College

DISTRICT 7

Bevill State Community College
Jefferson State Community College
– Jefferson Campus
Northwest-Shoals Community College

DISTRICT 8

John C. Calhoun Community College
– Huntsville Campus
J.F. Drake State Technical College
Gadsden State Community College
Northeast Alabama Community College





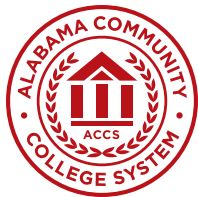


As we all know well, community colleges have recently been thrust into the forefront of the national education and training conversation. As this conversation has gained momentum, it is perfectly clear that our great state is inextricably dependent on the Alabama Community College System for state-of-the-art education, cutting-edge workforce development, and progressive adult education.

Success has many faces. And in the ACCS, we've helped millions of Alabamians pursue their own—whether it's an academic journey leading to a degree, cultivating new skills, enhancing existing ones to advance a career, or developing a talented workforce for businesses large and small. We're so proud of our own successes in these missions, and look forward to many more in the coming years.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Heinrich". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mark" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Heinrich".

Mark A. Heinrich, Chancellor, ACCS



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