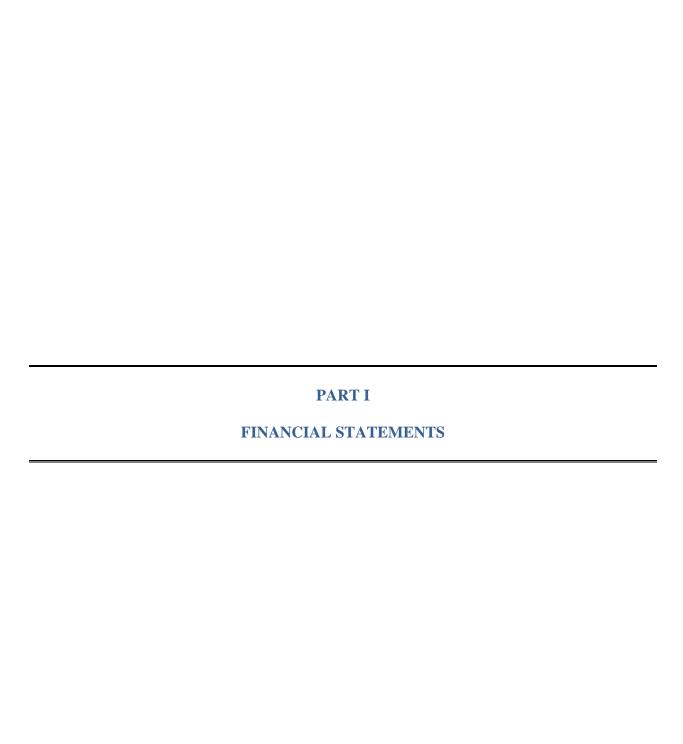
Northwest-Shoals Community College Financial Statements September 30, 2023

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Independent Auditors' Report

Jimmy Baker, Chancellor – Alabama Community College System Dr. Jeff Goodwin, President – Northwest-Shoals Community College Muscle Shoals and Phil Campbell, Alabama

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of Northwest-Shoals Community College (the "College"), a component unit of the State of Alabama, and its discretely presented component unit, Northwest-Shoals Community College Foundation ("the Foundation"), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the College's basic financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of the other auditors, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the College as of September 30, 2023, and the changes in financial position and its cash flows, for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We did not audit the financial statements of the Foundation, which represent 100% of the assets, net position, and revenues of the discretely presented component unit as of March 31, 2023. Those statements were audited by other auditors whose report has been furnished to us, and our opinions, insofar as they relate to the amounts included for Northwest-Shoals Community College Foundation, are based solely on the report of the other auditors.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. The financial statements of the Foundation were not audited in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. We are required to be independent of the College and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 4, the College implemented GASB 96 Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements during the year ended September 30, 2023. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the College's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and Government Auditing Standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the College's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the College's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control—related matters that we identified during the audit.



Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, the schedule of proportionate share of the net pension liability, the schedule of pension contributions, the schedule of proportionate share of the net OPEB liability, and the schedule of OPEB contributions, as listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with GAAS, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included in the report. The other information comprises the listing of College Officials, as listed in the table of contents, but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the basic financial statements does not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated January 16, 2024 on our consideration of the College's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the College's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the College's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Athens, Alabama January 16, 2024

Mauldin & Jerkins, LLC

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Northwest-Shoals Community College Management's Discussion and Analysis September 30, 2023

Overview of the Financial Statements and Financial Analysis

This section of Northwest-Shoals Community College's Annual Financial Report represents management's discussion and analysis of the College's financial activity during the fiscal years ended September 30, 2022, and September 30, 2023. There are three financial statements presented: the Statement of Net Position; the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position; and the Statement of Cash Flows.

Statement of Net Position

The Statement of Net Position presents the assets, deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources, liabilities, and net position of the College. The Statement of Net Position is a point of time financial statement. The purpose of the Statement of Net Position is to present to the readers of the financial statements a fiscal snapshot of Northwest-Shoals Community College. The Statement of Net Position presents end-of-year data concerning Assets (current and non-current), Liabilities (current and non-current), deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources, and Net Position (Assets and deferred outflows of resources minus deferred inflows of resources and Liabilities). The difference between current and non-current assets will be discussed in the financial statement disclosures.

From the data presented, readers of the Statement of Net Position are able to determine the assets available to continue the operations of the institution. They are also able to determine how much the institution owes vendors, investors and lending institutions. Finally, the Statement of Net Position provides a picture of the net position (assets and deferred outflows of resources minus deferred inflows of resources and liabilities) and their availability for expenditure by the institution.

Net position is divided into three major categories. The first category, invested in capital assets, net of debt, provides the institution's equity in property, plant and equipment owned by the institution. The next category is restricted net position, which is divided into two categories, non-expendable and expendable (which are both restricted by external sources). The corpus of non-expendable restricted resources is only available for investment purposes. Expendable restricted net position is available for expenses of the institution but must be spent for purposes as determined by donors and/or external entities that have placed time or purpose restrictions on the use of the assets. The final category is unrestricted net position which is available to the institution for any appropriate purpose of the institution.

Northwest-Shoals Community College Management's Discussion and Analysis September 30, 2023

Statement of Net Position (thousands of dollars)

			Increase	Percent
_	2023	2022	(Decrease)	Change
Assets:				
Current Assets	\$ 43,784	\$ 42,864	\$ 920	2.15%
Noncurrent Assets, Net	28,583	28,419	164	0.58%
Total Assets	72,367	71,283	1,084	1.52%
Deferred Outflows of Resources	13,922	8,945	4,977	55.64%
Liabilities:				
Current Liabilities	5,884	5,956	(72)	-1.21%
Noncurrent Liabilities	47,525	42,680	4,845	11.35%
Total Liabilities	53,409	48,636	4,773	9.81%
Deferred Inflows of Resources	12,506	13,211	(705)	-5.34%
Net Position:				
Net Invested in Capital Assets	12,538	11,964	574	4.80%
Restricted	1,154	1,141	13	1.14%
Unrestricted	6,682	5,276	1,406	26.65%
Total Net Position	\$ 20,374	\$ 18,381	\$ 1,993	10.84%

Assets

Current assets consist of cash and cash equivalents, short term investments, accounts receivable, deposits with bond trustees, and other current assets. Total assets increased \$1.1 million, consisting of \$920,000 from current assets and \$164,000 from noncurrent assets. The largest increase in assets was Buildings and Business Alterations, \$443,000. Other significant increases include \$4.4 million in Cash and Cash Equivalents and \$2 million in improvements. The largest decrease in assets was \$2.56 million in Accounts Receivable mainly due to a decrease in student tuition and third-party tuition owed, and also a \$1,021,419 recognition of allowance for doubtful accounts expense.

Deferred Outflows of Resources

Deferred outflows of resources are defined as a consumption of net assets by the government that is applicable to a future reporting period. The approximate \$4.7 million increase in Deferred Outflow of Resources is due to a increase in both pensions (\$4.7 million) and other postemployment benefits (\$233,289). The increase in deferred outflows related to pensions and other post-employment benefits are due to the change in values during the 2022-2023 fiscal year. This deferred outflow of resources represents the portion of the pension liability already paid by the College for the fiscal year 2023-2024. The deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from College contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a decrease of the net OPEB liability in the year ended September 30, 2024.

Current Liabilities

Current liabilities consist of deposits, accounts payable, unearned revenue, the current portion of compensated absences, the current portion of long-term liabilities, and other current liabilities. Current liabilities decreased by \$72,000.

Noncurrent Liabilities

Noncurrent liabilities consist of principal amounts due on bonds, notes, and leases, unfunded pensions, and the noncurrent portion of compensated absences. Noncurrent liabilities increased by \$4.8 million due mainly to a \$10 million increase Net Pension. The net OPEB liability, required by GASB 75, was measured as of September 30, 2022 and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2021. The College's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on a projection of the College's long-term share of contributions to the OPEB plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating employers, actuarially determined. The net OPEB liability decreased \$5.1 million.

Deferred Inflows of Resources

Deferred inflows of resources are defined as an acquisition of net assets by the government that is applicable to a future reporting period. The Deferred Inflow of Resources decreased by \$705,000 due to a \$4.1 million decrease in pensions and a \$3 million increase in post-employment benefits. Pension related assets and liabilities are based on the annual actuarial valuation which may fluctuate significantly for such factors as changes in plan experience or changes in economic or demographic assumptions.

Net Position

Net position represents the residual value in the College's assets and deferred outflows of resources after all deferred inflows of resources and liabilities are deducted. Overall net position increased by \$2 million due to several factors including an increase in capital assets net of depreciation and related debt, a net increase in unrestricted net position, and an increase in restricted net position related to debt service liability.

Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position

Changes in total net position as presented on the Statement of Net Position are based on the activity presented in the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position. The purpose of the statement is to present the revenues received by the institution, both operating and non-operating, and the expenses paid by the institution, operating and non-operating, and any other revenues, expenses, gains and losses received or spent by the institution.

Generally speaking, operating revenues are received for providing goods and services to the various customers and constituencies of the institution. Operating expenses are those expenses paid to acquire or produce the goods and services provided in return for the operating revenues and to carry out the mission of the institution. Non-operating revenues are revenues received for which goods and services are not provided. For example, state appropriations are non-operating because they are provided by the Legislature to the institution without the Legislature directly receiving commensurate goods and services for those revenues.

The below chart displays (in thousands of dollars), the operating revenues by type and their relationship with one another. Some highlights of the information presented on the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position are the following:

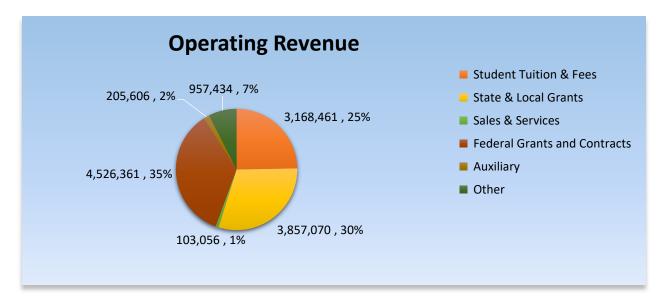
Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position (thousands of dollars)

	 2023	 2022	Increa (Decrea		Percent Change
Operating Revenues	\$ 12,818	\$ 12,139	\$ 6	79	5.59%
Operating Expenses	34,070	 32,114	1,9	56	6.09%
Operating Loss	(21,252)	(19,975)	(1,2	277)	6.39%
Non-Operating Revenues and Expenses	23,245	 25,554	(2,3	09)	-9.04%
Increase in Net Position	1,993	5,579	(3,5	86)	-64.28%
Net Position at Beginning of Year	18,381	13,690	4,6	91	34.27%
Restatements	-	 (888)	8	88	
Net Position at End of Year	\$ 20,374	\$ 18,381	\$ 1,9	93	10.84%

Operating Revenues

Total Operating Revenue increased by \$679,000, largely due to a \$0.4 million decrease in net tuition, offset by a \$0.2 million increase in Federal Grants, an increase of \$0.2 million in state grants and \$0.4 million increase in Other Operating Revenues. Gross tuition was \$10.9 million for fiscal year 2023 and \$9.7 million for fiscal year 2022. However, \$1.6 million more in scholarship allowances were recognized in 2023, making the net tuition change of \$0.4 million. Federal grants of \$4.52 million are the largest type of operating revenue followed by student tuition revenue of \$3.2 million.

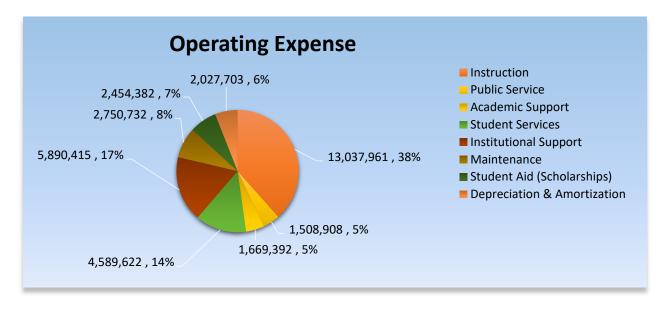
The below chart displayed in thousands of dollars, the operating revenues by type and their relationship with one another. Some highlights of the information presented on the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position are the following:



Operating Expenses

Operating expenses increased by \$2 million, largely due to a \$2 million increase in Instruction. Depreciation expense increased by \$0.1 million due to a normal depreciation of asset additions.

The operating expenses by function stated in thousands are displayed in the following exhibit.



Nonoperating Revenues

State Appropriations increased by \$1 million from the previous year, due to an overall increase in legislative appropriations. Federal grants decreased by \$3.5 million mainly due to a decrease in CARES Act revenue compared to the previous year. Overall Nonoperating Revenues decreased by \$2.3 million.

Nonoperating Expenses

Total non-operating expenses increased by \$6,898 mainly due to a \$0.2 million increase in debt interest payments and a \$0.2 million decrease related to bond issuance costs from the 2022 bond issue.

Statement of Cash Flows

The final statement presented is the Statement of Cash Flows which presents detailed information about the cash activity of the institution during the year. The statement is divided into five parts. The first part deals with operating cash flows and shows the net cash used by the operating activities of the institution. The second section reflects cash flows from non-operating activities. This section reflects the cash received and spent for non-operating (state appropriations plus federal grants and loans), non-investing, and non-capital purposes. The third section reflects the cash flows from the purchase of capital buildings and equipment and any borrowings (Bond Issues) used for the funding those capital purchases. The fourth section deals with cash flows from investing activities. The fifth section summarizes any cash transactions that would impact any prior year adjustments made during the current fiscal year.

Operating Activities

Cash used for operating activities of approximately \$17.5 million increased by \$1 million mainly due to an increase payments of receivables related to tuition and fees, offset by increases in payments to employees and utilities.

Noncapital Financing Activities

Cash provided from non-operating activities decreased by \$2 million mainly due to a \$3.5 million decrease in Federal Grants cash receipts offset by a \$1 million increase in State Appropriations.

Capital and related Financing Activities

Cash used for capital and related financing activities decreased by \$0.8 million. This decreases was attributable to a reduction of purchases and acquisition of capital assets.

Investing Activities

The \$1.2 million increase in cash flow from investing activities was mostly due the net result of the maturity of securities during the fiscal year.

	(In T	housands)		
			Increase	
	2023	2022	(Decrease)	Change
Cash Provided (Used) by				
Operating Activities	\$ (17,453)	\$ (18,455)	\$ 1,002	5.43%
Non-Capital Activities	23,629	25,659	(2,030)	-7.91%
Capital Activities	(3,108)	(2,305)	(803)	-34.84%
Investing Activities	1,349	67	1,282	191.34%
Net Change in Cash	4,417	4,966	(549)	-11.06%
Cash, Beginning of Year	19,543	14,577	4,966	34.07%
Cash, End of Year	\$ 23,960	\$ 19,543	\$ 4,417	22.60%

Economic Outlook

The College is not aware of any other currently known facts, decisions, or conditions that are expected to have a significant effect on the financial position or results of operations during this upcoming fiscal year.

Contacting Northwest-Shoals Community College Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our stakeholders with a general overview of the College's finances and to show the College's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Business Office, at 800 George Wallace Blvd, Muscle Shoals, AL 35661.

Northwest-Shoals Community College Statement of Net Position September 30, 2023

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 23,959,750
Short-Term Investments	5,301,288
Accounts Receivable, Net of Allowance for	
Doubtful Accounts of \$1,021,419	4,630,933
Inventories	199,067
Deposit with Bond Trustee	8,781,497
Other Current Assets	 911,267
Total Current Assets	 43,783,802
Noncurrent Assets	
Long-Term Investments	730,000
Capital Assets:	,
Land	935,553
Improvements Other Than Buildings	3,546,018
Buildings and Building Alterations	44,173,888
Equipment and Software	13,801,548
Library Holdings	837,055
Construction in Progress	1,262,422
Right of Use Asset – Lease	90,078
Subscription Based IT Arrangements	38,985
Less: Accumulated Depreciation and Amortization	(36,851,313)
Total Capital Assets, Net of Depreciation and Amortization	 27,834,234
Other Assets	 18,855
Total Noncurrent Assets	 28,583,089
Total Assets	 72,366,891
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Deferred Outflows of Resources Related to Pensions	9,990,601
Deferred Outflows of Resources Related to OPEB	 3,931,251
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	13,921,852

Northwest-Shoals Community College Statement of Net Position September 30, 2023

LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities	
Deposits	\$ 200,373
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	2,016,118
Unearned Revenue	3,110,207
Compensated Absences	88,989
Lease Liabilities - Current	27,004
Subscriptions Liabilities – Current	13,059
Bonds Payable	427,949
Donas Lajuote	
Total Current Liabilities	5,883,699
Non-Current Liabilities	
Deposits	726,000
Compensated Absences	800,903
Lease Liabilities	17,933
Bonds Payable	14,827,673
Net Pension Liability	28,266,000
Net OPEB Liability	2,886,091
Total Non-Current Liabilities	47,524,600
Total Liabilities	53,408,299
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	1 (0 (000
Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions	1,606,000
Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB	10,900,265
Total Deferred Inflow of Resources	12,506,265
NET POSITION	
Net Position	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	12,538,549
Restricted Expendable:	
Debt Service	427,949
Scholarships and Fellowships	726,000
Unrestricted	6,681,681
Total Nat Desition	\$ 20.274.170
Total Net Position	\$ 20,374,179

Northwest-Shoals Community College Foundation Statement of Financial Position – Discretely Presented Component Unit March 31, 2023

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 204,990
Cash and Cash Equivalents – Restricted in Use	226,865
Accrued Interest Receivable	 5,000
Total Current Assets	 436,855
Non-Current Assets	
Investments	 1,344,527
Total Assets	\$ 1,781,382
LIABILITIES	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$
NET ASSETS	
Without Donor Restrictions	204,990
With Donor Restrictions	1,576,392
Total Net Assets	 1,781,382
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 1,781,382

Northwest-Shoals Community College Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

OPERATING REVENUES	
Student Tuition and Fees (Net of Scholarship Allowances of \$7,732,203)	\$ 3,168,461
Other Operating Revenues	957,434
Federal Grants and Contracts	4,526,361
State and Local Grants and Contracts	3,857,070
Sales and Services of Educational Activities	103,056
Other Auxiliary Enterprises	205,606
Total Operating Revenues	12,817,988
OPERATING EXPENSES	
Instruction	13,037,961
Public Service	1,508,908
Academic Support	1,669,392
Student Services	4,589,622
Institutional Support	5,890,415
Operation and Maintenance	2,750,732
Scholarships and Financial Aid	2,454,382
Depreciation and Amortization	2,027,703
Auxiliary Enterprises	 140,513
Total Operating Expenses	 34,069,628
Operating Loss	(21,251,640)
NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)	
State and Local Appropriations	16,174,611
Federal Grants	7,207,794
Gifts, Noncash Gifts, and Revenue	275,021
Investment Income	170,649
Bond Surety Fee Expense	(54,188)
Other Nonoperating Expense	(5,127)
Interest on Debt	 (524,234)
Net Nonoperating Revenues	 23,244,526
Change in Net Position	1,992,886
Total Net Position - Beginning of Year	 18,381,293
Total Net Position - End of Year	\$ 20,374,179

Northwest-Shoals Community College Foundation Statement of Activities – Discretely Presented Component Unit For the Year Ended March 31, 2023

		Without Donor estrictions	R	With Donor Restrictions		Total
Operating Activities						
Revenue and Support:						
Cash Contributions	\$	89,798	\$	111,159	\$	200,957
Contributed Non-Financial Assets	·	58,032	•	_	·	58,032
Special Events Income		23,490		_		23,490
Interest and Dividends				37,638		37,638
Investment Return, Net		_		(93,305)		(93,305)
Net Assets Released from Restrictions		84,518		(84,518)		-
Total Support and Revenue		255,838		(29,026)		226,812
Expenses:						
Program Support		266,583		_		266,583
Support Services		101,096				101,096
Total Expenses		367,679				367,679
Change in Net Assets		(111,841)		(29,026)		(140,867)
Net Assets at Beginning of Year		316,831		1,605,418		1,922,249
Net Assets at End of Year	\$	204,990	\$	1,576,392	\$	1,781,382

Northwest-Shoals Community College Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Tuition and Fees	\$	5,861,014
Grants and Contracts		8,383,431
Payments to Suppliers		(6,754,347)
Payments for Utilities		(1,257,321)
Payments for Employees		(16,707,939)
Payments for Benefits		(5,511,925)
Payments for Scholarships		(2,731,997)
Sales and Service of Educational Services		103,056
Other Receipts (Payments)		957,434
Auxiliary Enterprises		205,606
Net Cash Used in Operating Activities		(17,452,988)
CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
State and Local Appropriations		16,174,611
Gifts and Grants for Other than Capital Purposes		275,021
Federal Grants		7,207,794
Federal Direct Loan Receipts		1,996,804
Federal Direct Loan Disbursements		(1,996,804)
Other Nonoperating Revenues and Expenditures		(28,261)
Net Cash Provided by Noncapital Financing Activities		23,629,165
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTI	VITI	ES
Purchase of Capital Assets and Construction		(2,132,815)
Interest Paid on Capital Debt and Leases		(524,234)
Principal Payments on Capital Debt and Lease Liabilities		(451,364)
Net Cash Used in Capital and Related Financing Activities		(3,108,413)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from Sales and Maturities of Investments		7,210,040
Purchase of Investments		(6,031,288)
Investment Income		170,649
Net Cash Provided by Investing Activities		1,349,401
·		
Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents		4,417,165
Cash and Cash Equivalents - Beginning of Year		19,542,585
Cash and Cash Equivalents - End of Year	\$	23,959,750

Northwest-Shoals Community College Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

Reconciliation of Net Operating Loss to Net Cash Used in Operating Activities Operating Loss	\$ (21,251,640)
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Loss to Net	
Cash Used in Operating Activities	
Depreciation and Amortization Expense	2,027,703
Pension and OPEB Expense	(434,755)
Changes in Assets, Deferred Outflows/Inflows, and Liabilities:	
Decrease in Receivables	2,570,039
Decrease in Inventory	6,888
Increase in Other Assets	(277,614)
Decrease in Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	 (93,609)
Net Cash Used in Operating Activities	\$ (17,452,988)

Noncash Investing, Capital, and Financing Activities:

The College recorded \$40,394 in right-of-use leased and software subscription assets during the year.

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of Northwest-Shoals Community College (the "College" or "NWSCC") are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant accounting policies of Northwest-Shoals Community College are described below.

A. Reporting Entity

The College is a component unit of the State of Alabama. A component unit is a legally separate organization for which the elected officials of the primary government are financially accountable. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) in Statement Number 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity*, states that a primary government is financially accountable for a component unit if it appoints a voting majority of an organization's governing body and (1) it is able to impose its will on that organization or (2) there is a potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on, the primary government. In this case, the primary government is the State of Alabama which through the Alabama Community College System Board of Trustees governs the Alabama Community College System. The Alabama Community College System through its Chancellor has the authority and responsibility for the operation, management, supervision, and regulation of the College. In addition, the College receives a substantial portion of its funding from the State of Alabama (potential to impose a specific financial burden). Based on these criteria, the College is considered for financial reporting purposes to be a component unit of the State of Alabama.

B. Component Units

Northwest-Shoals Community College Foundation (the "Foundation" or "NWSCCF") is a legally separate, tax-exempt organization that is organized exclusively for charitable, scientific, and educational purposes for the benefit of the College. Because of the significance of the relationship between the College and the Foundation, the Foundation is considered a component unit of the College. Organizations that are legally separate, tax-exempt entities and that meet all of the following criteria should be discretely presented as component units. These criteria are:

- The economic resources received or held by the separate organization are entirely or almost entirely for the direct benefit of the primary government, its component units, or its constituents.
- The primary government, or its component units, is entitled to, or has the ability to otherwise access, a majority of the economic resources received or held by the separate organization.
- The economic resources received or held by an individual organization that the specific primary government, or its component units, is entitled to, or has the ability to otherwise access, are significant to that primary government.

Although the College does not control the timing or amount of receipts from NWSCCF, the majority of resources, or income thereon that NWSCCF holds and invests are restricted to the activities of the College by the donors. Because these restricted resources held by NWSCCF can only be used by, or for the benefit of, the College, CCF is discretely presented as a component unit of the College. NWSCCF is reported in its original format on separate financial statements because of the difference in its reporting model as further described below. Complete financial statements for NWSCCF are available from the Foundation's director upon request.

The Foundation is a not-for-profit organization that reports its financial results under the Financial Accounting Standard Board (FASB) Statements. Most significant to the Foundation's operations and reporting model is Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 958, *Not-for-Profit Entities*. As such, certain revenue recognition criteria and presentation features are different from GASB revenue recognition criteria presentation features. No modifications have been made to the Foundation's financial information in the College's financial reporting entity for these differences; however, significant note disclosures (see Note 11) to the Foundation's financial statements have been incorporated into the College's notes to the financial statements.

C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation

Northwest-Shoals Community College follows all applicable GASB pronouncements. The financial statements of Northwest-Shoals Community College have been prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

It is the policy of the College to first apply restricted resources when an expense is incurred and then apply unrestricted resources when both restricted and unrestricted net position are available.

The Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position distinguishes between operating and non-operating revenues. Operating revenues, such as tuition and fees, result from exchange transactions associated with the principal activities of the College. Exchange transactions are those in which each party to the transactions receives or gives up essentially equal values. Non-operating revenues arise from exchange transactions not associated with the College's principal activities, such as investment income and from all non-exchange transactions, such as state appropriations, gifts, and Pell grants.

D. Accounting Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

Northwest-Shoals Community College Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

E. Assets, Deferred Outflows of Resources, Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net

Position

1. Cash, Cash Equivalents, and Investments

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

Statutes authorize the College to invest in the same type of instruments as allowed by Alabama law for domestic life insurance companies. This includes a wide range of investments, such as direct obligations of the United States of America, obligations issued or guaranteed by certain federal agencies, and bonds of any state, county, city, town, village, municipality, district or other political subdivision of any state or any instrumentality or board thereof or of the United States of America that meet specified criteria.

Investments are reported at fair value based on quoted market prices, except for money market investments and repurchase agreements, which are reported at amortized cost.

2. Receivables

Accounts receivable relate to amounts due from students, federal grants, state grants, third party tuition, and auxiliary enterprise sales, such as food service, bookstore, and residence halls. The receivables are shown net of allowance for doubtful accounts.

3. Capital Assets

Capital assets, other than intangible assets, with a unit cost of over \$5,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of one year, and all library books, are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. The capitalization threshold for intangible assets such as capitalized software and internally generated computer software is \$1 million and \$100,000 for easements and land use rights and patents, trademarks, and copyrights. In addition, works of art and historical treasures and similar assets are recorded at their historical cost. Donated capital assets are recorded at fair market value at the date of donation. Land, construction in progress, and intangible assets with indefinite lives are the only capital assets that are not depreciated. Depreciation is not allocated to a functional expense category. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend its life are not capitalized.

Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed.

Maintenance and repairs are charged to operations when incurred. Betterments and major improvements which significantly increase values, change capacities, or extend useful lives are capitalized. Upon the sale or retirement of fixed assets being depreciated using the straight-line method, the cost and related accumulated depreciation are removed from the respective accounts and any resulting gain or loss is included in the results of operation.

The method of depreciation and useful lives of the capital assets and right-to-use leased assets are as follows:

<u>Assets</u>	Depreciation Method	<u>Useful Lives</u>
Buildings	Straight-Line	50 years
Building Alterations	Straight-Line Straight-Line	25 years
Improvements other than Buildings	Straight-Line	25 years
Equipment > \$25,000	Straight-Line	10 years
Equipment < \$25,000	Straight-Line	5 years
Right-to-Use Leased Equipment	Straight-Line	5-10 years
Library Materials	Composite	20 years
Capitalized Software	Straight-Line	10 years
Easement and Land Use Rights	Straight-Line	20 years
Patents, Trademarks, and Copyrights	Straight-Line	20 years

4. Deferred Outflow of Resources

Deferred outflows of resources are reported in the Statement of Net Position. Deferred outflows of resources are defined as a consumption of net assets by the government that is applicable to a future reporting period. Deferred outflows of resources increase net position, similar to assets.

5. Long-Term Obligations

Long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the Statement of Net Position. Bonds/Warrant premiums and discounts are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the effective interest method. Bonds/Warrants payable are reported net of the applicable bond/warrant premium or discount.

6. Compensated Absences

No liability is recorded for sick leave. Substantially all employees of the College earn 12 days of sick leave each year with unlimited accumulation. Payment is not made to employees for unpaid sick leave at termination or retirement.

All non-instructional employees earn annual leave at a rate which varies from 12 to 24 days per year depending on duration of employment, with accumulation limited to 60 days. Instructional employees do not earn annual leave. Payment is made to employees for unused leave at termination or retirement.

7. Deferred Inflow of Resources

Deferred inflows of resources are reported in the Statement of Net Position. Deferred inflows of resources are defined as an acquisition of net assets by the government that is applicable to a future reporting period. Deferred inflows of resources decrease net position, similar to liabilities.

8. Unearned Revenue

Unearned revenue consists primarily of amounts received for fall student tuition and fees that are not earned until the next fiscal year. Unearned revenue also includes amounts received from grant and contract sponsors that have not yet been earned.

9. Pensions

The Teachers' Retirement System of Alabama ("TRS" or "the Plan") financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and accrual basis of accounting. Contributions are recognized as revenues when earned, pursuant to plan requirements. Benefits and refunds are recognized as revenues when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the plan. Expenses are recognized when the corresponding liability is incurred, regardless of when the payment is made. Investments are reported at fair value. Financial statements are prepared in accordance with requirements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). Under these requirements, the Plan is considered a component unit of the State of Alabama and is included in the State's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

10. Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions (OPEB)

The Alabama Retired Education Employees' Health Care Trust (Trust) financial statements are prepared by using the economic resources measurement focus and accrual basis of accounting. This includes for purposes of measuring the net OPEB liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB, and OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Trust and additions to/deductions from the Trust's fiduciary net position. Plan member contributions are recognized in the period in which the contributions are due. Employer contributions are recognized when due pursuant to plan requirements. Benefits are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the plan. Subsequent events were evaluated by management through the date the financial statements were issued.

11. Net Position

Net position is required to be classified for accounting and reporting purposes into the following categories:

Net Investment in Capital Assets - Capital assets, including restricted capital assets, reduced by accumulated depreciation and by outstanding principal balances of debt attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets. Deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets or related debt are also included in this component of net position. Any unspent related debt proceeds or inflows of resources at year-end related to capital assets are not included in this calculation.

Northwest-Shoals Community College Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

Restricted:

Nonexpendable - Net position subject to externally imposed stipulations that it be maintained permanently by the College. Such assets would include permanent endowment funds.

Expendable - Net position whose use by the College is subject to externally imposed stipulations that can be fulfilled by actions of the College pursuant to those stipulations or that expire by the passage of time. These include funds held in federal loan programs.

Unrestricted - Net position is the net amount of the assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources that are not included in the determination of net investment in capital assets or the restricted component of net position. Unrestricted resources may be designated for specific purposes by action of management or the Alabama Community College System Board of Trustees.

12. Federal Financial Assistance Programs

The College participates in various federal programs. Federal programs are audited in accordance with the Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance).

13. Scholarship Allowances and Student Aid

Student tuition and fees are reported net of scholarship allowances and discounts. The amount for scholarship allowances and discounts is the difference between the stated charge for goods and services provided by the College and the amount that is paid by the student and/or third parties making payments on behalf of the student. The College uses the case-by-case method to determine the amount of scholarship allowances and discounts.

14. Prepaid Expenses and Unearned Scholarships

Prepaid expenses are composed predominantly of prepaid insurance. Unearned scholarship expense results from the Fall academic term spanning across the fiscal year end. The College prorates scholarship expense to recognize only the amounts incurred in each fiscal year.

15. New Accounting Pronouncements

During the current Fiscal Year, the College implemented the following new accounting pronouncements issued by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB):

- GASB Statement No. 96, Subscription-based information technology arrangements.
- GASB Statement No. 98, The Annual Comprehensive Financial Report
- GASB Statement No. 99, Omnibus 2022

NOTE 2 – DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

A. Deposits

The College's deposits in banks at year-end were held by financial institutions in the State of Alabama's Security for Alabama Funds Enhancement (SAFE) Program. The SAFE Program was established by the Alabama Legislature and is governed by the provisions contained in the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Sections 41-14A-1 through 41-14A-14. Under the SAFE Program all public funds are protected through a collateral pool administered by the Alabama State Treasurer's Office. Under this program, financial institutions holding deposits of public funds must pledge securities as collateral against those deposits. In the event of failure of a financial institution, securities pledged by that financial institution would be liquidated by the State Treasurer to replace the public deposits not covered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

If the securities pledged fail to produce adequate funds, every institution participating in the pool would share the liability for the remaining balance.

The Statement of Net Position classification "cash and cash equivalents" includes all readily available cash such as petty cash, demand deposits, and certificates of deposits with maturities of three months or less.

B. Investments

The College invests its funds in securities and investments in accordance with the Code of Alabama 1975, Section 16-13-2, Sections 27-1-8 and 27-1-9, and Sections 27-41-1 through 27-41-41. These laws provide that the College may invest in the same type of instruments as allowed by Alabama law for domestic life insurance companies. This includes a wide range of investments, such as direct obligations of the United States of America, obligations issued or guaranteed by certain federal agencies, and bonds of any state, county, city, town, village, municipality, district or other political subdivision of any state or any instrumentality or board thereof of the United States of America that meet specified criteria. The College's investment policy permits investments in the following: 1) U.S. Treasury bills, notes, bonds, and stripped Treasuries; 2) U.S. Agency notes, bonds, debentures, discount notes and certificates; 3) certificates of deposit (CDs), checking and money market accounts of savings and loan associations, mutual savings banks, or commercial banks whose accounts are insured by FDIC/FSLIC, and who are designated a Qualified Public Depository (QPD) under the SAFE Program; 4) mortgage backed securities (MBSs); 5) mortgagerelated securities including collateralized mortgage obligations (CMOs) and real estate mortgage investment conduits (REMIC) securities; 6) repurchase agreements; and 7) stocks and bonds which have been donated to the institution.

The College's portfolio shall consist primarily of bank CDs and interest-bearing accounts, U. S. Treasury securities, debentures of a U. S. Government Sponsored Entity (GSE) and securities backed by collateral issued by GSEs. In order to diversify the portfolio's exposure to concentration risk, the portfolio's maximum allocation to specific product sectors is as follows: 1) U. S. Treasury bills, notes and bonds can be held without limitation as to amount. Stripped Treasuries shall never exceed 50 percent of the institution's total investment portfolio.

Maximum maturity of these securities shall be ten years. 2) U. S. Agency securities shall have limitations of 50 percent of the College's total investment portfolio for each Agency, with two exceptions: TVA and SLMA shall be limited to ten percent of total investments. Maximum maturity of these securities shall be ten years. 3) CDs with savings and loan associations, mutual savings banks, or commercial banks may be held without limit provided the depository is a QPD under the SAFE Program. CD maturity shall not exceed five years. 4) The aggregate total of all MBSs may not exceed 50 percent of the institution's total investment portfolio. The aggregate average life maturity for all holdings of MBS shall not exceed seven years, while the maximum average life maturity of any one security shall not exceed ten years. 5) The total portfolio of mortgage related securities shall not exceed 50 percent of the institution's total investment portfolio. The aggregate average life maturity for all holdings shall not exceed seven years while the average life maturity of one security shall not exceed ten years. 6) The College may enter into a repurchase agreement so long as: (a) the repurchase securities are legal investments under state law for colleges; (b) the College receives a daily assessment of the market value of the repurchase securities, including accrued interest, and maintains an adequate margin that reflects a risk assessment of the repurchase securities and the term of the transaction; and (c) the College has entered into signed contracts with all approved counterparties. 7) The College has discretion to determine if it should hold or sell other investments that it may receive as a donation.

The College shall not invest in stripped mortgage-backed securities, residual interest in CMOs, mortgage servicing rights or commercial mortgage related securities. Investment of debt proceeds and deposits with trustees is governed by the provisions of the debt agreement. Funds may be invested in any legally permissible document.

Endowment donations shall be invested in accordance with the procedures and policies developed by the College and approved by the Chancellor in accordance with the "Alabama Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act", Code of Alabama 1975, Section 19-3C-1 and following.

To the extent available, the College's investments are recorded at fair value as of September 30, 2023. GASB Statement Number 72 – Fair Value Measurement and Application, defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. This statement establishes a hierarchy of valuation inputs based on the extent to which the inputs are observable in the marketplace. Inputs are used in applying the various valuation techniques and take into account the assumptions that market participants use to make valuation decisions. Inputs may include price information, credit data, interest and yield curve data, and other factors specific to the financial instrument. Observable inputs reflect market data obtained from independent sources. In contrast, unobservable inputs reflect the entity's assumptions about how market participants would value the financial instrument. Valuation techniques should maximize the use of observable inputs to the extent available.

A financial instrument's level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

Northwest-Shoals Community College Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

The following describes the hierarchy of inputs used to measure fair value and the primary valuation methodologies used for financial instruments measured at fair value on a recurring basis:

Level 1 – Investments whose values are based on quoted prices (unadjusted) for identical assets in active markets that a government can access at the measurement date.

Level 2 – Investments with inputs – other than quoted prices included within Level 1 – that are observable for an asset either directly or indirectly.

Level 3 – Investments classified as Level 3 have unobservable inputs for an asset and may require a degree of professional judgement.

Investments' fair value measurements are as follows at September 30, 2023:

		Fair Value Measurements Using		
		Level 1	Level	Level 3
Investments	Fair Value	Inputs	2 Inputs	Inputs
Certificates of Deposit Deposits with Trustee	\$ 6,031,288 8,781,497	\$ 6,031,288 \$ 8,781,497	- \$ -	- -
Total Investments	\$ 14,812,785	\$ 14,812,785 \$	- \$	

Interest Rate Risk – This risk pertains to changes in interest rates that adversely affect the fair value of an investment. While there is an active market for the below investments, generally, the longer the maturity of an investment, the greater the sensitivity of its fair value to changes in market interest rates. As a means of limiting its exposure to fair value losses arising from rising interest rates, the College's investment policy limits its investment maturities as follows:

<u>Investment Type</u>	Maximum Maturity
U.S. Treasury Bills, Notes, Bonds and Stripped Treasuries	10 years
U.S. Agencies	10 years
Certificates of Deposit	5 years
Mortgage-Backed Securities and Mortgage Related Securities	7 years*/10 years**

^{*}Aggregate life

^{**}Average life maturity of any one security

At year end, the College had the following investments and maturities:

	_	Investment Maturities (in Years)		
Investment Type	Fair Value	<u>1-5</u>	<u>6-10</u>	<u>Thereafter</u>
Certificates of Deposit	\$ 6,031,288	6,031,288 \$	-	\$ -
Other Cash Equivalents	\$ 8,781,497 \$	8 8,781,497 \$	-	\$ -

Credit Risk – Credit risk is the risk that an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligation. The College does not have a formal investment policy that specifically addresses its investment choices related to this risk. The College's investments in Federal National Mortgage Association and Federal Home Loan Banks are rated Aaa by Moody's Investor Services and AA+ by Standard and Poor's Fitch Ratings.

Custodial Credit Risk – For an investment, this is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a counterparty, the government will not be able to cover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The College does not have an investment policy that limits the amount of securities that can be held by counterparties.

Concentration of Credit Risk – Concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of a government's investment in a single issuer. The College does not have a formal investment policy that places limits on the amount the College may invest in any one issuer to less than 5%. Instead, the College's policy was to limit investments by type to the percentages shown below:

<u>Investment Type</u>	% of Investment
Stripped Treasuries	50%
U.S. Agencies (except for TVA and SLMA)	50%
TVA and SLMA	10%
Certificates of Deposit	No Limit
Mortgage-Backed Securities and Mortgage Related Securities	50%

NOTE 3 - RECEIVABLES

Receivables are summarized as follows:

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Accounts	<i>P</i> 4	1001	170 k	٦I 🗅 ٠
Accounts	1/0		v ai	HE.

Federal	\$ 1,582,155
State and Local	1,181,386
Third Party	191,114
Student	1,078,005
Interest	19,458
Other	1,557,297
Agency Receivable	42,937
Less: Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	 (1,021,419)
Total Accounts Receivables, Net	\$ 4,630,933

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NOTE 4 - CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended September 30, 2023, was as follows:

	Beginning]	Deductions &		Ending
_	Balance	Additions	Adjustments	Transfers	Balance
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated:					
Land	935,553	- \$	- \$	-	935,553
Construction in Progress	2,251,113	745,253	-	(1,733,944)	1,262,422
Total Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated:	3,186,666	745,253	-	(1,733,944)	2,197,975
Capital Assets Being Depreciated:					
Buildings	36,082,113	-	-	-	36,082,113
Building Alterations	7,648,564	111,587	-	331,624	8,091,775
Improvements Other than Buildings	1,528,788	614,910	-	1,402,320	3,546,018
Equipment > \$25,000	9,343,070	289,882	(580,890)	-	9,052,062
Equipment < \$25,000	4,397,647	352,299	(20,450)	-	4,729,496
Lease Equipment	75,556	14,522	-	-	90,078
Library Holdings	831,284	5,771	-	-	837,055
Software	1,201,318	-	(1,181,328)	-	19,990
Subscription IT Based Arrangements	-	38,985.00	-	-	38,985
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated	61,108,340	1,427,956	(1,782,668)	1,733,944	62,487,572
Less Accumulated Depreciation:					
Buildings	22,174,650	323,671	-	-	22,498,321
Building Alterations	1,439,067	581,101	-	-	2,020,168
Improvements Other than Buildings	1,430,794	92,084	-	-	1,522,878
Equipment > \$25,000	5,785,949	627,730	(580,890)	-	5,832,789
Equipment < \$25,000	3,828,619	301,812	(20,450)	-	4,109,981
Lease Equipment	21,936	23,193	-	-	45,129
Library Holdings	793,450	6,036	-	-	799,486
Software	1,131,813	58,108	(1,181,328)	-	8,593
Subscription Based IT Arrangements	-	13,968	-	-	13,968
Total Accumulated Depreciation	36,606,278	2,027,703	(1,782,668)	-	36,851,313
Total Capital Assets, Net	27,688,728 \$	145,506 \$	- \$	- \$	27,834,234

For the year ended September 30, 2023, the financial statements include the adoption of GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*. The primary objective of this statement is to enhance the relevance and consistency of information about governments' subscription activities. This statement establishes a single model for subscription accounting based on the principle that subscriptions are financings of the right to use an underlying asset. Under this Statement, an organization is required to recognize a subscription liability and an intangible right-to-use subscription asset. For additional information, refer to the disclosures below:

On October 1, 2022, the College entered into a 15 month subscription for the use of Hatch Subscription. An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of \$0. As of September 30, 2023, the value of the subscription liability is \$0. The College has made all required payments and none remain. The subscription has an interest rate of 3.2540%. The value of the right-to-use

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Northwest-Shoals Community College Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

asset as of September 30, 2023 of \$652 with accumulated amortization of \$522 and is included in intangible right-to-use software agreements on the statement of net position.

On April 14, 2023, the College entered into a 36 month subscription for the use of Zeus Ind Live. An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of \$0. As of September 30, 2023, the value of the subscription liability is \$0. The College has made all required payments and none remain. The subscription has an interest rate of 2.5030%. The value of the right-to-use asset as of September 30, 2023 of \$2,336 with accumulated amortization of \$356 and is included in intangible right-to-use software agreements on the statement of net position.

On October 1, 2022, the College entered into a 33 month subscription for the use of Educational Professional Pkg - SaaS-Kaltura. An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of \$25,872. As of September 30, 2023, the value of the subscription liability is \$13,059. The College is required to make annual fixed payments of \$13,500. The subscription has an interest rate of 3.3780%. The value of the right-to-use asset as of September 30, 2023 of \$35,997 with accumulated amortization of \$13,090 and is included in intangible right-to-use software agreements on the statement of net position.

NOTE 5 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN

A. Plan Description

The Teachers' Retirement Systems of Alabama (TRS), a cost-sharing multiple-employer public employee retirement plan, was established as of September 15, 1939, pursuant to the *Code of Alabama 1975, Title 16, Chapter 25* (Act 419 of the Legislature of 1939) for the purpose of providing retirement allowances and other specified benefits for qualified persons employed by State-supported educational institutions. The responsibility for the general administration and operation of the TRS is vested in its Board of Control which consists of 15 trustees. The plan is administered by the Retirement Systems of Alabama (RSA). The *Code of Alabama 1975, Title 16, Chapter 25* grants the authority to establish and amend the benefit terms to the TRS Board of Control. The Plan issues a publicly available financial report that can be obtained at www.rsa-al.gov.

B. Benefits Provided

State law establishes retirement benefits as well as death and disability benefits and any ad hoc increase in postretirement benefits for the TRS. Benefits for TRS members vest after 10 years of creditable service. TRS members who retire after age 60 with 10 years or more of creditable service or with 25 years of service (regardless of age) are entitled to an annual retirement benefit, payable monthly for life. Service and disability retirement benefits are based on a guaranteed minimum or a formula method, with the member receiving payment under the method that yields the highest monthly benefit. Under the formula method, members of the TRS are allowed 2.0125% of their average final compensation (highest 3 of the last 10 years) for each year of service.

Act 377 of the Legislature of 2012 established a new tier of benefits (Tier 2) for members hired on or after January 1, 2013. Tier 2 TRS members are eligible for retirement after age 62 with 10 years or more of creditable service and are entitled to an annual retirement benefit, payable monthly for

Northwest-Shoals Community College Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

life. Service and disability retirement benefits are based on a guaranteed minimum or a formula method, with the member receiving payment under the method that yields the highest monthly benefit. Under the formula method, Tier 2 members of the TRS are allowed 1.65% of their average final compensation (highest 5 of the last 10 years) for each year of service up to 80% of their average final compensation.

Act 316 of the Legislature of 2019 established the Partial Lump Sum Option Plan (PLOP) in addition to the annual service retirement benefit payable for life for Tier 1 and Tier 2 members of the TRS and ERS. A member can elect to receive a one-time lump sum distribution at the time that they receive their first monthly retirement benefit payment. The member's annual retirement benefit is then actuarially reduced based on the amount of the PLOP distribution which is not to exceed the sum of 24 months of the maximum monthly retirement benefit that the member could receive. Members are eligible to receive a PLOP distribution if they are eligible for a service retirement benefit as defined above from the TRS or ERS on or after October 1, 2019. A TRS or ERS member who receives an annual disability retirement benefit or who has participated in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) is not eligible to receive a PLOP distribution.

Members are eligible for disability retirement if they have 10 years of credible service, are currently in-service, and determined by the RSA Medical Board to be permanently incapacitated from further performance of duty. Preretirement death benefits equal to the annual earnable compensation of the member as reported to the Plan for the preceding year ending June 30 are paid to a qualified beneficiary.

C. Contributions

Covered Tier 1 members of the TRS contributed 5% of earnable compensation to the TRS as required by statute until September 30, 2011. From October 1, 2011, to September 30, 2012, covered members of the TRS were required by statute to contribute 7.25% of earnable compensation. Effective October 1, 2012, covered members of the TRS are required by statute to contribute 7.50% of earnable compensation. Certified law enforcement, correctional officers, and firefighters of the TRS contributed 6% of earnable compensation as required by statute until September 30, 2011. From October 1, 2011, to September 30, 2012, certified law enforcement, correctional officers, and firefighters of the TRS were required by statute to contribute 8.25% of earnable compensation. Effective October 1, 2012, certified law enforcement, correctional officers, and firefighters of the TRS are required by statute to contribute 8.50% of earnable compensation.

Effective October 1, 2021 the covered Tier 2 members of the TRS contribution rate increased from 6% to 6.2% of earnable compensation to the TRS as required by statute. Effective October 1, 2021 the covered Tier 2 certified law enforcement, correctional officers, and firefighters contribution rate increased from 7.0% to 7.2% of earnable compensation to the TRS as required by statute. Participating employers' contractually required contribution rate for the year ended September 30, 2022, was 12.36% of annual pay for Tier 1 members and 11.22% of annual pay for Tier 2 members. These required contribution rates are a percent of annual payroll, actuarially determined as an amount that, when combined with member contributions, is expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by members during the year, with an additional amount to finance any unfunded accrued liability. Total employer contributions to the pension plan from the College were \$1,852,601 for the year ended September 30, 2023.

D. Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At September 30, 2023 the College reported a liability of \$28,266,000 for its proportionate share of the collective net pension liability. The collective net pension liability was measured as of September 30, 2022 and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2021. The College's proportion of the collective net pension liability was based on the employers' shares of contributions to the pension plan relative to the total employer contributions of all participating TRS employers. At September 30, 2022 the College's proportion was 0.181885%, which was a decrease of 0.007946% from its proportion measured as of September 30, 2021.

For the year ended September 30, 2023, the College recognized pension expense of \$3,349,000. At September 30, 2023 the College reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deterred	Deferred
	Outflows	Inflows
	of Resource	s of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 621,00	00 \$ 686,000
Changes of assumptions	1,283,00	- 00
Net difference between projected and actual earnings	5,672,00	- 00
on pension plan investments		
Changes in proportion and differences between Employer	562,00	920,000
contributions and proportionate share of contributions		
Employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date	1,852,60)1
	\$ 9,990,60	1,606,000
	-	

\$1,852,601 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from College contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ending September 30, 2024.

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ending September 30:

2024	1,941,000
2025	1,612,000
2026	879,000
2027	2,100,000
2028	
Total	\$ 6,532,000

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E. Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability as of September 30, 2022, was determined by an actuarial valuation of September 30, 2021, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.50%
Investment rate of return*	7.45%
Projected salary increases	3.25% - 5.00%

^{*}Net of pension plan investment expense

The actuarial assumptions used in the actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2021, were based on the results of an investigation of the economic and demographic experience for the TRS based upon participant data as of September 30, 2021. The Board of Control accepted and approved these changes in September 2021 which became effective at the beginning of fiscal year 2021.

Mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 Teacher tables with the following adjustments, projected generationally using scale MP-2020 adjusted by 66-2/3% beginning with year 2019:

		Set Forward(+)/	
<u>Group</u>	Membership Table	Setback (-)	Adjustment to Rates
Service Retirees	Teacher Retiree-	Male: +2, Female: +2	Male: 108% ages < 63, 96% ages > 67;
	Below Median		Phasing down 63 -67
			Female: 112% ages < 69
			98% > age 74
			Phasing down 69-74
Beneficiaries	Contingent Survivor	Male: +2, Female: None	None
	Below Median		
Disabled Retirees	Teacher Disability	Male: +8, Female: +3	None

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a lognormal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The target asset allocation and best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class are as follows:

		Long-Term
	Target	Expected Rate
	Allocation	of Return*
Fixed Income	15.00%	2.80%
U.S. Large Stocks	32.00%	8.00%
U.S. Mid Stocks	9.00%	10.00%
U.S. Small Stocks	4.00%	11.00%
International Developed Market Stocks	12.00%	9.50%
International Emerging Market Stocks	3.00%	11.00%
Alternatives	10.00%	9.00%
Real Estate	10.00%	6.50%
Cash	5.00%	2.50%
Total	100.00%	_

^{*}Includes assumed rate of inflation of 2.00%.

F. Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.45%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that plan member contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that the employer contributions will be made at rates equal to the difference between actuarially determined contribution rates and the member rate. Based on those assumptions, components of the pension plan's fiduciary net position were projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

G. Sensitivity of the College's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following table presents the College's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.45%, as well as what the College's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage point lower (6.45%) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.45%) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease	Current Rate	1% Increase
	(6.45%)	(7.45%)	(8.45%)
College's proportionate share of			
collective net pension liability	\$ 36,575,000	\$ 28,266,000	\$ 21,267,000

H. Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued RSA Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2022.

Northwest-Shoals Community College Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

The supporting actuarial information is included in the GASB Statement No. 67 Report for the TRS prepared as of September 30, 2022. The auditor's report on the Schedule of Employer Allocations and Pension Amounts by Employer and accompanying notes detail by employer and in aggregate information needed to comply with GASB 68. The additional financial and actuarial information is available at http://www.rsa-al.gov/index.php/employers/financial-reports/gasb-68-reports/.

NOTE 6 - OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)

A. Plan description

The Alabama Retired Education Employees' Health Care Trust (Trust) is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment healthcare plan that administers healthcare benefits to the retirees of participating state and local educational institutions. The Trust was established under the Alabama Retiree Health Care Funding Act of 2007 which authorized and directed the Public Education Employees' Health Insurance Board (Board) to create an irrevocable trust to fund postemployment healthcare benefits to retirees participating in PEEHIP. Active and retiree health insurance benefits are paid through the Public Education Employees' Health Insurance Plan (PEEHIP). In accordance with GASB, the Trust is considered a component unit of the State of Alabama (State) and is included in the State's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

The PEEHIP was established in 1983 pursuant to the provisions of the *Code of Alabama 1975, Title 16, Chapter 25A* (Act 83-455) to provide a uniform plan of health insurance for active and retired employees of state and local educational institutions which provide instruction at any combination of grades K-14 (collectively, eligible employees), and to provide a method for funding the benefits related to the plan. The four-year universities participate in the plan with respect to their retired employees, and are eligible and may elect to participate in the plan with respect to their active employees. Responsibility for the establishment of the health insurance plan and its general administration and operations is vested in the Board. The Board is a corporate body for purposes of management of the health insurance plan. The *Code of Alabama 1975, Section 16-25A-4* provides the Board with the authority to amend the benefit provisions in order to provide reasonable assurance of stability in future years for the plan. All assets of the PEEHIP are held in trust for the payment of health insurance benefits. The Teachers' Retirement System of Alabama (TRS) has been appointed as the administrator of the PEEHIP and, consequently, serves as the administrator of the Trust.

B. Benefits provided

PEEHIP offers a basic hospital medical plan to active members and non-Medicare eligible retirees. Benefits include inpatient hospitalization for a maximum of 365 days without a dollar limit, inpatient rehabilitation, outpatient care, physician services, and prescription drugs.

Active employees and non-Medicare eligible retirees who do not have Medicare eligible dependents can enroll in a health maintenance organization (HMO) in lieu of the basic hospital medical plan. The HMO includes hospital medical benefits, dental benefits, vision benefits, and an extensive formulary. However, participants in the HMO are required to receive care from a participating physician in the HMO plan.

The PEEHIP offers four optional plans (Hospital Indemnity, Cancer, Dental, and Vision) that may be selected in addition to or in lieu of the basic hospital medical plan or HMO. The Hospital Indemnity Plan provides a per-day benefit for hospital confinement, maternity, intensive care, cancer, and convalescent care. The Cancer Plan covers cancer disease only and benefits are provided regardless of other insurance. Coverage includes a per-day benefit for each hospital confinement related to cancer. The Dental Plan covers diagnostic and preventative services, as well as basic and major dental services. Diagnostic and preventative services include oral examinations, teeth cleaning, x-rays, and emergency office visits. Basic and major services include fillings, general aesthetics, oral surgery not covered under a Group Medical Program, periodontics, endodontics, dentures, bridgework, and crowns. Dental services are subject to a maximum of \$1,250 per year for individual coverage and \$1,000 per person per year for family coverage. The Vision Plan covers annual eye examinations, eye glasses, and contact lens prescriptions.

PEEHIP members may opt to elect the PEEHIP Supplemental Plan as their hospital medical coverage in lieu of the PEEHIP Hospital Medical Plan. The PEEHIP Supplemental Plan provides secondary benefits to the member's primary plan provided by another employer. Only active and non-Medicare retiree members and dependents are eligible for the PEEHIP Supplemental Plan. There is no premium required for this plan, and the plan covers most out-of-pocket expenses not covered by the primary plan. The plan cannot be used as a supplement to Medicare, the PEEHIP Hospital Medical Plan, or the State or Local Governmental Plans administered by the State Employees' Insurance Board (SEIB).

Effective January 1, 2020, Medicare eligible members and Medicare eligible dependents covered on a retiree contract were enrolled in the Humana Group Medicare Advantage plan for PEEHIP retirees. Effective January 1, 2023, United Health Care (UHC) Group replaced the Humana contract. The MAPDP plan is fully insured by UHC and members are able to have all of their Medicare Part A, Part B, and Part D (prescription drug coverage) in one convenient plan. With the UHC plan for PEEHIP, retirees can continue to see their same providers with no interruption and see any doctor who accepts Medicare on a national basis. Retirees have the same benefits in and out-of-network and there is no additional retiree cost share if a retiree uses an out-of-network provider and no balance billing from the provider.

C. Contributions

The Code of Alabama 1975, Section 16-25A-8 and the Code of Alabama 1975, Section, 16-25A-8.1 provide the Board with the authority to set the contribution requirements for plan members and the authority to set the employer contribution requirements for each required class, respectively. Additionally, the Board is required to certify to the Governor and the Legislature, the amount, as a monthly premium per active employee, necessary to fund the coverage of active and retired member benefits for the following fiscal year. The Legislature then sets the premium rate in the annual appropriation bill.

For employees who retired after September 30, 2005, but before January 1, 2012, the employer contribution of the health insurance premium set forth by the Board for each retiree class is reduced by 2% for each year of service less than 25 and increased by 2% percent for each year of service over 25 subject to adjustment by the Board for changes in Medicare premium costs required to be

paid by a retiree. In no case does the employer contribution of the health insurance premium exceed 100% of the total health insurance premium cost for the retiree.

For employees who retired after December 31, 2011, the employer contribution to the health insurance premium set forth by the Board for each retiree class is reduced by 4% for each year of service less than 25 and increased by 2% for each year over 25, subject to adjustment by the Board for changes in Medicare premium costs required to be paid by a retiree. In no case does the employer contribution of the health insurance premium exceed 100% of the total health insurance premium cost for the retiree. For employees who retired after December 31, 2011, who are not covered by Medicare, regardless of years of service, the employer contribution to the health insurance premium set forth by the Board for each retiree class is reduced by a percentage equal to 1% multiplied by the difference between the Medicare entitlement age and the age of the employee at the time of retirement as determined by the Board. This reduction in the employer contribution ceases upon notification to the Board of the attainment of Medicare coverage.

D. OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

At September 30, 2023, the College reported a liability of \$2,886,091 for its proportionate share of the net OPEB liability. The net OPEB liability was measured as of September 30, 2022 and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2021.

The College's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on a the College's share of contributions to the OPEB plan relative to the total employer contributions of all participating PEEHIP employers. At September 30, 2022, the College's proportion was 0.16563420% percent, which was an increase of 0.0103682% from its proportion measured as of September 30, 2021.

For the year ended September 30, 2023, the College recognized an OPEB benefit of \$1,709,466, with no special funding situations.

At September 30, 2023, the System reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

		Deferred		Deferred
		Outflows		Inflows
	of	Resources	0	f Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$	132,368	\$	5,835,439
Changes of assumptions		2,341,014		4,200,879
Net difference between projected and actual earnings				
on OPEB plan investments		362,953		-
Changes in proportion and differences between Employer				
contributions and proportionate share of contributions		873,685		863,947
Employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date		221,231		_
	\$	3,931,251	\$	10,900,265

\$221,231 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from the Northwest-Shoals Community College contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the year ending September 30, 2024.

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Year Ending September 30:

2024	(1,872,214)
2025	(1,860,545)
2026	(882,419)
2027	(806,072)
2028	(1,098,558)
Thereafter	(670,437)
Total	\$ (7,190,245)

E. Actuarial assumptions

The total OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2021, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation2.50%Salary Increase13.25%Long-term Investment rate of return27.00%Municipal Bond Index Rate at Measurement Date4.40%	-5.00%
Municipal Bond Index Rate at Prior Measurement Date 2.29%	
Projected Year for Fiduciary Net Position (FNP) to be Depleted N/A	
Single Equivalent Interest Rate at Measurement Date 7.00%	
Single Equivalent Interest Rate at Prior Measurement Date 3.97%	
Healthcare cost trend rates	
Initial Trend Rate	
Pre-Medicare Eligible 6.50%)
Medicare Eligible **	:
Ultimate Trend Rate	
Pre-Medicare Eligible 4.50%	in 2031
Medicare Eligible 4.50%	in 2027

¹ Includes 2.75% wage inflation

The rates of mortality are based on the Pub-2010 Public Mortality Plans Mortality Tables, adjusted generationally based on scale MP-2020, with an adjustment of 66-2/3% to the table beginning in year 2019. The mortality rates are adjusted forward and/or back depending on the plan and group covered, as shown in the table below.

² Compounded annually, net of investment expense, and includes inflation.

^{**} Initial Medicare claims are set based on scheduled increases through plan year 2025.

Group	Membership Table	Set Forward (+) / Set Back (-)	Adjustment to Rates
Active Members	Teacher Employee Below Median	None	65%
Service Retirees	Teacher Below Median	Male: +2 Female: +2	Male: 108% ages <63, 96% ages> 67; Phasing down 63-67 Female: 112% ages <69, 98% ages > 74; Phasing down 69-74
Disabled Retirees	Teacher Disability	Male: +8 Female: +3	None
Beneficiaries	Teacher Contingent Survivor Below Median	Male: +2 Female: None	None

The decremental assumptions used in the valuation were selected based on the actuarial experience study prepared as of September 30, 2020, submitted to and adopted by the Teachers' Retirement System of Alabama Board on September 13, 2021.

The remaining actuarial assumptions (e.g., initial per capita costs, health care cost trends, rate of plan participation, rates of plan election, etc.) were based on the September 30, 2021 valuation.

The long-term expected return on plan assets is to be reviewed as part of regular experience studies prepared every five years, in conjunction with similar analysis for the Teachers' Retirement System of Alabama. Several factors should be considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption, including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected return, net of investment expense and inflation), as developed for each major asset class.

These ranges should be combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation. The assumption is intended to be a long-term assumption and is not expected to change absent a significant change in the asset allocation, a change in the inflation assumption, or a fundamental change in the market that alters expected returns in future years.

The long-term expected rate of return on the OPEB plan investments is determined based on the allocation of assets by asset class and by the mean and variance of real returns. The target asset allocation and best estimates of expected geometric real rates of return for each major asset class is summarized below:

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	Long-Term
Target	Expected Rate
Allocation	of Return*
30.00%	4.40%
38.00%	8.00%
8.00%	10.00%
4.00%	11.00%
15.00%	9.50%
5.00%	1.50%
100.00%	_
	Allocation 30.00% 38.00% 8.00% 4.00% 15.00% 5.00%

^{*}Includes assumed rate of inflation of 2.50%.

F. Discount Rate

The discount rate (also known as the Single Equivalent Interest Rate (SEIR), as described by GASB 74) used to measure the total OPEB liability is 7.00%. Premiums paid to the Public Education Employees' Health Insurance Board for active employees shall include an amount to partially fund the cost of coverage for retired employees. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that plan contributions will be made at the current contribution rates. Each year, the State specifies the monthly employer rate that participating school systems must contribute for each active employee. Currently, the monthly employer rate is \$800 per active member for participating employers. Approximately, 15.257% of the employer contributions were used to assist in funding retiree benefit payments in 2022 and it is assumed that the 15.257% will increase or decrease at the same rate as expected benefit payments for the closed group with a cap of 20.00%. It is assumed the \$800 rate will increase with inflation at 2.50% starting in 2027. Retiree benefit payments for University members are paid by the Universities and are not included in the cash flow projections. The discount rate determination will use a municipal bond rate to the extent the trust is projected to run out of money before all benefits are paid. Projected future benefit payments for all current plan members are projected through 2120.

G. Sensitivity of the College's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability to changes in the healthcare cost trend rates.

The following table presents the Northwest-Shoals Community College's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability of the Trust calculated using the current healthcare trend rate, as well as what the net OPEB liability would be if calculated using one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current rate:

		Current Healthcare	
	1% Decrease	Trend Rate	1% Increase
	(5.50% decreasing to 3.50% for pre-Medicare and known decreasing to 3.50% for Medicare Eligible)	(6.50% decreasing to 4.50% for pre-Medicare and known decreasing to 4.50% for Medicare Eligible)	(7.50% decreasing to 5.50% for pre-Medicare and known decreasing to 5.50% for Medicare Eligible)
Net OPEB Liability	\$2,188,529	\$2,886,091	\$3,741,585

The following table presents the College's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability of the Trust calculated using the discount rate of 3.97%, as well as what the net OPEB liability would be if calculated using one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current rate:

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
	(6.00%)	(7.00%)	(8.00%)
Net OPEB Liability	\$3,568,225	\$2,886,091	\$2,313,459

H. OPEB plan fiduciary net position

Detailed information about the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position is located in the Trust's financial statements for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023. The supporting actuarial information is included in the GASB Statement No. 74 Report for PEEHIP prepared as of September 30, 2023. Additional financial and actuarial information is available at www.rsa-al.gov.

NOTE 7 - ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities represent amounts due at September 30, 2023, for goods and services received prior to the end of the fiscal year.

Salaries and Wages	\$ 697,479
Payroll Withholding	371,087
Interest Payable	75,532
Supplies and Other Payables	 872,020
Total	\$ 2,016,118

NOTE 8 - LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

Long-term liabilities activity for the year ended September 30, 2023, was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance	Current Portion
Bonds Payable:	_				
2022 Public/Private Bonds	\$ 12,735,000 \$	- \$	- \$	12,735,000 \$	-
2014 Series Direct Placement	2,935,938	-	415,316	2,520,622	427,949
Total Bonds Payable	15,670,938	-	415,316	15,255,622	427,949
Other Liabilities:					
Compensated Absences	845,877	44,015	-	889,892	88,989
Subscription Liabilities	-	25,872	12,813	13,059	13,059
Lease Liabilities	53,650	14,522	23,235	44,937	27,004
Total Other Liabilities	899,527	84,409	36,048	947,888	129,052
Total Long-Term Liabilities	\$ 16,570,465 \$	84,409 \$	451,364 \$	16,203,510 \$	557,001

The Northwest-Shoals Community College Revenue Bond Series 2014 was issued in the original amount of \$6,000,000 in February 2014 by the Alabama State Board of Education to provide funds to finance the acquisition, construction or renovation and equipping of certain buildings located at the College's Shoals and Phil Campbell campuses, for use by the College, and paying the expenses of issuing the Bonds and accrues interest 4.44% per annum.

On May 14, 2022, the Board of Trustees of the Alabama Community College System issued \$12,735,000 in revenue bonds. The bonds were issued to provide funding to make certain improvements at the College's Phil Campbell campus, including demolition, construction and remodeling of buildings and related facilities for use by the College and accrues interest at 4% per annum.

See Note 4 for further information on the Subscription Liabilities. The future subscription payments under these SBITA agreements are as follows:

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	Subscriptions		
	Principal	Interest	Total
2024	\$ 13,059	\$ 441	\$ 13,500

Bond DebtPrincipal and interest maturity requirements on bond debt are as follows:

	Direct Plac	ement	Revenue B	ond	
Fiscal Year	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Totals
2023-2024	427,949	69,766	-	452,550	950,265
2024-2025	440,965	56,750	-	452,550	950,265
2025-2026	454,377	43,337	-	452,550	950,264
2026-2027	468,198	29,517	-	452,550	950,265
2027-2028	482,438	15,276	-	452,550	950,264
2028-2029	246,695	2,163	255,000	447,450	951,308
2029-2030	-	-	360,000	435,150	795,150
2030-2031	-	-	370,000	420,550	790,550
2031-2032	-	-	390,000	405,350	795,350
2032-2033	-	-	400,000	391,075	791,075
2033-2034	-	-	415,000	377,875	792,875
2034-2035	-	-	430,000	364,175	794,175
2035-2036	-	-	445,000	349,369	794,369
2036-2037	-	-	460,000	333,444	793,444
2037-2038	-	-	475,000	316,975	791,975
2038-2039	-	-	495,000	300,144	795,144
2039-2040	-	-	510,000	282,969	792,969
2040-2041	-	-	525,000	265,269	790,269
2041-2042	-	-	545,000	246,963	791,963
2042-2043	-	-	565,000	227,750	792,750
2043-2044	-	-	585,000	207,625	792,625
2044-2045	-	-	605,000	186,800	791,800
2045-2046	-	-	625,000	165,275	790,275
2046-2047	-	-	650,000	142,963	792,963
2047-2048	-	-	675,000	119,353	794,353
2048-2049	-	-	700,000	94,431	794,431
2049-2050	-	-	725,000	68,603	793,603
2050-2051	-	-	750,000	41,869	791,869
2051-2052		-	780,000	14,138	794,138
Totals	\$ 2,520,622 \$	216,809 \$	12,735,000 \$	8,468,315 \$	23,940,746

Pledged Revenues

The College has pledged tuition, facility renewal, and building fees to repay \$6,000,000 in Northwest-Shoals Community College Revenue Bond, Series 2014, issued in February 2014, for the purpose of providing funding to finance the acquisition, construction or renovation and equipping of certain buildings located at the College's Shoals and Phil Campbell campuses, for use by the College, and paying the expenses of issuing the Bonds. The revenue pledged for the bond issue will not be available for other purposes until the bonds are paid in full during the fiscal year 2028-2029. The relationship of the pledged tuition and fees to total tuition and fees varies from year to year. The relationship changes due to variations in several revenue components, including but not limited to total enrollment, tuition discounts, and refunds. Future revenues in the approximate amount of \$2,737,432 are pledged to repay principal and interest. The principal and

interest payments made during the period were \$497,715. Therefore, of the \$10,900,664 in tuition and fee revenue recognized by the College during fiscal year 2023, 4.57% of total tuition and fee revenue was needed for debt service on the Revenue Bond Series 2014. These bonds are scheduled to mature in fiscal year 2029.

The College has pledged tuition and certain fee revenues for the payment of debt service on the Series 2022 Bonds. The debt was issued to provide funding to make certain improvements at the College's Phil Campbell campus, including demolition, construction and remodeling of buildings and related facilities for use by the College, as well as paying the expenses of issuing the bond. Future revenues in the amount of \$21,203,315 are pledged to repay principal and interest on the bonds at September 30, 2023. Principal and interest payments made during the period were \$425,550. Therefore, of the \$10,900,664 in tuition and fee revenue recognized by the College during fiscal year 2023, 3.9% of pledged revenues were being used to pay principal and interest during this fiscal year. These bonds are scheduled to mature in fiscal year 2052.

The College's outstanding series 2014 bond from direct placement contain a provision that in the event of default, the Bondholder shall have the right by mandamus or other lawful remedy in any court of competent jurisdiction to enforce his or their rights against the Issuer to fix and collect the Pledged Revenues, in amounts sufficient to meet the provisions of the Bond Resolution and carry out any other covenants contained in the resolution and to perform its duties under the resolution and Section 16-3-28, Code of Alabama, as amended.

Lease Payable

\$44,937 has been recorded as Lease Assets. Due to the implementation of GASB Statement No. 87, various leases met the criteria of a lease; thus, requiring it to be recorded by the College. These assets will be amortized over the lease term of the lease since it is shorter than the useful life and the College is not taking ownership of the assets. There are no residual value guarantees in the lease provisions. The leases will end in 2026.

A summary of the principal and interest amounts for the remaining lease is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Principal	Interest	Totals
2023-2024	27,004	474	27,478
2024-2025	14,198	190	14,388
2025-2026	3,735	44	3,779
	\$ 44,937 \$	708 \$	45,645

NOTE 9 - RISK MANAGEMENT

The College is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees and natural disasters. The College has insurance for its buildings and contents through the State Insurance Fund (SIF), part of the State

Northwest-Shoals Community College Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

of Alabama Department of Finance, Division of Risk Management, a public entity risk pool, which operates as a common risk management and insurance program for state owned properties. The College pays an annual premium based on the amount of coverage requested. The SIF provides coverage up to \$2 million per occurrence and is self-insured up to a maximum of \$6 million in aggregate claims. The SIF purchases commercial insurance for claims which in the aggregate exceed \$6 million. The College purchases commercial insurance for its automobile coverage, general liability, and professional legal liability coverage. In addition, the College has fidelity bonds on the College president and business officer as well as on all other college personnel who handle funds.

Employee health insurance is provided through the Public Education Employees' Health Insurance Fund (PEEHIF) administered by the Public Education Employees' Health Insurance Board (PEEHIB). The Fund was established to provide a uniform plan of health insurance for current and retired employees of state educational institutions and is self-sustaining. Monthly premiums for employee and dependent coverage are determined annually by the plan's actuary and based on anticipated claims in the upcoming year, considering any remaining fund balance on hand available for claims. The College contributes a specified amount monthly to the PEEHIF for each employee and this amount is applied against the employee's premiums for the coverage selected and the employee pays any remaining premium.

Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded the College's coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

Claims which occur as a result of employee job-related injuries may be brought before the State of Alabama Board of Adjustment. The Board of Adjustment serves as an arbitrator and its decision is binding. If the Board of Adjustment determines that a claim is valid, it decides the proper amount of compensation (subject to statutory limitations) and the funds are paid by the College.

NOTE 10 - CONSTRUCTION AND OTHER SIGNIFICANT COMMITMENTS

As of September 30, 2023, the College had been awarded approximately \$5,001,592 in federal, state, and local contracts and grants on which performance had not been accomplished and funds had not been received. These awards, which represent commitments of sponsors to provide funds for specific purposes, have not been reflected in the financial statements.

As of September 30, 2023, the College has awarded 2 contracts in the amount of \$586,857 in projects related to building renovations and stadium seat replacements.

NOTE 11 – NORTHWEST-SHOALS COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A. ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Nature of Activities - The Northwest-Shoals Community College Foundation, Inc. (the "Foundation") is a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Alabama. Its purpose is to receive private gifts, bequests, and donations, and to account for, manage, and appreciate money or property submitted to the Foundation. Funds of the Foundation are

Northwest-Shoals Community College Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

distributed to benefit and advance Northwest-Shoals Community College (the "College") and its students. The Foundation has several fundraisers to assist in providing funding for scholarships.

Basis of Presentation – The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The Foundation reports information regarding its financial position and activities according to two classes of net assets, defined as follows:

<u>Net assets without donor restrictions</u> - Net assets that are not subject to donor-imposed restrictions and may be expended for any purpose in performing the primary objectives of the Foundation. The Foundation's board of directors may designate assets without restrictions for specific operational purposes from time to time.

<u>Net assets with donor restrictions</u> - Net assets subject to stipulations in nature; those restrictions will be met by actions of the Foundation or by the passage of time. Other donor restrictions are perpetual in nature, whereby the donor has stipulated the funds be maintained in perpetuity.

Contribution Support and Revenue – Contributions are recognized in the period received. If contributions are granted with conditional terms, revenue is not recognized until those terms and conditions are satisfied. In-kind contributions are reflected as contributions at their fair value at date of donation and are reported as unrestricted support unless explicit donor stipulations specify how donated assets must be used. The Foundation has estimated the value of these items and services to be \$58,032. These amounts have been reported as both in-kind contribution revenue and expenses on the statement of activities.

Income Taxes/Uncertain Tax Positions - The Foundation is generally exempt from income taxes under Section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in section 501(c)(3). The Internal Revenue Service has also determined that this is not a "private foundation" within the meaning of Section 509(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Foundation is required to file IRS form 990. The Foundation follows the income tax standard for uncertain tax positions. The Foundation has evaluated their tax provisions and determined they have no uncertain tax positions as of March 31, 2023. The Foundation files its income tax return in the U.S. federal jurisdiction. With few exceptions, the Foundation is no longer subject to U.S. federal tax examinations by tax authorities for years prior to the Foundation's year ending March 31, 2021.

Estimates - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

Functional Allocation of Expenses - The Foundation allocates its expenses on a functional basis among its various programs and supporting activities. Expenses that can be identified with a specific program or supporting activity are allocated directly according to their natural expenditure classification. Program services consist of scholarships paid. All other expenses not directly attributable to fundraising are considered general and administrative expenses.

Risks and Uncertainties - Financial instruments, which potentially expose the foundation to

concentrations of credit risk, include cash and investments in marketable securities. As a matter of policy, the Foundation maintains cash balances only with financial institutions having a high credit quality. Concentration of credit risk for investments in marketable securities is mitigated by the overall diversification of managed investment portfolios. Investment securities are also exposed to various other risks such as interest rate and market risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that the changes in values of investment securities will occur in the near-term and that such changes could materially affect the amount reported on the Statement of Financial Position.

Endowments - The Foundation has received various donations to establish permanent endowment funds to provide scholarships for Northwest Shoals Community College students, and the terms of the donations require these funds to be segregated from other Foundation funds.

Distribution of Expenses - The Foundation's expenses are allocated in the Statement of Activities by function based on the actual amount expended. For the year ended March 31, 2023, the Foundation's expenses, excluding in-kind contributions and non-cash contributions, are distributed as follows: 86% Scholarship Programs, 11% General and Administrative, and 3% Fundraising.

Investments – Investments are reported at their readily determinable fair value in the Statement of Financial Position as provided by external investment advisors. Interest, dividends, realized and unrealized gains and losses are included in investment return, net of investment expenses in the Statement of Activities. See Note C for a discussion of fair value measurements.

Economic Dependence – The Foundations operations are substantially dependent on the receipt of revenues and support from donations. Loss of these funds or large decreases in this type of funding would have a material effect on the financial position and operations of the Foundation.

B. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, the Foundation considers all unrestricted highly liquid investments with an initial maturity of one year or less to be cash equivalents. Financial instruments that potentially subject the Foundation to concentrations of credit risk consist principally of cash deposits. Accounts at each institution are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) up to certain limits. At March 31, 2023, there were no deposits that exceeded the insured limit.

Checking	\$ 215,296
Certificate of Deposit	100,000
Money Market	116,559
Total	\$ 431,855

C. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The Fair Value Measurements and Disclosure topics of the FASB Accounting Standards Codification establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques

used to measure fair value. This hierarchy consists of three broad levels: Level 1 inputs consist of unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and have the highest priority, Level 2 inputs consist of observable inputs other than quoted market prices for identical assets, and Level 3 inputs have the lowest priority. The Foundation uses appropriate valuation techniques based on the available inputs to measure the fair value of its investments. When available, the Foundation measures fair values using Level 1 inputs because they generally provide the most reliable evidence of fair value. Level 3 inputs would only be used when Level 1 or Level 2 inputs are not available.

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Foundation's investments measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of March 31, 2023:

	 Level 1	Level 2			Level 3	Total		
Stocks	\$ 464,546	\$	-	\$	-	\$	464,546	
Exchange Traded Funds	224,632		-		-		224,632	
Mutual Funds	382,524		-				382,524	
Fixed Income	113,792		-		-		113,792	
Fixed Annuity	-		159,033		-		159,033	
	\$ 1,185,494	\$	159,033	\$	-	\$	1,344,527	

The following is a description of valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value:

Stocks, Exchange Traded Funds and Mutual Funds – Valued at quoted prices in an active market.

Fixed Income and Fixed Annuity – Certain bonds are valued at the closing price reported in the market in which they are traded. Other bonds are valued on yields currently available on comparable securities of issues with similar credit ratings.

The methods described above may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. The Foundation believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants.

Investment return is the following for the year ended March 31, 2023:

Interest and Dividends	\$ 37,638
Unrealized and Realized Losses	 (93,305)
Total	\$ (55,667)

D. ENDOWMENTS

The Foundation's endowment consists of 31 individual accounts established to provide scholarships. As required by generally accepted accounting principles, net assets associated with endowment funds are classified and reported based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions.

The Foundation has adopted investment and spending policies, approved by the Board of

Directors, for endowment assets that attempt to provide a stable source of perpetual financial support to programs supported by its endowment funds while preserving the purchasing power of those endowment assets over the long term. Accordingly, the investment process seeks to achieve an after-cost total real rate of return, including investment income as well as capital appreciation, which exceeds the annual distribution with acceptable levels of risk. Endowment assets are invested in a well-diversified asset mix, which includes debt and equity securities, that is intended to result in a consistent inflation-protected rate of return that has sufficient liquidity to make annual distributions, while growing the funds if possible. Actual returns in any given year may vary.

It is the policy of the Foundation that approximately 45% of cash expenditures consist of scholarships and awards. It shall be the responsibility of the Foundation's Finance Committee to periodically review the spending policy against actual returns to make any adjustments necessary.

From time to time, the fair value of assets associated with individual donor restricted endowment funds may fall below the level that the donor or SIMIFA requires the Foundation to retain as a fund of perpetual duration due to unfavorable market fluctuations. When this is the case, any such deficiencies are reported in unrestricted net assets. At March 31, 2023, there were no deficiencies transferred to net assets without donor restrictions related to investment losses.

Endowment net asset composition by fund type as of March 31, 2023 consisted of \$1,576,392 in endowment funds with donor restrictions. The endowment net assets and activity for the year ended March 31, 2023, consisted of the following:

	Wit	hout		With		Total
	Do	Donor		Donor	E	Indowment
	Restri	ctions	R	Restrictions	1	Net Assets
Endowment Net Assets, March 31, 2022	\$	_	\$	1,605,418	\$	1,605,418
Contributions, Net		-		55,492		55,492
Amounts Appropriated for Expenditure		-		(84,518)		(84,518)
Endowment Net Assets, March 31, 2023	\$	-	\$	1,576,392	\$	1,576,392

E. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Foundation provides funds to Northwest-Shoals Community College for scholarships in accordance with the mission statement of the Foundation. These funds totaled \$266,583 for the year ended March 31, 2023 and are included in program expenses in the accompanying statement of activities.

The Foundation is run and managed by personnel that is employed of the College. The College pays the salary and benefits of the employee on the Foundation's behalf. The College also provides office space and utilities to the Foundation. For the year ended March 31, 2023, salary and related payroll expenses of \$50,775 and occupancy expense of \$2,400 were recognized. The offset was recorded as in-kind contributions.

F. LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY OF RESOURCES

The Foundation receives a substantial amount of contributions (both with and without donor restrictions).

Northwest-Shoals Community College Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

Because donor restrictions require resources to be used in a particular manner, the Foundation maintains sufficient resources to meet those responsibilities to donors.

The Foundation's financial assets available within one year of the statement of financial position date for general expenses are as follows:

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 431,855
Accrued Interest Receivable	5,000
Investments	1,344,527
Total Financial Assets Available within 1 Year	1,781,382
Less Contractual, Legal, or Donor-Imposed Restrictions:	
Amounts Subject to Expenditure for Specific Purposes	574,750
Amounts Relating to Endowment Funds with Donor Restrictions	1,001,642
Total Amounts Unavailable for General Expenditures within 1 Year	1,576,392
Total Financial Assets Available Within 1 Year after Restrictions	\$ 204,990

G. NET ASSETS

Net assets with donor restrictions are comprised as follows at March 31, 2023:

	Ŀ	Beginning	Addı	tions	Releases	Ending
Permanent Endowment	\$	1,001,642	\$	- \$	- \$	5 1,001,642
Restricted for Scholarships		603,776	5	55,492	(84,518)	574,750
Total	\$	1,605,418	\$ 5	55,492 \$	(84,518) \$	5 1,576,392

NOTE 12 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

In preparing these financial statements, the College has evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure through the date of the auditor's report, which was the date the financial statements were available to be issued.



Northwest-Shoals Community College Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability Teachers' Retirement Plan of Alabama (in thousands)

	For the measurement period ended September 30,										
		2022		2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
College's proportion of the net pension liability	0	.181885%	0.	189831%	0.191336%	0.177966%	0.183735%	0.188081%	0.190982%	0.198826%	0.204337%
College's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$	28,266	\$	17,883	\$ 23,668	\$ 19,678	\$ 18,268	\$ 18,486	\$ 20,676	\$ 20,809 \$	18,563
College's covered payroll	\$	14,058	\$	13,742	\$ 13,540	\$ 12,650	\$ 12,140 \$	\$ 12,378	\$ 12,111	\$ 12,567	\$ 12,951
College's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered payroll		201.07%)	130.13%	174.80%	155.56%	150.48%	149.35%	170.72%	165.58%	143.33%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension		62.21%)	76.44%	67.72%	69.85%	72.29%	71.50%	67.93%	67.51%	71.01%

Notes to the Schedule of College's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability

This schedule presents only nine years of information, rather than ten years, as only nine years of trend information is available at September 30, 2023.

Northwest-Shoals Community College Schedule of Pension Contributions Teachers' Retirement Plan of Alabama (in thousands)

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 1,852 \$	1,698 \$	1,661 \$	1,650 \$	1,550 \$	1,467 \$	1,472 \$	1,436 \$	1,467
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	\$ 1,852 \$	1,698 \$	1,661 \$	1,650 \$	1,550 \$	1,467 \$	1,472 \$	1,436 \$	1,467
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ - \$	- \$	- \$	- \$	- \$	- \$	- \$	- \$	_
College's covered payroll	\$ 15,221 \$	14,058 \$	13,742 \$	13,540 \$	12,650 \$	12,140 \$	12,378 \$	12,111 \$	12,567
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	12.17%	12.08%	12.09%	12.19%	12.25%	12.08%	11.89%	11.86%	11.67%

Notes to the Schedule of College's Pension Contributions

This schedule presents only nine years of information, rather than ten years, as only nine years of trend information is available at September 30, 2023.

Northwest-Shoals Community College Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability Alabama Retired Education Employees' Health Care Trust (in thousands)

	For the measurement period ended September 30,						er 30,
		2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Northwest-Shoals Community College 's proportion of the net OPEB liability	0.	165634%	0.155266%	0.154083%	0.172350%	0.166442%	0.168656%
Northwest-Shoals Community College 's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 2	,886,091	\$ 8,022 \$	9,999 \$	6,502 \$	13,679 \$	12,527
Northwest-Shoals Community College 's covered payroll	\$	13,251	\$ 12,708 \$	12,843 \$	12,158 \$	11,594 \$	11,950
Northwest-Shoals Community College 's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered payroll		21.78%	63.13%	77.86%	53.48%	117.98%	104.83%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability		48.39%	27.11%	19.80%	28.14%	14.81%	15.37%

Notes to the Schedule of College's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability

This schedule presents only six years of information, rather than ten years, as only six years of trend information is available at September 30, 2023.

Northwest-Shoals Community College Schedule of OPEB Contributions Alabama Retired Education Employees' Health Care Trust (in thousands)

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Contractually required contribution	\$ 221 \$	316 \$	268 \$	305 \$	488 \$	410
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	 (221)	(316)	(268)	(305)	(488)	(410)
Contribution deficiency (excess)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northwest-Shoals Community College covered payroll	\$ 13,439 \$	13,251 \$	12,708 \$	12,843 \$	12,158 \$	11,594
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	1.65%	2.39%	2.11%	2.38%	4.02%	3.53%

Notes to the Schedule of College's OPEB Contributions

This schedule presents only six years of information, rather than ten years, as only six years of trend information is available at September 30, 2023.

Northwest-Shoals Community College Schedule of Northwest-Shoals Community College's Contributions Notes to Required Supplementary Information

Changes in actuarial assumptions

In 2021, rates of withdrawal, retirement, disability, and mortality were adjusted to reflect actual experience more closely. In 2021, economic assumptions and the assumed rates of salary increases were adjusted to reflect actual and anticipated experience more closely.

In 2019, the anticipated rates of participation, spouse coverage, and tobacco use were adjusted to more closely reflect actual experience.

Recent Plan Changes

Beginning in plan year 2021, the MAPD plan premium rates exclude the ACA Health Insurer Fee which was repealed on December 20, 2019.

Effective January 1, 2017, Medicare eligible medical and prescription drug benefits are provided through the MAPD plan.

The Health Plan is changed each year to reflect the Affordable Care Act maximum annual out-of-pocket amounts.

Northwest-Shoals Community College Schedule of Northwest-Shoals Community College's Contributions Notes to Required Supplementary Information

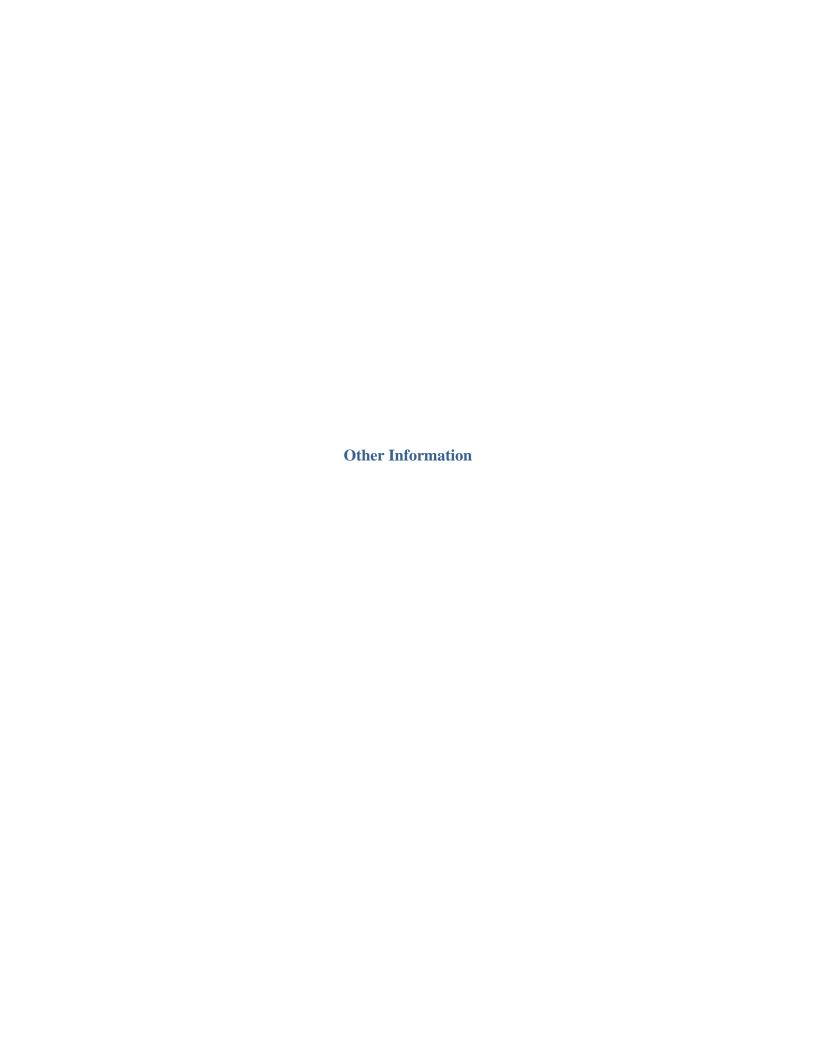
Method and assumptions used in calculations of actuarially determined contributions

The actuarially determined contribution rates in the Schedule of OPEB Contributions were calculated as of September 30, 2019, which is three years prior to the end of the fiscal year in which contributions are reported. The following actuarial methods and assumptions were used to determine the most recent contribution rate reported in that schedule:

Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal
Amortization Method	Level percent of pay
Remaining Amortization Period	22 years, closed
Asset Valuation Method	Market Value of Assets
Inflation	2.75%
Healthcare Cost Trend Rate:	
Pre-Medicare Eligible	6.75%
Medicare Eligible*	5.00%
Ultimate Trend Rate:	
Pre-Medicare Eligible	4.75%
Medicare Eligible	4.75%
Year of Ultimate Trend Rate	2027 for Pre-Medicare Eligible
	2024 for Medicare Eligible
Optional Plans Trend Rate	2.00%
Investment Rate of Return	5.00%, including inflation

^{*} Initial Medicare claims are set based on scheduled increases through plan year 2022.

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Northwest-Shoals Community College Listing of College Officials

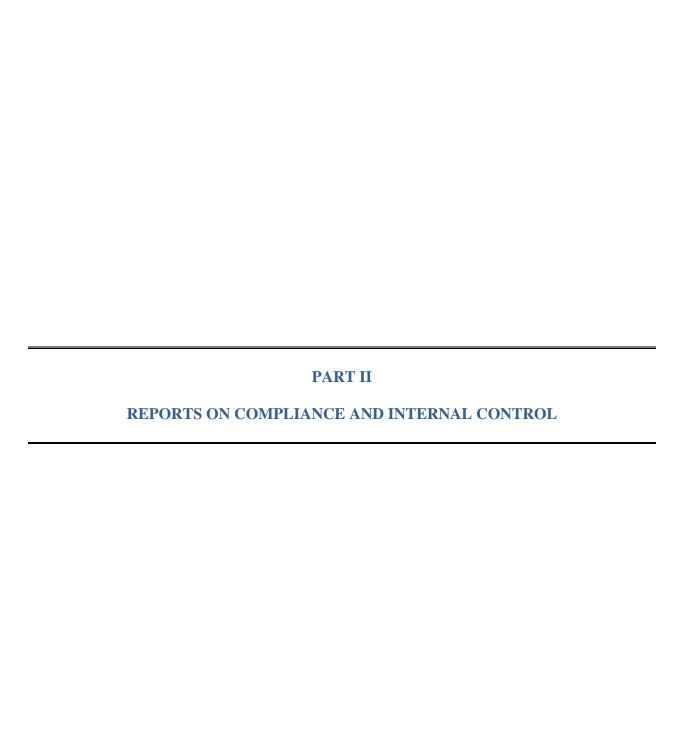
Officials Title

Jimmy Baker Chancellor

Alabama Community College System

Dr. Jeff Goodwin President

Jason Morgan Dean of Finance





INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Jimmy Baker, Chancellor – Alabama Community College System Dr. Jeff Goodwin, President – Northwest-Shoals Community College

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of Northwest-Shoals Community College (the "College"), a component unit of the State of Alabama, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the College's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated January 16, 2024. Our report includes an emphasis of a matter reference to the change in accounting principle resulting from the implementation of GASB 96 *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*, as of October 1, 2022. Our report includes a reference to other auditors who audited the financial statements of Northwest-Shoals Community College Foundation (the "Foundation"), as described in our report on the College's financial statements. The financial statements of the Foundation were not audited in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, and accordingly, this report does not include reporting on internal control over financial reporting or instances of reportable noncompliance associated with the Foundation.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the College's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the College's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the College's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or, significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the College's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Athens, AL

January 16, 2024





INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

Jimmy Baker, Chancellor – Alabama Community College System Dr. Jeff Goodwin, President – Northwest-Shoals Community College

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Northwest-Shoals Community College's (the "College") compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the College's major federal programs for the year ended September 30, 2023. The College's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, Northwest-Shoals Community College complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended September 30, 2023.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the College and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the College's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the College's federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the College's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the College's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, Government Auditing Standards, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and
 design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include
 examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the College's compliance with the
 compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we
 considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of the College's internal control over compliance relevant to the
 audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to
 test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform
 Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the
 College's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control over Compliance

A *deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.



Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Report on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Required by the Uniform Guidance

We have audited the financial statements of the College, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the College's basic financial statements. We issued our report thereon dated January 16, 2024, which contained unmodified opinions on those financial statements. Our audit was performed for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by the Uniform Guidance and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedule of expenditures of federal awards is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Athens, Alabama January 16, 2024

Mauldin & Jerkins, LLC

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Federal Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/ Program or Cluster Title	Assistance Listing <u>Number</u>	Pass-Through Entity Identifying <u>Number</u>	Passed Through to <u>Subrecipients</u>		Total Federal <u>Expenditures</u>	
MAJOR PROGRAMS						
U.S. Department of Education - Direct Programs						
COVID 19 - Education Stabilizaton Fund - HEERF Strengthening Institutions Program	84.425M	N.A.	\$	-	\$	746,595
COVID 19 - Education Stabilizaton Fund - HEERF Institutional Portion	84.425F	N.A.		-		587,645
COVID 19 - Education Stabilizaton Fund - HEERF Student Aid	84.425E	N.A.		-		(6,780)
Total Education Stabilizaton Fund - Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund						1,327,460
Student Financial Assistance Cluster						
U.S. Department of Education - Direct Programs						
Federal Pell Grant Program	84.063	N.A.	\$	-	\$	5,735,812
Federal Work-Study Program	84.033	N.A.		-		101,447
Federal Direct Student Loan	84.268	N.A.		-		1,996,804
Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants	84.007	N.A.		-		37,100
Total Student Financial Assistance Cluster						7,871,163
Total Major Programs			\$		\$	9,198,623
NON-MAJOR PROGRAMS						
TRIO Cluster						
U.S. Department of Education - Direct Programs						
TRIO - Student Support Services	84.042	N.A.		-		602,257
TRIO - Talent Search	84.044	N.A.		-		1,097,321
TRIO - Upward Bound	84.047	N.A.				996,472
Total TRIO Cluster				-		2,696,050
U.S. Department of Education - Direct Program						
Child Care Access Means Parents in School	84.335	N.A.		-		81,082

The accompanying Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards are an integral part of this schedule.

Northwest-Shoals Community College Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

Federal Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/ Program or Cluster Title	Assistance Listing <u>Number</u>	Pass-Through Entity Identifying <u>Number</u>	Passed Through to <u>Subrecipients</u>	Total Federal Expenditures
WIOA Cluster U. S. Department of Labor Passed Through Alabama Department of Commerce				
WIOA Adult Program WIOA Youth Activities WIOA Dislocated Worker Formula Grants Total WIOA Cluster	17.258 17.259 17.278	N.A. 2X100008; 3X100008 N.A.	- - - -	38,516 562,297 6,413 607,226
U. S. Department of Labor - Passed Through Alabama Community College System H-1B Job Training	17.268	HG-33165-NWSH-01	-	100,868
U. S. Department of Education - Direct Programs Higher Education Institutional Aid	84.031	N.A.		363,000
U. S. Department of Education - Passed Through Alabama Community College System Adult Education - Basic Grants to States	84.002	0922AE102	-	463,466
U. S. Department of Education - Passed Through Alabama Department of Education Career and Technical Education - Basic Grants to States	84.048	V048A190001	-	368,358

Northwest-Shoals Community College Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

Federal Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/ Program or Cluster Title	Assistance Listing <u>Number</u>	Pass-Through Entity Identifying <u>Number</u>	Passed Through to <u>Subrecipients</u>	Total Federal <u>Expenditures</u>
U. S. Department of Education - Direct Programs				
Basic Needs for Postsecondary Students Program	84.116N	N.A.	-	114,448
U.S. Department of Agriculture Passed Through the Alabama State Department of Education				
Child and Adult Care Food Program	10.558	A2J-0000		13,325
Total Non-Major Programs				4,807,823
Total Federal Awards			\$ -	\$ 14,006,446

N.A. = Not Available

NOTE 1 - BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the "Schedule") includes the federal award activity of Northwest-Shoals Community College (the "College") under programs of the federal government for the year ended September 30, 2023. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the College, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net position or cash flows of the College.

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement. The College has elected not to use the 10-percent de minimus indirect cost rate allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

For purposes of the Schedule, federal awards include all grants, contracts and similar agreements entered into directly between the College and agencies and departments of the federal government and all subawards to the College by nonfederal organizations pursuant to federal grants, contracts and similar agreements. The awards are classified into Type A and Type B categories in accordance with the provisions of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Programs classified as Type A are as follows:

Student Financial Assistance Cluster

TRIO Cluster

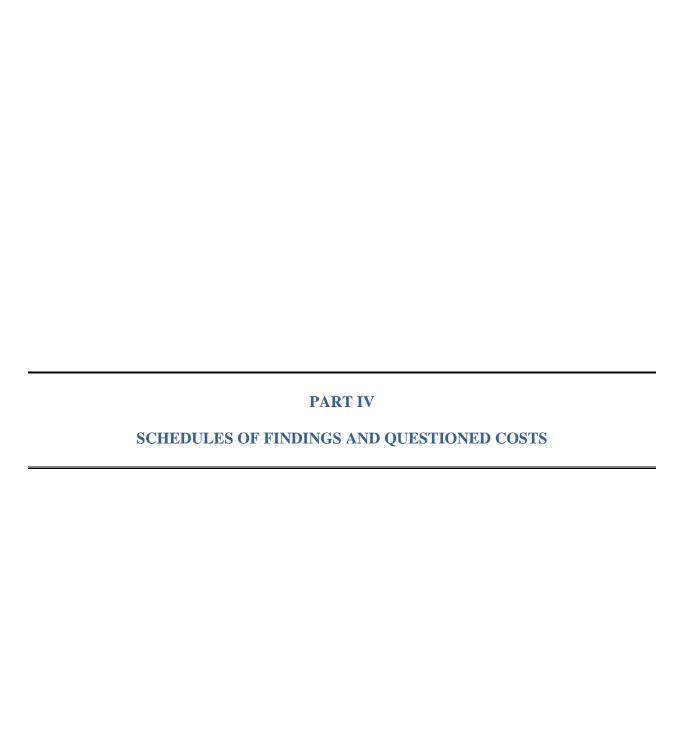
Education Stabilization Fund - Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund

Assistance Listing Numbers

Assistance Listing (formerly Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance, CFDA) numbers are assigned to contracts and grants on the basis of program type. Assistance Listing numbers and pass-through numbers are provided when available.

NOTE 3 – FEDERAL DIRECT STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM (Assistance Listing Number 84.268)

The Direct Loan program enables an eligible student or parent to obtain a loan to pay for the student's cost of attendance directly through the College rather than through private lenders. As a college qualified to originate loans, the College is responsible for handling the complete loan origination process, including funds management and promissory note functions. During the program year, the College processed approximately \$2.0 million of student loans under the Direct Loan program.



Section I - Summary of Auditor's Results

Financial Statements

Type of auditor's report issu	pe of auditor's report issued:		Unmodified	
Internal control over financia Material weakness(es) iden Significant deficiency(ies) Noncompliance material to	ntified?	yes yes yes	x no reported x no	
Federal Awards				
Internal control over major p Material weakness(es) iden Significant deficiency(ies)	tified?	yes yes	_x_ no _x_ none reported	
Type of auditor's report issu programs:	ed on compliance for major	Unmo	odified	
Any audit findings disclosed accordance with 2 CFR 200 Identification of major progra		yes	<u>x</u> no	
Assistance Listing Number(s)	Name of Federal Program or (Cluster		
84.063 84.033 84.268 84.007	Student Financial Assistance Clu Federal Pell Grant Program Federal Work-Study Program Federal Direct Student Loan Federal Supplemental Education		nity Grants	
84.425 E, F, M	COVID 19 Education Stabiliza Emergency Relief Fund	ation Fund - I	Higher Education	
Threshold used to determine	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
	e Type A and Type B Programs:	\$ 750,000		

<u>Section II – Financial Statement Findings</u>

None

Section III – Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

None

Northwest-Shoals Community College Schedule of Prior Year Findings and Questioned Costs

REFERENCE: 2022-001

Type: Financial Statement Finding

Finding: During 2022, management restated the prior year's net position related to previously unrecorded amounts for allowance for doubtful accounts, construction in progress, and transfers. The amounts not recorded in the prior year overstated receivables and overstated the net position. The auditor recommendation was for management review these accounts and implement controls to ensure that timely adjustments are made to the financial statements.

<u>Corrective Action:</u> Corrective action was taken. Resolved.