

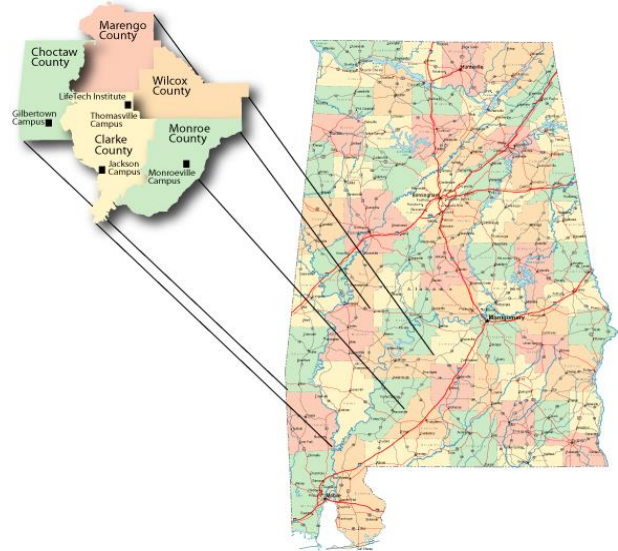
# Alabama Southern Community College



THE COLLEGE

## INTRODUCTION

Alabama Southern Community College (Alabama Southern) is a multi-campus, comprehensive community college located in the most rural southwest portion of the state of Alabama. Alabama Southern’s students commute mostly from five extremely rural counties that include Choctaw, Clarke, Marengo, Monroe, and Wilcox counties. This area accounts for approximately 5,000 square miles of mostly forest and farms and represents 10% of Alabama’s land area. Also, the area population density per square miles is only 18.7 residents compared to 94.7 and 88.6 for the state of Alabama and the United States respectively.



## HISTORY AND ACCREDITATION

The Alabama State Board of Education through the consolidation of Patrick Henry State Junior College and Hobson State Technical College created Alabama Southern Community College on August 22, 1991. Alabama Southern Community College was fully accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) on June 19, 1992, and reaffirmed in 1995 and 2006.

Act No. 93 of the Alabama Legislature in 1963 created each of the original colleges. Both colleges began classes in fall 1965.

Patrick Henry was initially accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Commission on Colleges in December 1970, and was reaffirmed in December 1974 and again in December 1985. Hobson State was initially accredited by SACS Commission on Occupational Education Institutions in December 1972 and was reaffirmed in December 1977, in December 1982, in December 1987, and in December 1992.

## ASCC LOCATIONS

Alabama Southern Community College has five locations within its service area to meet the needs of its students and the communities that it serves.

### Monroeville Campus

The Monroeville campus is the parent campus of the College and houses offices for the executive administration. According to the Alabama Public Higher Education Facilities Inventory Report, the Monroeville campus has a total of nine buildings with 90,404 square feet of gross building area for academic and technical programs which supports the mission of the College. The Associate Degree Nursing Program is unique to the Monroeville campus of the College.

The Monroeville campus library offers state-of-the-art research resources and is also home to the Southwest Alabama Regional Arts Museum. The library building also houses an authorized Pearson-Vue Testing Center, a Student Success Center, and Student Support Services.

The College’s intercollegiate athletic programs are housed on the Monroeville campus and include a gymnasium for men’s and women’s basketball, a softball complex, and a baseball complex. In addition, the College’s outdoor facilities include a tennis complex which has eight lighted courts for student and public use. The College also has a scenic bike/pedestrian walking trail on the western side of the Campus which is approximately 1.2 miles long and connects the Monroeville campus with the Monroe County High School campus. Students from both institutions and the public are able to enjoy this walking trail, which is owned by Alabama Southern Community College.

ALABAMA SOUTHERN AREA LAND AND POPULATION DENSITY			
Description	Square miles	Percentage of total Alabama land area	Population density per square mile
Choctaw County	920.85	2.0	15.0
Clarke County	1,252.51	3.0	21.0
Marengo County	982.85	21.0	21.0
Monroe County	1,034.53	22.0	22.0
Wilcox County	907.46	13.0	13.0
<b>AREA</b>	<b>5,098.20</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>18.7</b>
Alabama	52,419		94.7
United States	9,826,675		88.6

A 900-seat auditorium is located on the campus which serves the cultural needs of both the College and the community. The auditorium is equipped with state-of-the-art sound, lighting, and broadband wireless Internet to support conferences, musicals, and theater productions for the College and the community. With Monroe County designated by the Alabama Legislature as the Literary Capital of Alabama, Nettles Auditorium is the focal point of the College's annual Alabama Writers Symposium which began in 1998 with the recognition of local writers such as Nell Harper Lee and her famous novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

## Thomasville Campus

The Thomasville campus contains approximately 95,476 gross square feet of space in thirteen buildings as shown on the Alabama Public Higher Education Facilities Inventory Report. The campus houses several technical programs unique to the College including Practical Nursing, Cosmetology, and Paper and Chemical Technology. The National Science Foundation designated National Center for Pulp and Paper Technology Training is officially housed on the Thomasville campus. Actual paper making laboratories are located in building 7000 where students receive hands-on experience with the high technology that drives today's paper industry.

The Thomasville campus library offers state-of-the-art research resources and is also home to the Kathryn Tucker Windham Museum. The museum, housed in the College's library building, takes visitors through Ms. Windham's early childhood in Thomasville, her career as a journalist and her rise to national attention as a storyteller.

The Thomasville campus also houses a regional center of the Alabama Technology Network which is part of the Alabama Community College System. The Alabama Technology Network Center provides training and business solutions for the existing businesses and industries in the College's service area.

## Gilbertown Campus

The Gilbertown campus includes two buildings which contain approximately 13,081 gross square feet of space as shown on the Alabama Public Higher Education Facilities Inventory Report. The Gilbertown campus is supported by an administration/classroom building and a library/adult education building. Academic university transfer courses as well as a limited number of technical programs are offered on the Gilbertown campus.

## LifeTech Institute Campus

The LifeTech Institute, a non-credit prison education training site, is located in Thomasville, Alabama and

provides adult education and technical training for early release parolees from the Alabama prison system. The LifeTech Institute provides this non-credit technical training to early release parolees in order to mitigate prison overcrowding in the State. The LifeTech Institute consists of two buildings with approximately 25,590 gross square feet. The Administrative/Classroom building contains administrative offices, faculty offices, classrooms, and computer labs. The Technical Building houses training labs for teaching Welding, Building Construction – Carpentry, Building Construction – Painting and Drywall, Building Construction – Masonry, Small Engine Repair, Horticulture, and Industrial Maintenance.

## Jackson Center

The Jackson center, located in Jackson, Alabama, consists of two classrooms, a computer lab, and an administrative office provided by the Clarke County Board of Education in the Jackson Middle School. The center is in a separate wing of Jackson Middle School and has been renovated and is maintained by the College. A limited number of academic university transfer courses are taught at the center along with adult education classes.

## Workforce Development Center

The Workforce Development Center located in Monroeville near the Monroeville campus, consists of approximately 17 acres of land located on the Highway 21 Bypass with a large building that was used for distribution of goods by Vanity Fair, Inc. and a small storage building inside a security fence. The approximately 75,000-square-foot building was purchased in 2010 from Vanity Fair, Inc. after the manufacturing operations were moved to another country. The building will be primarily used to expand the technical programming in the Monroeville campus area as well as promote economic development in the region.

The College has begun renovating the building and currently teaches dual enrollment welding classes in the facility.

## Dual Enrollment

Alabama Southern Community College offers dual enrollment welding programs at Thomasville High School in Thomasville, Alabama and Wilcox Central High School in Camden, Alabama. In addition, the College offers academic university transfer dual enrollment courses at Thomasville High School and Jackson High School in Jackson, Alabama.

## Distance Education

Alabama Southern Community College also provides distance education opportunities to students as part of a

formal asynchronous educational process using the Internet. Some of the specific technologies that the College uses to enhance student learning are the Canvas Learning Management System, ASCC Online, and Eagle Alert emergency notification system. All students taking online courses are required to use Canvas as their Learning Management System. Traditional students also use the Canvas LMS. It can be accessed from the front page of the Alabama Southern Community College website.

## MISSION

Alabama Southern Community College provides comprehensive educational opportunities and services in diverse learning environments to enhance community and economic development for the citizens of southwest Alabama.

## PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIES

The priorities of Alabama Southern Community College are:

### Priority I: Student Access

- A. Distance Education – Provide access to high quality instruction and support services through distance education and ensure that the learning environment is comparable to the traditional formal educational process without the need for students to be in a specific location at a set time.
- B. Dual Enrollment/Accelerated High School Programs – Provide early exposure to the college learning environment to eligible high school students in general education and career technical programs.
- C. Partnerships – Increase the opportunities for articulated transfer programs with university partners.
- D. Financial Assistance – Provide students with assistance and information concerning federal, state, local, and institutional financial aid opportunities.

### Priority II: Student Success

- A. Support Services – Promote student development and academic support programs, services, and activities to enhance student learning and development.
- B. Achievement – Strengthen and improve services to students to address identified student needs and establish a solid foundation for success in future endeavors.

### Priority III: Instructional Services

- A. Faculty – Improve the quality of activities available to faculty and staff to promote professional growth and improve performance.
- B. Programs – Maintain the content, quality, effectiveness, and appropriateness of the curriculum in academic degree programs and certificates.

### Priority IV: Learning Resources

- A. Technology – Provide technology resources for students that enhance learning, meet the instructional needs of faculty, and the administrative needs of staff.
- B. Library Services – Maintain qualified staff and ensure adequate learning informational resources are provided to students through diverse methods of delivery.

### Priority V: Physical and Financial Resources

- A. Physical – Operate and maintain physical facilities that are appropriate for the institution's needs, which also provide a healthy, safe, and secure environment for all college constituents.
- B. Financial – Make effective use of financial resources required to operate programs and provide services in order to demonstrate financial stability and accountability.

### Priority VI: College-Wide Enhancement

- A. Internal Communication – Provide information in a timely fashion through publications and internal channels to enhance communications and knowledge of the college's practices and policies.
- B. Marketing – Maximize the use of all outlets of advertising and media to ensure accurate representation of the College's practices and policies
- C. Institutional Effectiveness – Maintain a structured, institution-wide planning and evaluation process to include student learning and departmental outcomes which provide evidence of continuous improvement based on evaluation of results.
- D. Quality Enhancement Plan – Provide resources for the development and implementation of the college's quality enhancement plan

### Priority VII: Community and Economic Development

- A. Workforce Development – Provide academic and technical skills training that increases access to

employment, career advancement, and support local economic needs.

- B. Continuing Education – Provide educational and skills training to promote the personal enrichment and development of individuals within the community.
- C. Community Outreach – Provide programs and services that enhance the quality of life and foster the academic and cultural development of members within the college community.
- D. Adult Education – Provide adult basic education to create a learning workforce in a knowledge-based economy.