

Wallace Community College Selma

# ANNUAL REPORT

2020

# VISION STATEMENT

The College shares a vision of a learning-centered education that is responsive to the needs of our service area and is manifested by quality teaching, opportunities for learning, effective educational support services, and access to a quality education. Challenged by change and innovation, the College will move forward to create a future responsive to the diverse needs of students, community, and state.

# PHILOSOPHY

The philosophy of Wallace Community College Selma is expressed in the following beliefs: Education is essential to the economic, social, environmental, and political well-being of the citizens of WestCentral Alabama; Education should be made academically, geographically, physically, and financially accessible to all students; Wallace Community College Selma is uniquely qualified to deliver excellent and equitable educational opportunities and services; and Quality education requires unity and cooperation of all stakeholders who work together toward a common goal.

# MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Wallace Community College Selma is to provide high-quality learning-centered educational opportunities and services through varied instructional-delivery modes that are responsive to individual, community, and state needs.

# CONTACT US

(334) 876-9227  
3000 Earl Goodwin Parkway  
Selma, Alabama 36703  
[www.wccs.edu](http://www.wccs.edu)

 [facebook.com/wccselma](https://facebook.com/wccselma)

 [@wccselma](https://www.instagram.com/wccselma)

 [@wccselma](https://www.twitter.com/wccselma)





# *College Goals*

- I. Teaching & Learning: Promote and provide quality teaching and learning environments and experiences that enhance the development of knowledge, skills, behaviors, and values for students and enables them to be successful in the workforce or subsequent education.**
- II. Student Focus/Services Success: Promote high-quality student experiences through services consistent with student needs, interests, and abilities that lead to student development and success.**
- III. Technology: Broaden the development of educational and administrative technology that enhances student learning and improves college management processes and functions.**
- IV. Workforce/ Economic Development: Provide high-quality workforce development programs that meet the needs of businesses and industries and enhance the economic development efforts of the region and the state.**
- V. Community Engagement/Development: Foster key relationships with community leaders to support community engagement and development efforts in the college's service area.**
- VI. Adult Education: Provide an Adult Education program that alleviates educational gaps and helps participants gain economic and social mobility.**
- VII. Enrollment: Implement a strategic enrollment management plan that has a positive impact on the College's financial stability.**
- VIII. Efficiency of Operations: Improve efficient operations of the College.**

## PRESIDENT'S CABINET

Dr. James M. Mitchell  
President

Dr. Donitha Griffin  
Dean of Students; Executive Assistant to the  
President

Dr. Rosa Spencer  
Dean of Business and Finance

Dr. Tammie Briggs  
Dean of Instruction

Veronica Brown  
Coordinator of Institutional Effectiveness and  
Faculty Development

Robby Bennett  
Director of Technology & Information Services

Raji Gourdine  
Dean of Workforce Development & Technical  
Programs

Keith Jackson  
Director of Facilities & Safety

## ACCS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Honorable Kay Ivey  
Governor of the State of Alabama  
President

J.E.B. Shell  
District 1

John Mitchell  
District 2

Valerie Gray  
District 3

Matthew Woods  
District 4

Goodrich "Dus" Rogers  
District 5

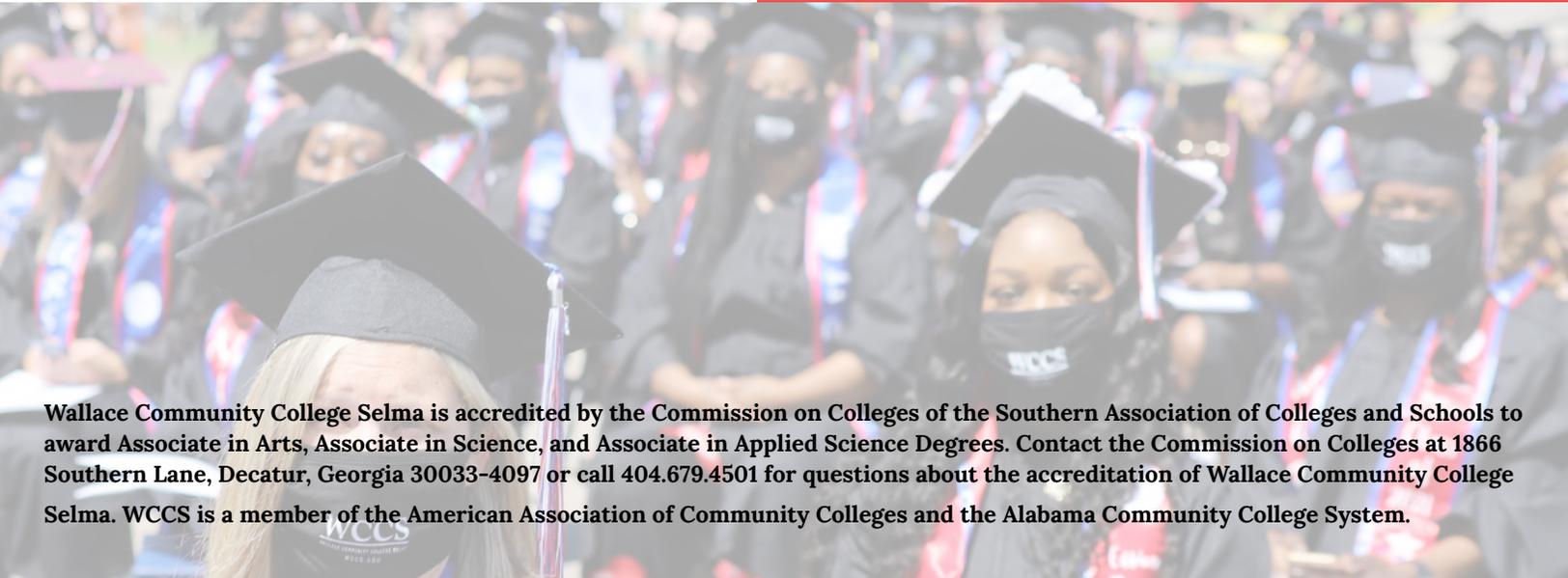
Milton A. Davis  
Chairman, District 6

Llevelyn Rhone  
District 7

Blake McAnally  
Vice-Chairman  
Member-at-Large

Dr. Yvette Richardson  
Ex-Officio Member

Mr. Jimmy Baker  
Chancellor  
The Alabama Community College System



Wallace Community College Selma is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, and Associate in Applied Science Degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404.679.4501 for questions about the accreditation of Wallace Community College Selma. WCCS is a member of the American Association of Community Colleges and the Alabama Community College System.



# FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I reflect on what this past year, I have never been prouder to serve as president of Wallace Community College Selma. As you will read in the pages ahead, WCCS faculty, staff, students, and alumni have demonstrated remarkable resolve to persevere through the pandemic.

In spite of the global challenges we all faced, this academic year, providing a high-quality educational experience in a safe environment for each of our students remained a primary focus, and our long track record of financial strength and investments in cutting-edge technology has ensured the continued success of our academic programs.

The support of WCCS's alumni and friends, colleagues, associates, partners, and business and industry is more important today than ever. Like most institutions, WCCS is dealing with severe budget reductions resulting from the financial impact of the pandemic on the state economy, and many of our students continue to face hardship as well. I am grateful that so many of you gave generously to WCCS this past year, and I ask for your additional support now as we strive to maintain academic excellence in these unprecedented times. New challenges certainly await us, but with the dedication and tenacious spirit, we will navigate them together.

Thank you for your continued support.

James M. Mitchell, President



## WCCS 2021 commencement ceremonies has over 350 students participate

Wallace Community College Selma held commencement ceremonies for the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 academic years on Friday, May 14, 2021, on the Selma campus. Approximately 353 graduates participated in the ceremonies.

“This is a special day for those students,” said Dr. James Mitchell. “They worked so hard. So we wanted to reward them with a traditional graduation.”

The ceremonies were held outside to allow more distance between people in the audience. A jumbotron screen and a huge sound system were set up in the school parking lot. The college collaborated with Selma High School who also used the set-up for its graduation ceremony held later that evening.

A total of 375 students successfully completed requirements for associate degrees or certificates. Janet Flemmon was presented with the James M. Mitchell Technical Award, and Semira Jones received the James M. Mitchell Academic Award. Ashley Bayne received the Academic Excellence Award for graduating with a 4.0 GPA.







## Beloved janitor surprised with a graduation celebration

Derrick Harris was able to celebrate his college graduation in the same halls where he worked for years. The 26-year-old was the beloved janitor at Wacoochee Elementary School in Salem, Alabama.

Derrick Harris was surprised with a graduation celebration by the school for this tremendous accomplishment on May 25. This spring, Harris achieved his dream and graduated from Wallace Community College Selma with plans to attend Auburn University at Montgomery in the fall. With the help of his fellow faculty members, Harris was able to map out a college plan so he could attend online classes at night and continue his day job at school.

On May 25h, the last day of school, the elementary students and staff decided to surprise Harris with a goodbye graduation celebration. The students lined the halls and cheered Harris' name. Some held signs that read, "You're my hero!"

Harris, who hopes to be a physical education teacher one day, told "World News Tonight" that he had been hired as a PE assistant. "I'm excited to work with more kids and more students and impact them in a positive way," said Harris. He said his best advice is to stay positive. "Just keep going in life," he said. "I don't get down too much on myself or things that's going on around me. I just keep going."





## WCCS graduates first CDL program students

WCCS celebrated the first group of students to complete the institution's Commercial Driver's License (CDL) program on July 19, 2020, at Craig Field. According to WCCS CDL Instructor Tyrone Hatcher, five people earned their CDL certification and 11 more were on track to earn their CDL in the program.

Raji Gourdine, WCCS Dean of Workforce Development & Technical Programs said WCCS began to devise a CDL program in November 2019 after hearing local businesses and industries express a need for truck drivers in the area. "Here at Wallace, we try to be responsive to business and industry needs," said Gourdine. "We were happy to step up and offer this program." Gourdine said that the program has already established relationships with companies to provide potential employment opportunities to WCCS's new CDL holders.

Gourdine said those who complete the WCCS CDL Program will have the opportunity to meet with companies like McElroy Truck Lines, Inc.; Wiley Sanders Truck Lines, Inc.; Bama Budweiser; Coca Cola; and Pepsi. "We're really excited about this program," said Gourdine. The CDL program is available at WCCS and the institution's Demopolis Campus.

## WCCS student hired at Lear Corporation as apprentice



A Wallace Community College Selma (WCCS) electrical technology student has become the first apprentice to be hired at Lear Corporation-Selma. Jayven Williams, a graduate of Wilcox Central High School, was hired in December after being interviewed and evaluated.

Lear's Maintenance Manager Kendale Callen reached out to WCCS to partner with them on an apprenticeship program after Lear experienced a shortage in staff. Williams completed the electrical technology program in December. "I'm learning something new everyday," Williams said. "Due to COVID-19, it was difficult to apply what we were learning in class into real life situations, but this opportunity allows me to gain hands-on knowledge."



# Federal Aviation Administration



## WCCS joins Federal Aviation Administration Centers of Excellence program

Wallace Community College Selma has joined the Federal Aviation Administration Centers of Excellence Technical Training and Human Performance academic and industry team as an affiliate member.

“WCCS joins FAA’s existing academic partners (25) as the institution is dedicated to advancing aviation education utilizing the newest immersive simulations and adaptive learning technologies. For example, WCCS plans to create cinematic-quality virtual reality content, including training modules for medicine, law enforcement, manufacturing, the performing arts, and aviation education,” said FAA officials.

“We believe these immersive environments are ideal for the future of aviation training and are essential to attracting students to aviation. This would allow WCC to serve as a future recruitment site for FAA COE TTHP study participants for research of a related scope and in line with the request of the FAA sponsors and technical monitors that establish our Center’s research priorities.”

“We are very honored and excited to be accepted as an affiliate member of the University of Oklahoma and FAA Center of Excellence,” said Dr. James Mitchell. “This membership offers our students, general community, and the City of Selma greater access and opportunity in aviation virtual reality and immersive simulations. This is another shining example of collaborative partnerships.”

---

## WCCS among recipients of \$3.5M in 7th District grants

U.S. Rep. Terri Sewell, D-AL, announce that more than \$3.5 million in federal TRIO grant funding, had been awarded to seven colleges across Alabama’s 7th Congressional District. Among those that received funding was Wallace Community College Selma, which received more than \$506,000 from the grant program.

“I am thrilled to announced this substantial round of TRIO grant funding for colleges and universities across Alabama’s 7th Congressional District,” Sewell said in a press release. “I know first-hand the transformative power of a good education and remain committed to ensuring that every child across the district is given the academic tools they need to thrive.”

“The Student Support Services Federal TRIO Program at Wallace Community College Selma is extremely excited about being awarded a grant totaling \$2,530,750 over a five-year period from the U.S. Department of Education,” said WCCS Director of Student Support Services Herbert Thomas in the press release. “We are very appreciative of the efforts and support provided by Congresswoman Terri A. Sewell and her staff in helping us in the grant process. These much-needed funds will allow us to continue serving first-generation and low-income college students. Our goal is to make a positive impact on their academic trajectory at Wallace Community College Selma.”

# President Biden Speaks Virtually at Unity Breakfast in Selma

President Joe Biden was the keynote speaker at the Annual Martin and Coretta King Unity Breakfast held on the WCCS Campus. President Biden commemorated the struggle for voting rights in Selma as a battle fought and won. “The blood of John Lewis and so many other brave and righteous souls that was spilled in Selma on this Sunday in 1965 sanctified a noble struggle,” said Biden.



The Unity Breakfast was a drive-in event this year held in the parking lot of Wallace Community College Selma. Attendees could see and hear virtual and live guest speakers at the event from the safety of their vehicles.

The list of speakers included U.S. Senators Jon Ossoff and Raphael Warnock of Georgia, Congressman James Clyburn, and Martin Luther King III. Congressman John Lewis, Rev. Joseph Lowery, Dr. C.T. Vivian, and Attorney Bruce Boynton were honored at that breakfast.

## Edmundite Missions make donation to WCCS



For years, the Edmundite Missions has helped many students at Wallace Community College Selma to begin, continue, or finish their education and take a step towards new possibilities and a rewarding career, improving the lives of themselves, their families, and the entire community.

The Edmundite Missions continued their support on Wednesday, May 19, 2021, by presenting President James Mitchell with a check for \$15,000.00 to endow a fund that will be overseen by a committee at the College to help students succeed in the classroom and begin their careers.

“The Edmundite Missions have been very supportive of the college over the years and we look forward to working with them on future endeavors,” said Dr. Mitchell.

## Wallace Community College and MSU-Meridian announce partnership

Mississippi State University–Meridian and Wallace Community College Selma recently announced a new Partnership Pathway to enable WCCS students at both the Demopolis and Selma campuses to earn their undergraduate degree from MSU.

The five-year agreement went into effect at the beginning of the spring semester and provides students degree-specific course plans tailored for each of the four degree programs being offered—Bachelor of Applied Technology in healthcare services, BAT in event and hospitality management, as well as Bachelor of Accountancy and Bachelor of Business Administration.

“We are excited for what this partnership provides for our students,” Hathcock said. “WCCS’s President James Mitchell has long been a proponent for strong partnerships with four-year institutions like Mississippi State, and we look forward to working with the university to strengthen and expand this partnership down the road.”

# 2021 All-Alabama Academic Team announced



Forty-five of the Alabama Community College System's (ACCS) top scholars across the state were announced on April 23, 2021.

Two students from each of Alabama's community colleges were selected by members of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society for their demonstration of academic excellence and intellectual rigor, leadership, and service, and for their commitment to extending their education beyond the classroom to benefit society. Members of the 2021 team were awarded more than \$50,000 total in scholarships.

WCCS students Semira Jones and Shaniyah Jones were recipients of this year's award. Semira Jones graduated with an Associate in Science Degree, and she plans to attend Auburn University at Montgomery in pursuit of a Bachelor's of Business Administration degree.

Shaniyah graduated with an Associate in Computer Information Systems. She plans to attend the University of Alabama and earn a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science. Her goal is to become a web developer, computer support specialist, and app developer.

The All-Alabama Academic Team recognition program was founded in 1995 to complement the All-USA Academic Team Program that is sponsored by USA Today, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and the American Association of Community Colleges.



---

## WCCS Students awarded transfer scholarships

Five Wallace Community College students were recently awarded transfer scholarships to the University of Alabama.

Shaniyah Jones received the Alabama Community College Presidential Scholarship. Torri Moore received the Roll Tide Transfer Scholarship and the UA Leadership/Alumni Community College Honors Scholarship. Reagan Story received the Roll Tide Transfer Scholarship and the UA Leadership/Alumni Community College Honors Scholarship. Jarod Benjamin received the Tutwiler Scholarship and the Roll Tide Scholarship. Allen Kendrick received the Community College Distinguished Scholarship.

"I am thankful to receive this scholarship from the University of Alabama," said Shaniyah Jones. "This scholarship will allow me to pursue my bachelor's degree in Computer Science. I want to become a web and an app developer, and ultimately an information technology specialist."

"Overall the total amount of awards tripled from last year," said Jalisa Rawlinson, UA Transfer Recruiter. "We are very proud of the number of students we were able to award this year given the trials we have faced."

"We continue to be proud of our student's success. They will be shining examples of excellence as they continue their educational pursuits," said WCCS President Dr. James M. Mitchell.

# WCCS Phi Theta Kappa Chapter named a REACH Chapter



Wallace Community College Selma's Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society's Eta Tau Chapter has been named a 2021 Recognizing Excellence in Acceptance and Completion with Honors Rewards Chapter (REACH).

The REACH Rewards program recognizes the recruitment efforts of chapters that are growing in membership. WCCS celebrated the distinction among 1,081 chapters nationwide, a select group given the honor society's presence on nearly 1,300 community college campuses in 11 nations across the globe.

The chapter's distinction provides four free PTK graduation stoles to chapter officers or members to wear during graduation in celebration of the College's membership milestone. "REACH rewards are a tribute to the success and thriving presence of our Phi Theta Kappa chapter at WCCS," said WCCS PTK co-advisor Becky Davis.

"Mrs. Davis and I are excited and proud to receive the REACH Award. We have worked hard on maximizing our recruitment strategies. We want our WCCS students to be recognized for their academic achievement, and we believe strongly in the benefits of membership in Phi Theta Kappa," said chapter co-advisor and WCCS Business Instructor Kerry Henderson.

---

## Selma Restaurant Partners with WCCS and Gives Away Hundreds of Free Meals



All-in-one and WCCS PTK and SGA gave away hundreds of free meals – as a way to say thanks to the people who've continued to work – to keep us going through the pandemic. Putzel and Laurine Pettway own All in One Restaurant on the campus of WCCS. "We had over 800 people that we're serving today," said Laurine Pettway.

The meals are being given to first responders – front line healthcare workers – and other essential workers at no charge. "To let them know that we really appreciate them and thank them for their effort and their work," said Pettway.

Volunteers from around the Selma and Dallas County community – pitched in – to help make it all happen. "We decided to do this because we believe that we should give back to the community," Pettway said. "We need to show people more appreciation."

Wallace Community College Selma, Ellwood Church, Woman for Change, and Dave's Market all helped sponsor the event.

# Faculty and Staff Accomplishments



**DR. DONITHA GRIFFIN**  
**DEAN OF STUDENTS, WALLACE-SELMA**

## WCCS Alumni featured in ACCS Go Far Alumni Campaign

Dr. Donitha Griffin was recently featured in the ACCS Go Far Alumni Campaign. A first-generation college student, Dr. Griffin knew that starting her college experience at Wallace Community College Selma would create the safe and small environment she needed to mature and prepare for college life. She started at Wallace Selma on a full music scholarship. She took advantage of student life opportunities such as Student Support Services and was able to perform at several places that boosted her confidence. She went on to obtain her bachelor's degree in social work from the University of Alabama two years after earning her associate's at Wallace Selma. She then obtained her master's in Counseling and Human Development from Troy University, and her Doctorate in Higher Education Leadership from Walden University.

Dr. Griffin believed so much in her experience and the difference that leaders such as Effell Williams made in Student Support Services that she returned to Wallace Selma as a counselor in Student Support Services before later being promoted to Dean of Students and Executive Assistant to the President.

“My story helped a lot of students understand that we were not much different, and if I could make it, they could be successful also. I explained their success would impact generations to come in their family.”



## ACCS Financial Leadership Academy graduates 14 in recent cohort

The ACCS Financial Leadership Academy recently graduated its second cohort of financial leadership professionals across Alabama's community colleges. Fourteen participants, who were selected by their colleges' chief financial officers and presidents, completed the Academy last week. Since last year, more than 25 college employees have graduated.

The Financial Leadership Academy was developed to provide professional development and expert resources to current and future fiscal leaders across the Alabama Community College System. Graduates learn about restricted grants, financial aid, federal and state programs, capital project, bid laws and contracts, and several other factors that enhance their knowledge of the colleges' financial operations.

WCCS graduates in Cohort 2 were Judy Jordan and Vickie Bell, Wallace Community College Selma.



---

## White featured on "The Vote" panel

Dr. Tara Y. White, a history professor at Wallace Community College Selma, was included on a panel discussing a Public Broadcasting System program on women's suffrage on a show that aired July 6-7, 2021.

White was featured on a panel following a preview of "The Vote," a PBS program about the struggle for women's suffrage 100 years ago. Other panelists included Dr. Valerie Pope Burnes, associate professor at the University of West Florida, University of West Alabama; and Dr. Susan Ashmore, professor of history at Oxford College, Emory University in Atlanta.



---

## AMSTI provides training for Region 8 teachers

AMSTI Specialists have been working hard to provide Pre-service training to college students on campuses such as Faulkner University, Huntingdon, AUM, and Judson College. This training provides college students foundational training before they become classroom teachers.

The primary focus of the pre-service opportunities is to provide prospective teachers with resources, tools, and strategies to help them become effective classroom teachers. Not only is Region 8 growing, but it is also helping to prepare teachers who can assist in these efforts.

# Patriot Athletics

## WCCS Patriots on the verge of greatness?

WCCS is coming off its best basketball season in 20 years. The Patriots won the Southern Conference and South Division titles and played for the Alabama Community College Conference state championship. WCCS lost 71-55 to Shelton State Community College.

WCCS grabbed two of the top individual honors. Guard Rakeim Gary was named Region 22 co-player of the year and was South Division player of the year. Gary averaged a state-leading 21.5 points a game. The sophomore was also among the nation's Top 15 scorers. "I feel great about being the state's top scorer," Gary said.

Rodney Battle joined Gary on the All Region first team and All-South Division first team. Both Gary and Battle also made the ACCC All-Tournament team.

WCCS head coach Duane Evans saw plenty of positives from the Patriots' first runner-up finish since 2000. "I told the guys that we didn't win the state championship, but we won in so many areas," Evans said. "They played two years at a community college, got an associate degree, a chance to play at a four-year university and get a college degree. We won the game of life. Rakeim Gary didn't have a scholarship offer coming out of high school, now he has 16-17 scholarships to play at a four-year university and get a college degree," Evans said. "For Rakeim to get that opportunity is a tribute to his hard work."



## WCCS Lady Patriots end season in ACCC Tourney



The WCCS Lady Patriots basketball team overcame adversity to reach the postseason. The Lady Patriots won only 13 of 19 games, but made the Alabama Community College Conference tournament. ACCC champion and nationally-ranked Shelton State Community College defeated WCCS 107-33 in the state quarterfinals.

WCCS head coach Herman Turner admitted that uncertainty surrounded the Lady Patriots for the upcoming season. "We did not expect to have a season because of the COVID-19 pandemic," Turner said.



The Lady Patriots played tough and had two second-team All-South Division honors: sophomores Sierra Carter and Toniah Foster. Carter averaged a team-leading 15.4 points a game. Foster averaged 10.4 points and 11 assists a game. Areyana Williams was also solid, averaging 10.3 points and six rebounds a game.

"We were very fortunate to make the postseason," Turner said. "The girls played hard and we got a couple of players on the All South Division team." Congratulations to Sierra Carter and Toniah Foster on being named ACCC All-South Division Second Team.

# Perservering through **THE PANDEMIC**



WCCS maintenance staff participate in the Alabama Community College System's (ACCS) Clean Home Alabama initiative.



The Dallas County Health Department held its first COVID-19 vaccination clinic at Wallace Community College Selma on Jan. 21.



WCCS partnered with All-in-One Family Restaurant to provide free lunch for local healthcare workers, first responders, and essential workers.

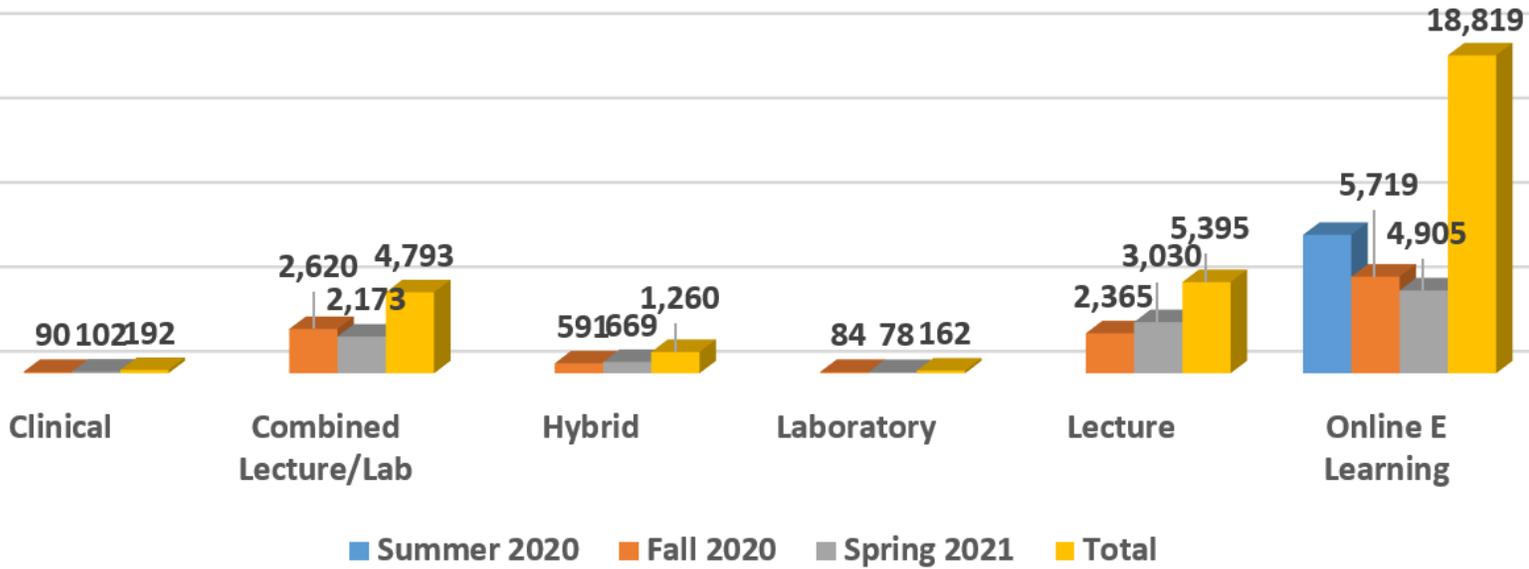


WCCS Nursing students assisted in COVID-19 Drive-Through Vaccine Clinics at Bloch Park by administering vaccines to the community.

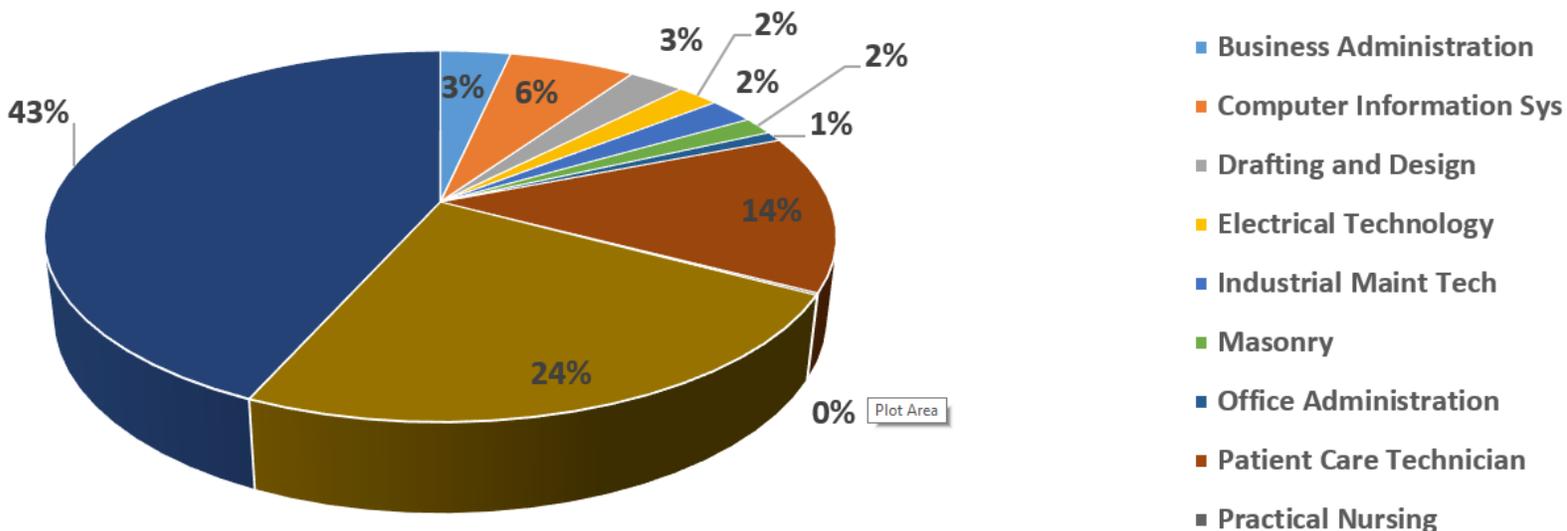


# Enrollment & Completion Data

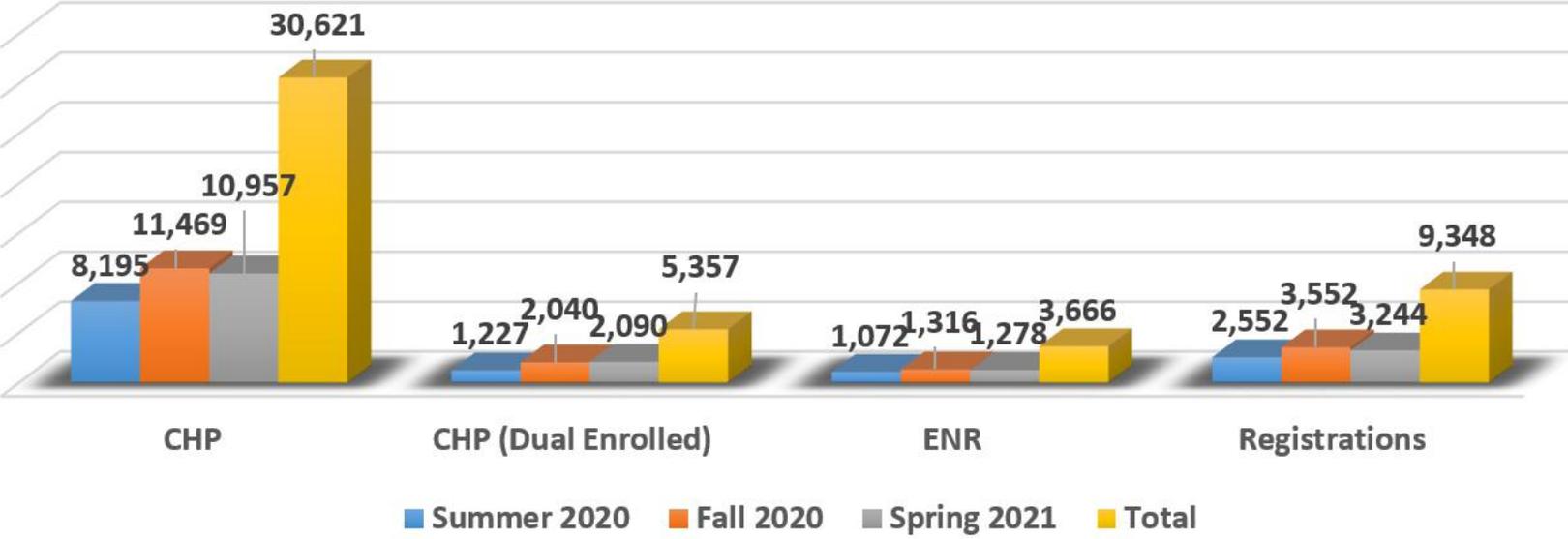
## Degrees Awarded



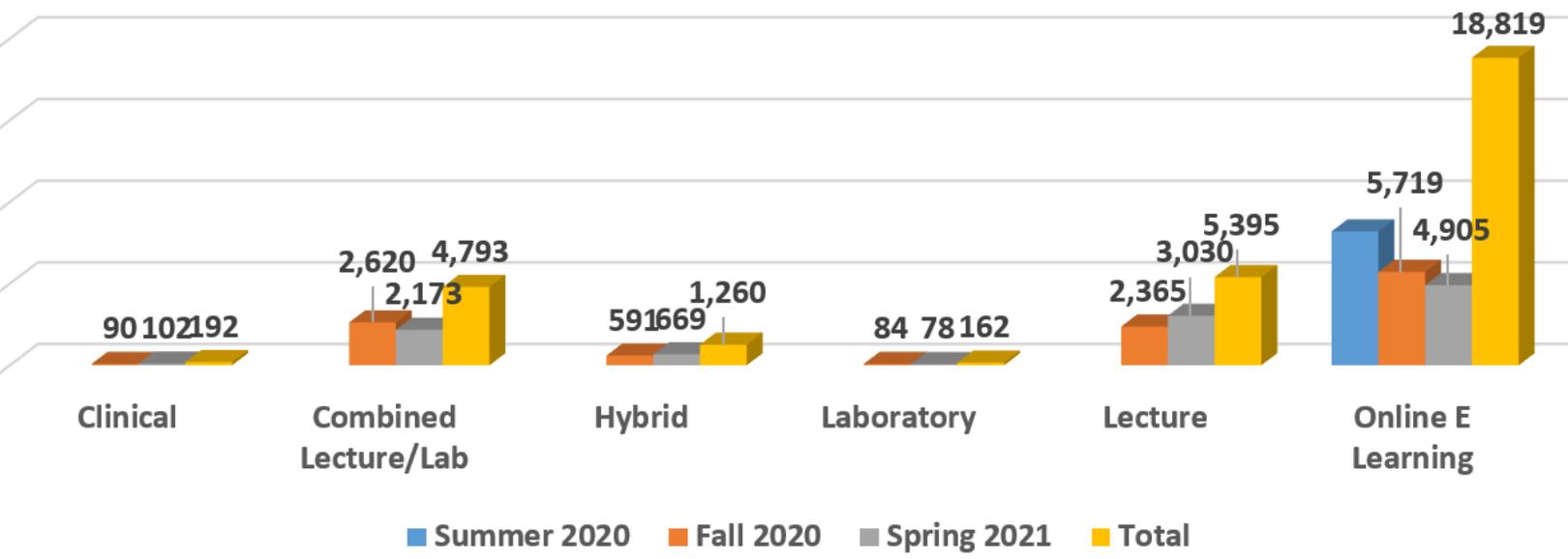
## Dual Enrollment by Program



# Credit Hour Production and Student Headcount



# Credit Hour Production by Course Type



# OUR FINANCIAL PICTURE

## REVENUES (2017-2020)

	2017-2018	2018-2019*	2019-2020
State Appropriation	\$8,080,315	\$9,371,100	\$8,930,208
Tuition & Fees	\$1,997,565	\$1,525,315	\$2,307,345
Fed'l/State/Local Grants & Contracts	\$9,769,062	\$9,336,115	\$9,168,540
Sales & Service	\$2,387	\$1,477	
Other	\$179,060	\$152,068	\$148,744
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$20,028,389</b>	<b>\$20,386,075</b>	<b>\$20,554,837</b>

## EXPENDITURES (2017-2020)

	2017-2018	2018-2019*	2018-2019*
Instruction	\$6,692,068	\$6,658,841	\$6,433,383
Public Service	\$20,473	\$101,009	\$56,721
Academic Support	\$1,005,028	\$910,104	\$974,369
Student Services	\$3,882,091	\$3,779,227	\$3,212,674
Institutional Support	\$3,388,547	\$3,487,437	\$4,148,571
Operation & Maintenance	\$1,841,048	\$1,846,165	\$2,099,639
Scholarships & Fellowships	\$2,807,498	\$2,472,360	\$2,845,105
Depreciation	\$1,790,639	\$1,818,467	\$1,630,606
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$21,427,393</b>	<b>\$21,073,610</b>	<b>\$21,401,068</b>

