

STATE OF THE COLLEGE

2019

SEPTEMBER 18, 2019



HOW ARE WE DOING?

Benchmark Summary

MEB0198

College: Albany Technical College

Year: 2018 and 2019 Performance Goals and Benchmarks

Complete College Georgia (CCG)

The CCG goal each year is a 2.6% increase over the previous year, based on TCSG's system target of 85,064 additional graduates from 2009 to 2025.

	2018		2019		2020
	Goal	Actual	Goal	Actual	Goal
Degree Production - 2025*	1,094	1,162 <input type="checkbox"/>	1,125	1,051 <input type="checkbox"/>	1,152

* Indicates 2019 CCG actual graduates are not final. The 2019 data is updated every day around 2pm.

CCG Graduates are a subset of the college's total graduates. It is an unduplicated count of graduates who are not in high school and received an award that is a TCC less than one year leading to an industry certification or licensure, a TCC more than one year, a Diploma or an Associate Degree.

Technical Education

Technical Education 2017 goals are based on the 2017 Strategic Plan TCSG stretch goals. For 2016 and prior, each college set its own Technical Education goals.

	2018		2019		2020
	Goal	Actual	Goal	Actual	Goal
FTE*	2,732	2,582 <input type="checkbox"/>	2,732		
High School Enrollment*	565	611 <input type="checkbox"/>	565		
Retention Rate	84.2%	84.1% 392 / 612 <input type="checkbox"/>	84.2%	83.5% 399 / 628 <input type="checkbox"/>	
Graduation Rate*	85.0%	88.4% 2,493 / 3,646 <input type="checkbox"/>	85.0%		

Economic Development

Economic Development 2017 goals are based on the 2017 Strategic Plan TCSG stretch goals. For 2016 and prior, each college set its own Economic Development goals.

	2018		2019		2020
	Goal	Actual	Goal	Actual	Goal
Companies Trained (CCT)*	64	74 <input type="checkbox"/>	64	55 <input type="checkbox"/>	
Training Hours (CCT)*	79,881	15,079 <input type="checkbox"/>	79,881	11,855 <input type="checkbox"/>	

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Benchmark Summary

MEB0198

College: Albany Technical College

Year: 2018 and 2019 Performance Goals and Benchmarks

Adult Education

Adult Education uses the RFA committed NRS Enrollment starting with 2016 (for 2015 and prior it was set by each college), and the state negotiated goals between TCSG and USDOE for the other Adult Education metrics.

Goal	2018		2019		2020
	Goal	Actual	Goal	Actual	Goal
Adult Enrollment in ABE/ESL*	1,500	941 <input type="checkbox"/>	1,500		

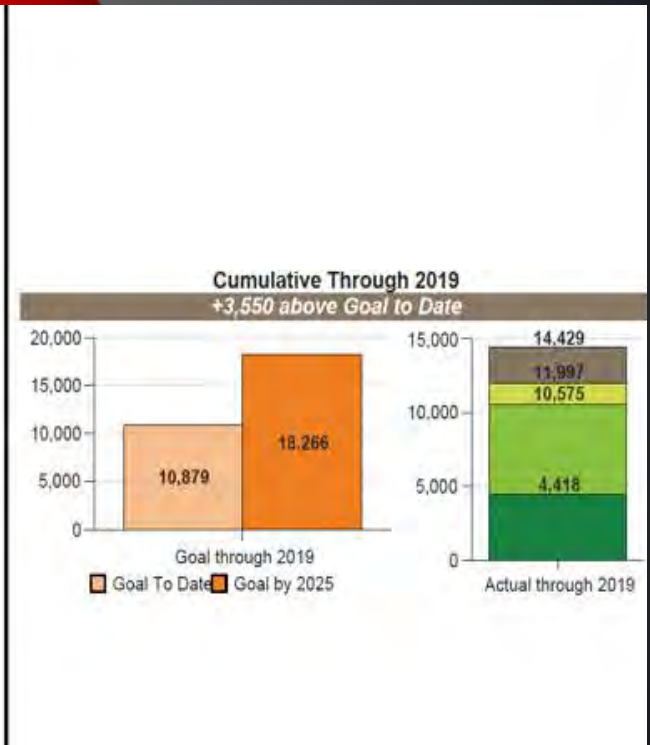
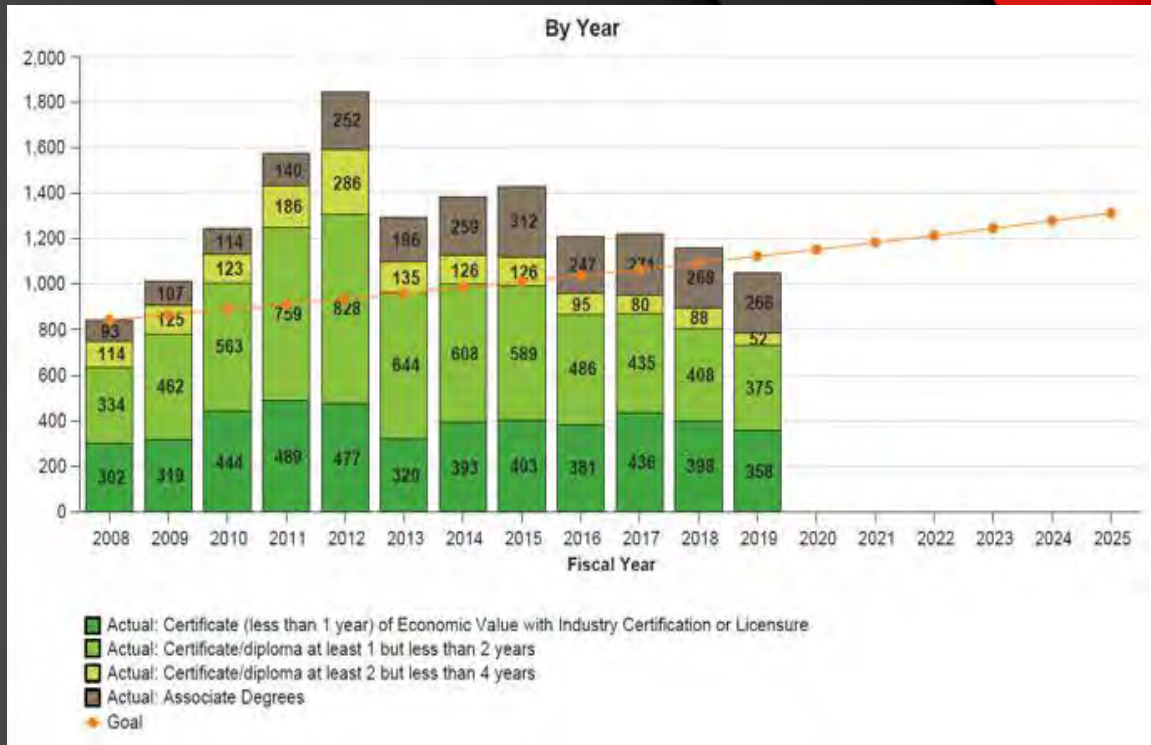
Completions by Educational Functioning Level:

	2018		2019		2020
	Goal	Actual	Goal	Actual	Goal
ABE1 Level Completions*	58.0%	59.6% <input type="checkbox"/>	59.0%	57.5% <input type="checkbox"/>	NA
ABE2 Level Completions*	55.0%	55.1% <input type="checkbox"/>	54.0%	55.1% <input type="checkbox"/>	NA
ABE3 Level Completions*	53.0%	55.4% <input type="checkbox"/>	52.0%	55.9% <input type="checkbox"/>	NA
ABE4 Level Completions*	48.0%	55.5% <input type="checkbox"/>	54.0%	51.3% <input type="checkbox"/>	NA
ABE5 Level Completions*	57.0%	62.1% <input type="checkbox"/>	66.0%	56.0% <input type="checkbox"/>	NA
ABE6 Level Completions*	NA	57.7%	56.0%	42.9% <input type="checkbox"/>	NA
ESL1 Level Completions*	53.0%	75.0% <input type="checkbox"/>	60.0%	100.0% <input type="checkbox"/>	NA
ESL2 Level Completions*	59.0%	100.0% <input type="checkbox"/>	62.0%	0.0% <input type="checkbox"/>	NA
ESL3 Level Completions*	61.0%	100.0% <input type="checkbox"/>	62.0%		NA
ESL4 Level Completions*	58.0%		61.6%	100.0% <input type="checkbox"/>	NA
ESL5 Level Completions*	51.0%		56.0%	100.0% <input type="checkbox"/>	NA
ESL6 Level Completions*	54.0%		57.0%		NA
Total All Level Completions*	NA	56.3%	NA	54.5%	NA

	2018		2019		2020
	Goal	Actual	Goal	Actual	Goal
Obtained a GED*	85.0%	83.5% <input type="checkbox"/>	85.0%		NA

* Indicates 2019 is not final. ADULT EDUCATION metrics are updated through 03/24/2019.

PROGRESS TOWARDS OUR GOAL BY YEAR



- GOAL
- Actual: Certificates (less than 1 year) of Economic Value with Industry Certification of Licensure
- Actual: Certificate/diploma at least 1 but less than 2 years
- Actual: Certificate/diploma at least 2 but less than 4 years
- Actual: Associate Degrees

GRADUATION

GRADUATION



GRADUATION AT A GLANCE

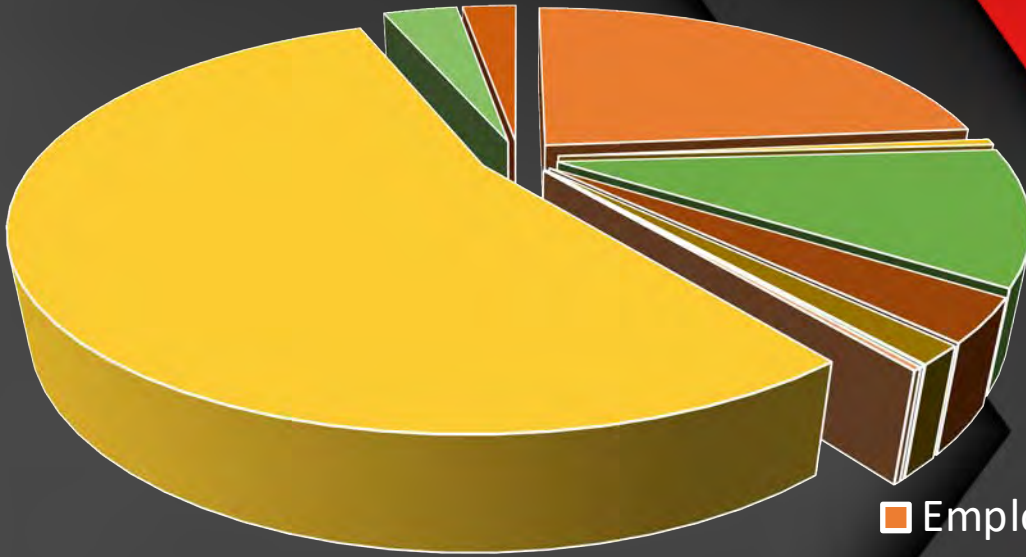


PLACEMENT

PLACEMENT



PLACEMENT AT A GLANCE



- Employed in Field
- Military
- Employed in Related Field
- Employed in Unrelated Field
- Employed in Field & Continuing Ed
- Employed in Related Field & Cont. Ed
- Employed in Unrelated Field & Cont. Ed.
- Continued Education
- Not Employed
- Not Available for Employment
- Status Unknown

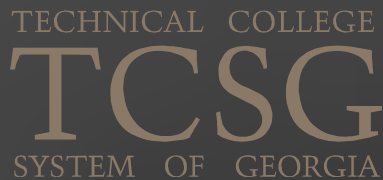
ACADEMIC YEAR 2019 UNDUPLICATED GRADUATES & TOTAL PLACEMENT RATE

Employment	Unduplicated Graduates
Employed in Field	501
Military	10
Employed in Related Field	226
Employed in Unrelated Field	69
Employed in Field & Continuing Ed	30
Employed in Related Field & Continuing Ed	3
Employed in Unrelated Field & Continuing Ed	5
Continued Education	1,159
Not Employed	74
Not Available for Employment	54
Status Unknown	6
AY 2018 Total Graduates (unduplicated)	2,137

JOB PLACEMENT



AY 17	99 % Overall
	95.3% In-Field
AY 18	97.9% Overall
	90.6% In-Field
AY 19	95.5% Overall



AY 17	99.3 % Overall
	87.5% In-Field
AY 18	95.2% Overall
	87.3% In-Field
AY 19	94.8% Overall



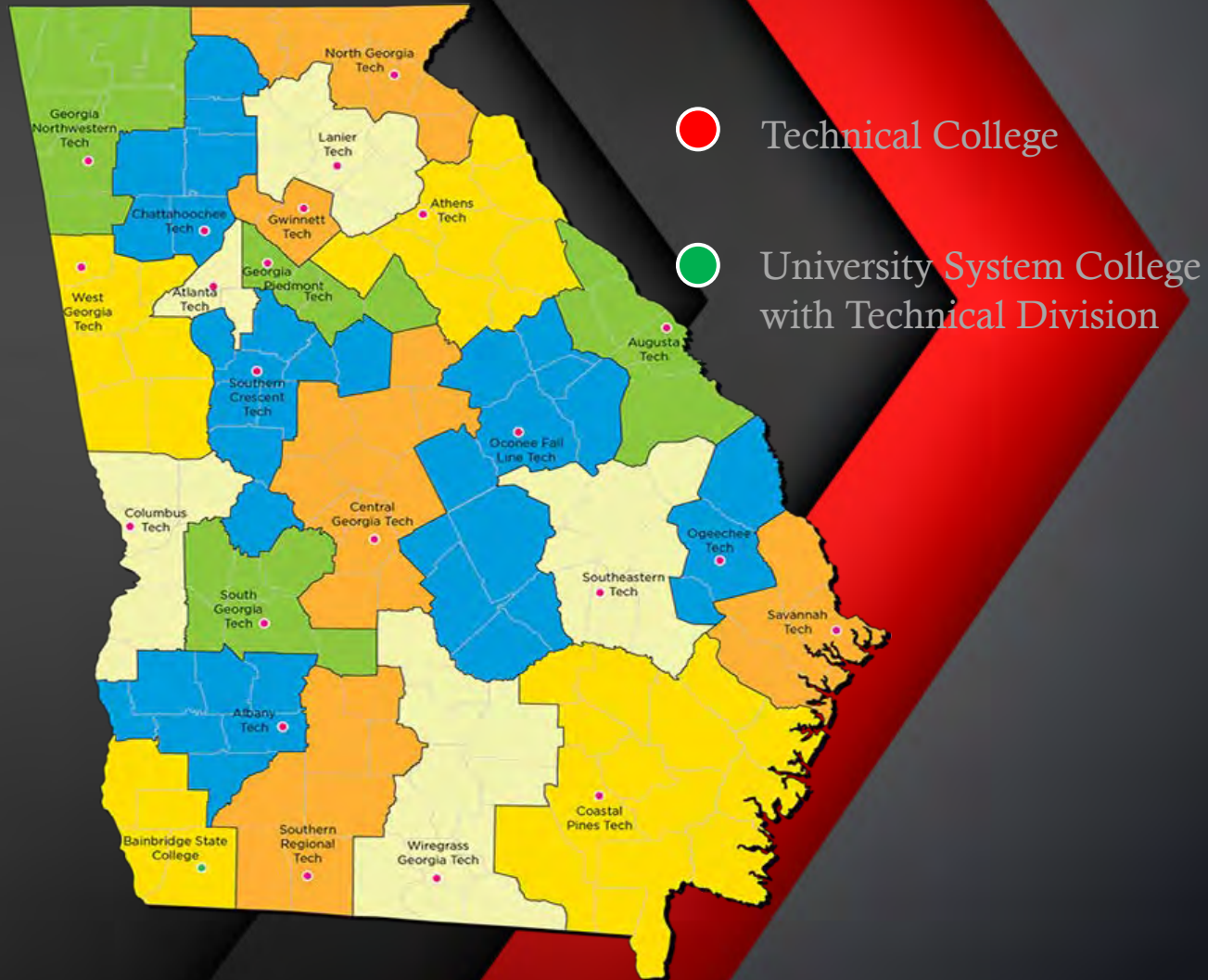
RETENTION

RETENTION



RETENTION/RECRUITMENT

Technical College Service Delivery Areas



RETENTION

AY 18 – ATC

Cohort: 628

Retained: 439

Rate: 69.9%

AY 18 – SYSTEM TOTAL

Cohort: 17,469

Retained: 11,224

Rate: 64%

RETENTION



AY 17	63.3%
AY 18	64.4%
AY 19	69.9%

TECHNICAL COLLEGE
TCSG
SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

AY 17	68%
AY 18	68.1%
AY 19	64.3%



ENROLLMENT

ENROLLMENT



HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT



AY 17	471
AY 18	611
AY19	841



TECHNICAL COLLEGE
TCSG
SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

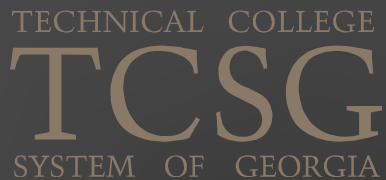
AY 17	21,189
AY 18	26,189
AY19	31,643



FULL-TIME EQUIVALENTS (FTEs)



AY 17	2,664
AY 18	2,582
AY 19	2,520



AY 17	65,401
AY 18	65,457
AY19	66,980

CENTER FOR BUSINESS
SOLUTIONS

CENTER FOR BUSINESS
SOLUTIONS

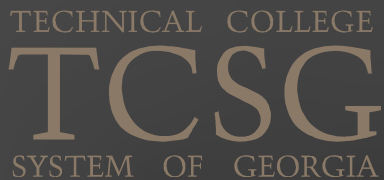


Center
for Business Solutions
at Albany Technical College
REAL SOLUTIONS. REAL RESULTS.

CONTRACT TRAINING *NUMBER OF COMPANIES*



AY 17	110
AY 18	74
AY 19	34



AY 17	4,755
AY 18	2,637



CONTRACT TRAINING

TOTAL TRAINEE CONTACT HOURS



AY 17	42,803
AY 18	15,079
AY 19	31,086

(Data Current as of 8/19)

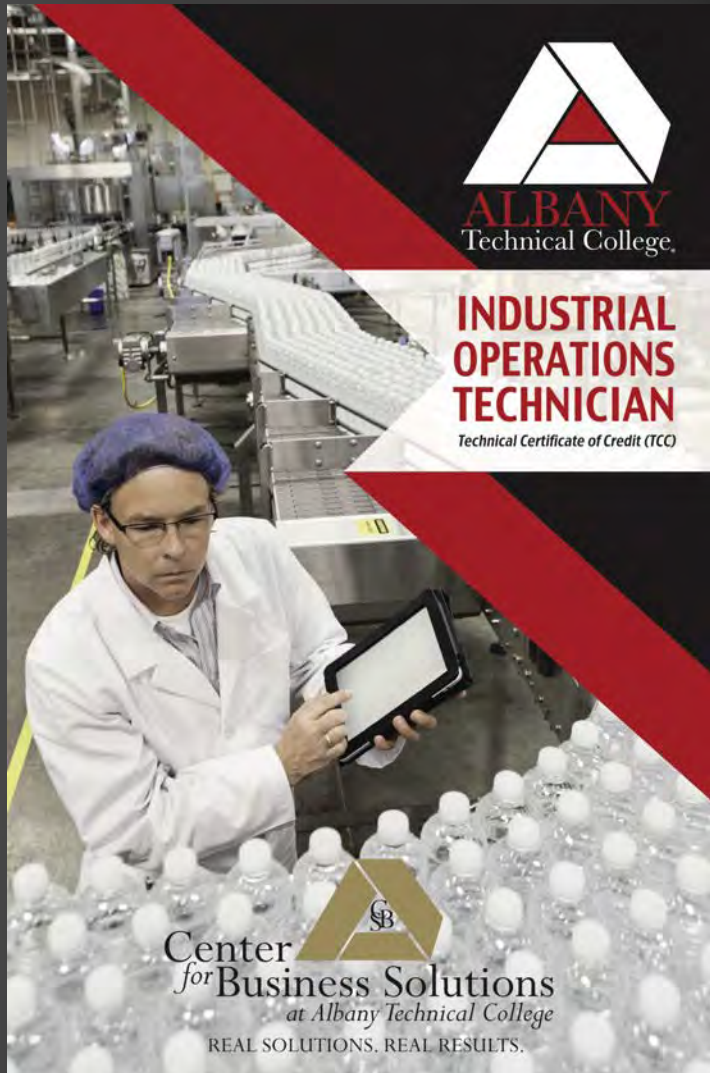
TECHNICAL COLLEGE
TCSG
SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

AY 17	2,848,638
AY 18	1,757,826



99% Placement Success

INDUSTRIAL OPERATIONS TECHNICIAN TCC



Program Statistics:

- Since Inception, the Program has Enrolled 122 Individuals
- Of the 122 Enrolled, 35 Graduates
- Of the 35 Graduates, 23 are Employed “In-Field” or “Related Field”
- Current Enrollment: 5 Students

ADULT EDUCATION

ADULT EDUCATION



GED GRADUATES

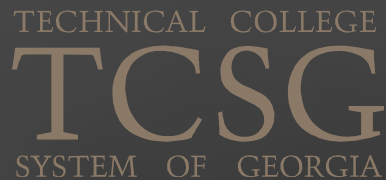
- FY 2010: 376
- FY 2011: 332
- FY 2012: 389
- FY 2013: 402
- FY 2014: 519
- FY 2015: 204
- FY 2016: 275
- FY 2017: 403
- FY 2018: 429
- FY 2019: 293



ADULT EDUCATION ENROLLMENT



AY 17	1,180
AY 18	1,080
AY 19	912



AY 17	52,338
AY 18	41,074
AY 19	37,980

TCSG WARRANTY FOR ALL GRADUATES

The warranty guarantees that the graduate has demonstrated the knowledge and skills and can perform each competency as identified in the industry-validated Standard or Program Guide. Any program graduate who is determined to lack such competence shall be retrained at no cost to the employer or the graduate for tuition or instructional fees.

A claim against the warranty may be filed by either an employer in conjunction with a graduate or a graduate if the individual is unable to perform one or more of the competencies contained in the industry-validated Standard or Program Guide, including failure to pass a State of Georgia required licensing examination.

This warranty is applicable only to graduates of a technical certificate of credit, diploma, or degree program who entered the program subsequent to the mandated standards implementation date.

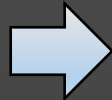
The warranty shall remain in effect for two years immediately following the date of graduation and shall be honored by any Technical College that offers the program from which the individual graduated.

WORK ETHICS GRADE FOR ALL GRADUATES

- Work ethics evaluated in the introductory and capstone courses for each program.
- Designed to evaluate and encourage good work habits.
- Performance factors and indicators include, but aren't limited to:
 - Quality of Work
 - Ability to Follow Instructions
 - Productivity
 - Dependability
 - Reliability
 - Attendance and Punctuality
 - Attitude
 - Integrity
 - Enthusiasm
 - Interpersonal Skills
 - Initiative
 - Honesty

PATHWAYS THROUGH ALBANY TECHNICAL COLLEGE TO A BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Dougherty High School
Mitchell County High School
Monroe High School
Westover High School
Lee County High School
Terrell County High School
Calhoun County High School
Randolph County High School
Baker County High School



Albany Technical College



Albany State University
Andrew College
Citadel Military College
Columbus State University
East GA State College
Ft. Valley State University
GA Military College
GA Southwestern State
University
Indiana Wesleyan University
Kennesaw State University
Mercer University
Middle Tennessee State
University
Savannah State University
Valdosta State University



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ACCOMPLISHMENTS



OUR 2018-2019 GOAL AND PERKINS WINNERS

Congratulations to Charlie Roberts, ATC GOAL

(Georgia Occupational Award of Leadership)

Student of the Year,

and to

Lori Day, ATC Rick Perkins Instructor of the Year!



Charlie Roberts



Lori Day

2018/2019 ATC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM ACCREDITATION VISITS

- Surgical Technology
- Radiological Technology
- Paramedicine Technology
- Pharmacy Technology

2018/2019 ATC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **School to Work MOU signed with City of Albany**
Automotive & Diesel programs
- **SkillsUSA National Winners**
Dental- Bronze · Masonry- Silver
- **Implemented Success Terms - Fall 2019**
 - **New Program**
Fire & Emergency Service AAS degree

2018/2019 ATC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

REFRESH PROGRAMS

Engineering Graphics

Diesel Equipment

Culinary Arts

Cosmetology Evening

Cybersecurity

Marketing-E Commerce

Fire Science

2018/2019 ATC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Dental ranked #3 in GA by Nursingprocess.org
- Practical Nursing ranked #4 in GA by practicalnursing.org
- ASN program ranked #7 in GA by registerdnursing.org
- Lisa Stephens (Radiology Chair) elected member at large to Georgia Society of Radiological Technologists Executive Board 2019-20
- High School dual enrolled students +700 enrolled in AY 19
- Phase II Carlton bldg.. ground breaking scheduled for March 2020

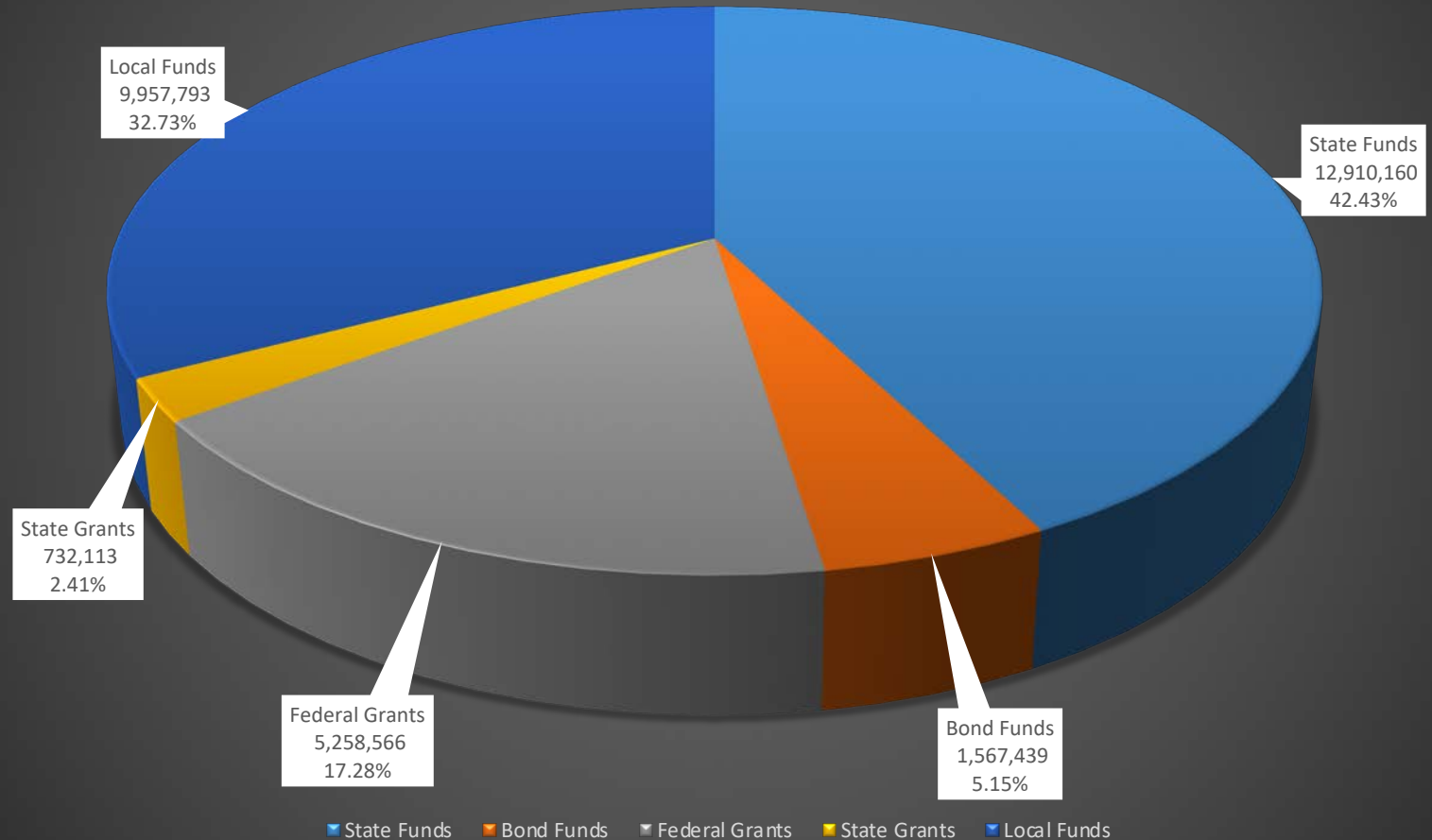
LOOKING AHEAD

LOOKING AHEAD

2020

FY 20 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

Albany Technical College FY 2020 Operating Budget



UPCOMING FOR 2019 - 2020

- New Albany Technical College Bus
- 25k Student Book Lending Library
- Advance Imaging AAS degree
- Unmanned Aerial Systems Technology TCC
- Green Building Diploma
- Renewable Energy Diploma
- Residential Energy Efficiency Diploma
- Completion Phase II Carlton Building
- Renovation of RYDC Building

UPCOMING FOR 2019 - 2020

- Renovation Barbering Lab
- Renovated Biology Lab
- Renovated Pharmacy Lab
- IACLEA National Certification- ATC Police Department
- MOU with Mitchell County School System
- Articulation Agreement with Gordon State College (Business and Nursing Programs)
- Transportation Academy Expansion
- American Apprenticeship Initiative (AAI) Grant –funds (\$100k) to assist with tuition cost, books, equipment, etc. for apprentice-related programs





SERVICE DELIVERY AREA

ECONOMIC INDICATORS





ECONOMIC DISTRESS INDICATORS

POPULATION

COUNTY OR REGION	POPULATION
2nd Congressional District	695,990
Dougherty County	92,330
Lee County	29,130
Baker County	3,250
Calhoun County	6,440
Terrell County	9,130
Clay County	3,070
Randolph County	7,220
Mitchell County	22,780

ECONOMIC DISTRESS INDICATORS

ADULTS WITHOUT A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA



COUNTY OR REGION

2nd Congressional District	19.2%
Dougherty County	17.9%
Lee County	11.5%
Baker County	21.2%
Calhoun County	24.0%
Terrell County	26.7%
Clay County	17.7%
Randolph County	29.9%
* Mitchell County	23.4%

ECONOMIC DISTRESS INDICATORS

SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT



2ND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

Population	685,990
Minority Share	59.5
% in Distress Zip Code	62.2
% in Prosperous Zip Code	4.2
% of Adults W/O High School Diploma	19.2
Poverty Rate	27.5
% Adults No Working	40.1
Housing Vacancy Rate	13.8
Median Income Index	68.9
Distressed Ranking in US	18
Distress Ranking Within State	1
Total Number of Districts in State	14
Distressed Tier	Distressed

ECONOMIC DISTRESS INDICATORS

POPULATION LIVING IN A DISTRESSED ZIP CODE



COUNTY OR REGION	PERCENTAGE
2nd Congressional District	59.5%
Dougherty County	79.6%
Lee County	7.7%
Baker County	97.5%
Calhoun County	98.9%
Terrell County	91.2%
Clay County	81.8%
Randolph County	96.0%
Mitchell County	75.0%

ECONOMIC DISTRESS INDICATORS

ADULTS WITHOUT A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA



COUNTY OR REGION

2nd Congressional District	19.2%
Dougherty County	17.9%
Lee County	11.5%
Baker County	21.2%
Calhoun County	24.0%
Terrell County	26.7%
Clay County	17.7%
Randolph County	29.9%
* Mitchell County	23.4%



ECONOMIC DISTRESS INDICATORS

POVERTY RATE

COUNTY OR REGION

2nd Congressional District	27.5%
Dougherty County	30.5%
Lee County	11.9%
Baker County	15.7%
Calhoun County	32.7%
Terrell County	34.7%
Clay County	39.8%
Randolph County	28.7%
* Mitchell County	29.9%

ECONOMIC DISTRESS INDICATORS

ADULTS WITHOUT A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA



COUNTY OR REGION

2nd Congressional District	19.2%
Dougherty County	17.9%
Lee County	11.5%
Baker County	21.2%
Calhoun County	24.0%
Terrell County	26.7%
Clay County	17.7%
Randolph County	29.9%
* Mitchell County	23.4%

ECONOMIC DISTRESS INDICATORS

ADULTS NOT IN WORKFORCE



COUNTY OR REGION

2nd Congressional District	40.7%
Dougherty County	38.8%
Lee County	26.2%
Baker County	34.8%
Calhoun County	63.4%
Terrell County	42.7%
Clay County	50.4%
Randolph County	36.9%
* Mitchell County	46.8%

ECONOMIC DISTRESS INDICATORS

ADULTS WITHOUT A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA



COUNTY OR REGION

2nd Congressional District	19.2%
Dougherty County	17.9%
Lee County	11.5%
Baker County	21.2%
Calhoun County	24.0%
Terrell County	26.7%
Clay County	17.7%
Randolph County	29.9%
* Mitchell County	23.4%



ECONOMIC DISTRESS INDICATORS

MEDIAN INCOME INDEX

COUNTY OR REGION

2nd Congressional District	68.9
Dougherty County	65.8
Lee County	123.0
Baker County	89.9
Calhoun County	55.3
Terrell County	59.6
Clay County	43.3
Randolph County	59.5
* Mitchell County	61.0

ECONOMIC DISTRESS INDICATORS

ADULTS WITHOUT A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA



COUNTY OR REGION

2nd Congressional District	19.2%
Dougherty County	17.9%
Lee County	11.5%
Baker County	21.2%
Calhoun County	24.0%
Terrell County	26.7%
Clay County	17.7%
Randolph County	29.9%
* Mitchell County	23.4%

ECONOMIC DISTRESS INDICATORS

ECONOMIC CONDITION

COUNTY OR REGION

2nd Congressional District	Distressed
Dougherty County	Distressed
Lee County	Prosperous
Baker County	At Risk
Calhoun County	Distressed
Terrell County	Distressed
Clay county	Distressed
Randolph County	Distressed
* Mitchell County	Distressed



ECONOMIC DISTRESS INDICATORS

DISTRESSED RANKING IN GEORGIA



COUNTY OR REGION

2nd Congressional District	8 of 8
Dougherty County	137 of 159
Lee County	8 of 159
Baker County	75 of 159
Calhoun County	151 of 159
Terrell County	150 of 159
Clay County	119 of 159
Randolph County	129 of 155
* Mitchell County	133 of 159

ECONOMIC DISTRESS INDICATORS

ADULTS WITHOUT A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA



COUNTY OR REGION

2nd Congressional District	19.2%
Dougherty County	17.9%
Lee County	11.5%
Baker County	21.2%
Calhoun County	24.0%
Terrell County	26.7%
Clay County	17.7%
Randolph County	29.9%
* Mitchell County	23.4%

ECONOMIC DISTRESS INDICATORS

SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT



2ND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

Population	685,990
Minority Share	59.5
% in Distress Zip Code	62.2
% in Prosperous Zip Code	4.2
% of Adults W/O High School Diploma	19.2
Poverty Rate	27.5
% Adults No Working	40.1
Housing Vacancy Rate	13.8
Median Income Index	68.9
Distressed Ranking in US	18
Distress Ranking Within State	1
Total Number of Districts in State	14
Distressed Tier	Distressed

ECONOMIC DISTRESS INDICATORS

ADULTS WITHOUT A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA



COUNTY OR REGION

2nd Congressional District	19.2%
Dougherty County	17.9%
Lee County	11.5%
Baker County	21.2%
Calhoun County	24.0%
Terrell County	26.7%
Clay County	17.7%
Randolph County	29.9%
* Mitchell County	23.4%

ECONOMIC DISTRESS INDICATORS

SERVICE DELIVERY AREA

CATEGORIES	Terrell	Clay	Randolph	*Mitchell
Population	9,130	3,070	7,220	23,780
Minority Share	64.4	70.9	65.0	53.6
% in Distress Zip Code	91.2	81.8	96.0	98.2
% in Prosperous Zip Codes	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
% of Adults W/O High School Diploma	26.7	17.7	29.3	23.4
Poverty Rate	34.7	39.8	28.7	29.9
% Adults Not Working	42.7	50.4	36.9	46.8
Housing Vacancy Rate (%)	19.2	12.2	9.3	6.7
Median Income index	59.6	43.3	59.5	61.0
% Change in Employment	-0.8	12.2	-3.7	-12.1
% Change in Establishments	-1.7	-5.0	-2.3	3.0
Distressed Ranking in US	61	310	229	190
Distress Ranking in State	9	40	30	26
Total Number of Counties in State	159	159	159	159
Distressed Tier	Distressed	Distressed	Distressed	Distressed



ECONOMIC DISTRESS INDICATORS

SERVICE DELIVERY AREA

CATEGORIES	DOUGHERTY	LEE	BAKER	CALHOUN
Population	92,330	29,130	3,250	6,440
Minority Share	73.5	26.8	49.8	67.6
% in Distress Zip Code	79.6	7.7	97.3	98.9
% in Prosperous Zip Codes	19.8	5.7	2.2	0.0
% of Adults W/O High School Diploma	17.8	11.5	21.2	24.0
Poverty Rate	30.5	11.9	15.7	32.7
% Adults Not Working	38.3	26.2	34.8	63.4
Housing Vacancy Rate (%)	12.6	5.2	18.8	16.6
Median Income index	65.8	123.0	89.9	55.3
% Change in Employment	-5.4	22.4	-4.8	-6.3
% Change in Establishments	-3.9	7.3	4.2	-1.4
Distressed Ranking in US	154	2,950	827	40
Distress Ranking in State	22	151	84	8
Total Number of Counties in State	159	159	159	159
Distressed Tier	Distressed	Prosperous	At risk	Distressed



ECONOMIC DISTRESS INDICATORS

ZIP CODES IN DOUGHERTY COUNTY



	31701	31705	31707	31721
Population	19,200	32,980	25,730	20,740
Minority Share	84.6	75.1	65.7	54.2
Density	Medium	Low	Medium	Low
DCI Score	99.3	97.5	82.9	18.3
% of Adults W/O High School Diploma	27.2	23.4	12.5	6.1
Poverty Rate	41.1	38.5	26.5	8.5
% Adults No Working	45.9	45.6	29.7	27.6
Housing Vacancy Rate	16.6	14.5	11.5	5.9
Median Income Ratio	47.6	52.5	66.1	132.9
% Change in Employment	-8.4	-8.2	5.3	4.9
% Change in Establishments	-4.5	0.8	-3.5	14.9
Distressed Ranking in US	185	648	4,428	21,163
Distress Ranking in State	16	43	230	603
Total Number of Counties in State	661	661	661	661
Distress Tier	Distressed	Distressed	Distressed	Prosperous



ECONOMIC DISTRESS INDICATORS

BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR HIGHER

SERVICE DELIVERY AREA (SDA) - METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (MSA)

COUNTY	PERCENTAGE Age 25+ (2013-17)
Baker (SDA) (MSA)	11%
Calhoun (SDA)	9%
Clay (SDA)	9%
Dougherty (SDA) (MSA)	21%
Lee (SDA) (MSA)	26%
Mitchell (MSA)	12%
Randolph (MSA)	12%
Terrell (SDA) (MSA)	11%
Worth (MSA)	11%



CORY BOOKER AND TIM SCOTT'S BIPARTISAN PLAN TO WAGE A SMART WAR ON POVERTY

*America's Two Black Senators Have A Plan To Steer Some Of The \$2.3 Trillion
Sitting Under Our Mattresses Into Communities Starved For Investment*

But the really big game is about the next president's first hundred days and what legislation could have credible bipartisan support in Congress. It's worth noting that Speaker Paul Ryan has been willing to talk about income inequality and conservative policy solutions to poverty—two broad topics Republicans have been reluctant to discuss in the two decades since Jack Kemp was nominated for vice president in 1996. And Ryan's cross-aisle House colleague from Wisconsin, Ron Kind, is one of the Opportunity Act's prime sponsors.

While talking about investing in distressed communities can make some folks feel like they need to reach for their PBS tote bag, this is deeply practical stuff, consistent with Republican and Democratic rhetoric about returning jobs to America. Many of the afflicted areas have been struggling for industry that left decades ago. It's going to take something big to spur them out of their economic slumber.

By harnessing private-sector capital through tax incentives, this bill would sidestep the taxpayer costs and political hurdles of a War on Poverty-style approach to income inequality. It's the kind of prescription that, say, President Hillary Clinton and Speaker Paul Ryan just might be able to see eye-to-eye on.

Tea Partiers might still rage, but as House co-sponsor Patrick Tiberi (R-OH) explains, "We're not writing a check from the federal government. We're getting private-sector dollars. It wouldn't be up to some bureaucrat or congressman in Washington, D.C. It would be up to the people in the community who would tailor the investment to what they think would actually work. . . . The beauty of the program is that it's individualized per the region and per the community."

Conservatives who remain skeptical about the political benefits of investment in inner cities should remember

this: Societal stability is the ultimate conservative virtue and there is no country in the history of the world where persistent income inequality has not led to upheaval. That's why there needs to be a conservative answer to income inequality. And Opportunity Funds fit the script, by incentivizing private-sector investment rather than mandating taxpayer dollars.

The Investing in Opportunity Act could provide the first policy-based hope for getting beyond populist politics of anger—a public-private partnership that could cause even some liberals and libertarians to find common ground.

And the presence of a possible policy solution also serves to remind us that all this election year grandstanding is supposed to be just a precursor.



CORY BOOKER AND TIM SCOTT'S BIPARTISAN PLAN TO WAGE A SMART WAR ON POVERTY

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