

MISSION AND GOALS

Lawson State Community College is a comprehensive, public, two-year, multi-campus college, which seeks to provide accessible quality educational opportunities, promote economic growth and enhance the quality of life for people in its service area. The College is dedicated to providing affordable and accessible lifelong learning opportunities in order to prepare students for employment or career advancement, enable students to transfer to senior colleges and universities, and provide customized training needs for business and industry.

The mission is further defined by the following Institutional Long-Range Goals (Revised June 11, 2007):

Goal 1: To develop an exemplary and world class instructional program.

Goal 2: To maintain a comprehensive exemplary student services division.

Goal 3: To thoroughly integrate technology college-wide in instruction and administrative services.

Goal 4: To be recognized as an institution that is fiscally responsible.

Goal 5: To maintain facilities on both campuses that are appropriate for educational programs and administrative services.

Goal 6: To enhance the staff development program.

Goal 7: To maintain a model program for economic development and workforce training.

Goal 8: To include the community as part of the college.

HISTORY—Lawson State Community College, originally known as Wenonah State Technical Junior College, was established by the Legislative Act Number 93, May 3, 1963. Wenonah State Technical Institute was established in 1949 as a result of the Wallace-Patterson Trade School Act of 1947 and the first class was admitted in 1950. The first president assumed the responsibilities of that office on October 30, 1964, and the initial classes began on September 30, 1965. In 2005, the college officially merged with Bessemer State Technical College but maintained its name.

Lawson State has experienced three name changes:

- August 22, 1966 Wenonah State Technical Junior College
- August 12, 1969 Theodore Alfred Lawson State Junior College (*named in honor of the incumbent president*)
- October 1, 1973 Lawson State Community College (*merged with Wenonah State Technical Institute*)

ABOUT THE COLLEGE LOCATIONS

Lawson State Community College has two campuses—one campus in Bessemer and the other in Birmingham.. Lawson State serves students from the entire area of Jefferson and Northern Shelby County.

The Bessemer Campus is located at 1100 Ninth Avenue SW, Bessemer, Alabama 35022 and occupies approximately 50 acres of rolling, wooded property in southwestern Jefferson County. The south campus is composed of 34 acres and is connected with the north campus by a drive paralleling the interstate system.

The Bessemer Campus of Lawson State Community College is comprised of eight buildings. The buildings and the functions they contain are as follows:

Building A is located at the main entrance to the campus and provides facilities for administrative offices, the college's Bookstore, Student Services and Cafeteria. Instructional programs in this building are Licensed Practical Nursing, Dental Assisting, Computer Science, Industrial Electronics, Office Administration, Horticulture, Accounting, and General Education courses. The Library/Learning Resource Center, and Student Support Services Program are also located in this building.

Building B is adjacent to Building A. Programs occupying the building are Graphics and Prepress Communications, Air Conditioning/Refrigeration, Welding, Drafting, Commercial Art, and Automotive Service Education (Toyota T-TEN).

Building C is located south of Building B and provides facilities for automotive programs.

Building D is located on the southern most area of the main campus and houses Medium/Heavy Truck Technician.

The **Jess Lanier Building** is located adjacent to the Ethel H. Hall Automotive Technology Center and provides facilities for specialized automotive programs and Corporate Services.

The **Millsap Industrial Training Center** is designed to provide classroom and laboratory instruction for apprenticeship and multi-craft training for business and industry. The One-Stop Career Center, Workforce Development, Adult Education and Skills Training, and the State Vocational Rehabilitation Office are located in this building.

Ethel H. Hall Automotive Technology Center is a facility housing four automotive classrooms/labs and an auditorium for satellite telecasts. The President, Vice