

# **PRESENTATION TO THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON FINANCES AND BUDGET**

**JIMMY H. BAKER**  
CHANCELLOR, ACCS  
02/02/2026



“There's no denying the fear and uncertainty in the world today — but we choose to be a steady source of good. I see resilience. I see generosity. I see good people doing good work — especially in our communities. And that's why our colleges keep our doors wide open: to anyone ready to learn, to upskill, to start over, or to start strong. Now, perhaps more than ever, our communities matter. Our 9,500+ team members live in these communities, serve in these communities, and believe in what's possible here. We help people gain skills, help employers find talent, and help regions build momentum. When communities flourish, families thrive, businesses grow, and Alabama moves forward. And that makes life better.”

**JIMMY H. BAKER**  
Chancellor

# OUR COMMUNITIES MATTER

**It's who we are.** It's in our name, our DNA. Community colleges exist to serve and strengthen the communities we call home.

**We're embedded, not adjacent.** Our colleges are woven into the fabric of our towns and cities — rooted in local needs, local people, and local progress. Committed to real solutions.

**We live life alongside you.** We work with you, learn with you, shop with you, and worship with you — making our mission personal, present, and responsive.

# OUR PEOPLE, OUR STRENGTH

9500+

EMPLOYEES



# EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHTS



**EARNEST WILLIAMS**  
CALHOUN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MATH INSTRUCTOR/DEPARTMENT CHAIR

**“Calhoun is more than a college—it is a community. When one of its members succeeds, the whole community succeeds. That is the power of a community college education.”**

# EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHTS



**KENDALL GALLOWAY**  
BEVILL STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

WELDING INSTRUCTOR

**“Career and technical education changed my life, and I see it changing lives every day.”**

# ACCS FACTS AND FIGURES

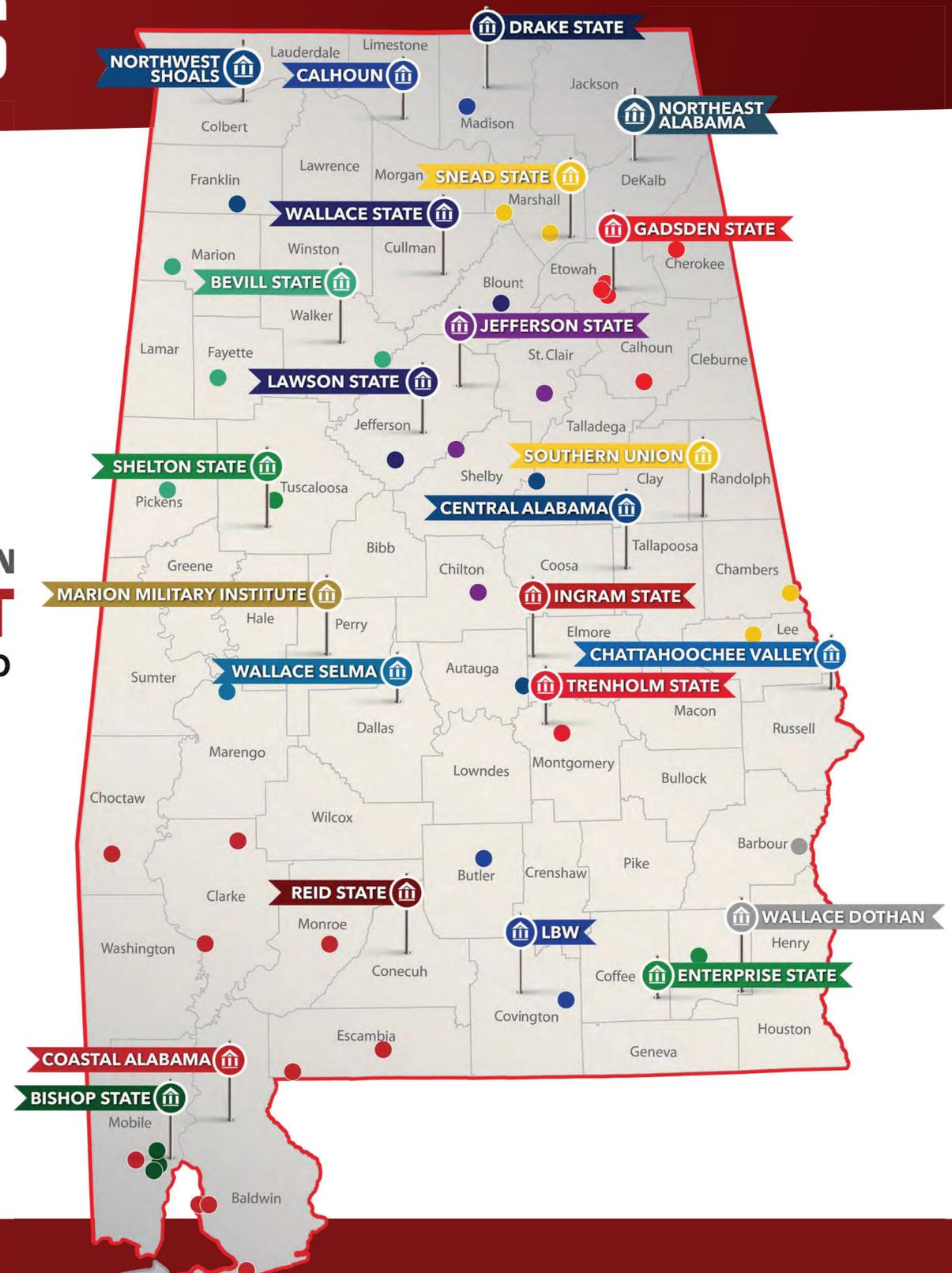
MORE THAN  
**75%**  
OF SYSTEM COMPLETERS  
REMAIN IN ALABAMA

**6%**

AT LEAST 6% INCREASE IN  
**ENROLLMENT**  
EACH YEAR SINCE 2020

**95%**  
OF STUDENTS ARE FROM  
**ALABAMA**

**300+**  
DEGREE & CERTIFICATE  
PROGRAMS  
LEADING TO UNLIMITED  
CAREER PATHWAYS



# EVERYONE IS COLLEGE MATERIAL

## OUR STUDENTS

**182,000**  
Served

**19,980**  
Credentials Awarded  
(Spring '24- Spring '25)

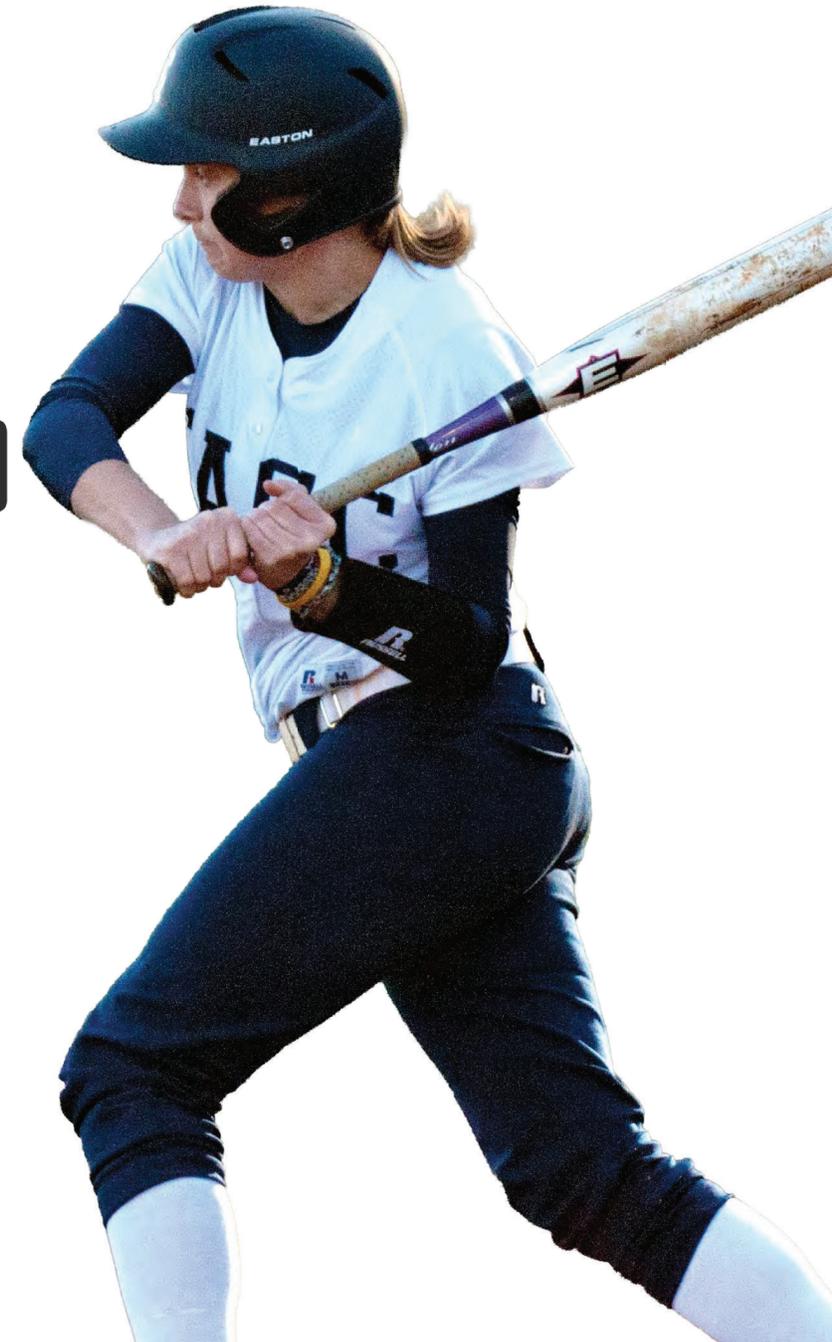
- **10,595** Associate Degrees
- **15,568** Technical Awards



# EVERYONE IS COLLEGE MATERIAL

## STUDENT-ATHLETES

- **2,400+** Student-Athletes (2025-2026)
  - **25.6%** were 1<sup>st</sup> Generation College Students ('24-'25)
- **1,515** Commissioner's Honor Roll (3.0 or higher)
- **NJCAA Academic All-Americans from ACCC**
  - **155** First-Team (4.00 GPA)
  - **153** Second-Team (3.80-3.99 GPA)
  - **246** Third-Team (3.60-3.79 GPA)



# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



## **BRIANA OLIVER** NORTHWEST SHOALS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

- FRESHMAN & SOFTBALL PITCHER
- HATTON VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

**“I just want to make  
a difference.”**

# EVERYONE IS COLLEGE MATERIAL

## SPOTLIGHT ON HEALTHCARE

- Largest healthcare training provider in Alabama
  - **2,087** ADN Awards
  - **1,502** PN Awards
- **18,979** Work-based Learning/Clinical Students
  - **7,907** Graduates
- **14** PN Apprenticeships
- **62** Employers
- NCLEX Pass Rates
  - **97%** ADN
  - **95%** PN



# EVERYONE IS COLLEGE MATERIAL

## SPOTLIGHT ON HEALTHCARE

- **\$30M** Rural Healthcare Grant
  - **42** healthcare programs since 2023
  - **1,000** rural healthcare workers by 2028
  - Early exposure through dual enrollment
  - Training & Upskill incumbent rural workers



# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



**TINSLEY ANDREWS**  
SNEAD STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
NURSING STUDENT AND CHEERLEADER

**"Every single instructor goes above and beyond to help me with any visual or hearing accommodation (I may need), and it really makes me feel welcomed, heard, seen, and more prepared for success."**

# EVERYONE IS COLLEGE MATERIAL

## DUAL ENROLLMENT

- **40,000+** Enrolled (public/private/homeschool)
- All **67** counties, **534** high schools represented
  - **46%** of ACCS dual enrollment students are from **rural areas**
- **76%** of all Alabama dual enrollment students are served by ACCS institutions
- **8,200+** DE students continued their education at a 4-year university in Alabama (2024-25)

# EVERYONE IS COLLEGE MATERIAL

## DUAL ENROLLMENT (CONTINUED)

- **Providing opportunity to those who need it most**
  - **\$40M** appropriated through legislation
  - Average out of pocket tuition charge: **\$24** per credit hour
- **1,566** credentials awarded to **1,218** students  
(summer 24 – spring 25)
- **91%** average pass rate

# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



**ZADE NEWTON**

L.B.W. /ANDALUSIA HIGH SCHOOL

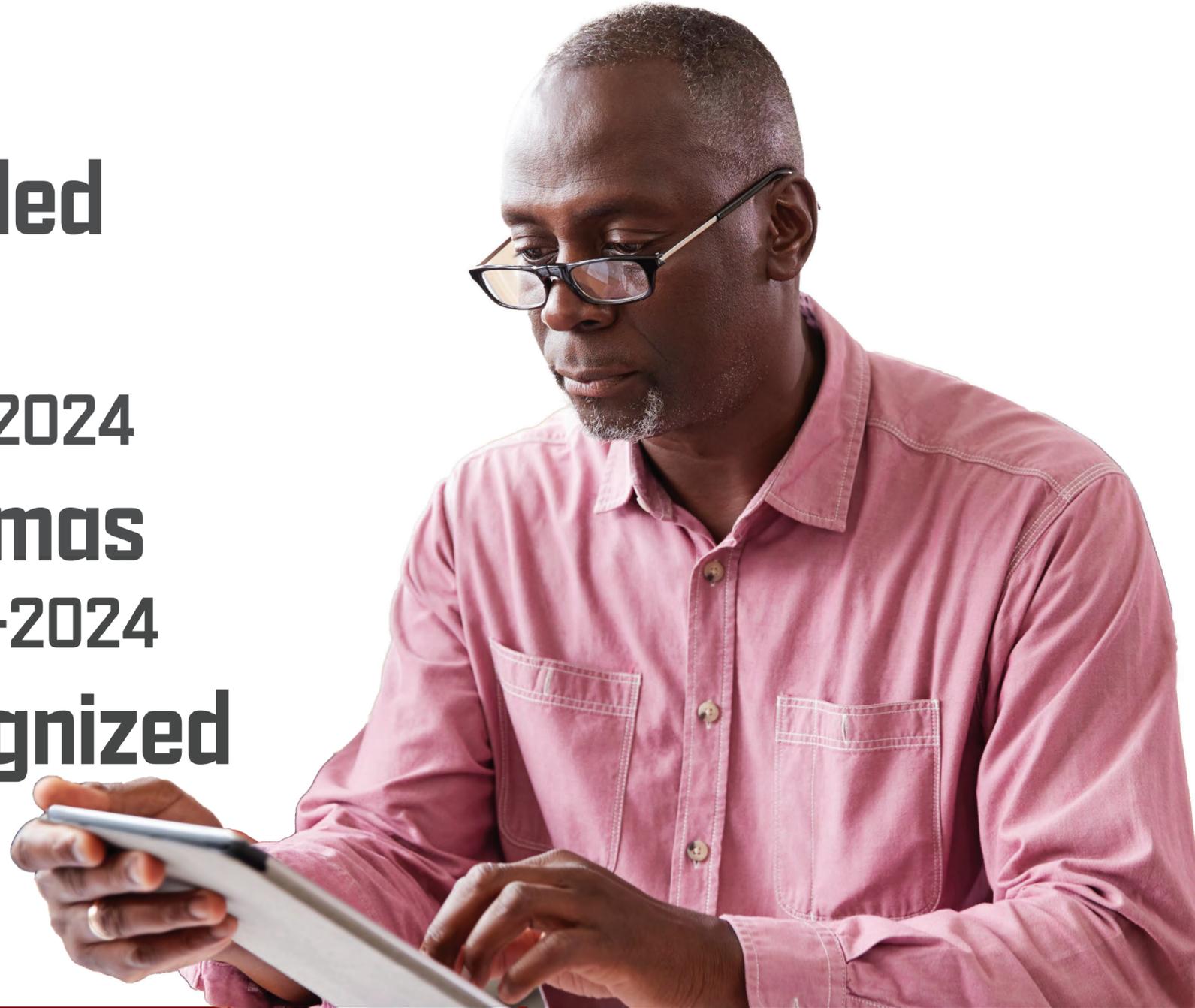
DUAL ENROLLMENT STUDENT

“I started liking it, and I fell in love with it.”

# EVERYONE IS COLLEGE MATERIAL

## ADULT EDUCATION

- **29,026** Students Enrolled
- **1,360** GED Completers
  - **22%** increase from 2023-2024
- **608** High School Diplomas
  - **184%** increase from 2023-2024
- **32,777** Industry-Recognized Certificates



# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



**ALISON DAVENPORT**  
TRENHOLM STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HSDO HS DIPLOMA RECIPIENT

**“I can proudly say that I am an official alumna of George Washington Carver Senior High School—it means everything to me.”**

# EVERYONE IS COLLEGE MATERIAL

## JUSTICE-INVOLVED EDUCATION

- **1,035** Students earned a Short-term Certificate
  - **118** Also earned a long-term certificate
- **2,227** Credentials awarded





# INDUSTRY ALIGNMENT

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### ACCS CROSS AGENCY COLLABORATION

- Local & Regional Economic Development Organizations
- Alabama Department of Commerce (Business Development, Global Business & AIDT)
- Utility Providers
- Consultants

Market Engagement &  
Lead Generation

Project Inquiry &  
Workforce Due Diligence

Site Selection &  
Market Evaluation

Announcement,  
Expansion & Retention

Fueling an ecosystem  
to ignite biopharma  
innovation in Rocket City

PRESENTED BY ELI LILLY AND COMPANY



Governor Ivey Announces Pharmaceutical Giant **Eli Lilly**  
Plans **\$6 Billion** Advanced Manufacturing Plant in Huntsville

# INDUSTRY ALIGNMENT



Industry-led conversations aligning employer needs with education and training solutions

# INDUSTRY ALIGNMENT

## WBL, APPRENTICESHIPS AND FAME

- **7,143** Work-Based Learning students
  - **854** Registered Apprentices
- **600+** Sponsored Companies
- **11 FAME Chapters** Federation for Advanced Manufacturing Education
  - **328** FAME Students
  - **90%** Job Placement Rate
- All **16** Alabama Industry Sectors Represented



**“The system's responsiveness to industry trends, particularly its expansion of work-based learning and hands-on training, aligns directly with our operational needs.”**

**ETHAN MATTOCKS**

Director of Technical Learning  
for Airbus Americas Inc.

**AIRBUS**

# INDUSTRY ALIGNMENT

## ACCS INNOVATION CENTER

- **23,000+** credentials since inception (2022)
- **400+** employers requests for courses in 2025
- **80** courses currently available
  - **19** courses in development



# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



## DEMITO THOMAS

ACCS INNOVATION CENTER/SKILLS FOR SUCCESS

CENTRAL ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

CDL LICENSE COURSE: SKID STEER

“The *Skills for Success* program gave me the foundation, and now I can continue to grow in my role.”

# INDUSTRY ALIGNMENT

## ATN (ALABAMA TRAINING NETWORK)

- Helped create and retain more than **22,000** jobs statewide (since 2015)
  - More than **\$4.6** billion in client-reported economic impact
- **240+** Courses in High-Demand Areas
- **2025**
  - Supported **255** Alabama manufacturers
  - Delivered **464** training solutions
  - Provided more than **32,000** instructional hours

**“As a small business owner, I really believe in my heart that we would have gone under without the help of ATN. We would not have been able to sustain what we were trying to do.”**

**KARLA JOHNSON**  
CEO of Johnson Labs





# BUDGET REQUEST

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**FY27 ETF BUDGET REQUEST:**

**\$765,828,048**



**JIMMY H. BAKER**  
CHANCELLOR, ACCS

[www.accs.edu](http://www.accs.edu)