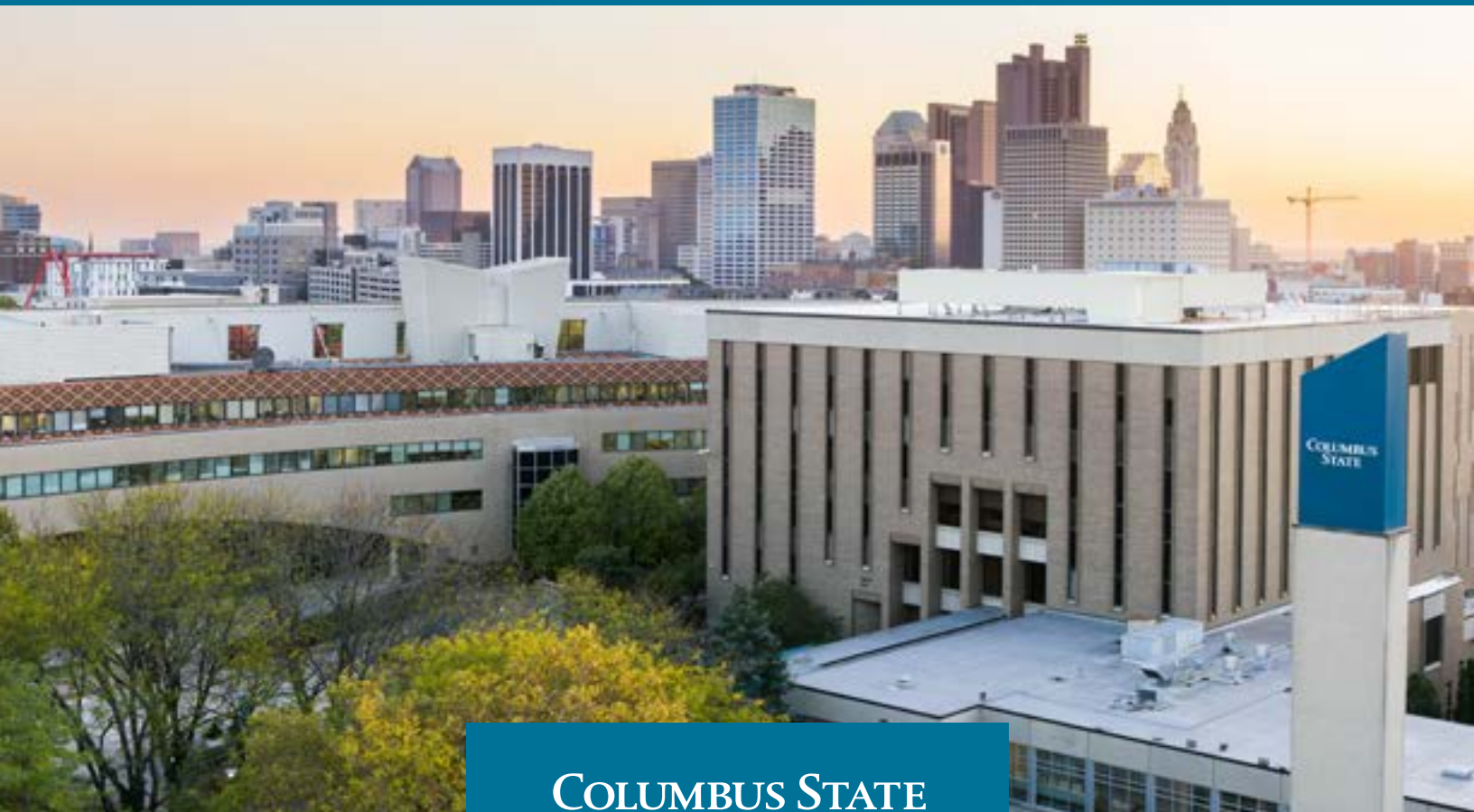


Making Central Ohio Stronger.



PRESIDENT > DAVID T. HARRISON, PH.D.



Columbus State is proud to be our region's front door to higher education. Each day, our team works to elevate the economic prosperity of Central Ohio by providing students with affordable pathways to good jobs, successful careers, and community impact.

We are already the state's largest community college, with more than 41,000 students, and we generate \$1.8 billion in annual economic impact – mostly from the increased earnings and business activity created by our graduates. But we are never satisfied.

In 2026, Columbus State is accelerating our progress in student success, workforce development and community impact:

- **Tuition-free education:** We are eliminating financial barriers to college through the Columbus Promise and our Buckeye Bridge partnership with The Ohio State University.
- **Job-focused degrees:** Working shoulder-to-shoulder with employers, we are investing in programs that lead to jobs in growing fields such as health care, advanced manufacturing, IT, and construction trades.
- **Campus improvements:** Using proceeds from our 2020 bond issue, we are modernizing classrooms, creating specialized facilities for high-growth programs, and updating core infrastructure to better serve students.
- **Addressing non-academic barriers:** Through partnerships, we are expanding access to affordable housing, fitness, and child care – for our students and the broader community.

All of these initiatives are rooted in community partnerships – with employers, government leaders, community organizations, and others who are as invested in Central Ohio as we are. This impact report is a celebration of these partnerships.

We're truly grateful for this community. We're excited to move forward, together, to make Central Ohio stronger.

David T. Harrison, Ph.D.
President, Columbus State Community College

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Columbus State: Making Central Ohio Stronger

Columbus State Community College is the front door to higher education, preparing thousands of students each year for good jobs. We are the region's workforce engine, advancing economic prosperity to make Central Ohio stronger.

PREPARING ALL KINDS OF STUDENTS FOR JOBS

 41,000+ STUDENTS PER YEAR, TRAILING ONLY THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY AND UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI IN SIZE	11,000+ OF OUR STUDENTS ARE STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL, EARNING NO-COST COLLEGE CREDIT THROUGH COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS 	 9,700+ OF OUR STUDENTS ARE ADULTS 25 OR OLDER
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PROVIDING AN AFFORDABLE EDUCATION THAT PAYS OFF

 80% OF OUR STUDENTS AVOID COLLEGE DEBT	 \$5,788 OUR ANNUAL TUITION IS \$7,000 LESS THAN THE COST OF THE AVERAGE OHIO UNIVERSITY	\$11,700  AVERAGE BOOST IN ANNUAL EARNINGS WITH AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE
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DELIVERING RESULTS FOR THE COMMUNITY

\$1.8 BILLION THE COLLEGE'S ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACT IN CENTRAL OHIO	 80% OF OUR GRADUATES STAY AND WORK IN CENTRAL OHIO	 \$3.10 RETURN ON INVESTMENT FOR EVERY \$1 SPENT BY OHIO TAXPAYERS
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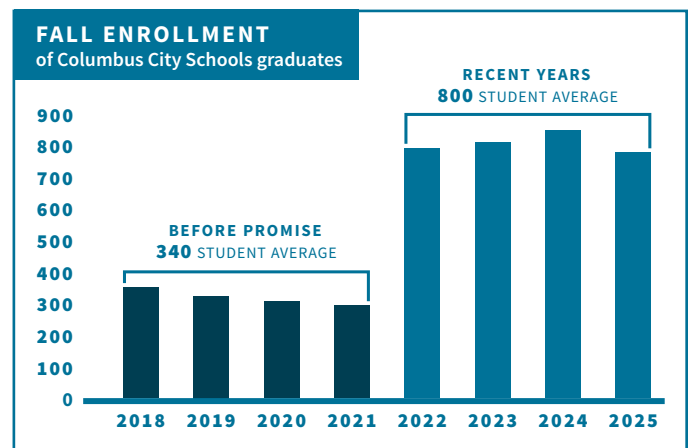


Program Doubles Number of Students in College

The Columbus Promise is transforming lives and futures by removing one of the biggest barriers to higher education — cost. With Columbus Promise, Columbus City Schools graduates are graduating from Columbus State with a tuition-free degree.

Since launching in 2022, Columbus Promise has doubled the number of Columbus City Schools graduates attending Columbus State, which translates into hundreds of additional students prepared for good jobs in Central Ohio.

The tuition-free program is expanding opportunity: More than 80% of Promise Scholars qualify as low-income (receive federal Pell Grants), and nearly three-quarters are first-generation college students.



LEARN MORE: csc.edu/columbuspromise

COLUMBUS PROMISE PRINCIPAL PARTNERS



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT > DESTINEE



NAME: DESTINEE HARRIS, CSCC '25
CAREER PATH: HEALTH CARE (PHLEBOTOMY)

Heading into her senior year at South High School, Destinee Harris didn't think she could afford to go to college. Columbus Promise changed everything.

Now Harris has earned a tuition-free college degree and has started her health care career as an OhioHealth phlebotomist, drawing blood for medical testing. She's also well equipped for the next step on her career path: Harris already has additional certifications that she earned while completing her Associate of Applied Science degree, and her employer offers tuition reimbursement if she pursues a bachelor's degree.

"I'm so glad I took advantage of the Columbus Promise," Harris says. "The program connected me to the resources I needed to help get me into the field of my choice, instead of having to settle for whatever kind of work I could find with just a high school diploma. Now I'll be working in a neighborhood that I know well, helping the people in my community."

“I’m so glad I took advantage of the Columbus Promise. The program connected me to the resources I needed to help get me into the field of my choice, instead of having to settle for whatever kind of work I could find with just a high school diploma. Now I’ll be working in a neighborhood that I know well, helping the people in my community.”

— Destinee Harris, Columbus Promise program graduate, Columbus State

Buckeye Bridge Creates a Path to a Debt-Free Bachelor's Degree



Starting in fall 2026, eligible Columbus State graduates will be able to earn a bachelor's degree from The Ohio State University — tuition-free! Buckeye Bridge will be available for Ohio residents who earn a Columbus State associate degree and have an adjusted gross income of \$100,000 or less.

More than 1,000 students per year transfer from Columbus State to Ohio State, the largest transfer partnership in the state. Buckeye Bridge promises to increase that number as the college and university build on their long-established transfer pathways.

LEARN MORE: csc.edu/buckeyebridge



COLUMBUS STATE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY



“Together, Columbus State and Ohio State are not only helping students launch successful careers, we’re strengthening the talent ecosystem that drives our region’s economic prosperity.”

— David T. Harrison, Ph.D., Columbus State President

Pacts Ease the Transfer Process

More than 3,000 students transfer each year from Columbus State through our seamless partnerships with four-year universities. Through our Preferred Pathway partnerships, students can seamlessly transfer right into bachelor's degree programs.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT > MELINA



NAME: MELINA LEY, CSCC '25
CAREER PATH: HUMAN RESOURCES

Melina Ley moved to Central Ohio five years after her high school graduation in Medina, Ohio. Even though she was working full time, Ley was able to graduate from Columbus State with her Associate of Arts in two years.

"I liked the flexibility at Columbus State. The classes are not only more affordable, but also easier to access," Ley said. "Having a lot of options for scheduling made managing school and work possible, while the smaller, supportive environment helped me with my confidence and showed me the power of making connections."

Now she's realized her goal to pursue her bachelor's degree at The Ohio State University, where she is a junior at the Fisher College of Business preparing for a career in human resources administration.

“I liked the flexibility at Columbus State. The classes are not only more affordable, but also easier to access. Having a lot of options for scheduling made managing school and work possible, while the smaller, supportive environment helped me with my confidence and showed me the power of making connections.”

— Melina Ley, Columbus State graduate who transferred to The Ohio State University

CCP Helps High-Schoolers Start Preparing for Careers

Columbus State is leading efforts statewide to allow high-school students to get a jump start on their careers through College Credit Plus, Ohio’s dual enrollment program.

The college is already the state’s largest provider of CCP courses, enabling more than 11,000 students per year to earn college credit before they’ve even graduated from high school. CCP is tuition-free, which also can help lower the cost of college for students. Columbus State partners with more than 118 districts to offer CCP courses, either online, on the college’s campuses, or at their home high schools.

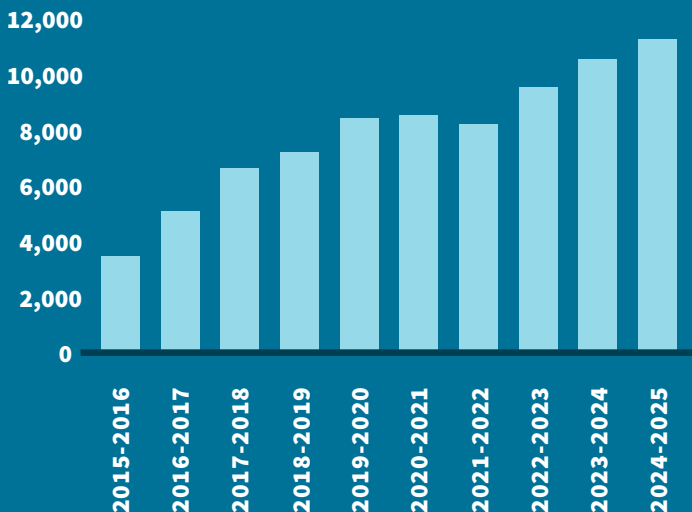
Columbus State is working to expand CCP opportunities, particularly in high-demand fields. Through a statewide waiver led by Columbus State, more students now can take CCP courses related to advanced manufacturing. Previously, CCP classes were limited to students based on their cumulative grade-point average or placement test scores.



11,000+

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE EARNING NO-COST COLLEGE CREDIT THROUGH COLUMBUS STATE AND CCP

COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS ENROLLMENT BY ACADEMIC YEAR



College Credit Plus

TOP 10 DISTRICTS WITH CCP STUDENTS, 2024-25

- OLENTANGY • SOUTH-WESTERN • DUBLIN
- HILLIARD • COLUMBUS • WESTERVILLE
- MARYSVILLE • WORTHINGTON
- BIG WALNUT • GAHANNA-JEFFERSON

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT > MALARIE



NAME: MALARIE FINNEY, CSCC '24
CAREER PATH: MARINE BIOLOGY

Just six months after graduating from Hilliard Davidson High School in 2024, Malarie Finney completed her first college degree — an Associate of Science — thanks to her time as a Columbus State student using the College Credit Plus program.

“After I took my first course heading into sophomore year, I decided to get as much of my associate degree done as I could while still in high school,” combining in-person instruction at Hilliard Davidson, online classes and summer courses, she said. “This gave me so many opportunities for an accelerated education, which helped keep me challenged and engaged with school.”

Now Finney is headed to Arizona State University in fall 2026 to pursue her bachelor’s in marine biology after taking a break from college to travel the world as part of the Semester at Sea program.

“After I took my first course heading into sophomore year, I decided to get as much of my associate degree done as I could while still in high school, combining in-person instruction at Hilliard Davidson, online classes and summer courses. This gave me so many opportunities for an accelerated education, which helped keep me challenged and engaged with school.”

— Malarie Finney, Columbus State graduate, earned through College Credit Plus



College Helps Military Members Prepare for Civilian Careers



Columbus State makes it easy for military-connected students to prepare for civilian jobs and advance in their careers. The college has repeatedly been named an Ohio Collegiate Purple Star institution based on the support we provide to veterans and other military-connected students.

Through the Military & Veterans Services Department, the college serves more than 700 student veterans and family members receiving educational benefits through various GI Bill programs and other military tuition assistance programs.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT > LUCKY



NAME: LUCKY GOODMAN, EXPECTED CSCC '27
CAREER PATH: SOCIOLOGY

Columbus native Lucky Goodman didn't know what he wanted to do next after he concluded his service in the U.S. Navy in 2024, but a mentor persuaded him that college would expand his opportunities. He is now pursuing his Associate of Arts in Sociology at Columbus State, where he has used his love of public speaking to relaunch a veterans student group. After he graduates, he plans to transfer to The Ohio State University.

“ Starting at Ohio State seemed overwhelming: It was hard to find someone to help me figure out what I wanted and needed to do. Someone here is always supporting my vision for what I want to achieve. Columbus State is a true *community* college: It's here for you to participate in the community. ”

– Lucky Goodman, Navy Veteran, Columbus State student



Campus is Expanding Pathways to Job and Transfer Opportunities

Our Delaware campus celebrated its 15th anniversary in 2025, focused on its next chapter of growth and service to the Central Ohio community. With expanded offerings, the campus is leaning into its role as Delaware’s gateway to affordable bachelor’s degrees.

Through our partnership with Delaware Area Career Center, we are bringing engineering to Delaware County through a model that pairs our academic programs with their facilities. The Electrical Engineering Technology degree will serve approximately 50 students per year once it is fully implemented.

The college is also investing in information systems technology, health care, and science pathways that will enhance accessible, workforce-aligned education at the Delaware campus. Our new Certified Nursing Assistant lab is up and running as an entry point to nursing careers. Meanwhile, Columbus State is planning investments in medical imaging and expanded science capacity — including a future microbiology lab.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT > JAMES



NAME: JAMES HEMPHILL, EXPECTED CSCC '27
CAREER PATH: COMMUNICATIONS

James Hemphill started at Columbus State with a fresh perspective after taking a gap year in Arizona.

Hemphill is planning a career in a communications-related field. He plans to complete his Associate of Arts at Columbus State and then obtain a bachelor’s degree at The Ohio State University, taking advantage of the Buckeye Bridge program to cover his tuition.

“ Columbus State offers the same degree as other schools for significantly less cost. And I like how engaged my professors are and how they genuinely enjoy what they do. ”

— James Hemphill, Columbus State student at Delaware campus

Transforming Health Care Education

Through a partnership with OhioHealth, Columbus State is doubling the number of nurses and other professionals trained for high-demand health care jobs in our region.

To expand this critical workforce pipeline, the college has:

- Broken ground on OhioHealth Hall, an 80,000-square-foot health care education building that will feature advanced simulation labs and modern classrooms.
- Launched a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree, an affordable online program that enables registered nurses to advance their education.
- Continued to expand educational partnerships with health care providers including OhioHealth, Nationwide Children's Hospital and the Wexner Medical Center to provide students with practical, hands-on experiences and job opportunities.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT > DIANA



NAME: DIANA MCCARTNEY, CSCC '24 AND EXPECTED '26
CAREER PATH: HEALTH CARE (NURSING)

Raising a growing family while helping manage a family business kept Diana McCartney more than occupied for 16 years after getting her initial bachelor's degree. But she held on to the dream of working in patient care.

After a transformational experience caring for an ailing family member, McCartney decided it was time. Soon after the birth of her fifth child, she began Columbus State's Associate of Nursing program and graduated in 2024 to start work as a registered nurse. Now she's continuing her education in Columbus State's new Bachelor of Science in Nursing, a fully online program that will allow her to advance in her career.

“The blended option gave me the flexibility to complete my coursework and to manage school around my busy family life, which to me was essential. Both of my nursing roles so far have been on units where I completed my Columbus State clinicals, which is an incredible full-circle experience for me.”

— Diana McCartney,
 Columbus State graduate and
 BSN student

OHIOHEALTH HALL

When completed in 2027, OhioHealth Hall will be a state-of-the-art facility featuring hands-on labs, simulation spaces, classrooms, and other amenities that foster student success. The building will house the college's nursing, respiratory care, and surgical technology programs.

The college is funding the \$66.5 million academic building using bond proceeds approved by Franklin County residents. OhioHealth provided a \$25 million philanthropic endowment to support instruction and other operating costs of Columbus State's expanded health care education programs.

OhioHealth Hall is under construction at the corner of Cleveland Avenue and East Spring Street.

LEARN MORE: csc.edu/ohiohealthhall, csc.edu/bsn



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT > CARLY



NAME: CARLY HANKS, CSCC '25
CAREER PATH: HEALTH CARE
(SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY)

Carly Hanks discovered a fast track to a health care career through Columbus State. After learning about surgical technology in high school, she pushed herself to complete all core classes and prerequisites through College Credit Plus, enabling her to enter Columbus State full time already holding a sterile processing certificate and working in the field.

"Columbus State provided a direct path to my goals, enabling me to gain hands-on experience and start making a difference sooner," said Hanks, who is now a pediatric surgical technologist at Nationwide Children's Hospital.

“I’ve noticed how well-prepared I started out compared to others who trained elsewhere. My instructors anticipated the challenges we would face and provided us with real-world experience that truly sets us apart.”

— Carly Hanks,
 Columbus State graduate

We're Shaping Our Region's Tech Talent

The careers of the future are being shaped right here in Central Ohio. From advanced manufacturing and artificial intelligence to electric vehicles, semiconductors and biotechnology, the demand for skilled workers is growing faster than ever. Columbus State is preparing students to step into these roles with the training, flexibility, and support they need to succeed.

By developing stackable certificates and statewide curriculum models, Columbus State is ensuring that career education is both accessible and adaptable. Students can quickly earn credentials that get them into the workforce, while continuing to build toward higher-level degrees and specialized training. This nimble approach is essential in fields that evolve at the speed of innovation.

LEARN MORE: csc.edu/engineeringtech



BUILDING BOOTCAMPS AND A HIGH-TECH HUB

To address the needs of emerging industries such as biotechnology and pharmaceutical manufacturing, Columbus State has launched high-impact, short-term bootcamps with partners such as Ohio Life Sciences. These quickly prepare Central Ohioans for jobs in these fields.

Columbus State is also preparing to build a new educational hub, The Ohio Center for Advanced Technologies, that will house specialized classrooms and labs for engineering technology, IT, and other fields. Federal and state leaders are investing \$30 million in OCAT, which will prepare students for jobs at companies such as Amgen, Andelyn Biosciences, Anduril, Intel, Honda/LG, and Worthington Enterprises. Design work will start in 2026.

Ohio Center for Advanced Technologies (OCAT): This new building will house the specialized classrooms and labs for engineering technology and other fields.



Our Graduates Are Building Central Ohio

Central Ohio's growth has driven continued demand for Columbus State's construction and skilled trades programs, which have doubled enrollment over the past decade. The college partners with employers and trade unions to offer training and apprenticeships that lead directly to good-paying jobs.

For example, Columbus State partners with Google's Skilled Trades and Readiness (STAR) program to provide free bootcamp-style training that swiftly equips graduates to gain good-paying jobs on new data centers and other major construction projects. The free program, which can be completed within six weeks, has already placed more than 160 graduates with companies such as Amazon and Meta.

"Even though I was working as a full-time department supervisor before, I felt like my opportunities were limited," said Chase Green, a 2025 graduate. "The STAR program put me on a path to unlimited career opportunities."



DEGREES AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS:

- Carpentry
- Construction
- Electrical Trades
- Facilities Maintenance
- Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning (HVAC)
- Landscape Design and Management
- Plumbing
- Welding

Columbus State YMCA Will Address Non-Academic Barriers

Columbus State is partnering with the YMCA of Central Ohio to address our students' non-academic needs while also providing a new community fitness facility in Downtown Columbus. When the 50,000-square-foot building opens in fall 2028, eligible Columbus State students will have access to drop-in child care services in addition to the fitness and wellness offerings.

LEARN MORE: csc.edu/ymca



1 in 4 

ONE IN FOUR COLUMBUS STATE STUDENTS ARE PARENTS OR CAREGIVERS WHO ALSO WORK AT LEAST PART TIME

DROP-IN CHILD CARE MEETS A CRITICAL NEED



One in four Columbus State students are parents or caregivers who also work at least part time, based on the college's most recent survey data. Flexible child care will help address a key non-academic barrier that can affect these students' college education.

Columbus State undergraduates will have access to up to five hours of drop-in child care per day at the campus YMCA. Children will be cared for by licensed YMCA Youth Development experts who create engaging, age-appropriate activities that foster learning, social skills, and resilience.

Innovative Project To Expand Housing Options

Columbus State is helping to create 166 units of workforce housing near its Downtown campus through an innovative project that also will include 20 units for students. Housing insecurity can derail students, so the creation of these dedicated units will be an important way the college can help address this non-academic barrier.



Opportunity Pointe is a joint venture between housing developer Woda Cooper Companies and the college's real estate affiliate, Columbus State

Community Partners. Woda Cooper will develop and manage the project. Through a long-term land lease, Columbus State Community Partners has contributed most of the land for the project, located on a block bordered by Cleveland and North Grant avenues and East Spring and East Long streets.

CONSTRUCTION IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2026, WITH COMPLETION ANTICIPATED BY THE END OF 2027.

THE TOTAL PROJECT IS ESTIMATED TO COST \$54 MILLION.



Opportunity Pointe: is a joint venture between housing developer Woda Cooper Companies and the college's real estate affiliate, Columbus State Community Partners.

Progress Report: Educational Facilities Plan

Columbus State is grateful to Franklin County residents, who in 2020 approved a \$300 million bond issue to support improvements at the college's Downtown campus and elsewhere in Franklin County. Already, those dollars have leveraged \$150 million of federal, state, and private funding to improve options for Central Ohioans.

After the pandemic, the bond dollars have been put to work to create modern classrooms and labs, expand high-demand academic programs, and fix aging buildings and infrastructure. Through 2025, the college has committed more than two-thirds of those dollars, with more projects in the wings.

BOND-FUNDED HIGHLIGHTS



OHIOHEALTH HALL

OHIOHEALTH HALL

\$66.5 MILLION

A new \$66.5 million academic building focused on health care education. The college broke ground on OhioHealth Hall in September. The building is set to open by fall semester 2027. *(See page 11)*



FRANKLIN HALL

FRANKLIN HALL

\$31.5 MILLION

This renovation will create a modern classroom building while addressing significant deferred maintenance issues. The Franklin Hall project, using bond funds and state capital dollars, is scheduled to open in January 2027.

INFRASTRUCTURE/ DEFERRED MAINTENANCE

\$15 MILLION (TO DATE)

The college is investing in core infrastructure projects, like roof replacements, elevator upgrades, boiler and chiller replacements, and fire alarm improvements. Thus far, these projects total more than \$15 million.



AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

\$27 MILLION

A new home for Automotive Technology education is expected to break ground in early 2027 and be completed in summer 2028. The \$27 million project will feature high-bay labs designed to support the existing Ford ASSET and incoming Honda PACT academic training programs.



CLASSROOM AND LAB UPGRADES

CLASSROOM AND LAB UPGRADES

\$3.3 MILLION (TO DATE)

Both general education and specific in-demand programs have been upgraded. For example, labs have been created for hydraulics and vacuum technology education to support the growth of advanced manufacturing in the region.

THE NESTOR HALL AUDITORIUM

\$11.4 MILLION

This renovation was completed in 2025 to upgrade the college's 13,300-square-foot performing arts education space. The project provides professional-caliber systems and spaces for career instruction in fine arts design, production, and performance.

Major Projects

FUNDED BY COLUMBUS STATE OR PARTNERS



PROJECT	TOTAL PROJECT	BOND PROCEEDS	PROJECTED OPENING
OHIOHEALTH HALL	\$66.5 million	\$66.5 million	Fall 2027
OCAT	~\$60 million	~\$30 million	2028-2029
OPPORTUNITY POINTE	\$54 million	(none)	End of 2027
COLUMBUS STATE YMCA	\$39 million	~\$3 million	Fall 2028
FRANKLIN HALL	\$31.5 million	\$12.5 million	January 2027
AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY	\$27.2 million	\$27.2 million	Summer 2028

COLUMBUS STATE

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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