



2003 Fact Book General Information

The College's Mission

Somerset Community College, located in south-central Kentucky, is a comprehensive community and technical college with a mission to provide quality, affordable, and accessible educational and training opportunities that address the needs of its district. The college offers students educational experiences and associated services through traditional campus-based and distance learning modalities that promote intellectual curiosity and lifelong learning and encourage aesthetic awareness and social responsibility.

Somerset Community College will provide:

- Academic, general education, and technical curricula leading to certificates, diplomas, and associate degrees;
- A general academic curriculum of university-parallel courses and programs meeting requirements of the first two years of a baccalaureate degree;
- Technical and occupational curricula designed to meet current and future workforce needs;
- A comprehensive program of remedial and developmental education;
- Customized training to meet the changing needs of business and industry;
- Adult and continuing education; and,
- Associated services including, but not limited to, library services, cultural and enrichment opportunities, information technology resources, and appropriate student support services.

*Approved by KCTCS Board of Regents
October 4th, 2002*

The College's History

The 2002 merger of Laurel Technical College, Somerset Community College, and Somerset Technical College produced a comprehensive community and technical college whose beginning reaches back to 1940. The three institutions became members of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System in 1998 and began their merger plans soon after.

Originally a part of the University of Kentucky Community College System, Somerset Community College opened in 1965 with approximately 300 students. The College extended its campus east to London, Kentucky and south to Strunk, Kentucky in 1992. The College operated an off-campus program in several surrounding counties before 1992, but the Laurel Center in London and the McCreary Center in Strunk were the first two permanent campuses outside Somerset Community College's original Pulaski County home. The Clinton Center in Burkesville, Kentucky is expected to open in 2003.

Laurel Technical College began in 1971 as a vocational school governed by the Kentucky Department of Education. The school added a post-secondary component in 1985 and began offering programs designed to teach adult learners both academic and technical skills.

Somerset Technical College began in 1940 under the Somerset Board of Education's control. Originally named the Somerset Vocational School, the institution came under Kentucky Department of Education governance in 1970. The school offered the Kentucky's first publicly supported aviation maintenance program, and began accepting post-secondary students in 1970.

Somerset Community College serves students from five campuses in southern Kentucky. The College also offers distance learning opportunities through on-line classes, televised courses, and courses at off-campus sites throughout southern Kentucky.

The College's Organization

The Board of Directors

Charlene Harris, Chair

Conley Manning, Vice-Chair

John L. Perkins, Secretary

Brenda Steele Burton

Clay Parker Davis

Dr. Paula Little

Ann Hollin Smith

Jean Bowdan, Faculty Member

Pat McCoy, Staff Member

Jerry Warren, Student Member

The Administrative and Academic Organization

Dr. Jo Marshall, President

Dr. Buford Howard, (Acting) Chief Academic Officer

Mr. Greg Fryman, Occupational and Technical Programs
Dean

Dr. Don Johnson, Laurel Campus Director

Dr. Tony Collins, McCreary Center Director

Ms. Ann Zwick, Institutional Advancement Director

Ms. Tracy Casada, Student Affairs Dean, Somerset Campus

Mr. Paul Ledford, Student Affairs Dean, Laurel Campus

Mr. Tim Zimmerman, Financial Services Dean

Mr. Larry Abbott, Administrative Services Dean

Mr. David Wiles, Community and Economic Development
Director

The People the College Serves

Population and Unemployment Rate of Local Counties

Unemployment Rate		
	January 2002	January 2003
Adair	6.9	6.2
Bell	10.0	9.3
Casey	10.5	6.9
Clay	9.3	9.7
Clinton	8.8	12.1
Cumberland	8.6	10.9
Green	8.5	9.7
Harlan	8.0	12.8
Jackson	5.5	5.8
Knox	6.5	7.8
Laurel	5.1	6.2
McCreary	9.1	10.8
Pulaski	6.6	8.0
Rockcastle	4.3	7.1
Russell	10.5	13.1
Taylor	7.4	7.1
Wayne	5.9	7.2
Whitley	6.5	8.8
Local County Average	7.7	8.9
State	5.2	6.3

Source: U.S. Department of Labor: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Population	
Adair	17,244
Bell	30,060
Casey	15,447
Clay	24,556
Clinton	9,634
Cumberland	7,147
Green	11,518
Harlan	33,202
Jackson	13,495
Knox	31,795
Laurel	52,715
McCreary	17,080
Pulaski	56,217
Rockcastle	16,582
Russell	16,315
Taylor	22,927
Wayne	19,923
Whitley	35,865
State	4,041,769

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2000 Census