



2005 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 Whitley City, 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 Whitley City were the first two permanent centers outside Somerset Community College's original Pulaski County home. The Russell Center in Russell Springs opened in 2003 and the Clinton Center in Albany, Kentucky opened in 2004.

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 Kentucky's first publicly supported aviation maintenance program, and began accepting post-secondary students in 1970.

Somerset Community College serves students on two campuses and three centers in south-central Kentucky. The College also offers distance learning opportunities through on-line classes, televised courses, and courses at off-campus sites throughout southern Kentucky. In Academic Year 2004-2005 Somerset Community College served students from sixty-six of Kentucky's 120 counties.

The College's Organization

The Board of Directors

Charlene Harris, Chair

Ann Hollin Smith, Vice-Chair

Mimi Hoskins, Secretary

Clay Parker Davis

Eric Dicken

Conley Manning

Gary Upchurch

Joelyn Prather, Faculty Member

Pam Turner, Staff Member

Jon Wilson, Student Member

The Administrative and Academic Organization

Dr. Jo Marshall, President / CEO

Dr. Tony Honeycutt, Provost

Dr. Buford Howard, Dean of Academic Affairs

Mr. Larry Abbott, Chief Operations Officer

Ms. Tracy Casada, Dean of Student Affairs

Mr. David Wiles, Chief Community and Economic
Development Officer

Mr. Tim Zimmerman, Chief Business Affairs Officer

Ms. Ann Zwick, Chief Institutional Advancement Officer

The People the College Serves

Population and Unemployment Rate of Local Counties

County	Unemployment Rate				Population
	January 2002	January 2003	January 2004	January 2005	2000 Census
Adair	7.3	6.7	7.2	5.8	17,244
Casey	10.3	7.4	7.4	5.9	15,447
Clay	11.7	10.2	7.6	7.7	24,556
Clinton	6.5	12.2	6.5	6.6	9,634
Cumberland	9.6	11.8	12.7	8.4	7,147
Jackson	7.8	5.9	5.5	7.5	13,495
Knox	8.7	8.1	7.6	6.3	31,795
Laurel	7.4	6.5	8.8	5.4	52,715
Lincoln	8.9	9.8	8.7	6.9	23,361
McCreary	13.8	11.8	10.2	9.2	17,080
Pulaski	9.3	8.4	6.5	5.8	56,217
Rockcastle	9.8	7.4	7.4	7.1	16,582
Russell	15.1	14.2	12.8	7.4	16,315
Wayne	10.2	7.6	7.3	5.7	19,923
Whitley	8.0	7.5	6.7	5.7	35,865
Counties					
Average/Total	9.6	9.0	8.2	6.8	431,722
State	5.7	6.0	5.7	5.0	4,041,769

Sources:

(Unemployment Rate – Not Seasonally Adjusted) U.S. Department of Labor: Bureau of
Labor Statistics:

(Population) U.S. Census Bureau 2000 Census