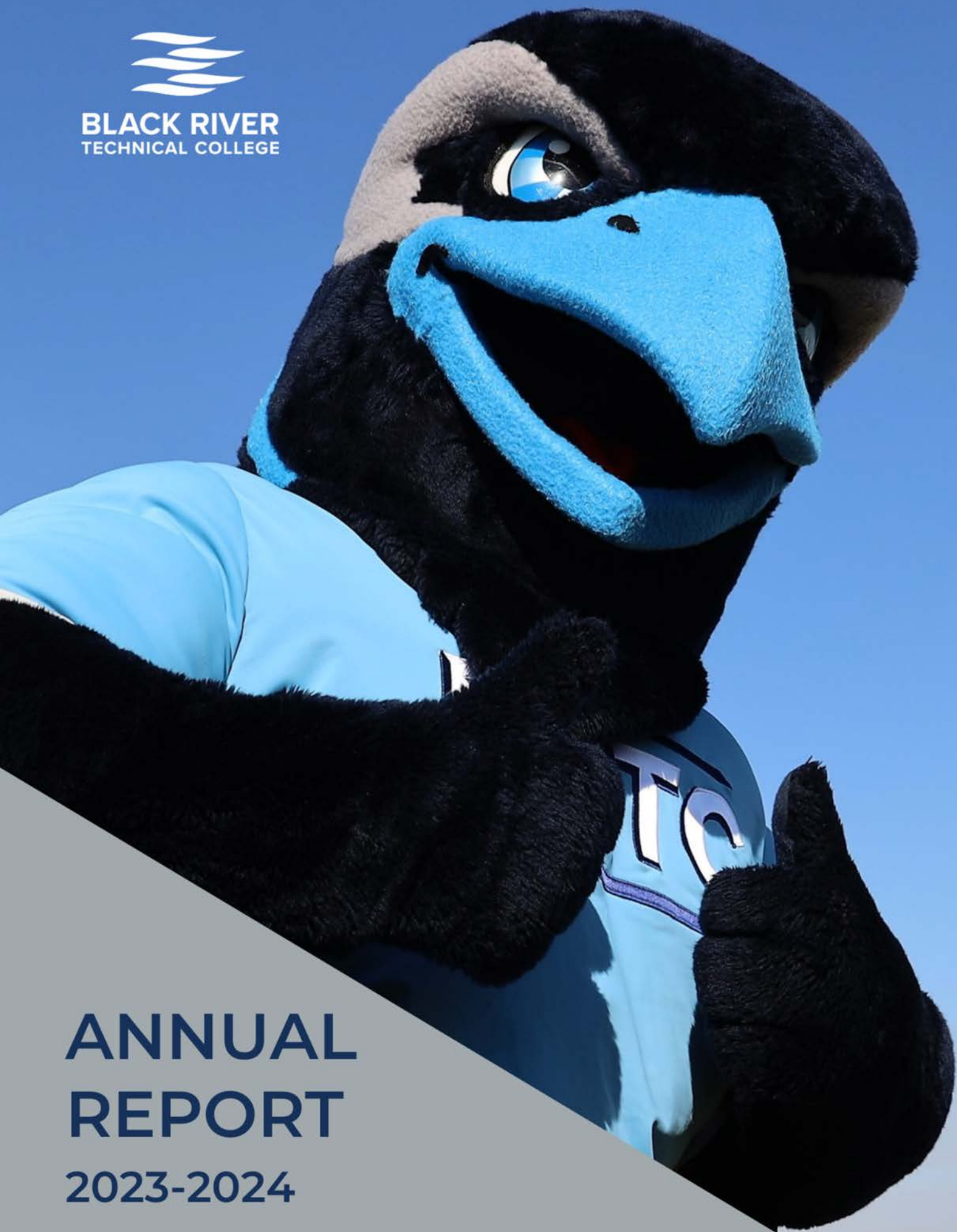




BLACK RIVER
TECHNICAL COLLEGE



ANNUAL REPORT

2023-2024

1	FROM THE PRESIDENT Letter from Dr. Eggensperger
2	BOARD OF TRUSTEES Chairwoman and Members
4	COLLEGE NEWS Events, Accomplishments, and Recognitions
6	QUALITY Letter from Sissy Gray
7	ACADEMICS Career and Technical Center and Learning
10	OUR STUDENTS Student Involvement and Graduation
12	WORKFORCE TRAINING Corporate, Community, and Custom Training
13	FACULTY & STAFF Recognitions and Retirements
15	COMMUNITY Relations and Education
17	ENROLLMENT & DATA Headcount, Online, and Tuition and Fees
18	COLLEGE FINANCES Revenues, Expenses, and Balances

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Leading through collaboration

Dr. Eggensperger is committed to leading BRTC through clear planning, strong budgeting, and effective assessment based upon inclusive collaboration.

I am honored to share Black River Technical College's 23-24 Annual Report. BRTC reached a milestone in December and celebrated the College's 50th anniversary. Fifty years of commitment to community, education, and excellence. We are proud of all of BRTC's accomplishments throughout the years and we continue to make advancements in the world of education.

To provide more opportunities for our students and surrounding communities, BRTC held grand openings for two new additions. In October we celebrated the opening of BRTC @ the Armory, a satellite campus in Piggott that gives high school students a fast-track to a high-wage, high-demand job straight out of high school. In March BRTC held a grand opening for the Generating Innovative Network (G.I.N.) in Paragould. The G.I.N. is an innovative entrepreneurial facility with space for workshops, college classes, and community education classes.

As we look back upon this last year at BRTC, I want to take a moment to express our gratitude for all of BRTC's supporters. Their generosity continues to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our students and our ability to serve our community. Their contributions have helped us expand programs, improve facilities, and provide scholarships that enable students to transform their lives. We also thank our faculty, staff, students, and community partners for their unwavering dedication and commitment to BRTC.



Dr. Martin Eggensperger
2019 - Present
5th BRTC President

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dr. Martin Eggensperger". The signature is stylized and fluid.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees is the governing body of the college.

Board members serve 7-year terms and are appointed by the Governor of Arkansas. Board meetings are quarterly and open to the public.



Carolyn Collins, Chair
2022 - 2029
Greene County

Carolyn Collins

BLACK RIVER
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends of Black River Technical College, it is my distinct pleasure to express my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you. Your dedication, hard work, and unwavering support have been instrumental in making Black River Technical College a beacon of excellence and opportunity in our community for the past 50 years.

Over the past year, we have witnessed remarkable achievements across our campuses. These accomplishments would not have been possible without the commitment and passion of our dedicated faculty and staff who continually strive to deliver an exceptional educational experience for our students.

As we look to the future, we are excited about the possibilities that lie ahead. We remain committed to adapting and growing, ensuring the Black River Technical College continues to meet the evolving needs of our students and community. Together, we will forge ahead with resilience and optimism, embracing new challenges and celebrating further successes.

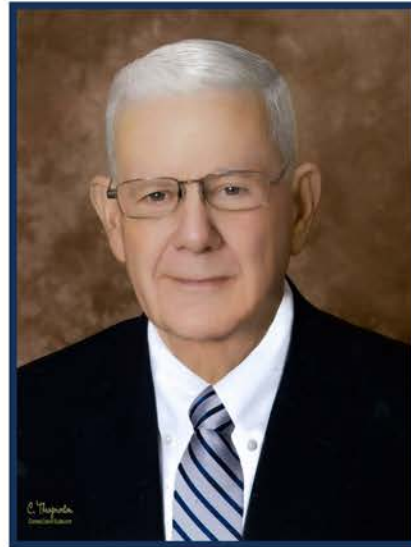
Your contributions, whether large or small, are crucial to our ongoing success and the fulfillment of our mission. Thank you for being a part of our vibrant community and for your unwavering dedication to excellence.

Trustees are selected from BRTC's primary service area of Clay, Greene, Lawrence, and Randolph counties.

One trustee represents each of these four counties. Two trustees represent the counties with a BRTC campus.



David Coker, Vice Chair
2016-2030
Lawrence County



Bob Olvey, Secretary
2018-2025
Randolph County



Danny Moore
2017-2031
Clay Co.



Sue McGowan
2019-2026
Greene Co.



Jeremy Baltz
2020-2027
Randolph Co.



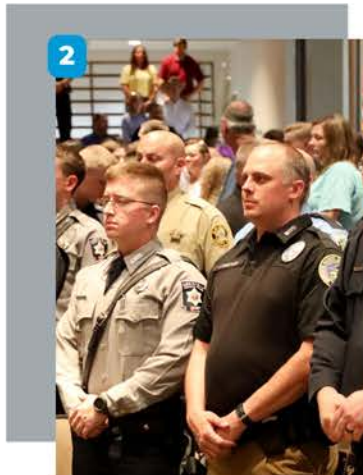
Stephanie Sutton
2021-2028
Randolph Co.

BRTC Mission - Black River Technical College transforms lives through quality academic and career education to enhance the community we serve

COLLEGE NEWS

BRTC is proud of the many things that are happening on campus each semester.

From guest speakers to gubernatorial visits, BRTC works to create student opportunities through a variety of public outreach events.



1) BRTC hosted Mary Helen Jackson Children's Reading Room grand opening. **2)** Black River Technical College received \$4.7 million from the Arkansas State and Local Recovery funds, allocated by the American Rescue Plan Act, to construct BRTC Law Enforcement Training Academy (LETA) barracks to house recruits. **3)** BRTC hosted Ken and Jan Ziegler Student Affairs Suite grand opening.



4) Arkansas State Representative Shad Pearce spoke at Fall LETA Graduation. **5)** Chris Chapmond, Director of the Commission on Law Enforcement Standards & Training, spoke at Spring LETA Graduation. **6)** BRTC celebrated 50 years with a reception; pictured are 4 of the 5 BRTC presidents: Richard Gaines, Dr. Eric Turner, Dr. Jan Ziegler, and Dr. Martin Eggensperger.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS & RECOGNITION



3rd Best LPN Program in Arkansas

Recognized by practicalnursing.org, this award is based upon quality, affordability, pass rates, and reputation



Top 10 CNA Course in Arkansas

Recognized by topnursing.org for the 2nd year in a row, this award is based on tuition cost and credit hours.



LPN Class NCLEX Pass Rate

The class achieved 100% pass rate on the NCLEX-PN licensure on the 1st try, passing the state's 94% rate.



1st Safest Vocational School in U.S.

Recognized by StateUniversity.com, out of 1,585 colleges and universities, this award is based on FBI campus crime statistics



Chamber of Commerce Bronze Member

Recognized by Piggott Chamber of Commerce President Fallon Winscott, represented by Vice President of Academic Affairs Brad Baine.



7th Best Trap & Skeet Team in U.S.

Recognized by USA College Clay Target League, this award is based on competition scores throughout the season.

QUALITY



BRTC Continues to Maintain the Highest Standards of Quality and Excellence

Black River Technical College (BRTC) continues to uphold its reputation as a distinguished institution of higher education, exemplified by its recent accreditation record. In April 2023, BRTC received full reaffirmation of accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) with no stipulations or monitoring required—a notable achievement among institutions. This outcome highlights the college's commitment to maintaining the highest standards of quality and excellence.

Looking ahead, BRTC's next comprehensive evaluation will take place in the 2028-2029 academic year, with a Multilocation Visit scheduled for 2026-2027. The Multilocation Visit will assess the college's additional locations, which currently total 23, including 16 area high schools. Notable expansions during the 2023-2024 academic year included the addition of JCA Powersports, the GIN, and Hillcrest High School, with Riverside High School formally added in November 2024.



BRTC's exceptional accreditation status, free from the need for monitoring or sanctions, speaks volumes about the institution's dedication to providing high-quality education and upholding its mission to serve students and the community effectively.

-Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness
Sissy Gray

Higher Learning Commission Formally Approves LPN-to-RN Transitional Pathway

The Licensed Practical Nurse-to-Registered Nurse Transitional pathway is a twelve-month program that offers Licensed Practical Nurses and Licensed Vocational Nurses the chance to complete their Registered Nursing degree without retaking Practical Nursing courses. The program enables working Licensed Practical Nurses and Licensed Vocational Nurses to complete their coursework on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Clinical requirements occur on weekends and occasional weekdays.

ACADEMICS

Academics is the heart of an educational institution.

Whether for credit, personal enrichment, or workforce training, BRTC is dedicated to providing exceptional education.

Grand Opening of the G.I.N.



The Generating Innovative Network (G.I.N.) is an innovative entrepreneurial facility located in Paragould that allows BRTC to use the space to offer academic and community education classes.

Grand Opening of BRTC @ the Armory



BRTC hosted BRTC @ the Armory grand opening in October. The armory gives high school students access to a high-wage, high-demand job straight out of high school.

CAREER & TECHNICAL

BRTC's Career & Technical Center prepares high school students for a job immediately after high school.

Students graduate high school AND BRTC at the same time, ready to go to work.

Participating High Schools

- AR Virtual Academy
- Brookland
- Corning
- Greene Co. Tech
- Hillcrest
- Hoxie
- Marmaduke
- Maynard
- Paragould
- Piggott
- Pocahontas
- Rector
- Sloan-Hendrix
- Walnut Ridge

Enrollment & Increases

2022
2023

146

2023
2024

149

- 42% More students enrolled from 2020-2021 to 2023-2024
- 199% Certificates of Proficiencies awarded
- 233% Awarded technical certificates
- 44% College credit hours earned

Programs Offered

Auto Body Collision

Automation

Auto Service

EMT

Industrial Electricity & Electronics

Machine Tool

Nursing Assistant (CNA)

Patient Care Technician

Phlebotomy

Welding



1) Career & Technical (CTC) CNA students Logan Jones, Emily Stout, Madison Bagwell, and Zoey Winspear passed the CNA state certification exam. **2)** CTC Alumna Madison Jones of Walnut Ridge is an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) at ProMed Ambulance Services. **3)** CTC hosted Nucor Corporation as guest speakers and learned about the industrial maintenance apprenticeship program. **4)** CTC student/Piggott High School senior Aaron Mauldin spent the summer working for Legacy Equipment in Piggott.

LEARNING

At BRTC, students learn a variety of information from diverse sources.

One favorite activity BRTC faculty enjoy is bringing in guest speakers. Involving the community in teaching is important at BRTC.

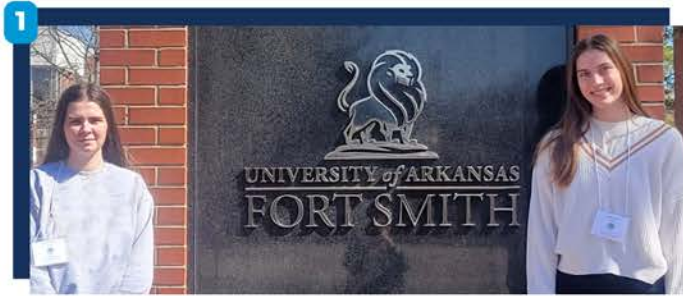


1) BRTC agriculture department hosted University of Arkansas Assistant Professor Dr. Jason Davis at BRTC Paragould to learn about drones in agriculture. 2) BRTC LETA hosted CLEST Director Chris Chapmond and Chief Legal Counsel Eric Wacaster to discuss importance of law enforcement ethics. 3) Fire Science helped the American Military University Cold Case Team recreate a murder scene that had been destroyed by fire. 4) BRTC math department celebrated Pi Day. 5) RN students created study guides on white T-shirts to help them study for tests. 6) Dr. Dianna Fraley's U.S. History Since 1876 class curated the student-led mini-museum "Celebrating Black River Technical College's 50th Anniversary." 7) Allied Health hosted Scary Sim Lab, an interactive haunted house for their students. 8) Phlebotomy students held an Easter egg hunt to help them study for finals.

OUR STUDENTS

At BRTC, we center everything we do around our students.

That's why we offer a variety of learning activities, fun events, and co-curricular opportunities to our students.



1) Phi Theta Kappa students Elizabeth Spinks (left) and Kaleigh Lester (right) accepted 3-Star Chapter Award. **2)** Ashley Stover-Reed was named BRTC's 2023 Academic All-Star.



3) RN student Rebecca Sloan (right) was presented a certificate of appreciation for exemplary work during clinical hours from Emerson Ambulance Services. **4)** Trap and Skeet Club member David Ladd placed 3rd overall in Fall 2023 USA College Clay Target League. **5)** BRTC graduated 10 industrial maintenance technicians. **6)** Six CTC students were offered gainful employment before their high school graduation as a result of the 2023 Be Pro Be Proud Draft Day.



7) BRTC student Mike Fraley traveled to the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis and received an American FFA degree. **8)** Student Gracie Paschal won a PlayStation 5 during BRTC's Esports Extravaganza. **9)** Students enjoyed food and games at the 4th Annual Bucks and Ducks Fall Festival.

GRADUATION

BRTC celebrates graduation!

BRTC is proud to celebrate this important accomplishment with our students and their families.



BRTC has several graduations: Respiratory Care, Nursing, Commencement, LETA, and GED. We are very proud of our students' success!

WORKFORCE TRAINING

BRTC offers a variety of workforce training options.

Providing corporate, community, and custom training is a large part of BRTC's mission to the community.



1) BRTC graduated 13 Paragould Local Electrical Apprentices. 2) BRTC signed MOU with Arkansas Northeastern College to create a steel-making boot camp in Arkansas.

ALUMNI

A BRTC alumnus is any student who completes a credit course.

BRTC is very proud of its alumni. Many have continued their education at a 4-year college and have become essential to their communities.



1) **Nick Alphin of Engelberg** graduated in 2008 with an Associate of Art degree. He and his family own Alphin Farms, a beef cattle and hay operation in Sharp County. He is the 2023 Outstanding Alumni. 2) **Kevin Beaty** graduated in 2013 with a practical nursing degree and now works at the St. Bernard's Five Rivers Infusion Center in Pocahontas. 3) **Megan Coates** graduated with a practical nursing degree in 2011 and an Associate of Applied Science in Nursing in 2013. She works with Beaty at the St. Bernard's Five Rivers Infusion Center in Pocahontas as the Infusion Center Coordinator.

FACULTY & STAFF

BRTC faculty and staff work hard in academic and community pursuits.

Employees not only earn advanced degrees but are invited to join state panels, receive college recognition, and support local efforts.



1) Margo Davis and Michael Guthrey brought home \$4,000 in Career Pathways marketing monies from Shark Tank-style competition. 2) President Martin Eggersperger served as a panelist for Congressman Rick Crawford's PACE event. 3) Francesca Shearer was awarded the Our Community Salutes, General Colin L. Powell Memorial Service Award. 4) Abigail Tyler and Jennifer Hibbard helped develop the Randolph County Junior Auxiliary. 5) Regina Moore presented at the Annual United States Distance Learning Association Conference in Orlando. 6) Daphne Perkins named Fall 2023 commencement speaker.



7) Dr. Martin Eggersperger, Jason Smith, and Sissy Gray presented at Higher Learning Commission conference in Chicago. 8) Jessica Alphin awarded Clinical Educator of the Year at Arkansas Society for Respiratory Care Conference. 9) Dr. Zachary Singleton presented at Ark-Ahead Conference. 10) Jason Linam awarded Practitioner of the Year at Arkansas Society of Respiratory Care Conference.



1) Dr. Brad Baine graduated Arkansas Community Colleges Leadership Institute. 2) Adult Education attended and presented at Association of Adult and Continuing Education Conference. 3) Christina Derbes presented at Association of Nutrition and Food Service Professionals 2023 State Conference. 4) Erin Faulkner and Christina Derbes delivered 12 Thanksgiving baskets to students on both campuses. 5) Kerri Zimmer and Misty Bradley attended Mountain Moot conference in Montana. 6) Erin Mathews named Rotary Assistant District Governor of the Year. 7) Jason Smith honored at Arkansas Student Affairs Association Conference for serving as president.

20 Years of Service



Janna Guthrey
Administrative Assistant
to the President

2023 Outstanding Faculty



Rickie Gunn
Welding
Instructor

2023 Outstanding Staff



Linda Anderson
Business Office
Manager

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

The local community is very important to BRTC.

The college encourages meetings and events on campus and partners with a number of organizations regionally.



1) Career and Technical Center and Concurrent Program Annual Fall Meeting. 2) Black History Month event featuring saxophonist and vocalist Michael Eubanks. 3) Three American Red Cross blood drives. 4) VEX IQ Robotics Camp offered for area sixth and seventh graders. 5) Annual High School Counselor Appreciation Day on Pocahontas campus. 6) 3rd Annual First Horizon Lecture Series featuring George Jared.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS



1) MOU with Five Rivers Shooting Complex to aid BRTC programs. 2) 3rd Annual Randolph County Classic competition for high school FFA clubs. 3) 19th Annual Holocaust Survivor Series with guest speaker Rose-Helene Spreiregen. 4) Regional Career Expo. 5) Stryker attended the 2023 Greene County Fair and presented the winner of the Demolition Derby. 6) Annual Arkansas Dean's Association Conference. 7) Fire Science Chili Cookoff. 8) Nursing and Allied Health Recruitment Fair.

ENROLLMENT & DATA



Fall 2023

1,612

Headcount

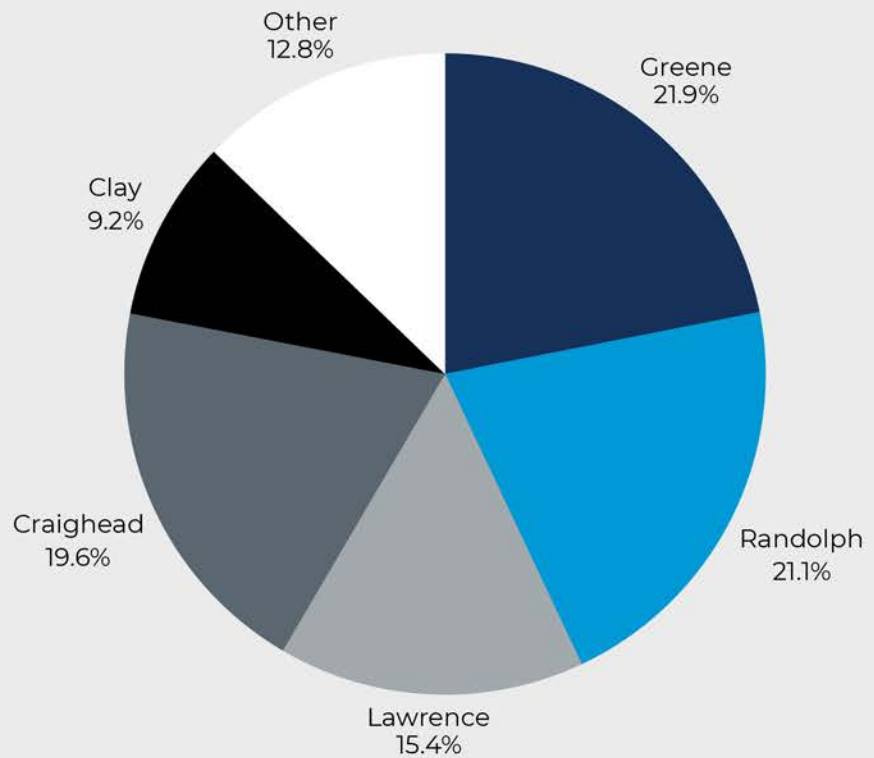


Spring 2024

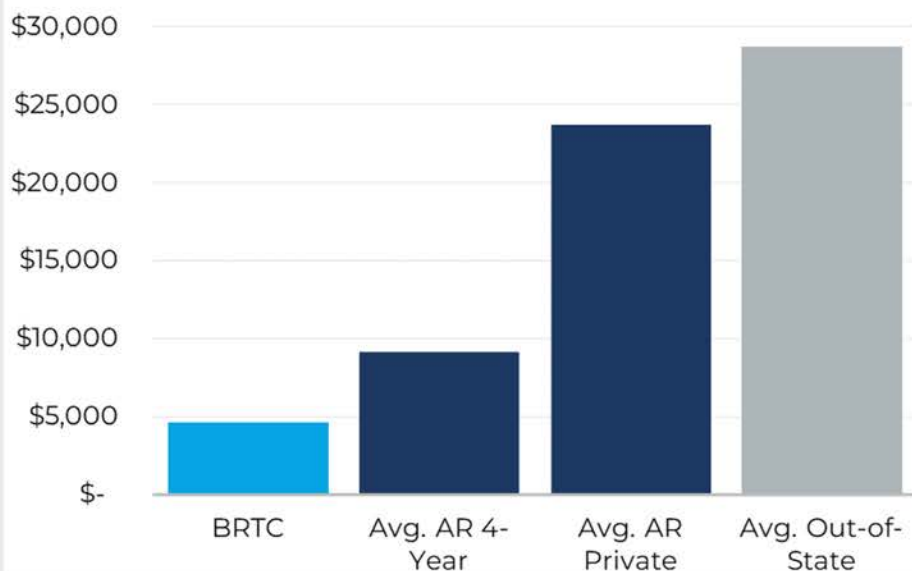
1,456

Headcount

Fall & Spring County of Residence

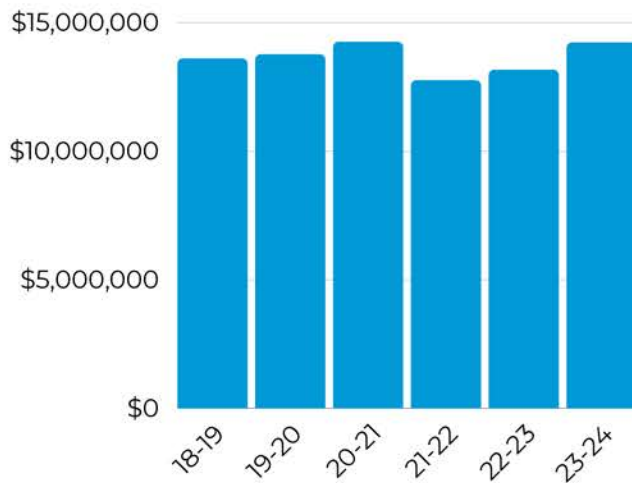


Tuition and Fees

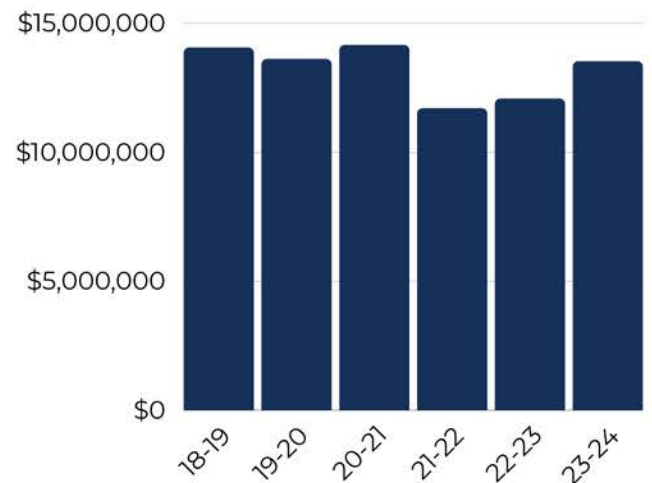
Avg. Salary of
BRTC Associate
Degree Grad**\$49K****BRTC**

COLLEGE FINANCES

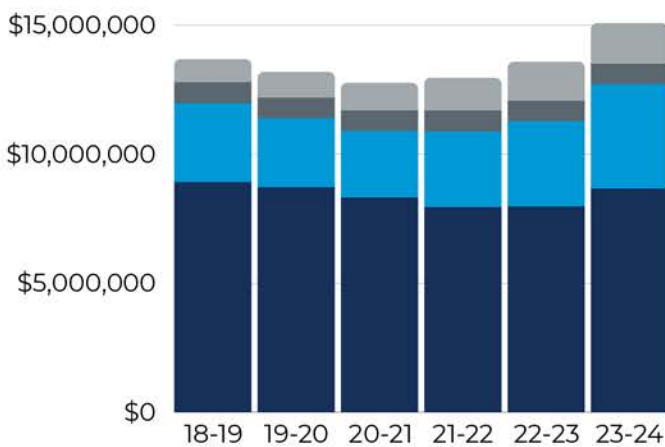
Revenue



Expenses



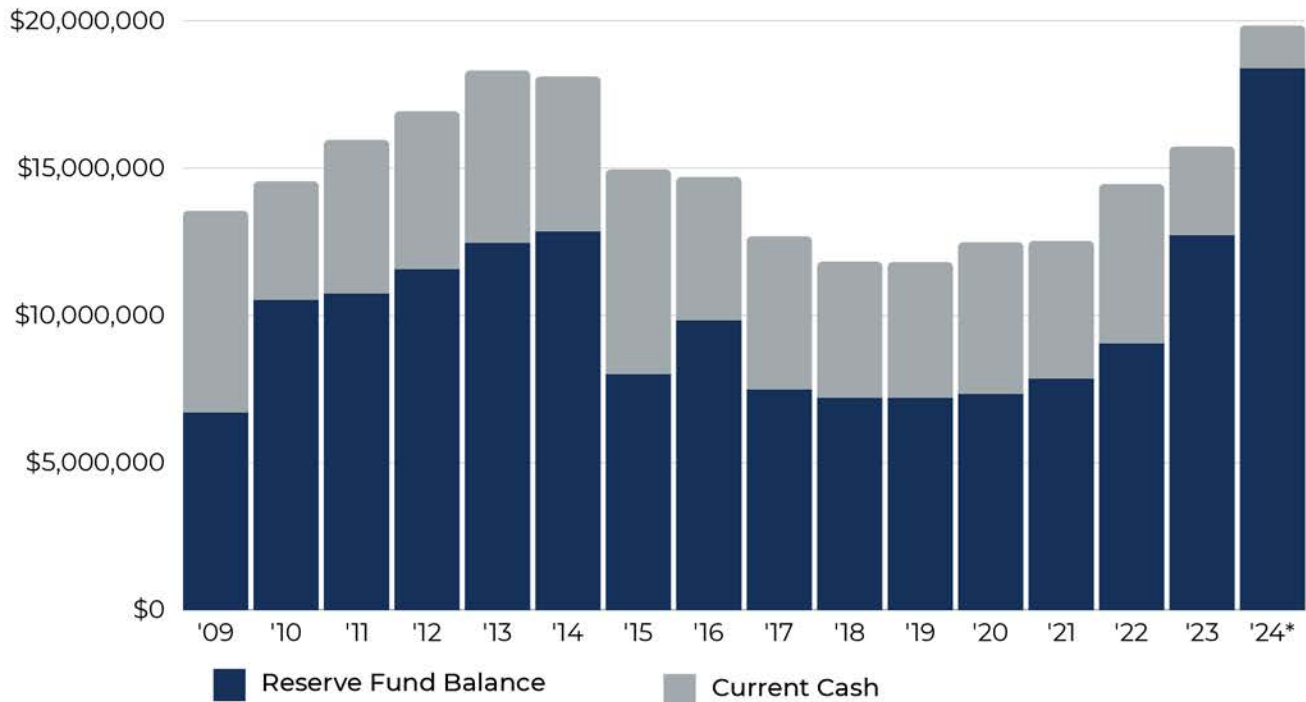
Operating Expenses



BLACK RIVER
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

- Scholarships & Waivers
- Debt Service & Mandatory Transfer
- Maintenance & Operation
- Salaries & Benefits

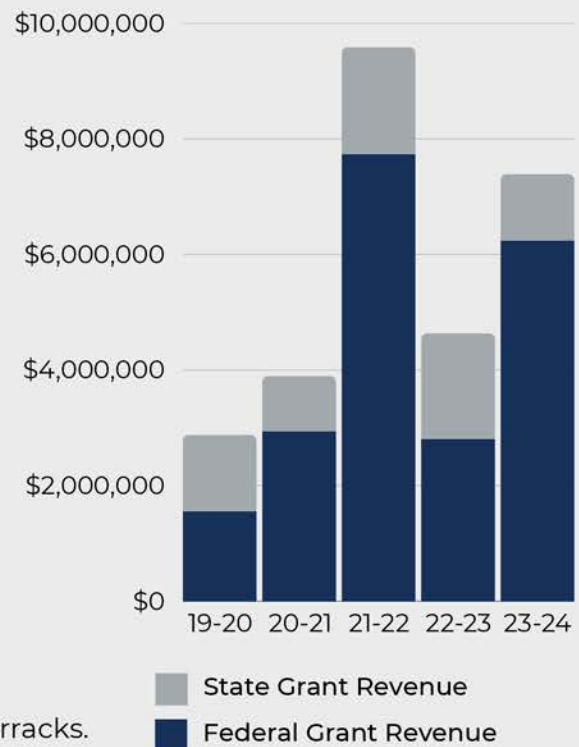
Reserve and Cash Balance



Grant Awards

\$4,7000,000	State of Arkansas and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds from American Rescue Plan for LETA Barracks
\$1,826,242	Career Services and Durable Skills Curriculum grant-funded by Department of Education Title III Grant
\$1,691,519	Allied Health Equitable Recruitment and Retention funded by AR Dept. of Labor
\$499,000	Welding Lab and Classroom funded by DRA SeDAP
\$3,000	MLK Day of Service Mini-Grant

Grant Revenue



*'24 includes \$4.7M for the construction of the barracks.



BRTC

1410 Hwy. 304 East
Pocahontas, Arkansas 72455
(870) 248-4000

1 Black River Drive
Paragould, Arkansas 72450
www.blackrivertech.edu