

By: Senator(s) Hopson, Polk, Frazier,  
Branning, Parker, Robinson

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 3016

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE AID AND SUPPORT OF THE  
2 PUBLIC COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
3 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

5 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
6 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State  
7 General Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the operation and  
8 support of the public community and junior colleges for the fiscal  
9 year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....  
10 .....\$ 218,060,872.00.

11 **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
12 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State  
13 Treasury to the credit of the special funds specified herein to  
14 the Mississippi Community College Board for the operation and  
15 support of the public community and junior colleges for the fiscal  
16 year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....  
17 .....\$ 63,385,786.00.



18           **SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this  
19 act, Sixty-two Million Seven Hundred Eighty-five Thousand Seven  
20 Hundred Eighty-six Dollars (\$62,785,786.00) shall be derived from  
21 funds in the Education Enhancement Fund deposited pursuant to  
22 Sections 27-65-75 and 27-67-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, not  
23 otherwise appropriated, for the operation and support of public  
24 community and junior colleges.

25           **SECTION 4.** The funds provided in this section shall be  
26 allocated for the aid and support of the public and community  
27 junior colleges through the community college support funding  
28 formula and shall be apportioned in accordance with the following  
29 assigned weights:

	<u>Formula Section</u>	<u>FTE</u> <u>Formula</u>
30		
31		
32	(a) Aid to Colleges:	
33	Base	15% prior year
34		appropriation
35	Academic	1.0
36	Technical	1.0
37	(b) Career	1.0
38	(c) Associate Degree	
39	Nursing	1.19
40	(d) Associate Degree	
41	Allied Health	1.19



42 Academic, Technical, Career, Associate Degree Nursing and  
43 Associate Degree Allied Health funds shall be disbursed on the  
44 basis of prior year full-time equivalency (FTE) of hours generated  
45 during the summer, fall and spring semesters for each public  
46 community and junior college student actually enrolled and in  
47 attendance the last day of the sixth week of each semester, or its  
48 equivalent, counting only students who reside within the State of  
49 Mississippi. However, associate degree nursing students who  
50 reside outside the State of Mississippi may be counted for pay  
51 purposes.

52 The Director of the Mississippi Community College Board, or  
53 his designee, shall audit each public community and junior college  
54 and shall determine who shall be counted in each college and shall  
55 certify the number to the Mississippi Community College Board.

56 If, pending determination of the enrollment of students at  
57 the public community and junior colleges entitled to participate  
58 in this appropriation, as provided for in this section, the  
59 Mississippi Community College Board shall find and determine that  
60 any such public or community junior college does not have  
61 sufficient funds on hand for payment of the necessary expenses of  
62 its operation for the period commencing July 1, 2024, until  
63 distribution of the funds appropriated hereby, then, in that  
64 event, the Mississippi Community College Board is expressly  
65 authorized to make an advance to any such public community or  
66 junior college or colleges not having sufficient operating funds



67 for such period from the funds appropriated hereby; provided,  
68 however, that the amount of any such advance to any one (1) public  
69 community or junior college shall not exceed thirty-three percent  
70 (33%) of the amount of state-appropriated funds received by such  
71 public community or junior college during the preceding fiscal  
72 year; and provided, further, that the amount of any such advance  
73 shall be deducted from the pro rata part of the funds appropriated  
74 hereby accruing to said public community or junior college when  
75 enrollment has been ascertained and distribution of funds is made.

76 (a) Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this act, an  
77 amount not to exceed One Hundred Sixty-seven Million Eight  
78 Hundred Eighty-one Thousand Four Hundred Four Dollars  
79 (\$167,881,404.00) is authorized for the aid and support of  
80 the public community colleges to be distributed through  
81 the community college support funding formula.

82 (b) Of the funds provided in Section 3 of this act,  
83 Forty-nine Million Eight Hundred Eighty-four Thousand Nine  
84 Hundred Forty-six Dollars (\$49,884,946.00), or so much as  
85 may be necessary, shall be derived out of any money in the  
86 State Treasury to the credit of the Education Enhancement  
87 Fund and deposited pursuant to Sections 27-65-75 and  
88 27-67-31, Mississippi Code of 1972. These funds are  
89 authorized for the aid and support of the public community  
90 colleges to be distributed through the community college  
91 support funding formula.



92           **SECTION 5.** The following public community and junior  
93 colleges which qualify shall participate in the funds provided  
94 herein:

95           Coahoma Community College, Copiah-Lincoln Community College,  
96 East Central Community College, East Mississippi Community  
97 College, Hinds Community College, Holmes Community College,  
98 Itawamba Community College, Jones County Junior College, Meridian  
99 Community College, Mississippi Delta Community College,  
100 Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Northeast Mississippi  
101 Community College, Northwest Mississippi Community College, Pearl  
102 River Community College, and Southwest Mississippi Community  
103 College.

104           **SECTION 6.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this  
105 act, an amount not to exceed Thirty Million Five Hundred  
106 Ninety-four Thousand Three Hundred Thirty-six Dollars  
107 (\$30,594,336.00) is authorized for the aid of the public community  
108 and junior colleges to fund life and health insurance for all  
109 employees of the public community and junior colleges.

110           The funds allocated in this section shall only be used to  
111 participate in the State and School Employees' Life and Health  
112 Insurance Plan and any funds appropriated in this section for this  
113 purpose, which are not expended during the fiscal year shall be  
114 carried forward for the same purposes during the next succeeding  
115 fiscal year.



116           **SECTION 7.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this  
117 act, Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$600,000.00) shall be derived  
118 out of any money in the State Treasury to the credit of the  
119 Insurance Carryover Fund No. 3295, for the purpose of fully  
120 funding life and health insurance through the State and School  
121 Employees' Life and Health Insurance Plan for all qualified  
122 community and junior college employees.

123           **SECTION 8.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this  
124 act, an amount not to exceed Six Million Seven Hundred Fifty  
125 Thousand Dollars (\$6,750,000.00) shall be used for the purpose of  
126 Workforce and Economic Development Support, including the  
127 operation of the Workforce Development Centers and Advanced  
128 Training Centers, providing start-up costs for new career and  
129 technical programs, and providing the necessary funding to replace  
130 outdated and obsolete equipment for existing career and technical  
131 programs at each of the public community and junior colleges.

132           **SECTION 9.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this  
133 act, One Hundred Seventy-Nine Thousand Fifty Dollars (\$179,050.00)  
134 shall be used for the purpose of defraying the cost of Sign  
135 Language Interpreter Training at the public community and junior  
136 colleges.

137           **SECTION 10.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 and  
138 provided in Section 2 of this act, Ten Million Dollars  
139 (\$10,000,000.00) shall be used by the Mississippi Community  
140 College Board for the purpose of defraying the cost of the



141 Education Technology Program at the public community and junior  
142 colleges and the Mississippi Community College Board. Seven  
143 Million Ninety-nine Thousand One Hundred Sixty Dollars  
144 (\$7,099,160.00) shall be derived from Section 1, and Two Million  
145 Nine Hundred Thousand Eight Hundred Forty Dollars (\$2,900,840.00)  
146 shall be derived from Section 3 of this act out of any money in  
147 the State Treasury to the credit of the Education Enhancement Fund  
148 and deposited pursuant to Sections 27-65-75 and 27-67-31,  
149 Mississippi Code of 1972.

150       **SECTION 11.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this  
151 act, Two Million Five Hundred Fifty-six Thousand Nine Hundred  
152 Twenty-two Dollars (\$2,556,922.00) shall be used for the purpose  
153 of defraying the cost of the Associate Degree Nursing and Allied  
154 Health Programs.

155       **SECTION 12.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this  
156 act, Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000.00) shall be used for the  
157 purpose of continuing the dropout recovery initiative based on a  
158 successful program administered through the adult basic education  
159 program with the Mississippi Community College Board. These funds  
160 shall also be used for the purpose of enrolling low-skill adults  
161 in career pathways that combine high school equivalency, skills  
162 training and workforce credentials in an intensive program that  
163 produces adults who can compete for jobs.

164       Of the funds provided in this section, one-half (1/2) shall  
165 be allocated equally and the remaining one-half (1/2) shall be



166 allocated on the basis of the prior year headcount enrollment in  
167 Adult Education, MIBEST or other career pathway programs.

168 The public community and junior colleges shall prepare and  
169 make available to the Legislature and the Legislative Budget  
170 Office a comprehensive report on the number of dropouts that have  
171 enrolled in a High School Equivalency and/or career program for  
172 each community and junior college during Fiscal Year 2024 on, or  
173 before, August 1, 2025.

174 **SECTION 13.** Of the funds provided in Section 3 of this act,  
175 Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00), or so much thereof as may be  
176 necessary, shall be derived out of any money in the State Treasury  
177 to the credit of the Education Enhancement Fund and deposited  
178 pursuant to Sections 27-65-75 and 27-67-31, Mississippi Code of  
179 1972. These funds shall be used for the Career and Technical  
180 Advantage Program which will provide start-up costs for new career  
181 and technical programs, expansion of existing career and technical  
182 programs, and infrastructure for career and technical program  
183 equipment, lab upgrades, and renovations to sustain the programs  
184 at public community colleges. Fifteen percent (15%) of the funds  
185 appropriated in this section shall be distributed evenly to each  
186 community college. The remaining eighty-five percent (85%) of the  
187 funds shall be distributed on the basis of prior year career and  
188 technical full-time equivalency (FTE) hours generated during the  
189 summer, fall, and spring semesters for each public community  
190 college.





191           **SECTION 14.** In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance  
 192 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of  
 193 the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized  
 194 in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the  
 195 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,  
 196 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted  
 197 performance measures provided below:

198		FY2025
199	<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
200	Instruction	
201	Number of Total Degrees Awarded per 100	
202	FTE Enrollment	32.13
203	Number of Associate Degrees Awarded per	
204	100 FTE Enrollment	17.36
205	Number of Associate of Applied Science	
206	Degrees Awarded per 100 FTE Enrollment	8.76
207	Number of Certificates Awarded per 100	
208	FTE Enrollment	12.80
209	Percent of First-Time Entering,	
210	Part-Time Degree- Seeking Students	
211	(Fall) who Earned 24 Credit Hours by the	
212	End of Year Two	18.01
213	Percent of First-Time Entering,	
214	Full-Time Degree-Seeking Students (Fall)	
215	who Earned 42 Credit Hours by the End	



216	of Year Two	48.54
217	Percent of Associate Degree Nursing and	
218	Practical Nursing Licensure Exam Pass	
219	Rates	94.31
220	Percent of Total Student Success, Which	
221	Includes Graduates, Transfers, and	
222	Retention (Those Still Enrolled)	71.22
223	Percent of Graduates	36.40
224	Percent of Transfers	21.01
225	Percent of Retention	8.06
226	Percent of Students Enrolled in Career/	
227	Technical and Health Science Graduates	23.50
228	Percent of In-State Job Placements of	
229	Career/ Technical and Health Science	
230	Graduates	98.91
231	Number of High School Equivalencies Awarded	2,600
232	A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets	
233	set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the	
234	agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget	
235	Committee for Fiscal Year 2026.	

236       **SECTION 15.** It is the intention of the Legislature that none  
237 of the General Funds appropriated herein shall be expended for the  
238 purpose of paying salaries, wages, and fringe benefits of any  
239 public community and junior college employee who is serving as a  
240 member of the State of Mississippi Legislature.



241           **SECTION 16.** A Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition  
242 (MPACT) program beneficiary shall be considered a Mississippi  
243 resident for the purposes of participating in this appropriation  
244 regardless of the beneficiary's residence on the date of  
245 enrollment, as set out in Section 37-155-5(d)(iii), Mississippi  
246 Code of 1972.

247           **SECTION 17.** It is the intention of the Legislature that none  
248 of the funds provided herein shall be used to pay certain  
249 utilities for state-furnished housing for any employees. Such  
250 utilities shall include electricity, natural gas, butane, propane,  
251 cable and phone services. Where actual cost cannot be determined,  
252 the agency shall be required to provide meters to be in compliance  
253 with legislative intent. Such state-furnished housing shall  
254 include single-family and multifamily residences but shall not  
255 include any dormitory residences. Allowances for such utilities  
256 shall be prohibited.

257           **SECTION 18.** It is the intention of the Legislature that  
258 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the  
259 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things  
260 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,  
261 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind  
262 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to  
263 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are  
264 made without competitive bids.



265           **SECTION 19.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
266 support of the community and junior colleges shall maintain  
267 complete accounting and personnel records related to the  
268 expenditure of all funds appropriated under this act and that such  
269 records shall be in the same format and level of detail as  
270 maintained for Fiscal Year 2024. It is further the intention of  
271 the Legislature that the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year  
272 2026 shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee  
273 in a format and level of detail comparable to the format and level  
274 of detail provided during the Fiscal Year 2025 budget request  
275 process.

276           **SECTION 20.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
277 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with  
278 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency  
279 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their  
280 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally  
281 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for  
282 actions contrary to this provision.

283           **SECTION 21.** The funds disbursed under the provisions of this  
284 act shall be accounted for through the Mississippi Community  
285 College Board. No part of the amount herein appropriated shall be  
286 used by the Mississippi Community College Board for administrative  
287 or other purposes except in the manner and to the extent  
288 authorized in this act making an appropriation for the expenses of  
289 the Mississippi Community College Board.



290           **SECTION 22.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by  
291 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the  
292 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon  
293 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal  
294 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
295 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

296           **SECTION 23.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
297 and after July 1, 2024, and shall stand repealed from and after  
298 June 30, 2024.

