

WHY COMMUNITY COLLEGE AT SOUTHEASTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE?

- Cost – SAVES MONEY \$\$\$
- Scholarship Opportunities and Financial Assistance
- Job Opportunities – College works closely with advisory councils to align education with available jobs in the region
- Athletics – Community colleges increase athletic team options to students
- Faculty/Mentoring – Faculty and Staff are connected to the region and the community and become lifelong mentors that support students after they graduate from college
- Quality – Statistics show that Iowa Community College grads have more success than students of 4-year colleges with nearly 90% staying in Iowa after graduation

PROGRAMS

What are we doing to promote student success and meet community and workforce needs?

Alliance with Iowa Wesleyan University – Southeast Iowa Higher Education Alliance (SIHEA) – Students can begin at SCC, graduate and then receive a transfer scholarship from SCC and then one from IW when they transfer. This program provides much needed financial support, academic opportunities and a student would be able to stay in the region after graduation to continue life here.

Toyota Partnership – SCC will be launching the Toyota TECS Elite program Fall 2022. This program allows SCC students access to industry-recognized certifications that will increase the employability of our students enrolled in the Automotive Technology program. This partnership includes a significant investment by Toyota North America into our program including two late model vehicles, two new scan tools, multiple engines, and curriculum.

Corse Early Childhood Center SCC Learning Lab – SCC students enrolled in the Early Childhood Education program have access to hands-on, work-based learning opportunities by having a dedicated classroom within the Center. Students engaged in instruction with their college professor, and then navigate throughout the Center to engage in authentic learning opportunities in a workplace setting. The Center includes preschool, childcare, and Head Start settings, so SCC students have countless experiences on a daily basis to see the theory they are learning in the classroom put into practice throughout the Center.

Education Programs to address Teacher/Childcare Pipeline Issues – The Early Childhood Education Associate of Applied Science and Elementary Education and Secondary Education Transfer Majors are providing students with hands-on learning opportunities at the community college level to enter onto a career pathway within an

education and/or childcare setting. Each of these three programs provide students with a pathway to educator licensure. The Early Childhood Education AAS also provides students with stackable credentials where they can choose among many stops along a career path including working in a childcare setting, managing and/or owning a childcare facility, or pursuing educator licensure to serve as a licensed elementary or early childhood teacher. These programs have approximately 75 students enrolled currently. Each of these programs also have a 2+2 articulation agreement with our partner, Iowa Wesleyan, so that we can equip future educators with licensure and retain them to southeast Iowa.

Facility Remodels to Shop Facilities – Recently, SCC has utilized state funding to support infrastructure upgrades to the Automotive Collision and Precision Machining & CNC Technology lab facilities. These lab facilities were updated through the investment of just over \$1 million to ensure students have access to state-of-the-art facilities and the latest industry-standard equipment to provide students with modern skills necessary for their success upon entering the workforce.

Short-Term Training Opportunities and Financial Assistance – Southeastern Community College Center for Business offers various short-term training certificates that provide training for a skilled workforce. These programs are often eligible for GAP funding. The Gap Tuition Assistance (GAP) was established as part of the Skilled Worker and Job Creation Fund to provide funding to community colleges for need-based tuition assistance to applicants to enable completion of continuing education certificate training programs for in-demand occupations. In April of 2021 Governor Reynolds release to Community Colleges an additional 2.9 million of Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations ACT to expand the GAP Tuition Assistance program (GEER) which targets the education for in demand short term certificates. At Southeastern Community College these dollars have utilized in the CDL C NA, Industrial Maintenance, Bookkeeping and Phlebotomy certificates. SCC was awarded an additional \$121,000 and trained an additional 38+ students in Fall of 2021.

Industry 4.0 – In response to the Governors “ Seizing the Manufacturing 4.0 Opportunity” the Industry 4.0 Partnership Consortium was put together to support Iowa’s Manufacturers to remain competitive and improve productivity and efficiencies by providing, consultation, education, implementation and access to courses. Partners include Iowa Community Colleges, ABI, IDOE, IEDA, ISU/CIRAS, IWD, PDI and UNI. Various Roundtables have been held across the state to promote the awareness and information regarding Industry 4.0. ISU/CIRAS has led the group in developing a framework for the initial Industry 4.0 Awareness training for Manufacturers program. Pilot programs are to begin January 2022. In addition, monthly Webinars have been put together in Cyber Security, Automation/Robotics and BIG Data. IEDA has provided two funding opportunities Manufacturing Equipment Grants and Manufacturing Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) Infrastructure Investment Grants iowamgf.com/technology-investments program.

Transfer Majors - SCC continues to develop Transfer Majors, two-year academic plans of study that allow students to easily transfer to four-year institutions such as the Iowa Regents universities. SCC has recently added Transfer Majors in Social Work, Fine Arts, and Exercise Science, bringing the total number of available Transfer Majors to 15.

Health –

- Expanding CNA to an additional site (MP Center) which assists prelicensure nursing students and utilizes the alliance between SCC and IWC
- Adding additional continued health education courses (non-credit) such as Emergency Medical Responder to the MP Center

- Expanding existing health programming to the Keokuk campus offering evening and weekend options- Phlebotomy (non-credit/SP 22/evening), Emergency Medical Services (SU 22/evening and weekend), and Medical Assistant Diploma (FL 23)
- Pursuing third party accreditation for the nursing program from National League for Nursing Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation (NLN CNEA) located in Washington, DC
- Utilizing high fidelity simulations and training throughout health programs
- Facilitating the reaccreditation of the EMS, Respiratory Care, and Medical Assistant programs in 2022
- Motivated Student Success Teams in Nursing and the Health Professions programs using the synergy of Student Success Advocates and Health faculty all working directly with students

Partnership with our local Hospital System – Developing a system/process to recruit more students into the nursing programs along with filling other health professions provided by SCC. Scholarships, jobs while going to school, child care and other benefits while working and the promise of an interview at the end of their programming. Licensure testing fees are covered by a major grant that was given to the College for nursing.

Second Chance Pell – Prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic, SCC was approved as the second community college in Iowa to be able to offer Second Chance Pell. SCC launched its Second Chance Pell program during the Fall 2021 semester. Incarcerated individuals at Mount Pleasant Correctional Facility and Iowa State Penitentiary now have access to work toward earning an Associate of Science or Associate of Arts degree from SCC. Additionally, SCC has joined a statewide consortium consisting of community colleges and universities that will provide instruction to incarcerated individuals within correctional facilities in the state of Iowa.

Guided Pathways – SCC has been embarking on the journey of implementing Guided Pathways, which is an institutional model desired to create systemic innovation to improve student retention, completion, and overall student success. SCC obtained multiple grants including a Title III Strengthening Institutions where we were able to hire student success advocates so that each SCC student may now be assigned to an advocate who will provide students with one-on-one guidance as they identify and pursue their academic plans. As part of this work, SCC has streamlined academic pathways, implemented work-based learning, implemented improvements to developmental education, established meta majors, developed an equity scorecard, and established program learning outcomes for all academic programs.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

HOW? Southeastern Community College Foundation

For over 100 years SCC has given our region the Gift of Education. Over the years SCC has grown to meet the ever-changing needs of its student population. The SCC staff, administration, and board of trustees are committed to providing educational opportunities through quality programs. Helping our students develop to their fullest potential as individuals, graduate with a degree and lead meaningful and productive lives.

- 350+ Scholarships
- Century Club – assistance with student retention
- Emergency Retention grants
- Affordable higher education options

- Convenient ways to pursue a degree – multiple campuses, on-line
- Seamless Transfers to 4—year universities
- Fundraising with a purpose – Golf Outings and Auctions that raise money to support our students
- Mini-Grants that support projects and equipment
- SCC is one of the largest employers in the region

The SCC Foundation mission is to help each student make a living, make a life and make a difference and we try and do that every single day.

STUDENT SUCCESS

Here's what our students are saying about PACE/GAP Programs....

Peyton worked with Southeastern Community College's Pathway Navigator to successfully complete the four-week CDL training program in January of 2022 at SCC. Peyton's tuition for the course was funded by GAP. Prior to the course, Peyton had limited job history and was struggling to save the funds to pay for the course. He was looking to acquire skills to obtain employment as a truck driver. He was looking for a position where he could support his wife and new baby that was on the way and knew this would be a field he could acquire work quickly and be sustainable for many years to come. When it came time for testing, SCC was able to partner with Indian Hills Community College to help Peyton test. They were quick and efficient on scheduling a time for the student to take his testing for licensure before his baby was due to arrive later that month.

Once Peyton passed his CDL licensure, PACE assisted with his job searching and career readiness. This included sharpening up his cover letter and resume as well as his interview skills. Peyton has always expressed how grateful he is for the PACE program, his instructors, and everyone who supported him along the way. Moving forward, Peyton started a job at Panama Transfer INC here in Southeast Iowa. Peyton is in training with the company now and is able to work and be home each night with his wife and new baby.

Morgan was a CNA student at the West Burlington campus in October 2021. She came to the PACE program looking for tuition assistance for the Nurse Aide program. She was living with two different relatives, trying to get her life back on track, and needed a full-time job to support herself. She had just started a part time job working with junior high students but really wanted to start a career in the health care field. Morgan loved the CNA program and kept in contact with her Pathway Navigator on a weekly basis. She said, "I was excited that I got the chance to actually get a career when I didn't have the money to. I loved being in Cheryl's class. She taught us so much and explained it when we needed it. And because I was able to do this, I am now going to work in a hospital and be able to keep going up in the nursing field". Morgan is now working in a local hospital as a CNA and living in her own apartment. Her goal is to come back to SCC and achieve her ADN to advance within the nursing field.

Here's what our students are saying about TRIO.....

I joined TRIO in the Spring of 2021, which is in my second semester and freshmen year at Southeastern Community College. I learned through a friend that she was joining TRIO and wanted to as well, without

knowing the benefits it brought when joining. I filled out an application and was soon notified of my acceptance. I then met with two advisors. They were very welcoming. TRIO helped me reach my goals with my academic, athletic, and personal growth. The most helpful benefit that TRIO provided for me is my academic goals. Especially, the transfer process. I was unsure of what I wanted to major in when I transferred to a university. My advisor introduced me to this website that allowed you to “shadow” certain career choices through videos. There was also a lot of information on the website that was useful to my major choice. Additionally, we made goals to what I wanted to accomplish before I left SCC. Lastly, I was able to receive instant help with organizing my classes. When I joined TRIO, I did not know that they were able to register a week early compared to other students. This gave me and anyone else an advantage because I could get into classes before they were full. My advisor also made sure I knew the classes I needed to transfer with. I now know what I want my career and major to be. Also, I have a great GPA because of the goals that I set for myself with help from my advisor. Lastly, I was able to make sure I completed the necessary classes in order to transfer. Being part of TRIO also helped me with my involvement with athletics. I am a part of the women’s soccer team. Despite TRIO having a lot of volunteer opportunities, so did being part of the soccer team. I know I have not been involved in a lot of volunteer activities through TRIO, but I have been with the soccer program. We have volunteered at Notre Dame football games and at the University of Iowa wrestling meets. Being a part of this program also helped me organize my classes around my soccer schedule. If I have practice at two o’clock, I cannot have class during that time. As mentioned above, having that week early registration for classes helped me get into classes so it did not disturb my schedule. Despite enjoying being on the soccer team, I have had a season-ending injury that I am still trying to recover from. The last way TRIO has been helpful is through my personal struggles. Again, I have been having a hard time adjusting to not being able to play soccer. I tore my ACL and had to have surgery. I realized that not being able to play was impacting my mental health. Although I did not go directly to an advisor, the program has mental health packages each semester that helped me. Advisors also have classes that they teach called “college experience.” I could not go to classes because I could not walk. I was struggling in school because I was missing class. Having an advisor as a teacher allowed me to have a weight lift off my shoulders because she was very understanding. I am extremely grateful for the advisors. Overall, being a part of TRIO helped me with my academic, athletic, and personal growth. I mentioned a lot of helpful ways joining the program helped me but there are so many more. There are transfer visits to different universities. Also, there are computers inside that can allow a quiet area to study in. Again, there are so many more that I could take advantage of it. I am extremely grateful to be a part of TRIO at Southeastern Community College.

-Mackenzie K.

In the time I have spent at Southeastern Community College TRIO Student Support Services provided me with a study space, advising, and peer support. TRIO SSS has also helped me develop personal and academic goals I would like to achieve in my time at SCC. I am proud to be part of TRIO SSS TRIO Student Support Services has provided me with a very helpful study space. The study space has eliminated all the distractions I would get in the library. It has also helped eliminate some of my stress levels that have occurred during the semester. I feel like I can complete a lot of assignments in the TRIO Center. TRIO SSS has also helped me with free printing. The free printing has helped me become more organized and have better studying habits and be able to have hard copies of assignments. Since I am a visual learner I like to highlight and underline important information that I need to know for the assignments. I have been able to complete several assignments that way. TRIO SSS advisors have helped me with my personal and academic goals. They have provided me with activities such as the stress management with the counselor that TRIO Support Services has provided. The advisors have also

helped me become better with communicating with my professors and peers. My peers have been able to help motivate me to do better and support me in every decision I make. I have been able to make new friends who have had similar experiences that I have gone through. The TRIO SSS advisors have been there to help me become a better learner and have been very supportive with all my struggles. They have also helped me academically by giving me homework advice especially with writing. My new friends have encouraged me to join and participate in TRIO activities as well as SCC activities. TRIO SSS has also assisted me by helping me use my time wisely and help me maintain the habit of keeping my goals. TRIO SSS has advised me to apply to every scholarship available so that I don't have to borrow money that has to be paid back. "FREE MONEY ONLY!" TRIO SSS has continued to push me to get a higher gpa and be able to complete all my courses to graduate in the spring of 2022. TRIO SSS will also help me transfer to Iowa Wesleyan University to continue my education. TRIO SSS has given me the opportunity to visit IW in person this year.

- Breanne G.

My journey at SCC has been fun, stressful and amazing all at the same time. I came to SCC to get my Associates of Arts degree and to take any courses that will help me transfer into the Secondary English education degree at a four-year college. Coming to SCC was the perfect idea for me but being here has been stressful. I have had a lot of things happen while being at home and out of high school. I live with my dad and little brother so being the only woman in a household and the only person who has ever gone to college is really hard. I had no motivation to do anything. I felt like no one around me even wanted to see me succeed. When I started coming into the TRIO SSS room it made me feel like I had a community that wanted to help me succeed. Being in the program has helped me find groups in the college and outside of the college that want to be there for me and see me grow. At SCC I am a part of the Student Activities Board, Presidential Leadership Academy and of course TRIO SSS. Being in these activities here have helped me find friends that are there for me. The TRIO SSS program has helped me with my academic and personal goals by helping me find things to get involved in, helping me decide where I want to go next, and helping me find a safe place to work on school work with a community around me. The TRIO SSS program helped me find the perfect groups for me. I was really nervous that I would not find a club to join that I would enjoy. I first walked into SCC only knowing a few people that I went to school with in High School. Now that I have been here for almost a year I feel like being in the clubs I am in has helped me find friends. I am in Presidential Leadership Academy, which is a club that allows me to learn all about what it takes to have a leadership position. How I learn is by meeting once a month with the president of the college, his wife, and the other members of the club. During these meetings we hear from the president of the college about how he runs the college and he shows how he runs the college. I did not think I had what it took to be in this club until TRIO SSS encouraged me to apply. Now that I am in the club I feel better about being a leader in my classroom in the future. Another club that I am in is the Student Activities board here at the Keokuk campus. I did not even think about joining this club until TRIO SSS encouraged me to join. Now that I am participating in the activities board I feel more involved in what goes on around the campus. Being in these groups/clubs has helped me keep my academics up because I have found people who I know will help me when I need it. While I am here at SCC I needed to decide where I wanted to go next. Being in TRIO SSS has helped me decide on places that are good options for me. I have gone on all of the transfer visits that TRIO SSS has offered and I have enjoyed getting to explore different colleges that I could go to. The two options that I have right now are the University of Northern Iowa and Culver Stockton. These are my options because I can either move three hours away or stay at home and go to a college forty-five minutes away. TRIO SSS has helped me narrow it down and I know when it gets closer to my graduation they will help me make the final decision. TRIO SSS has also helped me realize all of the classes I will

need to take in order to go to both of these schools. Coming to SCC I was scared that I would not have a place to work on homework safely with a community around me. When I joined TRIO SSS I found that place and that community. Every time I go into the TRIO office I feel that everyone there is there to support me. I work on homework there almost every day. I am never afraid to ask questions even if I feel that they are dumb. I will always get an answer back even if they have to search for the answer. While being in TRIO SSS I have found my group of people that I want to do life with while I am here at SCC. I volunteer at my church every week to watch the children downstairs and I would've never been able to do that if it wasn't for the support from TRIO. I also have helped with the TRIO Day here on the Keokuk campus and by helping I have found people around me that are just like me in certain ways. I have also started volunteering with the Keokuk High School show choir and that has been very beneficial with how I want to teach in the future. In conclusion, being in TRIO SSS has been very beneficial and it has made me realize that academics play a huge part in my life. I have never worked harder in something than how I am right now and that is all thanks to TRIO SSS. I have volunteered more while being in this program and I have been involved as much as I can. I have taken advantage of every opportunity they have given me. Some of the opportunities were stress busters during finals and FAFSA Application help. Being able to participate in these things has helped with my mental health because being able to let out stress during finals is a great thing and not having to stress myself out by trying to figure out the FAFSA form by myself is helpful. TRIO SSS has helped me in significant ways and I will forever be grateful for their support in everything I do.

- Makayla M.

How the TRIO Program Supports My Academic and Personal Goals My journey at SCC at first was really scary for me on the first day of school last Fall. I remembered myself being overwhelmed with the rigorous demands of my college courses as well as trying to balance college with my work at The Kensington in Fort Madison as a caregiver. I was thinking to myself, "What if I don't pass my classes? What if I don't get accepted into the nursing program?" However, with my meeting with Ryan, my academic advisor from the TRIO/SSS Program, he encouraged me to do the best that I can with the classes that I took last Fall, which were very challenging. He also reassured me that new students who come at SCC feel the same way as I did and he is certain that I would be accepted into the nursing program in the future, I just got to think positive and keep on moving forward. Ryan and I also talked about academic goals and one of my goals that he helped me come up with is to maintain a C average in all my classes. So, after the meeting I started to work hard on any assignments that I had and I strictly told my work that I wanted to work as a PRN so I can just pick up shifts whenever I want to on my own schedule. After my first semester I have surpassed this academic goal and I ended up with all A's in all of my classes, including an A- in Statistics In which was a class that I was pretty worried about last semester. Without Ryan's academic advising and his support and confidence in me, I would have probably just given up on myself and as well as my potential. My academic goal right now for this semester is to have a better studying strategy. I felt like last semester I was not studying very effectively in all of my classes so I want to stick with a strategy that best helps me to retain more information proficiently not only this semester, but for upcoming semesters I have to take as well. My most important personal goal of mine is to manage my stress better. I feel like my stress-managing skills are getting better as I finished my first semester of college; however, I am always looking for ways to manage it even further. Whether it would be window shopping at stores, playing with my dog, or taking up a hobby outside of school, I am always looking for something that I could do that could lower my stress levels as well as learn something new in the meantime. One challenge that I have encountered since I started college was that I had to balance school with my work as a caregiver. Caregiving is a tough job, not only I have to think about school, but I also have to think about a person's wellbeing

when I am at work. It is very tiring and depleting when you have to think about both things at the same time. As I move forward with balancing my job and college, I try to pick up hours every month where I don't have as much studying that I have to do for upcoming exams. As I said in the last paragraph, I only worked as a PRN so I could have time studying for my classes without the stress of going to work on certain days of the week. Even though caregiving is a tough job to balance school with, it is very rewarding to see the resident's smiling faces on my shift and it reinforces my career goal of become a nurse. TRIO has really gotten me pretty involved in college visits last Fall. I visited Iowa Wesleyan University and Western Illinois University in which were very good schools but I preferred Iowa Wesleyan University for its transfer alliance with SCC so once I finish my Associate of Applied Science in Nursing and other prerequisite classes that I have to take for the bachelor's degree, I can directly transfer my college credits to Iowa Wesleyan's online RN-BSN program. I also participated in TRIO's FAFSA workshop where I got a lot of help from TRIO advisors with filing the FAFSA for the 2022-2023 school year and it was an easy process. One of the things that I do in my own community in Hancock County, Illinois is that I donate my old clothes and shoes to the Tri-State Family Services in Carthage, Illinois whenever I have the time to collect some of them in my free time. Donating some of my old items to people in need whether it would be food, clothes, or toys in my own community is something that I enjoy doing and what I think more people should be doing in their own communities as well.

- Katherine C.

Some Benefits for Attending A Community College

- Scholarship opportunities – alumni, donors, area businesses, etc. provide a number of scholarship opportunities for area students
- Job opportunities – you are attending a college that works closely with advisory councils. These councils work with the College to align your education with the available jobs in the region.
- Networking/Community – the opportunities are endless to get involved with the College, clubs, sports, activities, etc. The chance to meet and network. Local internship programs with area business get your career started while still in College. Example, IT interns are working with SCC and the hospitals staff.
- Sports – community colleges continue to increase athletic team options. Wrestling, eSports, soccer, track & field, etc. are being added to traditional sports options. These opportunities allow students to continue following their passions while attending College, receive financial assistance with scholarships, personal growth in teamwork in multicultural/diverse environment.
- Faculty/Mentoring – Faculty and staff are connected to the region and community. They become lifelong mentors that support students long after they graduate from the College. Examples include connections to job opportunities, training resources, life skills, personal support and much more.
- Quality – Statistics prove Iowa Community College grads have more success (GPA data) than students that being at a 4-year college.
- Investment – Students investment in community colleges have a positive impact on their region and communities.
- Lifelong learning resources in a comfortable environment – Credit, Non-Credit, Internships, Online, Hybrid, etc.

The article below is titled, 15 Surprising Benefits of Community Colleges. A lot of them we already have...but a good read.

<https://www.collegemagazine.com/15-surprising-benefits-of-attending-community-college/>