

# Southwestern Community College

Sylva, NC



## Financial Statement Audit Report

For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

State Auditor  
Dave Boliek

*A Constitutional Office of the  
State of North Carolina*





North Carolina Office of the State Auditor

Dave Boliek, State Auditor

## Auditor's Transmittal

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The Honorable Josh Stein, Governor  
The Honorable Phil Berger, President Pro Tempore  
The Honorable Destin Hall, Speaker of the House  
Honorable Members of the North Carolina General Assembly  
Board of Trustees, Southwestern Community College  
Dr. Don Tomas, President

Through financial audits of universities and colleges, the North Carolina Office of the State Auditor assesses whether the records prepared by schools are materially correct. Our audit of Southwestern Community College's financial records found that college management did not have adequate internal controls to ensure accurate financial reporting.

We found that bank account reconciliations were not completed between February 2025 and June 2025, resulting in an overstatement of restricted cash by \$230 thousand because a duplicate journal entry was not detected. As of June 30, 2025, these bank accounts held \$10.6 million.

We also found that year-end journal entries totaling approximately \$3.5 million, which were prepared by an external consultant, were not independently reviewed and approved prior to posting. Although no misstatements were identified in these entries, the lack of independent review increased the risk that errors or irregularities could occur and remain undetected.

Control deficiencies increase the risk of errors or fraud, can cause cash management issues, and may lead to increased audit costs. Our team has provided recommendations for Southwestern Community College to strengthen internal controls.

Southwestern Community College leadership has informed our office of actions taken to address the deficiencies identified in this audit, and the College expects to complete full procedural documentation by June 30, 2026. Our office remains committed to assisting Southwestern Community College as it works to fix the issues identified, and we will be following up on progress made.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Boliek  
State Auditor



# REPORT SUMMARY

## Southwestern Community College Financial Statement Audit

The Office of the State Auditor performs financial statement audits<sup>1</sup> at community colleges every two years.

### Audit Results

- The College's financial statements for fiscal year ended June 30, 2025 are **accurate** and **reliable**.
- However, our audit identified an **internal control deficiency over financial reporting**. The finding and recommendation are included in the report along with the College's response.

### Audit Purpose & Importance

Provide an opinion on whether the College's financial statements are materially correct and, if necessary, report any internal control weaknesses or noncompliance with laws and regulations.

The financial statement audit serves a vital role in promoting transparency, accountability, and trust in the College's financial operations.

While a formal process, the audit's impact extends to many members of the public, including:

- Students and families depend on financial stability to support access to quality education, scholarships, and services.
- Citizens and public officials expect responsible reporting of public funds and grants.
- Donors rely on accurate financial reporting to ensure contributions are used as intended.
- Faculty, staff, and administrators count on financial health to sustain programs and long-term planning.
- Accrediting bodies and regulators use audited financial statements to assess compliance and viability.

### Quick Highlights

 **Revenues:**  
**\$34.8 Million**

**Expenses:**  
**\$31.0 Million**  

### Reports

The College's financial statement audit reports are available on our website at this [link](#).

Please review the report to fully understand the College's overall financial health and our reporting responsibilities.

<sup>1</sup> North Carolina General Statute 115D-58.16



# Table of Contents

	Page
Independent Auditor’s Report.....	1
Management’s Discussion and Analysis .....	4
Basic Financial Statements	
Exhibits	
College:	
A-1 Statement of Net Position.....	12
A-2 Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position.....	14
A-3 Statement of Cash Flows.....	15
Discretely Presented Component Unit:	
B-1 Statement of Financial Position .....	17
B-2 Statement of Activities .....	18
Notes to the Financial Statements .....	19
Required Supplementary Information	
C-1 Schedule of the Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Cost-Sharing, Multiple-Employer, Defined Benefit Pension Plan).....	46
C-2 Schedule of College Contributions (Cost-Sharing, Multiple-Employer, Defined Benefit Pension Plan) .....	47
Notes to Required Supplementary Information (Cost-Sharing, Multiple- Employer, Defined Benefit Pension Plan) .....	48
C-3 Schedule of the Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability or Asset (Cost-Sharing, Multiple-Employer, Defined Benefit OPEB Plans) .....	49
C-4 Schedule of College Contributions (Cost-Sharing, Multiple-Employer, Defined Benefit OPEB Plans) .....	51
Notes to Required Supplementary Information (Cost-Sharing, Multiple- Employer, Defined Benefit OPEB Plans) .....	53
Independent Auditor’s Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance With <i>Government Auditing</i> <i>Standards</i> .....	54
Finding, Recommendation, and Response .....	56
Ordering Information.....	59

Chapter 147, Article 5A of the North Carolina General Statutes gives the Auditor broad powers to examine all books, records, files, papers, documents, and financial affairs of every state agency and any organization that receives public funding. The Auditor also has the power to summon people to produce records and to answer questions under oath.



# **Independent Auditor's Report**



North Carolina Office of the State Auditor

Dave Boliek, State Auditor

# Independent Auditor's Report

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Board of Trustees  
Southwestern Community College  
Sylva, North Carolina

## Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

### Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of Southwestern Community College (College), a component unit of the State of North Carolina, and its discretely presented component unit, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the College's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of the other auditors, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of Southwestern Community College, and its discretely presented component unit, as of June 30, 2025, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We did not audit the financial statements of Southwestern Community College Foundation, Inc. (Foundation), the College's discretely presented component unit. Those financial statements were audited by other auditors, whose report thereon has been furnished to us, and our opinions, insofar as they relate to the amounts included for the Foundation, are based solely on the report of the other auditors.

### Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* (GAGAS), issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the College and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

### Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

The College's management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United

States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the College's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and GAGAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and GAGAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the College's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the College's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

## Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis and other required supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

## Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 24, 2026 on our consideration of the College's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the College's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Dave Boliek  
State Auditor

Raleigh, North Carolina

February 24, 2026



# **Management's Discussion and Analysis**

The purpose of this section of Southwestern Community College's (College) financial statements, Management's Discussion and Analysis, is to provide an overview of the financial position and activities of the College for the year ended June 30, 2025.

The Management Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) section:

- Provides a brief discussion of the basic financial statements;
- Includes summary financial information which identifies transactions that have had a significant financial impact;
- Provides an analysis of the College's overall financial position;
- Provides a description of significant capital asset activity during the year; and
- Includes information, facts, decisions and/or conditions that are expected to have a material effect on the College's financial position.

Management's Discussion and Analysis should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and accompanying notes to the financial statements. The financial statements, related notes to the financial statements, and this discussion are the responsibility of management.

### Using the Financial Statements

The College's financial statements are prepared and presented in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) principles.

The financial statements are presented pursuant to the provisions of GASB Statement No. 35, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis*, on a consolidated basis focusing on the College as a whole. The statements are prepared under the accrual basis of accounting, whereby revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recorded when an obligation has been incurred. The Southwestern Community College Foundation, Inc. (Foundation) is reported as a discretely presented component unit based on the nature and significance of its relationship to the College, and discussion of the Foundation is not included in the management discussion and analysis.

Three basic financial statements are included in this report along with the notes to the financial statements and required supplementary information: Statement of Net Position, Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position, and the Statement of Cash Flows.

**Statement of Net Position** - The Statement of Net Position shows, at a point-in-time, the financial position of the College. It includes all assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and net position, and combines current financial resources and capital assets.

**Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position** - The Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position presents the revenues and expenses for the fiscal year, as well as changes in net position. The College's net position (the difference between assets and deferred outflows of resources from liabilities and deferred inflows of resources) serves as an indicator of the financial condition of the College.

**Statement of Cash Flows** - The Statement of Cash Flows reports cash activity (receipts and payments) during the financial period. The information is summarized by different types of activities: operating, capital financing, noncapital financing, and investing and is prepared using the direct method.

**Notes to the Financial Statements** - The notes are an integral component of the basic financial statements and should be read in conjunction with the other statements in order to achieve a fuller understanding of the line-items presented in the financial statements.

### Financial Highlights for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

#### Condensed Statement of Net Position

Below is a condensed comparative analysis between the Statement of Net Position for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025 and the prior fiscal year.

<b>Condensed Statement of Net Position</b>				
	<b>FY2025</b>	<b>FY2024</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>% Difference</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>				
<b>Current Assets</b>	\$ 9,408,072.93	\$ 10,713,920.21	\$ (1,305,847.28)	(12.19)%
<b>Noncurrent Assets</b>				
Capital Assets, Net	55,685,518.36	52,137,882.66	3,547,635.70	6.80%
Other Noncurrent Assets	23,668,240.21	22,739,341.70	928,898.51	4.08%
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>88,761,831.50</u>	<u>85,591,144.57</u>	<u>3,170,686.93</u>	3.70%
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>				
<b>Total Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<u>9,034,442.00</u>	<u>8,448,916.00</u>	<u>585,526.00</u>	6.93%
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	1,363,728.43	1,344,703.22	19,025.21	1.41%
<b>Noncurrent Liabilities</b>				
Long-Term Liabilities	25,135,302.43	24,219,663.12	915,639.31	3.78%
Other Noncurrent Liabilities	854,186.07	636,948.95	217,237.12	34.11%
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>27,353,216.93</u>	<u>26,201,315.29</u>	<u>1,151,901.64</u>	4.40%
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>				
<b>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	<u>3,848,392.00</u>	<u>5,179,062.00</u>	<u>(1,330,670.00)</u>	(25.69)%
<b>NET POSITION</b>				
Net Investment in Capital Assets	55,536,865.51	52,010,976.66	3,525,888.85	6.78%
Restricted	24,523,481.45	24,336,042.22	187,439.23	0.77%
Unrestricted	<u>(13,465,682.39)</u>	<u>(13,687,335.60)</u>	<u>221,653.21</u>	1.62%
<b>Total Net Position</b>	<u>\$ 66,594,664.57</u>	<u>\$ 62,659,683.28</u>	<u>\$ 3,934,981.29</u>	6.28%

The condensed Statement of Net Position reflects the financial position of the College. The College's net position increased \$3,934,981.29 from the previous fiscal year. The majority of the increase is reflected in net investment in capital assets, which increased \$3,525,888.85 primarily due to an increase in construction and the acquisition of machinery and equipment during the fiscal year. This and other changes affecting net position are discussed in the following sections.

**Assets:**

Current Assets - Current assets consist of cash and cash equivalents, inventories, prepaid items, and receivables expected to be collected within the next fiscal year. Current assets decreased by \$1,305,847.28 primarily due to a \$1.8 million decrease in unrestricted cash related to an increase in operating expenses, as discussed below. Increases in current assets were primarily related to receivables, the primary driver of which was a grant receivable from the Golden LEAF Foundation to help fund the College’s dental program.

Noncurrent Assets - Noncurrent assets consist of restricted cash, net other postemployment benefits (OPEB) asset, and capital assets net of accumulated depreciation. Noncurrent assets increased by \$4,476,534.21 primarily due to an increase in restricted cash of \$913,633.72 from the State Capital Infrastructure Funds (SCIF) received for planned capital projects and an increase of \$3,547,635.70 in capital assets. See below for discussion of capital activity.

Capital Assets - Capital assets (land, construction in progress, buildings, machinery and equipment, and general infrastructure) are stated at historical cost, less depreciation. Capital assets, net, totaled \$55,685,518.36 at June 30, 2025.

**Capital Assets, Net**

	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>FY 2024</u>
Capital Assets, Nondepreciable		
Land	\$ 2,628,284.33	\$ 2,628,284.33
Construction In Progress	2,146,744.01	305,310.12
Total Capital Assets, Nondepreciable	<u>4,775,028.34</u>	<u>2,933,594.45</u>
Capital Assets, Depreciable		
Buildings	57,357,495.02	56,761,419.37
Machinery & Equipment	13,576,881.32	11,885,448.17
General Infrastructure	4,635,447.52	4,635,447.52
Right-to-Use Leased Machinery & Equipment	-	603,004.00
Total Capital Assets, Depreciable	<u>75,569,823.86</u>	<u>73,885,319.06</u>
Total	80,344,852.20	76,818,913.51
Less Accumulated Depreciation/Amortization	<u>24,659,333.84</u>	<u>24,681,030.85</u>
Capital Assets, Net	<u>\$ 55,685,518.36</u>	<u>\$ 52,137,882.66</u>

Significant capital activity in the current year consisted of:

- An increase to construction in progress of \$1,841,433.89 primarily due to ongoing projects for the indoor firing range, Public Safety Training Center, Holt Library, and Founders Hall renovation.
- Depreciation and amortization expense for the year ended June 30, 2025 totaled \$1,945,439.16.
- An increase in net machinery and equipment of \$2,066,851.99 primarily relating to the purchase of equipment for the College’s dental programs, new computers for classrooms and staff, classroom audio-visual equipment, and welding equipment.

### Deferred Outflows of Resources:

Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions and OPEB plans totaled \$9,034,442.00, which was a \$585,526.00 increase from the prior year. The increase was primarily due to changes in the actuarial valuations of the plans. For more information on pension and OPEB plans, including actuarial calculations and assumptions, see notes 12 and 13, respectively.

### Liabilities:

Current Liabilities - Current liabilities are comprised of accounts payable, accrued payroll, unearned revenue, funds held for others, and the current portion of long-term liabilities.

Total current liabilities at year-end were \$1,363,728.43. There were no significant changes in current liabilities for fiscal year 2025.

Noncurrent Liabilities - Noncurrent liabilities consist of funds held for others, the noncurrent portion of accrued vacation and bonus leave not expected to be used within the next twelve months, net pension liability, and net OPEB liability. The beginning balance of compensated absences was reduced by \$176,548.66 as part of the GASB Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, restatement. See Note 17 for further information. The net pension liability of \$8,491,438.00 represents the College's pro-rata share of the State's collective Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System net pension liability. Additionally, the College recognized \$16,039,480.00 to reflect its share of the State's net OPEB liability. Total noncurrent liabilities increased by \$1,132,876.43 due principally to a decrease in net pension liability of \$1,406,718, offset by an increase in net OPEB liability of \$2,497,044.00. The changes in net pension and net OPEB liabilities are primarily due to changes in actuarial valuations of the plans. For more information on net pension and net OPEB liabilities, including actuarial calculations and assumptions, see notes 12 and 13, respectively.

### Deferred Inflows of Resources:

Deferred inflows of resources related to pension and OPEB plans totaled \$3,848,392.00, which was a \$1,330,670.00 decrease from the prior year. The decrease is primarily due to changes in actuarial valuations of the plans. For more information on the pension and OPEB plans, and the actuarial calculations and assumptions, see notes 12 and 13, respectively.

### Net Position:

Net position represents the difference between total assets and total deferred outflows of resources from total liabilities and total deferred inflows of resources. Changes in net position are one indicator of whether the College's overall financial condition has improved or declined during the fiscal year.

Total net position at June 30, 2025, was \$66,594,664.57, an increase of \$3,934,981.29 from the prior fiscal year.

For reporting purposes, net position is divided into four categories: net investment in capital assets, restricted nonexpendable, restricted expendable, and unrestricted.

Net Investment in Capital Assets - Net investment in capital assets represents the College's capital assets net of accumulated depreciation/amortization and any outstanding liabilities incurred in the acquisition of capital assets. During fiscal year 2025, \$55,536,865.51 was attributable to the College's net investment in capital assets. See the capital assets section of the discussion for activity impacting net investment in capital assets.

Restricted – Nonexpendable - Nonexpendable restricted net position includes endowments and similar type assets whose use is limited by donors or other outside sources, and as a condition of the gift, the principal is to be maintained in perpetuity. There was no change to restricted nonexpendable net position.

Restricted – Expendable - Expendable restricted net position includes resources for which the College is legally or contractually obligated to spend in accordance with external restrictions. Capital projects increased by \$551,701.41, as funds were expended on several projects. There were no other significant changes to expendable restricted net position categories during the fiscal year.

Unrestricted - Unrestricted net position includes resources derived from student tuition and fees, sales and services, unrestricted gifts, interest income, and pension and OPEB related balances. At June 30, 2025, the deficit in unrestricted net position totaled \$13,465,682.39 and represented an increase of \$221,653.21 from the prior fiscal year. The majority of the change in unrestricted net position was the result of fluctuations in pension and OPEB-related balances and decreases to unrestricted cash, as discussed above.

**Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position**

The activity presented on the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position represents the change in net position. The purpose of this statement is to present the revenues earned by the College, both operating and nonoperating, and the expenses incurred by the College, both operating and nonoperating, and any other revenues, expenses, gains and losses.

## Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position

	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2024</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>% Difference</b>
<b>Operating Revenues</b>				
Student Tuition and Fees, Net	\$ 1,673,941.12	\$ 1,662,061.81	\$ 11,879.31	0.71%
Federal Grants and Contracts	-	157,374.92	(157,374.92)	(100.00)%
State and Local Grants and Contracts	-	10,500.00	(10,500.00)	(100.00)%
Sales and Services, Net	207,659.36	133,329.51	74,329.85	55.75%
Other Operating Revenues, Net	1,017.11	83,177.49	(82,160.38)	(98.78)%
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<b>1,882,617.59</b>	<b>2,046,443.73</b>	<b>(163,826.14)</b>	<b>(8.01)%</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>				
Salaries and Benefits	17,718,506.69	17,016,116.81	702,389.88	4.13%
Supplies and Services	6,578,813.71	5,741,396.12	837,417.59	14.59%
Scholarships and Fellowships	3,914,224.78	2,422,436.40	1,491,788.38	61.58%
Utilities	684,112.85	633,784.39	50,328.46	7.94%
Depreciation/Amortization	1,945,439.16	1,786,935.83	158,503.33	8.87%
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>30,841,097.19</b>	<b>27,600,669.55</b>	<b>3,240,427.64</b>	<b>11.74%</b>
Operating Loss	(28,958,479.60)	(25,554,225.82)	(3,404,253.78)	13.32%
<b>Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)</b>				
State Aid	17,265,317.27	15,064,696.06	2,200,621.21	14.61%
County Appropriations	3,424,083.00	3,138,416.02	285,666.98	9.10%
Student Financial Aid	5,325,902.72	3,843,206.77	1,482,695.95	38.58%
Noncapital Contributions	3,565,380.94	2,257,596.12	1,307,784.82	57.93%
Investment Income	1,299,130.04	685,188.49	613,941.55	89.60%
Other Nonoperating Expenses	(228,913.12)	(57,647.62)	(171,265.50)	297.09%
<b>Net Nonoperating Revenues</b>	<b>30,650,900.85</b>	<b>24,931,455.84</b>	<b>5,719,445.01</b>	<b>22.94%</b>
Income (Loss) Before Other Revenues	1,692,421.25	(622,769.98)	2,315,191.23	371.76%
State Capital Aid	746,414.36	630,497.56	115,916.80	18.38%
County Capital Aid	558,725.89	431,706.76	127,019.13	29.42%
Capital Contributions	760,871.13	21,018,579.70	(20,257,708.57)	(96.38)%
<b>Total Other Revenues</b>	<b>2,066,011.38</b>	<b>22,080,784.02</b>	<b>(20,014,772.64)</b>	<b>(90.64)%</b>
Increase in Net Position	3,758,432.63	21,458,014.04	(17,699,581.41)	(82.48)%
<b>Net Position</b>				
Net Position - Beginning of Year	62,659,683.28	41,201,669.24	21,458,014.04	52.08%
Restatement	176,548.66		176,548.66	
<b>Net Position - End of Year</b>	<b>\$ 66,594,664.57</b>	<b>\$ 62,659,683.28</b>	<b>\$ 3,934,981.29</b>	<b>6.28%</b>
Total Revenues	\$ 34,828,442.94	\$ 49,116,331.21	\$ (14,287,888.27)	(29.09)%
Total Expenses	\$ 31,070,010.31	\$ 27,658,317.17	\$ 3,411,693.14	12.34%

**Operating Revenues** - Operating revenues totaled \$1,882,617.59 and consisted of three areas: net student tuition and fees, sales and services, and other operating revenues. The decrease of \$163,826.14 in operating revenues was primarily due to a decrease in federal and state grants and contracts as the College did not receive any exchange grants during fiscal year 2025.

**Operating Expenses** - Operating expenses represent expenses used to acquire or produce the goods and services provided in return for operating revenues, and to carry out the mission of the College. Operating expenses consist primarily of direct costs of salaries and fringe benefits. Other expenses are for operating activities which are necessary and essential to the mission of the College.

Operating expenses totaled \$30,841,097.19 and consisted of five categories: salaries and benefits, supplies and services, scholarships and fellowships, utilities, and depreciation & amortization expense.

The increase of \$3,240,427.64 was spread among all five categories: salaries and benefits increased by 4.13%, supplies and services by 14.59%, scholarships by 61.58%, utilities by 7.94%, and depreciation/amortization by 8.87%. The overall increase was primarily due to changes in Pell Grant eligibility, which qualified more students for financial aid than in prior years. Other notable increases include an increase to salaries and benefits as the result of legislative raises for faculty and staff, and an increase in supplies and services due to the purchase of noncapitalizable educational equipment, and overall increases in costs due to inflation.

Nonoperating Revenues and Expenses - Nonoperating revenues represent the major portion of the College's revenues. Nonoperating revenues include state funds allocated to the College as well as local county appropriations and other nonoperating funds (e.g., student financial aid, noncapital contributions, and investment income). The state funding allocation is based on the College's full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment formula budget computation from the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges. County appropriations are allocated based upon the College's needs to support the operation and maintenance of facilities.

In fiscal year 2025, net nonoperating revenues increased \$5,719,445.01 primarily due to increases in state aid, student financial aid as discussed above, and noncapital contributions. Though enrollment was flat, the College's state aid increased to assist in covering the cost of faculty and staff salary increases mentioned above and changes to the State's funding model for community colleges. Noncapital contributions increased due to an increase in state and federal pass-through grants and the receipt of a Golden LEAF grant to expand the College's dental programs. Investment income increased \$613,941.55 compared to the prior year due to interest earned during the fiscal year on unexpended SCIF funds.

Other Revenues – Other revenues are considered neither operating nor nonoperating activities and are presented after nonoperating activities on the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position. The College's other revenues consist of state capital aid, county capital aid, and capital contributions.

The decrease of \$20,014,772.64 in the College's other revenues was primarily due to receiving a one-time allocation of \$20,000,000 in SCIF funds during fiscal year 2024.

**The College's Financial Position and Economic Future**

As the College enters a new fiscal year, its position remains strong and well-positioned for continued success. The College's ability to carry out its mission and maintain a solid financial foundation is directly influenced by state, federal, and county support, student enrollment, as well as the availability of financial aid for students.

The State of North Carolina provides the majority of funding for the College through current operating and capital allocations. Most of the funding the College receives from the State is based upon enrollment. The College's state funding for fiscal year 2026 is expected to increase as compared to the current period due to modest enrollment increases.

County appropriations provide funding for the operation and maintenance of College facilities. The level of support the College receives from Jackson, Macon, and Swain counties is critical to its mission and directly impacts the ability to maintain and improve facilities. County appropriations went up in fiscal year 2025 and we hope to see a slight increase in fiscal year 2026 funding.

The College is also making significant progress on updating and adding additional classroom space for our students. There are several on-going capital projects planned for fiscal year 2026. Those projects include the Macon Groves Center expansion, the Public Safety Training Center and Fire/Rescue Burn Building, indoor firing range, Holt Library project, and Founders Hall renovation.

SCIF funds were awarded by the Office of State Budget and Management in 2024 in the amount of \$20 million for two projects. In Macon County, at the Public Safety Training Center, plans are moving forward to build an indoor firing range with multiple lanes, moving target system, intercom communications systems, acoustic controls, classroom, and storage space. The firing range will provide a climate-controlled regional facility for law enforcement agencies to receive initial firearm training and qualify for recertification for use of firearms to protect and serve the citizens. On the Jackson campus, Oaks Hall will be expanded with an addition and renovated to centralize the library on the campus, add faculty office space, and convert the existing library to a small business center and continuing education facility with offices, classrooms, and a dedicated parking area. The College will also receive \$6.1 million dollars from Jackson County to use toward this project.

The College has also been allotted \$5.2 million in SCIF funds that were allocated to North Carolina community colleges over a four-year period. A portion of those funds will be applied to the Founders Hall renovation project, which will renovate space for the Dental Assisting and Dental Hygiene programs. The remainder of these funds will go towards the indoor firing range project. Both projects will also be partially funded with county and institutional funds.

Other potential projects are identified by faculty, staff, and senior administrators. The College President and CFO present these needs to our local government, and this shared approach helps to ensure local needs are identified and met in a timely manner.

As the College continues to evolve to meet the needs of the community, it anticipates growth in state and local funding and student enrollment. The College remains committed to expanding access, strengthening opportunities, providing an innovative learning environment, and sustaining a culture of excellence.



# Financial Statements

**Southwestern Community College**  
**Statement of Net Position**  
**June 30, 2025**

**Exhibit A-1**  
**Page 1 of 2**

**ASSETS**

Current Assets:

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 6,222,313.85
Restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents	1,722,596.18
Receivables, Net (Note 5)	994,690.85
Inventories	114,578.83
Prepaid Items	<u>353,893.22</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u><b>9,408,072.93</b></u>

Noncurrent Assets:

Restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents	23,652,063.21
Net Other Postemployment Benefits Asset	16,177.00
Capital Assets - Nondepreciable (Note 6)	4,775,028.34
Capital Assets - Depreciable, Net (Note 6)	<u>50,910,490.02</u>
<b>Total Noncurrent Assets</b>	<u><b>79,353,758.57</b></u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u><b>88,761,831.50</b></u>

**DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES**

Deferred Outflows Related to Pensions	4,097,489.00
Deferred Outflows Related to Other Postemployment Benefits (Note 13)	<u>4,936,953.00</u>
<b>Total Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<u><b>9,034,442.00</b></u>

**LIABILITIES**

Current Liabilities:

Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities (Note 7)	827,067.17
Unearned Revenue	365,858.66
Funds Held for Others	48,546.60
Long-Term Liabilities - Current Portion (Note 8)	<u>122,256.00</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u><b>1,363,728.43</b></u>

Noncurrent Liabilities:

Funds Held for Others	854,186.07
Long-Term Liabilities (Note 8)	<u>25,135,302.43</u>
<b>Total Noncurrent Liabilities</b>	<u><b>25,989,488.50</b></u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u><b>27,353,216.93</b></u>

**DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES**

Deferred Inflows Related to Pensions	198,856.00
Deferred Inflows Related to Other Postemployment Benefits (Note 13)	<u>3,649,536.00</u>
<b>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	<u><b>3,848,392.00</b></u>

**Southwestern Community College**  
**Statement of Net Position**  
**June 30, 2025**

**Exhibit A-1**  
**Page 2 of 2**

**NET POSITION**

Net Investment in Capital Assets	55,536,865.51
Restricted:	
Nonexpendable:	
Student Financial Aid	25,500.00
Expendable:	
Student Financial Aid	208,834.23
Restricted for Specific Programs	1,492,293.21
Capital Projects	<u>22,796,854.01</u>
Total Restricted-Expendable Net Position	<u>24,497,981.45</u>
Unrestricted	<u>(13,465,682.39)</u>
Total Net Position	<u><u>\$ 66,594,664.57</u></u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**Southwestern Community College  
Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and  
Changes in Net Position  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025**

**Exhibit A-2**

<b>OPERATING REVENUES</b>	
Student Tuition and Fees, Net (Note 10)	\$ 1,673,941.12
Sales and Services, Net (Note 10)	207,659.36
Other Operating Revenues, Net (Note 10)	1,017.11
	<hr/>
Total Operating Revenues	1,882,617.59
	<hr/>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	
Salaries and Benefits	17,718,506.69
Supplies and Services	6,578,813.71
Scholarships and Fellowships	3,914,224.78
Utilities	684,112.85
Depreciation/Amortization	1,945,439.16
	<hr/>
Total Operating Expenses	30,841,097.19
	<hr/>
Operating Loss	(28,958,479.60)
	<hr/>
<b>NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)</b>	
State Aid	17,265,317.27
County Appropriations	3,424,083.00
Student Financial Aid	5,325,902.72
Noncapital Contributions	3,565,380.94
Investment Income	1,299,130.04
Other Nonoperating Expenses	(228,913.12)
	<hr/>
Net Nonoperating Revenues	30,650,900.85
	<hr/>
Income Before Other Revenues	1,692,421.25
	<hr/>
State Capital Aid	746,414.36
County Capital Aid	558,725.89
Capital Contributions	760,871.13
	<hr/>
Total Other Revenues	2,066,011.38
	<hr/>
Increase in Net Position	3,758,432.63
	<hr/>
<b>NET POSITION</b>	
Net Position - July 1, 2024, as Restated (Note 17)	62,836,231.94
	<hr/>
Net Position - June 30, 2025	\$ 66,594,664.57
	<hr/> <hr/>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**Southwestern Community College**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025**

**Exhibit A-3**  
**Page 1 of 2**

**CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

Received from Customers	\$ 1,769,272.84
Payments to Employees and Fringe Benefits	(18,702,349.02)
Payments to Vendors and Suppliers	(7,574,861.13)
Payments for Scholarships and Fellowships	(3,912,450.07)
Other Receipts	251,494.96
	<hr/>
Net Cash Used by Operating Activities	(28,168,892.42)

**CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES**

State Aid	17,265,317.27
County Appropriations	3,424,083.00
Student Financial Aid	5,398,322.89
Noncapital Contributions	3,367,514.80
	<hr/>
Total Cash Provided by Noncapital Financing Activities	29,455,237.96

**CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL FINANCING AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES**

State Capital Aid	747,326.57
County Capital Aid	558,725.89
Capital Contributions	763,902.13
Acquisition and Construction of Capital Assets	(5,574,164.13)
Principal Paid on Lease Liabilities	(126,077.00)
Interest Paid on Lease Liabilities	(3,031.00)
	<hr/>
Net Cash Used by Capital Financing and Related Financing Activities	(3,633,317.54)

**CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES**

Investment Income	1,337,136.74
	<hr/>
Net Decrease in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(1,009,835.26)
Cash and Cash Equivalents - July 1, 2024	32,606,808.50
	<hr/>
Cash and Cash Equivalents - June 30, 2025	\$ 31,596,973.24

**Southwestern Community College**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025**

**Exhibit A-3**  
**Page 2 of 2**

**RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING LOSS TO  
NET CASH USED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

Operating Loss	\$ (28,958,479.60)
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Loss to Net Cash Used by Operating Activities:	
Depreciation/Amortization Expense	1,945,439.16
Changes in Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources:	
Receivables, Net	(12,278.69)
Inventories	(260,295.97)
Prepaid Items	(28,606.66)
Net Other Postemployment Benefits Asset	(16,177.00)
Deferred Outflows Related to Pensions	1,750,896.00
Deferred Outflows Related to Other Postemployment Benefits	(2,336,422.00)
Changes in Liabilities and Deferred Inflows of Resources:	
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	(136,737.84)
Unearned Revenue	(99,606.70)
Funds Held for Others	251,810.31
Net Pension Liability	(1,406,718.00)
Net Other Postemployment Benefits Liability	2,501,924.00
Compensated Absences	(32,969.43)
Deferred Inflows Related to Pensions	(18,648.00)
Deferred Inflows Related to Other Postemployment Benefits	(1,312,022.00)
Net Cash Used by Operating Activities	<u>\$ (28,168,892.42)</u>

**NONCASH INVESTING, CAPITAL, AND FINANCING ACTIVITIES**

Assets Acquired through the Assumption of a Liability	\$ 148,652.85
Loss on Disposal of Capital Assets	(228,913.12)
Increase in Receivables Related to Nonoperating Revenues	192,986.14
Decrease in Net Other Postemployment Benefits Liability Related to Noncapital Contributions	(4,880.00)

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**Southwestern Community College Foundation, Inc.**  
**Statement of Financial Position**  
**June 30, 2025**

**Exhibit B-1**

**ASSETS**

Current Assets:

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,093,401
Contributions Receivable, Net	11,360
	<hr/>
Total Current Assets	1,104,761

Long-Term Assets:

Investments	9,052,553
Contributions Receivable	28,628
	<hr/>
Total Long-Term Assets	9,081,181

Total Assets	<u>\$ 10,185,942</u>
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**LIABILITIES**

Total Liabilities	<u>\$ -</u>
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**NET ASSETS**

Without Donor Restrictions	405,989
With Donor Restrictions	9,779,953
	<hr/>
Total Net Assets	10,185,942

Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 10,185,942</u>
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The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**Southwestern Community College Foundation, Inc.**  
**Statement of Activities**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025**

**Exhibit B-2**

	<u>Without Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>With Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>			
Contributions	\$ 14,540	\$ 446,486	\$ 461,026
Special Events Revenue	-	188,808	188,808
Investment Gains, Net	1,283	1,012,745	1,014,028
Interest Income	35,698	-	35,698
In-Kind Contributions	160,928	-	160,928
	<u>212,449</u>	<u>1,648,039</u>	<u>1,860,488</u>
Total Support			
Net Assets Released from Restrictions by:			
Expenditure	375,974	(375,974)	-
Administration Fees	53,032	(53,032)	-
	<u>641,455</u>	<u>1,219,033</u>	<u>1,860,488</u>
Total Support and Revenue			
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Program Services	340,234	-	340,234
Management and General	92,273	-	92,273
Fundraising	144,322	-	144,322
	<u>576,829</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>576,829</u>
Total Expenses			
Change in Net Assets	64,626	1,219,033	1,283,659
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	341,363	8,560,920	8,902,283
Net Assets at End of Year	<u>\$ 405,989</u>	<u>\$ 9,779,953</u>	<u>\$ 10,185,942</u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.



# Notes to the Financial Statements

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**Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies**


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- A. Financial Reporting Entity** - The concept underlying the definition of the financial reporting entity is that elected officials are accountable to their constituents for their actions. As required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), the financial reporting entity includes both the primary government and all of its component units. An organization other than a primary government serves as a nucleus for a reporting entity when it issues separate financial statements. Southwestern Community College (College) is a component unit of the State of North Carolina and an integral part of the State's *Annual Comprehensive Financial Report*.

The accompanying financial statements present all funds of the College and its component unit for which the College's Board of Trustees is financially accountable. The College's component unit is discretely presented in the College's financial statements. See below for further discussion of the College's component unit. Other related foundations and similar nonprofit corporations for which the College is not financially accountable are not part of the accompanying financial statements.

**Discretely Presented Component Unit** - Southwestern Community College Foundation, Inc. (Foundation) is a legally separate, nonprofit corporation and is reported as a discretely presented component unit based on the nature and significance of its relationship to the College.

The Foundation acts primarily as a fundraising organization to supplement the resources that are available to the College in support of its programs. The Foundation board consists of not less than 13 and no more than 25 elected members. Although the College does not control the timing or amount of receipts from the Foundation, the majority of resources, or income thereon, that the Foundation holds and invests are restricted to the activities of the College by the donors. Because these restricted resources held by the Foundation can only be used by, or for the benefit of the College, the Foundation is considered a component unit of the College and is reported in separate financial statements because of the difference in its reporting model, as described below.

The Foundation is a private nonprofit organization that reports its financial results under the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Codification. As such, certain revenue recognition criteria and presentation features are different from the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) revenue recognition criteria and presentation features. No modifications have been made to the Foundation's financial information in the College's financial reporting entity for these differences.

During the year ended June 30, 2025, the Foundation distributed \$287,297.00 to the College for both restricted and unrestricted purposes. Complete financial statements for the Foundation can be obtained from Evan Hatch, Executive Director for Institutional Advancement, 447 College Drive, Sylva, NC 28799, 828-339-4241.

- B. Basis of Presentation** - The accompanying financial statements are presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). Pursuant to the provisions of

GASB Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements - and Management's Discussion and Analysis - for State and Local Governments*, as amended by GASB Statement No. 35, *Basic Financial Statements - and Management's Discussion and Analysis - for Public Colleges and Universities*, and GASB Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*, the full scope of the College's activities is considered to be a single business-type activity and accordingly, is reported within a single column in the basic financial statements.

- C. Basis of Accounting** - The financial statements of the College have been prepared using the economic resource measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis, revenues are recognized when earned, and expenses are recorded when an obligation has been incurred, regardless of the timing of the cash flows.

Nonexchange transactions, in which the College receives (or gives) value without directly giving (or receiving) equal value in exchange, include state aid, certain grants, and donations. Revenues are recognized, net of estimated uncollectible amounts, as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met, if probable of collection.

- D. Cash and Cash Equivalents** - This classification includes undeposited receipts, petty cash, cash on deposit with private bank accounts, and deposits held by the State Treasurer in the Short-Term Investment Fund (STIF). The STIF maintained by the State Treasurer has the general characteristics of a demand deposit account in that participants may deposit and withdraw cash at any time without prior notice or penalty. The College's equity position in the STIF is recorded at fair value. Additional information regarding the fair value measurement of deposits held by the State Treasurer in the STIF is disclosed in Note 3.

- E. Receivables** - Receivables consist of tuition and fees charged to students and charges for auxiliary enterprises' sales and services. Receivables also include amounts due from the federal government, state and local governments, and private sources in connection with reimbursement of allowable expenditures made pursuant to contracts and grants. Receivables are recorded net of estimated uncollectible amounts.

- F. Inventories** - Inventories, consisting of expendable supplies, are valued at cost using the last invoice cost method.

- G. Capital Assets** - Capital assets are stated at cost at date of acquisition or acquisition value at date of donation in the case of gifts. Donated capital assets acquired prior to July 1, 2015 are stated at fair value as of the date of donation. The value of assets constructed includes all material direct and indirect construction costs.

The College capitalizes assets that have a value or cost of \$5,000 or greater at the date of acquisition and an estimated useful life of more than one year. In addition, grouped acquisitions of machinery and equipment that have an estimated useful life of more than one year but are individually below the \$5,000 threshold are capitalized.

Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets in the following manner:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Estimated Useful Life</u>
Buildings	10-100 years
Machinery and Equipment	2-30 years
General Infrastructure	10-75 years

Right-to-use leased assets are recorded at the present value of payments expected to be made during the lease term, plus any upfront payments and ancillary charges paid to place the underlying right-to-use asset into service. Lease liabilities are capitalized as a right-to-use asset when the underlying leased asset has a cost of \$10,000 or greater and an estimated useful life of more than one year. Subscription liabilities are capitalized as a right-to-use asset when the underlying subscription asset has a cost of \$100,000 or greater and an estimated useful life of more than one year.

Amortization for right-to-use leased assets is computed using the straight-line method over the shorter of the lease term or the underlying asset’s estimated useful life. If a lease agreement contains a purchase option the College is reasonably certain will be exercised, the right-to-use leased asset is amortized over the asset’s estimated useful life.

- H. **Restricted Assets** - Certain resources are reported as restricted assets because restrictions on asset use change the nature or normal understanding of the availability of the asset. Resources that are not available for current operations and are reported as restricted include resources restricted for the acquisition or construction of capital assets, resources whose use is limited by external parties or statute, and endowment and other restricted deposits.
- I. **Accounting and Reporting of Fiduciary Activities** - Pursuant to the provisions of GASB Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*, custodial funds that are normally expected to be received and disbursed within a 3-month period or otherwise do not meet the fiduciary activity criteria defined by GASB Statement No. 84 continue to be reported in the Statement of Net Position as funds held for others and as operating activities in the Statement of Cash Flows.

There are no other trust or custodial funds meeting the criteria of a fiduciary activity that are required to be reported in separate fiduciary fund financial statements.

- J. **Noncurrent Long-Term Liabilities** - Noncurrent long-term liabilities include compensated absences, net pension liability, and net other postemployment benefits (OPEB) liability.

The net pension liability represents the College’s proportionate share of the collective net pension liability reported in the State of North Carolina’s 2024 *Annual Comprehensive Financial Report*. This liability represents the College’s portion of the collective total pension liability less the fiduciary net position of the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System. See Note 12 for further information regarding the College’s policies for recognizing liabilities, expenses, deferred outflows of resources, and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions.

The net OPEB liability represents the College’s proportionate share of the collective net OPEB liability reported in the State of North Carolina’s 2024 *Annual Comprehensive Financial Report*. This liability represents the College’s portion of the collective total OPEB liability less the fiduciary net position of the Retiree Health Benefit Fund. See Note 13 for further

information regarding the College's policies for recognizing liabilities, expenses, deferred outflows of resources, and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB.

- K. Compensated Absences** - The College accrues a liability for earned leave that carries over to future periods and is more likely than not to be used for time off or otherwise paid in cash or settled through noncash means. When determining the liability, leave is considered taken on a last in, first out (LIFO) basis.

**Vacation Leave** – Leave policies vary by employee group. For employees exempt from the State Human Resource Act, vacation is earned through the annual or personal leave programs established by the State Board of Community Colleges. Leave is earned monthly and is subject to a maximum accumulated unused amount as of the end of each calendar year. The maximum amounts and the ability to convert amounts over the maximum to sick leave vary based on the program.

**Bonus Leave** – Bonus leave includes the special annual leave bonuses awarded by the North Carolina General Assembly. The bonus leave balance on December 31 is retained by employees and transferred to the next calendar year. It is not subject to the limitation on annual leave carried forward described above and is not subject to conversion to sick leave.

**Sick Leave** – Sick leave is earned monthly by eligible employees. The policy provides for the accumulation of unused sick leave to be carried forward until used. When employment is terminated, unused leave is forfeited or used to increase a member's creditable service for employees participating in the North Carolina Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System (TSERS). Based on a historical analysis of sick leave taken compared to sick leave earned, the liability for unused sick leave using the LIFO method was determined to be insignificant. Therefore, no sick leave liability is recognized on the financial statements.

- L. Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources** - Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net assets that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense) until then. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until then.

- M. Net Position** - The College's net position is classified as follows:

**Net Investment in Capital Assets** - This represents the College's total investment in capital assets, net of outstanding liabilities related to those capital assets.

**Restricted Net Position - Nonexpendable** - Nonexpendable restricted net position includes endowments and similar type assets whose use is limited by donors or other outside sources, and, as a condition of the gift, the principal is to be maintained in perpetuity.

**Restricted Net Position - Expendable** - Expendable restricted net position includes resources for which the College is legally or contractually obligated to spend in accordance with restrictions imposed by external parties.

**Unrestricted Net Position** - Unrestricted net position includes resources derived from student tuition and fees, sales and services, unrestricted gifts, and interest income. It also includes

the net position of accrued employee benefits such as compensated absences, pension plans, and other postemployment benefits.

Restricted and unrestricted resources are tracked using a fund accounting system and are spent in accordance with established fund authorities. Fund authorities provide rules for the fund activity and are separately established for restricted and unrestricted activities. When both restricted and unrestricted funds are available for expenditure, the decision for funding is transactional based within the departmental management system in place at the College. Both restricted and unrestricted net position include consideration of deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources. See Note 9 for further information regarding deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources that had a significant effect on unrestricted net position.

- N. Scholarship Discounts** - Student tuition and fees revenues from College charges are reported net of scholarship discounts in the accompanying Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position. The scholarship discount is the difference between the actual charge for goods and services provided by the College and the amount that is paid by students or by third parties on the students' behalf. Student financial assistance grants, such as Pell grants, and other federal, state, or nongovernmental programs, are recorded as nonoperating revenues in the accompanying Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position. To the extent that revenues from these programs are used to satisfy tuition, fees, and other charges, the College has recorded a scholarship discount.
- O. Revenue and Expense Recognition** - The College classifies its revenues and expenses as operating or nonoperating in the accompanying Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with the College's principal ongoing operations. Operating revenues include activities that have characteristics of exchange transactions, such as (1) student tuition and fees, (2) sales and services of auxiliary enterprises, and (3) certain federal, state, and local grants and contracts. Operating expenses are all expense transactions incurred other than those related to capital and noncapital financing or investing activities as defined by GASB Statement No. 9, *Reporting Cash Flows of Proprietary and Nonexpendable Trust Funds and Governmental Entities That Use Proprietary Fund Accounting*.
- Nonoperating revenues include activities that have the characteristics of nonexchange transactions. Revenues from nonexchange transactions that represent subsidies or gifts to the College, as well as investment income, are considered nonoperating since these are either investing, capital, or noncapital financing activities. Capital contributions are presented separately after nonoperating revenues and expenses.
- P. County Appropriations** - County appropriations are provided to the College primarily to fund its plant operation and maintenance function and to fund construction projects, motor vehicle purchases, and maintenance of equipment. Unexpended county current appropriations and county capital appropriations do not revert and are available for future use by the College.

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### Note 2 - Deposits and Investments

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**College** - The College is required by North Carolina General Statute 147-77 to deposit any funds collected or received that belong to the State of North Carolina with the State Treasurer or with a depository institution in the name of the State Treasurer. All funds of the College, other than those required to be deposited with the State Treasurer, are deposited in board-designated official depositories and are required to be collateralized in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 115D-58.7. Official depositories may be established with any bank, savings and loan association, or trust company whose principal office is located in North Carolina. Also, the College may establish time deposit accounts, money market accounts, and certificates of deposit. The amount shown on the Statement of Net Position as cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand totaling \$3,030.00, and deposits in private financial institutions with a carrying value of \$11,105,355.04 and a bank balance of \$10,632,468.75.

The North Carolina Administrative Code (20 NCAC 7) requires all depositories to collateralize public deposits in excess of federal depository insurance coverage by using one of two methods, dedicated or pooled. Under the dedicated method, a separate escrow account is established by each depository in the name of each local governmental unit and the responsibility of monitoring collateralization rests with the local unit. Under the pooling method, each depository establishes an escrow account in the name of the State Treasurer to secure all of its public deposits. This method shifts the monitoring responsibility from the local unit to the State Treasurer.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the College's deposits may not be returned to it. As of June 30, 2025, the College's bank balance in excess of federal depository insurance coverage was covered under the pooling method.

The College is authorized to invest idle funds as provided by G.S. 115D-58.6. In accordance with this statute, the College and the Board of Trustees manage investments to ensure they can be converted into cash when needed.

Generally, funds belonging to the College may be invested in any form of investment established or managed by certain investment advisors pursuant to G.S. 115D-58.6(d1) or in the form of investments pursuant to G.S. 159-30(c), as follows: a commingled investment pool established and administered by the State Treasurer pursuant to G.S. 147-69.3 (STIF); obligations of or fully guaranteed by the United States; obligations of the State of North Carolina; bonds and notes of any North Carolina local government or public authority; obligations of certain nonguaranteed federal agencies; prime quality commercial paper bearing specified ratings; specified bills of exchange; certain savings certificates; The North Carolina Capital Management Trust, an SEC registered mutual fund; repurchase agreements; and evidences of ownership of, or fractional undivided interests in, future interest and principal payments on either direct obligations of or fully guaranteed by the United States government, which are held by a specified bank or trust company or any state in the capacity of custodian.

At June 30, 2025, the amount shown on the Statement of Net Position as cash and cash equivalents includes \$20,488,588.20, which represents the College's equity position in the State Treasurer's Short-Term Investment Fund (STIF). The STIF (a portfolio within the State Treasurer's Investment Pool, an external investment pool that is not registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission or subject to any other regulatory oversight and does not have a credit

rating) had a weighted average maturity of 2.1 years as of June 30, 2025. Assets and shares of the STIF are valued at fair value. Deposit and investment risks associated with the State Treasurer's Investment Pool (which includes the State Treasurer's STIF) are included in the North Carolina Department of State Treasurer Investment Programs' separately issued audit report. This separately issued report can be obtained from the Department of State Treasurer, 3200 Atlantic Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27604 or can be accessed from the Department of State Treasurer's website at <https://www.nctreasurer.com/> in the Audited Financial Statements section.

**Component Unit** - Investments of the College's discretely presented component unit, the Foundation, are subject to and restricted by G.S. 36E Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA) and any requirements placed on them by contract or donor agreements. Because the Foundation reports under the FASB reporting model, disclosures of the various investment risks are not required. The following is an analysis of investments by type:

Investment Type	Foundation Investments	Student Success Endowments	Total Investments
Equities	\$ 5,771,664	\$ 565,601	\$ 6,337,265
Fixed Income	2,047,194	481,413	2,528,607
Cash	163,462	23,219	186,681
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,982,320</b>	<b>\$ 1,070,233</b>	<b>\$ 9,052,553</b>

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### Note 3 - Fair Value Measurements

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**College** - To the extent available, the College's investments are recorded at fair value as of June 30, 2025. GASB Statement No. 72, *Fair Value Measurement and Application*, defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. This statement establishes a hierarchy of valuation inputs based on the extent to which the inputs are observable in the marketplace. Inputs are used in applying the various valuation techniques and take into account the assumptions that market participants use to make valuation decisions. Inputs may include price information, credit data, interest and yield curve data, and other factors specific to the financial instrument. Observable inputs reflect market data obtained from independent sources. In contrast, unobservable inputs reflect the entity's assumptions about how market participants would value the financial instrument. Valuation techniques should maximize the use of observable inputs to the extent available.

A financial instrument's level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The following describes the hierarchy of inputs used to measure fair value and the primary valuation methodologies used for financial instruments measured at fair value on a recurring basis:

- Level 1            Investments whose values are based on quoted prices (unadjusted) for identical assets in active markets that a government can access at the measurement date.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

- Level 2 Investments with inputs - other than quoted prices included within Level 1 - that are observable for an asset, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3 Investments classified as Level 3 have unobservable inputs and may require a degree of professional judgment.

**Short-Term Investment Fund** - At year-end, all of the College's investments valued at \$20,488,588.20 were held in the STIF. Ownership interests of the STIF are determined on a fair market valuation basis as of fiscal year end in accordance with the STIF operating procedures. Valuation of the underlying assets is performed by the custodian. Pool investments are measured at fair value in accordance with GASB Statement No. 72. The College's position in the pool is measured and reported at fair value and the STIF is not required to be categorized within the fair value hierarchy.

**Component Unit** - Fair values of the Foundation's assets measured on a recurring basis at June 30, 2025 are as follows:

	Fair Value	Fair Value Measurements Using		
		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Foundation Investments	\$ 7,982,320	\$ 7,982,320	\$ -	\$ -
Student Success Endowment	1,070,233	1,070,233	-	-
Contributions Receivable, Net	39,988	-	-	39,988
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 9,092,541</b>	<b>\$ 9,052,553</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 39,988</b>

Financial assets valued using Level 1 inputs are based on unadjusted quoted market prices within active markets for identical assets.

Financial assets valued using Level 3 inputs are based partially on unobservable inputs.

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### Note 4 - Donor Restricted Endowments

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The College's endowment assets are pooled with state agencies and similar institutions in short-term investments with the State Treasurer's Cash and Investment Pool and are reported as restricted cash and cash equivalents - noncurrent on the accompanying financial statements. If a donor has not provided specific instructions, state law permits the Board of Trustees to authorize for expenditure the net appreciation, realized, and unrealized, of the assets of the endowment funds. Annual payouts from the College's endowment funds are based on an adopted spending policy, which limits spending to 100% of the interest earnings unless the donor has stipulated otherwise. At June 30, 2025, net appreciation of \$5,882.92 was available to be spent, all of which was classified in net position as restricted expendable for student financial aid as it is restricted for specific purposes.

**Note 5 - Receivables**

Receivables at June 30, 2025, were as follows:

	Gross Receivables	Less Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	Net Receivables
<b>Current Receivables:</b>			
Students	\$ 460,063.20	\$ 397,834.63	\$ 62,228.57
Student Sponsors	39,869.75	8,556.00	31,313.75
Accounts	3,915.13	-	3,915.13
Intergovernmental	492,891.45	-	492,891.45
Grant Receivable	354,466.27	-	354,466.27
Other	49,875.68	-	49,875.68
<b>Total Current Receivables</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,401,081.48</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 406,390.63</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 994,690.85</u></b>

**Note 6 - Capital Assets**

A summary of changes in the capital assets for the year ended June 30, 2025, is presented as follows:

	Balance July 1, 2024	Increases	Decreases	Balance June 30, 2025
Capital Assets, Nondepreciable:				
Land	\$ 2,628,284.33	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,628,284.33
Construction in Progress	305,310.12	2,437,509.54	596,075.65	2,146,744.01
<b>Total Capital Assets, Nondepreciable</b>	<b><u>2,933,594.45</u></b>	<b><u>2,437,509.54</u></b>	<b><u>596,075.65</u></b>	<b><u>4,775,028.34</u></b>
Capital Assets, Depreciable:				
Buildings	56,761,419.37	596,075.65	-	57,357,495.02
Machinery and Equipment	11,885,448.17	3,284,478.44	1,593,045.29	13,576,881.32
General Infrastructure	4,635,447.52	-	-	4,635,447.52
Right-to-Use Leased Machinery and Equipment	603,004.00	-	603,004.00	-
<b>Total Capital Assets, Depreciable</b>	<b><u>73,885,319.06</u></b>	<b><u>3,880,554.09</u></b>	<b><u>2,196,049.29</u></b>	<b><u>75,569,823.86</u></b>
Less Accumulated Depreciation/Amortization for:				
Buildings	15,730,063.57	753,068.51	-	16,483,132.08
Machinery and Equipment	6,461,499.51	988,713.33	1,364,132.17	6,086,080.67
General Infrastructure	2,000,780.77	89,340.32	-	2,090,121.09
Right-to-Use Leased Machinery and Equipment	488,687.00	114,317.00	603,004.00	-
<b>Total Accumulated Depreciation/Amortization</b>	<b><u>24,681,030.85</u></b>	<b><u>1,945,439.16</u></b>	<b><u>1,967,136.17</u></b>	<b><u>24,659,333.84</u></b>
<b>Total Capital Assets, Depreciable, Net</b>	<b><u>49,204,288.21</u></b>	<b><u>1,935,114.93</u></b>	<b><u>228,913.12</u></b>	<b><u>50,910,490.02</u></b>
<b>Capital Assets, Net</b>	<b><u>\$ 52,137,882.66</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 4,372,624.47</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 824,988.77</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 55,685,518.36</u></b>

The July 1, 2024 balances of depreciable capital assets and corresponding accumulated depreciation were adjusted to reflect a reclassification among categories made after the end of the prior fiscal year. Total net position was not restated for these items.

## Note 7 - Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities at June 30, 2025, were as follows:

	<u>Amount</u>
<b>Current Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities:</b>	
Accounts Payable	\$ 182,095.56
Accounts Payable - Capital Assets	148,652.85
Accrued Payroll	<u>496,318.76</u>
<b>Total Current Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities</b>	<u><u>\$ 827,067.17</u></u>

## Note 8 - Long-Term Liabilities

A summary of changes in the long-term liabilities for the year ended June 30, 2025, is presented as follows:

	Balance July 1, 2024 (as Restated)	Additions	Reductions	Balance June 30, 2025	Current Portion
Lease Liabilities	\$ 126,077.00	\$ -	\$ 126,077.00	\$ -	\$ -
Compensated Absences	759,609.86	565,114.05	598,083.48	726,640.43	122,256.00
Net Pension Liability	9,898,156.00	-	1,406,718.00	8,491,438.00	-
Net Other Postemployment Benefits Liability	<u>13,542,436.00</u>	<u>2,497,044.00</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,039,480.00</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total Long-Term Liabilities</b>	<u><u>\$ 24,326,278.86</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 3,062,158.05</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,130,878.48</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 25,257,558.43</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 122,256.00</u></u>

Additional information regarding the net pension liability is included in Note 12.

Additional information regarding the net other postemployment benefits liability is included in Note 13.

## Note 9 - Net Position

Unrestricted net position has been significantly affected by transactions resulting from the recognition of deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources, and related long-term liabilities, as shown in the following table:

	<u>Amount</u>
Net Pension Liability and Related Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$ (4,592,805.00)
Net OPEB Liability (Retiree Health Benefit Fund) and Related Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>(14,765,096.00)</u>
Effect on Unrestricted Net Position	(19,357,901.00)
Total Unrestricted Net Position Before Recognition of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Related Long-Term Liabilities	<u>5,892,218.61</u>
<b>Total Unrestricted Net Position</b>	<u><u>\$ (13,465,682.39)</u></u>

See Notes 12 and 13 for detailed information regarding the amortization of the deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources relating to pensions and OPEB, respectively.

## Note 10 - Revenues

A summary of discounts and allowances by revenue classification is presented as follows:

	Gross Revenues	Less Scholarship Discounts and Allowances	Less Allowance for Uncollectibles	Net Revenues
<b>Operating Revenues:</b>				
<b>Student Tuition and Fees, Net</b>	\$ 3,303,985.15	\$ 1,586,456.31	\$ 43,587.72	\$ 1,673,941.12
<b>Sales and Services:</b>				
Sales and Services of Auxiliary Enterprises:				
Food Service & Vending	\$ 101,564.84	-	-	\$ 101,564.84
Bookstore	80,998.41	-	6,495.74	74,502.67
Other	885.85	-	(106.50)	992.35
Sales and Services of Education and Related Activities	30,599.50	-	-	30,599.50
<b>Total Sales and Services, Net</b>	\$ 214,048.60	\$ -	\$ 6,389.24	\$ 207,659.36
<b>Other Operating Revenues, Net</b>	\$ 17,823.17	\$ -	\$ 16,806.06	\$ 1,017.11

## Note 11 - Operating Expenses by Function

The College's operating expenses by functional classification are presented as follows:

	Salaries and Benefits	Supplies and Services	Scholarships and Fellowships	Utilities	Depreciation/ Amortization	Total
Instruction	\$ 9,573,744.54	\$ 1,639,964.81	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,213,709.35
Academic Support	2,291,274.54	1,185,610.29	-	-	-	3,476,884.83
Student Services	2,320,018.49	730,079.26	-	-	-	3,050,097.75
Institutional Support	2,307,921.06	2,177,885.86	-	-	-	4,485,806.92
Operations and Maintenance of Plant	1,166,377.11	845,273.49	-	684,112.85	-	2,695,763.45
Student Financial Aid	59,170.95	-	3,914,224.78	-	-	3,973,395.73
Depreciation/Amortization	-	-	-	-	1,945,439.16	1,945,439.16
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	\$ 17,718,506.69	\$ 6,578,813.71	\$ 3,914,224.78	\$ 684,112.85	\$ 1,945,439.16	\$ 30,841,097.19

## Note 12 - Retirement Plans

### Defined Benefit Plan

*Plan Administration:* The State of North Carolina administers the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System (TSERS) plan. This plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer, defined benefit pension plan established by the State to provide pension benefits for general employees and law enforcement officers (LEOs) of the State, general employees and LEOs of its component units, and employees of Local Education Agencies (LEAs) and charter schools not in the reporting entity. Membership is comprised of employees of the State (state agencies and institutions), universities, community colleges, LEAs, and certain proprietary component units along with charter schools that elect to join the Retirement System. Effective January 1, 2024, new employees hired by UNC Health Care or by certain components of East Carolina University, who were not actively contributing to TSERS immediately before they were hired by those entities, are not eligible to join TSERS. Benefit provisions are established by General Statute 135-5 and may be amended only by the North Carolina General Assembly.

*Benefits Provided:* TSERS provides retirement and survivor benefits. Retirement benefits are determined as 1.82% of the member's average final compensation times the member's years of creditable service. A member's average final compensation is calculated as the average of a member's four highest consecutive years of compensation. General employee plan members are eligible to retire with unreduced retirement benefits at age 65 with five years of membership service, at age 60 with 25 years of creditable service, or at any age with 30 years of creditable service. General employee plan members are eligible to retire with reduced retirement benefits at age 50 with 20 years of creditable service or at age 60 with five years of membership service. Survivor benefits are available to eligible beneficiaries of general members who die while in active service or within 180 days of their last day of service and who also have either completed 20 years of creditable service regardless of age or have completed five years of service and have reached age 60. Eligible beneficiaries may elect to receive a monthly Survivor's Alternate Benefit for life in lieu of the return of the member's contributions that is generally available to beneficiaries of deceased members. The plan does not provide for automatic post-retirement benefit increases.

*Contributions:* Contribution provisions are established by General Statute 135-8 and may be amended only by the North Carolina General Assembly. Plan members are required to contribute 6% of their annual pay. The contribution rate for employers is set each year by the North Carolina General Assembly in the Appropriations Act and may not be less than the contribution rate required of plan members. The TSERS Board of Trustees establishes a funding policy from which an accrued liability rate and a normal contribution rate are developed by the consulting actuary. The sum of those two rates developed under the funding policy is the actuarially determined contribution rate (ADC). The TSERS Board of Trustees may further adopt a contribution rate policy that is higher than the ADC known as the required employer contribution to be recommended to the North Carolina General Assembly. The College's contractually-required contribution rate for the year ended June 30, 2025 was 16.79% of covered payroll. Plan members' contributions to the pension plan were \$688,559.47, and the College's contributions were \$1,926,818.91 for the year ended June 30, 2025.

The TSERS plan's financial information, including all information about the plan's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fiduciary net position, is included in the State of North Carolina's fiscal year 2024 *Annual Comprehensive Financial Report*. An electronic version of this report is available on the North Carolina Office of the State Controller's website at <https://www.ncosc.gov/> or by calling the State Controller's Financial Reporting Section at 919-707-0500.

*TSERS Basis of Accounting:* The financial statements of the TSERS plan are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Plan member contributions are recognized in the period in which the contributions are due. Employer contributions are recognized when due and the employer has a legal requirement to provide the contributions. Benefits and refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of each plan. For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the TSERS plan, and additions to/deductions from the TSERS plan's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by TSERS.

*Methods Used to Value TSERS Investment:* Pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes, the State Treasurer is the custodian and administrator of the retirement systems. The State Treasurer maintains various investment portfolios in its External Investment Pool. TSERS and other pension

plans of the State of North Carolina participate in the Long-Term Investment, Fixed Income Investment, Equity Investment, Real Estate Investment, Alternative Investment, Opportunistic Fixed Income Investment, and Inflation Sensitive Investment portfolios. The Fixed Income Asset Class includes the Long-Term Investment and Fixed Income Investment portfolios. The Global Equity Asset Class includes the Equity Investment portfolio. The investment balance of each pension trust fund represents its share of the fair value of the net position of the various portfolios within the External Investment Pool. Detailed descriptions of the methods and significant assumptions regarding investments of the State Treasurer are provided in the 2024 *Annual Comprehensive Financial Report*.

*Net Pension Liability:* At June 30, 2025, the College reported a liability of \$8,491,438.00 for its proportionate share of the collective net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2024. The total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2023, and update procedures were used to roll forward the total pension liability to June 30, 2024. The College's proportion of the net pension liability was based on a projection of the present value of future salaries for the College relative to the projected present value of future salaries for all participating employers, actuarially-determined. As of June 30, 2024, the College's proportion was 0.05731%, which was a decrease of 0.00206 from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2023, which was 0.05937%.

*Actuarial Assumptions:* The following table presents the actuarial assumptions used to determine the total pension liability for the TSERS plan at the actuarial valuation date:

Valuation Date	12/31/2023
Inflation	2.5%
Salary Increases*	3.25% - 8.05%
Investment Rate of Return**	6.5%

\* Salary increases include 3.25% inflation and productivity factor.

\*\* Investment rate of return includes inflation assumption and is net of pension plan investment expense.

TSERS currently uses mortality tables that vary by age, gender, employee group (i.e., teacher, general, law enforcement officer) and health status (i.e., disabled and healthy). The current mortality rates are based on published tables and based on studies that cover significant portions of the U.S. public plan population. The mortality rates also contain a provision to reflect future mortality improvements.

The actuarial assumptions used in the December 31, 2023 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience review for the period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2019.

Future ad hoc cost-of-living adjustment amounts are not considered to be substantively automatic and are therefore not included in the measurement. The projected long-term investment returns and inflation assumptions are developed through review of current and historical capital markets data, sell-side investment research, consultant whitepapers, and historical performance of investment strategies. Fixed income return projections reflect current yields across the U.S. Treasury yield curve and market expectations of forward yields projected and interpolated for multiple tenors and over multiple year horizons. Global public equity return projections are established through analysis of the equity risk premium and the fixed income

return projections. Other asset categories and strategies' return projections reflect the foregoing and historical data analysis. These projections are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the pension plan's target asset allocation as of June 30, 2024 (the measurement date) are summarized in the following table:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Fixed Income	2.4%
Global Equity	6.9%
Real Estate	6.0%
Alternatives	8.6%
Opportunistic Fixed Income	5.3%
Inflation Sensitive	4.3%

The information in the preceding table is based on 30-year expectations developed with an investment consulting firm. The long-term nominal rates of return underlying the real rates of return are arithmetic annual figures. The real rates of return are calculated from nominal rates by multiplicatively subtracting a long-term inflation assumption of 2.38%. Return projections do not include any excess return expectations over benchmark averages for public markets. All rates of return and inflation are annual amounts. The long-term expected real rate of return for the Bond Index Investment Pool as of June 30, 2024 is 2.76%.

*Discount Rate:* The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 6.5% for the December 31, 2023 valuation. The discount rate is in line with the long-term nominal expected return on pension plan investments. The calculation of the net pension liability is a present value calculation of the future net pension payments. These net pension payments assume that contributions from plan members will be made at the current statutory contribution rate and that contributions from employers will be made at the contractually required rates, actuarially determined. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of the current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

*Sensitivity of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate:* The following presents the net pension liability of the plan at June 30, 2024 calculated using the discount rate of 6.5%, as well as what the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (5.5%) or 1-percentage-point higher (7.5%) than the current rate:

<u>Net Pension Liability</u>		
	Current	
1% Decrease (5.5%)	Discount Rate (6.5%)	1% Increase (7.5%)
\$ 15,576,602.00	\$ 8,491,438.00	\$ 2,648,683.00

*Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions:* For the year ended June 30, 2025, the College recognized pension expense of \$2,248,938.00. At June 30, 2025, the College reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to TSERS from the following sources:

**Employer Balances of Deferred Outflows of Resources  
and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions by Classification:**

	<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>	<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>
Difference Between Actual and Expected Experience	\$ 765,226.00	\$ 25,102.00
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Earnings on Pension Plan Investments	1,400,198.00	-
Change in Proportion and Differences Between Employer's Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	5,246.09	173,754.00
Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	<u>1,926,818.91</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u><u>\$ 4,097,489.00</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 198,856.00</u></u>

The amount reported as deferred outflows of resources related to contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to TSERS will be recognized as pension expense as follows:

**Schedule of the Net Amount of the Employer's  
Balances of Deferred Outflows of Resources and  
Deferred Inflows of Resources That will be Recognized  
in Pension Expense:**

<u>Year Ending June 30:</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2026	\$ 559,141.00
2027	1,598,766.00
2028	(36,212.00)
2029	<u>(149,880.91)</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u><u>\$ 1,971,814.09</u></u>

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**Note 13 - Other Postemployment Benefits**

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The College participates in two postemployment benefit plans, the Retiree Health Benefit Fund and the Disability Income Plan of North Carolina, that are administered by the State of North Carolina as pension and other employee benefit trust funds. Each plan's financial information, including all information about the plans' assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fiduciary net position, is included in the State of North Carolina's fiscal year 2024 *Annual Comprehensive Financial Report*. An electronic version of this report is available on the North Carolina Office of the State Controller's website at <https://www.ncosc.gov/> or by calling the State Controller's Financial Reporting Section at 919-707-0500.

### A. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Plan Asset Matters

*Basis of Accounting:* The financial statements of these plans were prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Employer contributions are recognized when due and the employer has made a formal commitment to provide the contributions. Benefits are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of each plan. For purposes of measuring the net other postemployment benefits (OPEB) liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB, and OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of each plan, and additions to/deductions from each plans' fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the plans.

*Methods Used to Value Plan Investments:* Pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes, the State Treasurer is the custodian and administrator of the other postemployment benefit funds. The State Treasurer maintains various investment portfolios in its External Investment Pool. The Retiree Health Benefit Fund participates in the External Investment Pool. The Disability Income Plan is invested in the Short-Term Investment Portfolio of the External Investment Pool and the Bond Index External Investment Pool. Detailed descriptions of the methods and significant assumptions regarding investments of the State Treasurer are provided in the 2024 *Annual Comprehensive Financial Report*.

### B. Plan Descriptions

#### 1. Health Benefits

*Plan Administration:* The State of North Carolina administers the North Carolina State Health Plan for Teachers and State Employees, referred to as the State Health Plan (the Plan), a healthcare plan exclusively for the benefit of employees of the State, the University of North Carolina System, community colleges, and certain other component units. In addition, Local Education Agencies (LEAs), charter schools, and some select local governments that are not part of the State's financial reporting entity also participate. Health benefit programs and premium rates are determined by the State Treasurer upon approval of the Plan Board of Trustees.

The Retiree Health Benefit Fund (RHBF) has been established by Chapter 135-7, Article 1 of the General Statutes as a fund to provide health benefits to retired and disabled employees and their applicable beneficiaries. RHBF is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer, defined benefit healthcare plan, exclusively for the benefit of former employees of the State, the University of North Carolina System, and community colleges. In addition, LEAs, charter schools, and some select local governments that are not part of the State's financial reporting entity also participate.

By statute, RHBF is administered by the Board of Trustees of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System (TSERS). RHBF is supported by a percent of payroll contribution from participating employing units. Each year the percentage is set in legislation, as are the maximum per retiree contributions from RHBF to the Plan. The State Treasurer, with the approval of the Plan Board of Trustees, then sets the employer contributions (subject to the legislative cap) and the premiums to be paid by retirees, as well as the health benefits to be provided through the Plan.

*Benefits Provided:* Plan benefits received by retired employees and disabled employees from RHBF are OPEB. The healthcare benefits for retired and disabled employees who are not eligible for Medicare are the same as for active employees as described in Note 14. The plan options change when the former employees become eligible for Medicare. The benefits provided include medical and pharmacy coverage for employees and their dependents. Non-Medicare eligible members have two self-funded options administered by the Plan while Medicare members have three options, including one self-funded option and two fully-insured Medicare Advantage/Prescription Drug Plan options. Self-funded medical and pharmacy claims costs are shared between the covered member and the Plan. If the self-funded plan is elected by a Medicare eligible member, the coverage is secondary to Medicare. Fully-insured claims include cost sharing from covered members with the remaining balance paid by the fully-insured carrier.

Those former employees who are eligible to receive medical benefits from RHBF are long-term disability beneficiaries of the Disability Income Plan of North Carolina and retirees of TSERS, the Consolidated Judicial Retirement System (CJRS), the Legislative Retirement System (LRS), the University Employees' Optional Retirement Program (ORP), and a small number of local governments, with five or more years of contributory membership service in their retirement system prior to disability or retirement, with the following exceptions: for employees first hired on or after October 1, 2006, and members of the North Carolina General Assembly first taking office on or after February 1, 2007, future coverage as retired employees and retired members of the North Carolina General Assembly is subject to the requirement that the future retiree have 20 or more years of retirement service credit in order to receive coverage on a noncontributory basis. Employees first hired on or after October 1, 2006 and members of the North Carolina General Assembly first taking office on or after February 1, 2007 with 10 but less than 20 years of retirement service credit are eligible for coverage on a partially contributory basis. For such future retirees, the State will pay 50% of the Plan's total noncontributory premium. Employees first hired on or after October 1, 2006 and members of the North Carolina General Assembly first taking office on or after February 1, 2007 with five but less than 10 years of retirement service credit are eligible for coverage on a fully contributory basis.

Section 35.21 (c) & (d) of Session Law 2017-57 repealed retiree medical benefits for employees first hired on or after January 1, 2021. The legislation amended Chapter 135, Article 3B of the General Statutes to require that retirees must earn contributory retirement service in the TSERS (or in an allowed local system unit), CJRS, or LRS prior to January 1, 2021, and not withdraw that service, in order to be eligible for retiree medical benefits under the amended law. Consequently, members first hired on and after January 1, 2021 will not be eligible to receive retiree medical benefits.

RHBF's benefit and contribution provisions are established by Chapter 135-7, Article 1, and Chapter 135, Article 3B of the General Statutes and may be amended only by the North Carolina General Assembly. RHBF does not provide for automatic post-retirement benefit increases.

*Contributions:* Contribution rates to RHBF, which are intended to finance benefits and administrative expenses on a pay-as-you-go basis, are determined by the North Carolina

General Assembly in the Appropriations Act. The College's contractually-required contribution rate for the year ended June 30, 2025 was 6.99% of covered payroll. The College's contributions to the RHBF were \$802,171.78 for the year ended June 30, 2025.

In fiscal year 2023, the Plan transferred \$35 million to RHBF as a result of cost savings to the Plan over a span of six years. For financial reporting purposes, the transfer was recognized as a nonemployer contributing entity contribution. The contribution was allocated among the RHBF employers and recorded as noncapital contributions. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, the College recognized noncapital contributions for RHBF of \$4,880.00.

### 2. Disability Income

*Plan Administration:* As discussed in Note 14, short-term and long-term disability benefits are provided through the Disability Income Plan of North Carolina (DIPNC), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit plan, to the eligible members of TSERS which includes employees of the State, the University of North Carolina System, community colleges, certain participating component units and LEAs which are not part of the State's reporting entity, and the University Employees' ORP. By statute, DIPNC is administered by the Department of State Treasurer and the Board of Trustees of TSERS.

*Benefits Provided:* Long-term disability benefits are payable as an OPEB from DIPNC after the conclusion of the short-term disability period or after salary continuation payments cease, whichever is later, while the employee is disabled and does not meet the TSERS conditions for unreduced service retirement. An employee is eligible to receive long-term disability benefits provided the following requirements are met: (1) the employee has five or more years of contributing membership service in TSERS or the University Employees' ORP, earned within 96 months prior to becoming disabled or cessation of salary continuation payments, whichever is later; (2) the employee must make application to receive long-term benefits within 180 days after the conclusion of the short-term disability period or after salary continuation payments cease or after monthly payments for Workers' Compensation cease (excluding monthly payments for permanent partial benefits), whichever is later; (3) the employee must be certified by the Medical Board to be mentally or physically disabled for the further performance of his/her usual occupation; (4) the disability must have been continuous, likely to be permanent, and incurred at the time of active employment; (5) the employee must not be eligible to receive an unreduced retirement benefit from TSERS; and (6) the employee must terminate employment as a permanent, full-time employee. A general employee is eligible to receive an unreduced retirement benefit from TSERS after: (1) reaching the age of 65 and completing five years of membership service; (2) reaching the age of 60 and completing 25 years of creditable service; or (3) completing 30 years of creditable service, at any age.

For employees who had five or more years of membership service as of July 31, 2007, during the first 36 months of the long-term disability period, the monthly long-term disability benefit is equal to 65% of one-twelfth of an employee's annual base rate of compensation last payable to the participant or beneficiary prior to the beginning of the short-term disability period, plus the like percentage of one-twelfth of the annual longevity payment and local supplements to which the participant or beneficiary would

be eligible. The monthly benefits are subject to a maximum of \$3,900 per month reduced by any primary Social Security disability benefits, by an amount equal to the monthly primary Social Security retirement benefit to which the employee might be entitled should the employee be at least age 62, and by monthly payments for Workers' Compensation to which the participant or beneficiary may be entitled, but the benefits payable shall be no less than \$10 a month. After the first 36 months of the long-term disability, the long-term benefit is calculated in the same manner as described above except the monthly benefit is reduced by an amount equal to a monthly primary Social Security disability benefit to which the participant or beneficiary might be entitled had Social Security disability benefits been awarded. When an employee qualifies for an unreduced service retirement allowance from TSERS, the benefits payable from DIPNC will cease, and the employee will commence retirement under TSERS or the University Employees' ORP.

For employees who had less than five years of membership service as of July 31, 2007, and meet the requirements for long-term disability on or after August 1, 2007, benefits are calculated in the same manner as described above except that after the first 36 months of the long-term disability, no further long-term disability benefits are payable unless the employee has been approved and is in receipt of primary Social Security disability benefits.

Benefit and contribution provisions are established by Chapter 135, Article 6, of the General Statutes and may be amended only by the North Carolina General Assembly. The plan does not provide for automatic post-retirement benefit increases.

*Contributions:* Disability income benefits are funded by actuarially determined employer contributions that are established in the Appropriations Act by the North Carolina General Assembly and coincide with the State's fiscal year. The College's contractually-required contribution rate for the year ended June 30, 2025 was 0.13% of covered payroll. The College's contributions to DIPNC were \$14,918.79 for the year ended June 30, 2025.

### C. Net OPEB Liability (Asset)

*Retiree Health Benefit Fund:* At June 30, 2025, the College reported a liability of \$16,039,480.00 for its proportionate share of the collective net OPEB liability for RHBF. The net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2024. The total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2023, and update procedures were used to roll forward the total OPEB liability to June 30, 2024. The College's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on a projection of the present value of future salaries for the College relative to the projected present value of future salaries for all participating employers, actuarially-determined. As of June 30, 2024, the College's proportion was 0.04716%, which was a decrease of 0.00361 from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2023, which was 0.05077%.

*Disability Income Plan of North Carolina:* At June 30, 2025, the College reported an asset of \$16,177.00 for its proportionate share of the collective net OPEB asset for DIPNC. The net OPEB asset was measured as of June 30, 2024. The total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB asset was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2023, and

## Notes to the Financial Statements

update procedures were used to roll forward the total OPEB liability to June 30, 2024. The College's proportion of the net OPEB asset was based on a projection of the present value of future salaries for the College relative to the projected present value of future salaries for all participating employers, actuarially-determined. As of June 30, 2024, the College's proportion was 0.04913%, which was a decrease of 0.00157 from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2023, which was 0.05070%.

*Actuarial Assumptions:* The total OPEB liabilities for RHBF and DIPNC were determined by actuarial valuations as of December 31, 2023, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement, unless otherwise specified. The total OPEB liabilities were then rolled forward to June 30, 2024 utilizing update procedures incorporating the actuarial assumptions.

	Retiree Health Benefit Fund	Disability Income Plan of N.C.
Valuation Date	12/31/2023	12/31/2023
Inflation	2.5%	2.5%
Salary Increases*	3.25% - 8.05%	3.25% - 8.05%
Investment Rate of Return**	6.5%	3.0%
Healthcare Cost Trend Rate - Medical***	6.5% grading down to 5% by 2030	N/A
Healthcare Cost Trend Rate - Prescription Drug***	10% grading down to 5% by 2033	N/A
Healthcare Cost Trend Rate - Prescription Drug Rebates***	7% through 2030 grading down to 5% by 2033	N/A
Healthcare Cost Trend Rate - Medicare Advantage***	Premium adjustments for IRA impact through 2027, 6.17% in 2028 down to 5% by 2034	N/A
Healthcare Cost Trend Rate - Administrative***	3.0%	N/A

\* Salary increases include 3.25% inflation and productivity factor.

\*\* Investment rate of return is net of OPEB plan investment expense, including inflation.

\*\*\* Disability Income Plan of NC eliminated employer reimbursements from the Plan (which included State Health Plan premiums) effective July 1, 2019.

N/A - Not Applicable

The OPEB plans currently use mortality tables that vary by age, gender, employee group (i.e., teacher, other educational employee, general employee, or law enforcement officer) and health status (i.e., disabled or not disabled). The current mortality rates are based on published tables and studies that cover significant portions of the U.S. public plan population. The healthy mortality rates also contain a provision to reflect future mortality improvements.

The projected long-term investment returns and inflation assumptions are developed through review of current and historical capital markets data, sell-side investment research, consultant whitepapers, and historical performance of investment strategies. Fixed income

return projections reflect current yields across the U.S. Treasury yield curve and market expectations of forward yields projected and interpolated for multiple tenors and over multiple year horizons. Global public equity return projections are established through analysis of the equity risk premium and the fixed income return projections. Other asset categories and strategies' return projections reflect the foregoing and historical data analysis. These projections are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. DIPNC is primarily invested in the Bond Index Investment Pool as of June 30, 2024.

Best estimates of real rates of return for each major asset class included in RHBF's target asset allocation as of June 30, 2024 (the measurement date) are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Fixed Income	2.4%
Global Equity	6.9%
Real Estate	6.0%
Alternatives	8.6%
Opportunistic Fixed Income	5.3%
Inflation Sensitive	4.3%

The information in the preceding table is based on 30-year expectations developed with an investment consulting firm. The long-term nominal rates of return underlying the real rates of return are arithmetic annual figures. The real rates of return are calculated from nominal rates by multiplicatively subtracting a long-term inflation assumption of 2.38%. Return projections do not include any excess return expectations over benchmark averages for public markets. All rates of return and inflation are annual amounts. The long-term expected real rate of return for the Bond Index Investment Pool as of June 30, 2024 is 2.76%.

Actuarial valuations of the plans involve estimates of the value of reported amounts and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future. The results of the valuations fluctuate from year to year as actual experience differs from assumptions. This includes demographic experiences (i.e., mortality and retirement) that differ from expected. This also includes financial experiences (i.e., member medical costs and contributions) that vary from expected trends. Actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual revision as actual results are compared to past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

The actuarial assumptions used for RHBF are consistent with those used to value the pension benefits of TSERS where appropriate. These assumptions are based on the most recent pension valuations available. The discount rate used for RHBF reflects a pay-as-you-go approach.

Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes of the plans are based on the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the employer and plan members) and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation and the historical pattern of sharing

of benefit costs between the employer and plan members to that point. The RHBF is funded solely by employer contributions and benefits are dependent on membership requirements.

The actuarial methods and assumptions used for DIPNC include techniques that are designed to reduce the effects of short-term volatility in actuarial accrued liabilities and the actuarial value of assets, consistent with the long-term perspective of the calculations.

The actuarial assumptions used in the December 31, 2023 valuations were generally based on the results of an actuarial experience study prepared as of December 31, 2019, as amended for updates to certain assumptions (such as medical claims and medical trend rate assumptions) implemented based on annual reviews that have occurred since that experience study.

*Discount Rate:* The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability for RHBF was 3.93% at June 30, 2024 compared to 3.65% at June 30, 2023. The projection of cash flow used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from employers would be made at the current statutorily determined contribution rate. Based on the above assumptions, the plan’s fiduciary net position was not projected to be available to make projected future benefit payments to current plan members. As a result, a municipal bond rate of 3.93% was used as the discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability. The 3.93% rate is based on the Bond Buyer 20-year General Obligation Index as of June 30, 2024.

The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability for DIPNC was 3.00% at June 30, 2024 and at June 30, 2023. The projection of cash flow used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members would be made at the current contribution rate and that contributions from employers would be made at statutorily required rates, actuarially determined. Based on those assumptions, the plan’s fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to the current plan members.

*Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset) to Changes in the Discount Rate:* The following presents the College’s proportionate share of the net OPEB liability (asset) of the plans, as well as what each plans’ net OPEB liability (asset) would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current discount rate:

<b>Net OPEB Liability (Asset)</b>			
	1% Decrease (2.93%)	Current Discount Rate (3.93%)	1% Increase (4.93%)
RHBF	\$ 19,083,850.00	\$ 16,039,480.00	\$ 13,596,662.00
	1% Decrease (2.00%)	Current Discount Rate (3.00%)	1% Increase (4.00%)
DIPNC	\$ (14,424.00)	\$ (16,177.00)	\$ (18,018.00)

*Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rates:* The following presents the net OPEB liability of the plans, as well as what the plans' net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current healthcare cost trend rates:

<b>Net OPEB Liability</b>			
	1% Decrease (Medical - 4% - 5.5%, Pharmacy - 4% - 9%, Pharmacy Rebate - 4% - 6%, Med. Advantage - 4% - 5.17%, Administrative - 2%)	Current Healthcare Cost Trend Rates (Medical - 5% - 6.5%, Pharmacy - 5% - 10%, Pharmacy Rebate - 5% - 7%, Med. Advantage - 5% - 6.17%, Administrative - 3%)	1% Increase (Medical - 6% - 7.5%, Pharmacy - 6% - 11%, Pharmacy Rebate - 6% - 8%, Med. Advantage - 6% - 7.17%, Administrative - 4%)
RHBF	\$ 13,240,147.00	\$ 16,039,480.00	\$ 19,666,038.00

The sensitivity to changes in the healthcare cost trend rates is not applicable for DIPNC.

*OPEB Expense:* For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, the College recognized OPEB expense as follows:

<u>OPEB Plan</u>	<u>Amount</u>
RHBF	\$ (357,257.00)
DIPNC	10,689.00
<b>Total OPEB Expense</b>	<b>\$ (346,568.00)</b>

*Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB:* At June 30, 2025, the College reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

<b>Employer Balances of Deferred Outflows of Resources Related to OPEB by Classification:</b>			
	<u>RHBF</u>	<u>DIPNC</u>	<u>Total</u>
Differences Between Actual and Expected Experience	\$ 130,731.00	\$ 6,522.00	\$ 137,253.00
Changes of Assumptions	3,862,962.00	241.00	3,863,203.00
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Earnings on OPEB Plan Investments	68,732.00	12,700.00	81,432.00
Change in Proportion and Differences Between Employer's Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	33,179.22	4,795.21	37,974.43
Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	802,171.78	14,918.79	817,090.57
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,897,776.00</b>	<b>\$ 39,177.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,936,953.00</b>

**Employer Balances of Deferred Inflows of Resources  
Related to OPEB by Classification:**

	<u>RHBF</u>	<u>DIPNC</u>	<u>Total</u>
Differences Between Actual and Expected Experience	\$ -	\$ 18,607.00	\$ 18,607.00
Changes of Assumptions	2,091,221.00	7,537.00	2,098,758.00
Change in Proportion and Differences Between Employer's Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	<u>1,532,171.00</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,532,171.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$ 3,623,392.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 26,144.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 3,649,536.00</u></b>

Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources related to contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability related to RHBF and an increase of the net OPEB asset related to DIPNC in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized as OPEB expense as follows:

**Schedule of the Net Amount of the Employer's  
Balances of Deferred Outflows of Resources and  
Deferred Inflows of Resources That will be Recognized  
in OPEB Expense:**

<u>Year Ending June 30:</u>	<u>RHBF</u>	<u>DIPNC</u>
2026	\$ (782,376.00)	\$ (4,392.00)
2027	4,121.00	(3,096.00)
2028	699,463.00	3,135.00
2029	551,004.22	1,700.00
2030	<u>-</u>	<u>767.21</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$ 472,212.22</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (1,885.79)</u></b>

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**Note 14 - Risk Management**

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The College is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. These exposures to loss are handled via a combination of methods, including participation in state-administered insurance programs, purchase of commercial insurance, and self-retention of certain risks. There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage from the previous year and settled claims have not exceeded coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

**A. Public Entity Risk Pool**

**State Public Education Property Insurance Fund**

Fire and other property losses are covered by the State Public Education Property Insurance Fund (Fund), a state-administered public entity risk pool. The Fund is financed by premiums and interest collected through membership participation and retains a \$10,000,000 deductible per occurrence. Reinsurance is purchased by the Fund to cover catastrophic

events in excess of the \$10,000,000 deductible. Membership insured property is covered under an all risk coverage contract. Each member selects the deductible that will be applicable to their losses, and this deductible ranges from \$1,000 to \$5,000. Building and contents are valued under a replacement cost basis. No coinsurance penalties apply.

## **B. Employee Benefit Plans**

### **1. State Health Plan**

College employees are provided comprehensive major medical care benefits. Coverage is funded by contributions to the State Health Plan (Plan), a discretely presented component unit of the State of North Carolina. The Plan is funded by employer and employee contributions. The Plan has contracted with third parties to process claims. See Note 13, Other Postemployment Benefits, for additional information regarding retiree health benefits.

### **2. Death Benefit Plan of North Carolina**

Term life insurance (death benefits) of \$25,000 to \$50,000 is provided to eligible workers who enroll in the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System. This Death Benefit Plan is administered by the State Treasurer and funded via employer contributions. The employer contribution rate was 0.13% for the current fiscal year.

### **3. Disability Income Plan**

Short-term and long-term disability benefits are provided to College employees through the Disability Income Plan of North Carolina (DIPNC), part of the State's Pension and Other Employee Benefit Trust Funds. Short-term benefits are paid by the College for up to twelve months. The Board of Trustees of the DIPNC may extend the short-term disability benefits for up to an additional twelve months. During the extended period of short-term disability benefits, payments are made directly by the DIPNC to the beneficiary. As discussed in Note 13, long-term disability benefits are payable as other postemployment benefits from DIPNC after the conclusion of the short-term disability period or after salary continuation payments cease, whichever is later, for as long as an employee is disabled.

## **C. Other Risk Management and Insurance Activities**

### **1. Automobile Insurance**

State-owned vehicles are covered by liability insurance through a private insurance company and handled by the Office of State Fire Marshal within the North Carolina Department of Insurance. The liability limits for losses are \$1,000,000 per claim and \$10,000,000 per occurrence. The College pays premiums to the Office of State Fire Marshal for the coverage. Liability insurance for other College-owned vehicles is covered by contracts with private insurance companies.

### **2. Public Officers' and Employees' Liability Insurance**

The risk of tort claims of up to \$1,000,000 per claimant is retained under the authority of the State Tort Claims Act. In addition, the State provides excess public officers' and

employees' liability insurance up to \$2,000,000 per claim and \$5,000,000 in the aggregate per fiscal year via contract with private insurance companies. The North Carolina Community College System Office pays the premium, based on a composite rate, directly to the private insurer.

### **3. Employee Dishonesty and Computer Fraud**

The College is protected for losses from employee dishonesty and computer fraud for employees paid in whole or in part from state funds. This coverage is with a private insurance company and is handled by the North Carolina Department of Insurance. The North Carolina Community College System Office is charged a premium by the private insurance company. Coverage limit is \$5,000,000 per occurrence. The private insurance company pays 90% of each loss less a \$100,000 deductible. Employee dishonesty insurance for employees paid from non-state funds is purchased from Auto-Owners Insurance with coverage of \$50,000 per occurrence less a \$500 deductible.

### **4. Statewide Workers' Compensation Program**

The State Board of Community Colleges makes the necessary arrangements to carry out the provisions of the Workers' Compensation Act which are applicable to employees whose wages are paid in whole or in part from state funds. The College purchases workers' compensation insurance for employees whose salaries or wages are paid by the Board in whole or in part from county or institutional funds.

Additional details on the state-administered risk management programs are disclosed in the State's *Annual Comprehensive Financial Report*, issued by the Office of the State Controller.

### **5. Other Insurance Held by the College**

The College purchased other authorized coverage from private insurance companies through the North Carolina Department of Insurance for institutionally owned vehicles and equipment, as well as additional educator's legal liability insurance, student medical malpractice insurance for students enrolled in health science programs working at clinical sites, liability insurance for cosmetology students, cyber data security, and liability insurance for incidents which could arise at the College's law enforcement firearms training range.

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#### **Note 15 - Commitments**

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The College has established an encumbrance system to track its outstanding commitments on purchases. Outstanding commitments on purchases were \$285,257.75 at June 30, 2025.

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**Note 16 - Changes in Financial Accounting and Reporting**

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For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, the College implemented the following pronouncements issued by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB):

*GASB Statement No. 101, Compensated Absences*

*GASB Statement No. 102, Certain Risk Disclosures*

GASB Statement No. 101 updates the recognition, measurement, and disclosure requirements for compensated absences. This Statement supersedes GASB Statement No. 16, *Accounting for Compensated Absences*, which was issued in 1992, and aims to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by aligning the recognition and measurement guidance under a unified model and by amending certain previously required disclosures. The unified recognition and measurement model in this Statement will result in a liability for compensated absences that more appropriately reflects when a government incurs an obligation. In addition, the model can be applied consistently to any type of compensated absence and will eliminate potential comparability issues between governments that offer different types of leave. Lastly, the model also will result in a more robust estimate of the amount of compensated absences that a government will pay or settle, which will enhance the relevance and reliability of information about the liability for compensated absences.

GASB Statement No. 102 improves financial reporting by providing users of financial statements with essential information about risks related to a government’s vulnerabilities due to certain concentrations or constraints. This Statement defines a *concentration* as a lack of diversity related to an aspect of a significant inflow of resources or outflow of resources. A *constraint* is a limitation imposed on a government by an external party or by formal action of the government’s highest level of decision-making authority. The disclosures will provide users with timely information regarding certain concentrations or constraints and related events that have occurred or have begun to occur that make a government vulnerable to a substantial impact.

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**Note 17 - Net Position Restatement**

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As of July 1, 2024, net position as previously reported was restated as follows:

	<u>Amount</u>
July 1, 2024 Net Position as Previously Reported	\$ 62,659,683.28
Restatement:	
Implementation of GASB Statement No. 101	<u>176,548.66</u>
<b>July 1, 2024 Net Position as Restated</b>	<u><u>\$ 62,836,231.94</u></u>



# **Required Supplementary Information**

**Southwestern Community College  
Required Supplementary Information  
Schedule of the Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability  
Cost-Sharing, Multiple-Employer, Defined Benefit Pension Plan  
Last Ten Fiscal Years\***

**Exhibit C-1**

<b>Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Proportionate Share Percentage of Collective Net Pension Liability	0.05731%	0.05937%	0.06257%	0.06299%	0.06412%
Proportionate Share of TSERS Collective Net Pension Liability	\$ 8,491,438.00	\$ 9,898,156.00	\$ 9,286,788.00	\$ 2,949,570.00	\$ 7,746,976.00
Covered Payroll	\$ 10,922,416.05	\$ 10,907,422.67	\$ 10,862,231.01	\$ 10,393,800.54	\$ 10,283,744.21
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	77.74%	90.75%	85.50%	28.38%	75.33%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	85.35%	82.97%	84.14%	94.86%	85.98%
	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
Proportionate Share Percentage of Collective Net Pension Liability	0.06841%	0.07020%	0.07014%	0.07051%	0.07201%
Proportionate Share of TSERS Collective Net Pension Liability	\$ 7,092,035.00	\$ 6,989,174.00	\$ 5,565,217.00	\$ 6,480,597.00	\$ 2,653,711.00
Covered Payroll	\$ 10,417,718.88	\$ 10,470,105.55	\$ 10,320,848.89	\$ 9,777,483.21	\$ 9,705,872.47
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	68.08%	66.75%	53.92%	66.28%	27.34%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	87.56%	87.61%	89.51%	87.32%	94.64%

Note: Information is presented for all years that were measured in accordance with the requirements of GASB Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions - An Amendment of GASB Statement No. 27*, as amended.

\* The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the prior fiscal year ended June 30.

**Southwestern Community College  
Required Supplementary Information  
Schedule of College Contributions  
Cost-Sharing, Multiple-Employer, Defined Benefit Pension Plan  
Last Ten Fiscal Years**

**Exhibit C-2**

<b>Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 1,926,818.91	\$ 1,926,714.19	\$ 1,895,710.06	\$ 1,779,233.44	\$ 1,536,203.72
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Determined Contribution	1,926,818.91	1,926,714.19	1,895,710.06	1,779,233.44	1,536,203.72
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Covered Payroll	\$ 11,475,991.12	\$ 10,922,416.05	\$ 10,907,422.67	\$ 10,862,231.01	\$ 10,393,800.54
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	16.79%	17.64%	17.38%	16.38%	14.78%
	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 1,333,801.62	\$ 1,280,337.65	\$ 1,128,677.38	\$ 1,030,020.72	\$ 894,639.71
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Determined Contribution	1,333,801.62	1,280,337.65	1,128,677.38	1,030,020.72	894,639.71
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Covered Payroll	\$ 10,283,744.21	\$ 10,417,718.88	\$ 10,470,105.55	\$ 10,320,848.89	\$ 9,777,483.21
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	12.97%	12.29%	10.78%	9.98%	9.15%

Note: Changes of benefit terms, methods, and assumptions are presented in the Notes to Required Supplementary Information (RSI) schedule following the pension RSI tables.

**Southwestern Community College  
Notes to Required Supplementary Information  
Schedule of College Contributions  
Cost-Sharing, Multiple-Employer, Defined Benefit Pension Plan  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025**

*Changes of Benefit Terms:*

	<u>Cost of Living Increase</u>									
<b>Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System</b>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.00%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Beginning in fiscal year 2015, with the implementation of GASB Statement No. 68, the above table reflects Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) in the period of the legislative session or Board of Trustees meeting when it was passed. The COLA is effective as of July 1 of that period and the fiscal year end plan liability is affected at June 30 of that year because the COLA is included in the actuarial assumptions used to calculate the plan net pension liability.

Effective July 1, 2017, the definition of law enforcement officer related to TSERS members was changed by the General Assembly to include Probation/Parole officers for retirement benefit purposes. The change includes officers with respect to service rendered on or after July 1, 2017, and provides for unretired retirement at age 55 with five years of service as a law enforcement officer or reduced retirement at age 50 with 15 years of service as a law enforcement officer.

Effective July 1, 2017, retirees and beneficiaries of deceased retirees receiving benefits from the TSERS as of July 1, 2016, received a 1% cost-of-living adjustment. Retirees and beneficiaries of retirees with retirement effective dates between July 1, 2016 and before June 30, 2017 received a prorated amount. These benefit enhancements reflect legislation enacted by the North Carolina General Assembly.

In December 2021 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, retirees and beneficiaries of deceased retirees receiving benefits from the TSERS as of September 1, 2021, received a one-time cost-of-living supplement payment, equal to 2% of the beneficiary's annual retirement allowance.

Benefit recipients of the TSERS received a one-time benefit supplement payment equal to 4% of the member's annual benefit amount, paid in October 2022, as granted by the North Carolina General Assembly for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. The one-time supplement does not change the ongoing monthly benefits, and absent additional action by governing authorities, the payments will not recur in future years.

Benefit recipients of the TSERS will receive a one-time benefit supplement payment equal to 4% of the member's annual benefit amount, paid in November 2023, as granted by the North Carolina General Assembly for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. The one-time supplement does not change the ongoing monthly benefits, and absent additional action by governing authorities, the payments will not recur in future years.

Effective January 1, 2024, new employees hired by UNC Health Care or by certain components of East Carolina University, who were not actively contributing to TSERS immediately before they were hired by those entities, are not eligible to join TSERS.

*Methods and Assumptions Used in Calculations of Actuarially Determined Contributions:* An actuarial valuation is performed for each year for the plan. The actuarially determined contribution rates in the Schedule of College Contributions are calculated by the actuary as a projection of the required employer contribution for the fiscal year beginning 18 months following the date of the valuation results. See Note 12 for more information on the specific assumptions for the plan. The actuarially determined contributions for those items with covered payroll were determined using the actuarially determined contribution rate from the actuary and covered payroll as adjusted for timing differences and other factors such as differences in employee class. Other actuarially determined contributions are disclosed in the schedule as expressed by the actuary in reports to the plans.

*Changes of Assumptions:* In January 2021, the actuarial assumptions for the TSERS were updated to more closely reflect actual experience.

In 2020, the North Carolina Retirement Systems' consulting actuaries performed the quinquennial investigation of the TSERS actual demographic and economic experience (known as the "Experience Review"). The Experience Review provides the basis for selecting the actuarial assumptions and methods used to determine plan liabilities and funding requirements. The most recent experience review examined the TSERS experience during the period between January 1, 2015, and December 31, 2019. Based on the findings, the Boards of Trustees of the TSERS adopted a number of new actuarial assumptions and methods. The most notable changes to the assumptions include updates to the mortality tables and mortality improvements. These assumptions were adjusted to be based on the Pub-2010 mortality tables reflecting the mortality projection scale MP-2019, released by the Society of Actuaries in 2019. In addition, the assumed rates of retirement, salary increases, and rates of termination from active employment were updated to more closely reflect actual experience.

The discount rate for the TSERS was lowered from 7.00% to 6.50% effective for the December 31, 2020 valuation, with the resulting effect on minimum actuarially determined employer contribution rates (or amounts) to be gradually recognized over a five-year period beginning July 1, 2022.

The Notes to Required Supplementary Information reflect information included in the State of North Carolina's 2024 *Annual Comprehensive Financial Report*.

N/A - Not Applicable

**Southwestern Community College  
Required Supplementary Information  
Schedule of the Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability or Asset  
Cost-Sharing, Multiple-Employer, Defined Benefit OPEB Plans  
Last Nine Fiscal Years\***

**Exhibit C-3  
Page 1 of 2**

<b>Retiree Health Benefit Fund</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Proportionate Share Percentage of Collective Net OPEB Liability	0.04716%	0.05077%	0.05195%	0.05330%	0.05316%
Proportionate Share of Collective Net OPEB Liability	\$ 16,039,480.00	\$ 13,528,952.00	\$ 12,335,969.00	\$ 16,477,684.00	\$ 14,747,461.00
Covered Payroll	\$ 10,922,416.05	\$ 10,907,422.67	\$ 10,862,231.01	\$ 10,393,800.54	\$ 10,283,744.21
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	146.85%	124.03%	113.57%	158.53%	143.41%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability	9.79%	10.73%	10.58%	7.72%	6.92%
	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	
Proportionate Share Percentage of Collective Net OPEB Liability	0.05838%	0.06001%	0.05850%	0.06133%	
Proportionate Share of Collective Net OPEB Liability	\$ 18,470,293.00	\$ 17,095,884.00	\$ 19,180,331.00	\$ 26,680,635.00	
Covered Payroll	\$ 10,417,718.88	\$ 10,470,105.55	\$ 10,320,848.89	\$ 9,777,483.21	
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	177.30%	163.28%	185.84%	272.88%	
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability	4.40%	4.40%	3.52%	2.41%	

**Southwestern Community College  
Required Supplementary Information  
Schedule of the Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability or Asset  
Cost-Sharing, Multiple-Employer, Defined Benefit OPEB Plans  
Last Nine Fiscal Years\***

**Exhibit C-3  
Page 2 of 2**

<b>Disability Income Plan of North Carolina</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Proportionate Share Percentage of Collective Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	0.04913%	0.05070%	0.05388%	0.05489%	0.05509%
Proportionate Share of Collective Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	\$ (16,177.00)	\$ 13,484.00	\$ 16,028.00	\$ (8,966.00)	\$ (27,101.00)
Covered Payroll	\$ 10,922,416.05	\$ 10,907,422.67	\$ 10,862,231.01	\$ 10,393,800.54	\$ 10,283,744.21
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	0.15%	0.12%	0.15%	0.09%	0.26%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability	114.99%	90.61%	90.34%	105.18%	115.57%
	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	
Proportionate Share Percentage of Collective Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	0.05968%	0.06073%	0.06121%	0.06209%	
Proportionate Share of Collective Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	\$ (25,752.00)	\$ (18,447.00)	\$ (37,412.00)	\$ (38,558.00)	
Covered Payroll	\$ 10,417,718.88	\$ 10,470,105.55	\$ 10,320,848.89	\$ 9,777,483.21	
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	0.25%	0.18%	0.36%	0.39%	
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability	113.00%	108.47%	116.23%	116.06%	

Note: Information is presented for all years that were measured in accordance with the requirements of GASB Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*, as amended.

\* The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the prior fiscal year ended June 30.

**Southwestern Community College  
Required Supplementary Information  
Schedule of College Contributions  
Cost-Sharing, Multiple-Employer, Defined Benefit OPEB Plans  
Last Ten Fiscal Years**

**Exhibit C-4  
Page 1 of 2**

<b>Retiree Health Benefit Fund</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 802,171.78	\$ 779,860.51	\$ 751,521.42	\$ 683,234.33	\$ 694,305.88
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Determined Contribution	802,171.78	779,860.51	751,521.42	683,234.33	694,305.88
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Covered Payroll	\$ 11,475,991.12	\$ 10,922,416.05	\$ 10,907,422.67	\$ 10,862,231.01	\$ 10,393,800.54
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	6.99%	7.14%	6.89%	6.29%	6.68%
	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 665,358.25	\$ 653,190.97	\$ 633,441.39	\$ 599,641.32	\$ 547,539.05
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Determined Contribution	665,358.25	653,190.97	633,441.39	599,641.32	547,539.05
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Covered Payroll	\$ 10,283,744.21	\$ 10,417,718.88	\$ 10,470,105.55	\$ 10,320,848.89	\$ 9,777,483.21
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	6.47%	6.27%	6.05%	5.81%	5.60%

**Southwestern Community College  
Required Supplementary Information  
Schedule of College Contributions  
Cost-Sharing, Multiple-Employer, Defined Benefit OPEB Plans  
Last Ten Fiscal Years**

**Exhibit C-4  
Page 2 of 2**

<b>Disability Income Plan of North Carolina</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 14,918.79	\$ 12,014.66	\$ 10,907.42	\$ 9,776.01	\$ 9,354.42
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Determined Contribution	14,918.79	12,014.66	10,907.42	9,776.01	9,354.42
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Covered Payroll	\$ 11,475,991.12	\$ 10,922,416.05	\$ 10,907,422.67	\$ 10,862,231.01	\$ 10,393,800.54
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	0.13%	0.11%	0.10%	0.09%	0.09%
	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 10,283.74	\$ 14,584.81	\$ 14,658.15	\$ 39,219.23	\$ 40,087.68
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Determined Contribution	10,283.74	14,584.81	14,658.15	39,219.23	40,087.68
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Covered Payroll	\$ 10,283,744.21	\$ 10,417,718.88	\$ 10,470,105.55	\$ 10,320,848.89	\$ 9,777,483.21
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	0.10%	0.14%	0.14%	0.38%	0.41%

Note: Changes of benefit terms, methods, and assumptions are presented in the Notes to Required Supplementary Information (RSI) schedule following the OPEB RSI tables.

# Southwestern Community College

## Notes to Required Supplementary Information

### Schedule of College Contributions

#### Cost-Sharing, Multiple-Employer, Defined Benefit OPEB Plans

#### For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025

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*Changes of Benefit Terms:* Effective January 1, 2016, benefit terms related to copays, out-of-pocket maximums, and deductibles were changed for three of five options of the Retiree Health Benefit Fund (RHBF). Most of the changes were an increase in the amount from the previous year.

Effective January 1, 2017, benefit terms related to copays, coinsurance maximums, out-of-pocket maximums, and deductibles were changed for two of five options of the RHBF. Most of the changes were an increase in the amount from the previous year.

Effective January 1, 2019, benefit terms related to copays, out-of-pocket maximums, and deductibles were changed for one of four options of the RHBF. Out-of-pocket maximums increased while certain specialist copays decreased related to option benefits.

Effective January 1, 2020, benefit terms related to copays, out-of-pocket maximums, and deductibles were changed for the 70/30 PPO option of the RHBF. Only the copays were adjusted for 80/20 PPO option of the RHBF.

Effective January 1, 2021, members first hired on and after January 1, 2021 will not be eligible to receive retiree medical benefits.

Effective January 1, 2022, the structure of employer contributions to the RHBF was altered by legislation. Previously, non-Medicare-eligible retirees had the same employer contribution rate as active employees. As a result of the legislative change, non-Medicare-eligible retirees have the same employer contribution rate as Medicare-eligible retirees.

Effective April 1, 2024, coverage of GLP-1 prescriptions for obesity management (GLP-1-AOM) was terminated.

Beginning with the Disability Income Plan of North Carolina (DIPNC) actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2017, the valuation included a liability for the State's potential reimbursement of costs incurred by employers for income benefits and health insurance premiums during the second six months of the first year of employee's short-term disability benefit period. Effective with the actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2021, this liability was removed from the actuarial valuation because the reimbursement from DIPNC was eliminated for disabilities occurring on or after July 1, 2019.

*Method and Assumptions Used in Calculations of Actuarially Determined Contributions:* An actuarial valuation is performed for each plan each year. The actuarially determined contribution rates in the Schedule of College Contributions are calculated by the actuary as a projection of the required employer contribution for the fiscal year beginning six months preceding the date of the valuation results for the RHBF. The actuarially determined contribution rates in the Schedule of College Contributions are calculated by the actuary as a projection of the required employer contribution for the fiscal year beginning 18 months following the date of the valuation results for the DIPNC. See Note 13 for more information on the specific assumptions for each plan. The actuarially determined contributions were determined using the actuarially determined contribution rate from the actuary and covered payroll as adjusted for timing differences and other factors such as differences in employee class. Other actuarially determined contributions are disclosed in the schedule as expressed by the actuary in reports to the plans.

*Changes of Assumptions:* Consistent with prior years, for the actuarial valuation measured as of June 30, 2024 for the RHBF, a number of actuarial assumptions were reviewed and updated. The discount rate for the RHBF was updated to 3.93%, from 3.65% as of June 30, 2023. This update was to reflect the Bond Buyer 20-year General Obligation Index as of fiscal year end. Medical and prescription drug claims costs were changed based on most recent experience, and medical and prescription drug trend rates were changed to the current schedule. Enrollment assumptions were updated to model expected migrations among RHBF plan options over the next four years. The expected impact from the Inflation Reduction Act on assumed Medicare Advantage rates by including proposed PMPM vendor rates through 2027 and then using assumed trend beginning in 2028. Employer portion of contributions were calculated to have less volatility than recent experience and have a smoother transition to the ultimate trend.

For the actuarial valuation measured as of June 30, 2024 for DIPNC, the discount rate remained at 3%, unchanged from the rate as of June 30, 2023.

In 2020, the North Carolina Retirement Systems' consulting actuaries performed the quinquennial investigation of each retirement system's actual demographic and economic experience (known as the "Experience Review"). The Experience Review provides the basis for selecting the actuarial assumptions and methods used to determine plan liabilities and funding requirements. The most recent experience review examined each plan's experience during the period between January 1, 2015, and December 31, 2019. Based on the findings, the Boards of Trustees of the TSERS and the Committee on Actuarial Valuation of Retired Employees' Health Benefits adopted a number of new actuarial assumptions and methods for the RHBF and the DIPNC. The most notable changes to the assumptions include updates to the mortality tables and mortality improvements. These assumptions were adjusted to be based on the Pub-2010 mortality tables reflecting the mortality projection scale MP-2019, released by the Society of Actuaries in 2019. In addition, the assumed rates of retirement, salary increases, and rates of termination from active employment were updated to more closely reflect actual experience. Also in 2020, disability rates were adjusted to the non-grandfathered assumptions used in the TSERS actuarial valuation to better align with the anticipated incidence of disability.

For the DIPNC actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2018, for individuals who may become disabled in the future, the Social Security disability income benefit (which is an offset to the DIPNC benefit) was updated to be based on assumed Social Security calculation parameters in the year of the disability.

The assumed costs related to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act regarding the Health Insurance Provider Fee for the fully insured plans and Excise Tax were removed when those pieces were repealed in December 2019 and first recognized in the 2020 OPEB report.

For the DIPNC actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2023, benefit payments expected to be issued after 36 months of disability to claimants who had at least five years of membership service as of July 31, 2007 were updated to include an offset (reduction to the DIPNC benefit) based on estimated Social Security benefits.

The Notes to Required Supplementary Information reflect information included in the State of North Carolina's 2024 *Annual Comprehensive Financial Report*.



# **Independent Auditor's Report**



## North Carolina Office of the State Auditor

Dave Boliek, State Auditor

# Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance With *Government Auditing Standards*

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Board of Trustees  
Southwestern Community College  
Sylva, North Carolina

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of Southwestern Community College (College), a component unit of the State of North Carolina, and its discretely presented component unit, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the College's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated February 24, 2026. Our report includes a reference to other auditors who audited the financial statements of Southwestern Community College Foundation, Inc. (Foundation), as described in our report on the College's financial statements. The financial statements of the Foundation were not audited in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, and accordingly, this report does not include reporting on internal control over financial reporting or compliance and other matters associated with the Foundation.

## Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the College's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the College's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the College's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the College's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that were not identified. We did identify a deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying Finding, Recommendation, and Response section, that we consider to be a significant deficiency.

### Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the College's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

### College's Response to the Finding

*Government Auditing Standards* requires us to perform limited procedures on the College's response to the finding identified in our audit and described in the accompanying Finding, Recommendation, and Response section. The College's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements, and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

### Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the College's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the College's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Dave Boliek  
State Auditor

Raleigh, North Carolina

February 24, 2026



# **Finding, Recommendation, and Response**

## **Matters Related to Financial Reporting**

### **Inadequate Internal Controls Increased the Risk of Fraud and Undetected Errors**

Southwestern Community College (College) management did not have adequate internal controls, including review procedures, to ensure accurate financial reporting. During the fiscal year, auditors found that:

- Bank account reconciliations were not completed between February 2025 and June 2025, resulting in an overstatement of restricted cash by \$230 thousand because a duplicate journal entry was not detected. As of June 30, 2025, these bank accounts held \$10.6 million.
- Year-end journal entries totaling approximately \$3.5 million, which were prepared by an external consultant, were not independently reviewed and approved prior to posting. Although no misstatements were identified in these entries, the lack of independent review increased the risk that errors or irregularities could occur and remain undetected.

As a result of these control deficiencies, there was an increased risk that:

- Errors or fraud could occur and not be detected in a timely manner.
- Cash management issues could arise from not reconciling bank accounts, resulting in the College not having funds available to meet obligations.
- Audit costs could continue to increase, resulting in the diversion of resources otherwise available to the College for use towards its principal purpose.

These control deficiencies occurred because College management did not sufficiently address the loss of institutional knowledge resulting from significant turnover in financial reporting personnel in recent years. Further, the College did not document accounting and internal control processes to ensure continuity and effective performance of key financial reporting duties by new or temporary staff.

North Carolina General Statutes<sup>1</sup> require that College management establish and maintain a proper system of internal controls in accordance with the standards established by the North Carolina Office of the State Controller. Included in those standards is the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations (COSO) *Internal Control - Integrated Framework*<sup>2</sup> which establishes objectives for the preparation of financial reporting for use by the entity, stakeholders, and other external parties.

*Recommendation:* College management should strengthen internal controls by:

- Ensuring that key financial reporting positions are adequately staffed and that personnel are appropriately trained to perform year-end financial reporting.
- Implementing contingency plans to maintain critical financial reporting controls during periods impacted by staff turnover.

<sup>1</sup> Chapter 143D, Article 2.

<sup>2</sup> Committee of Sponsoring Organizations, *Internal Control – Integrated Framework*, May 2013.

## Finding, Recommendation, and Response

- Documenting accounting and financial reporting processes in sufficient detail to ensure continuity in the event of staff turnover.

In addition, College management should follow-up and monitor the financial reporting process to ensure corrective action is taken.

College's Response: See page 58 for the College's response to this finding.



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February 20, 2026

Dave Boliek
State Auditor
North Carolina Office of the State Auditor
20601 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699

Dear Mr. Boliek:

Southwestern Community College appreciates the opportunity to respond to the audit finding titled "Inadequate Internal Controls Increased the Risk of Fraud and Undetected Errors" related to the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025 .

The College acknowledges the importance of maintaining strong internal controls over financial reporting and agrees that the turnover in key financial positions during the fiscal year created operational challenges. We also agree that formal documentation of accounting processes and strengthened contingency planning are necessary to ensure continuity and sustainability of critical financial reporting functions. Both internal control items mentioned, timeliness with reconciliation and review of journal entries, were a situational result due to turnover of senior staff during the period in question, and not a systemic ongoing internal control issue or a disregard for internal control requirements.

Corrective Actions:

The College has taken the following actions to address the identified deficiencies:

- The Vice President for Financial and Administrative Services position has been permanently filled, restoring appropriate executive-level financial oversight.
• Key accounting positions have been recruited and filled to reestablish segregation of duties in financial reporting and bank reconciliation functions.
• Bank reconciliations are now completed monthly and reviewed by supervisory personnel.
• A formal review and approval workflow has been implemented for all material journal entries, including those prepared by external consultants.
• The College is strengthening a more detailed written documentation of accounting procedures and internal control processes to ensure continuity in the event of future staff turnover.
• A cross-training and contingency staffing plan is being implemented to maintain critical controls during periods of transition.

These corrective actions have been implemented as of January 2026, with full procedural documentation expected to be completed by June 30, 2026. The Vice President for Financial and Administrative Services is responsible for monitoring implementation and ongoing compliance.

The College remains committed to strengthening its financial reporting processes and appreciates the professionalism and cooperation of the audit team throughout this engagement.

Sincerely,

Dr. Don Tomas
President
Southwestern Community College

# Ordering Information

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Copies of this report may be obtained by contacting:



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