

LAMAR STATE COLLEGE PORT ARTHUR



**REPORT
TO THE
COMMUNITY**
2021-2022



SUCCEEDING WITH A LOT OF HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS ...

Without support from the State of Texas, area counties and cities, and all our wonderful industrial and corporate partners, LSCPA would not be the world-class facility that it is today. We thank you all for your help in making LSCPA a place where lives change.

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THE FOCUS OF EVERY DIME THE COLLEGE RECEIVES IS THE STUDENT. WHETHER IT'S CONSTRUCTION, SCHOLARSHIPS, OR OTHER INVESTMENTS, THE GOAL IS TO IMPROVE PEOPLE'S LIVES.

At Lamar State College Port Arthur, our focus is on the long-term success of our students.

Like any large undertaking, there are many moving parts. Our staff works hard to recruit new students who then work hand-in-hand with our instructors.

We prioritize program quality and growth, student success, and post-graduate opportunities.

None of this could happen successfully without funding. Thanks to various entities, from the State of Texas, local counties, area cities, and the Foundations that support the college, we are able to provide a school with nationally-recognized facilities and instructors.

Among our most ardent supporters are Southeast Texas petrochemical companies, industrial companies, and businesses. Throughout the year, we receive donations to help support scholarships, construction projects, and student programs.

Truly, without the dedicated efforts of this community, LSCPA could not be the place where lives are changed.

It's critical that everyone knows LSCPA is fiscally responsible and dedicates itself to investing everything into the success of the college and its students.



The focus of every dime the college receives is the student. Whether it's construction, scholarships or other investments, the goal is to improve people's lives.

In this publication, you will see the outcome of that investment. We are proud of new construction that expands opportunities both in the types of programs we offer as well as the number of people who can partake.

We have facilities that are lauded statewide as being among the best and students, faculty and staff have made their marks on the national stage.

It's all part of the bigger plan that you've helped make possible. For that, we thank you!

LSCPA FINALIST FOR BUY BACK BETTER GRANT

Lamar State College Port Arthur led a coalition of local colleges and medical providers in pursuit of a grant that would help solve the nursing shortage in Southeast and Deep East Texas.

LSCPA was a finalist in the largest-ever U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development administration grant competition.

The college received the Phase I planning grant of \$500,000 and with that funding was able to fully develop its plan for use of those funds. Of 60 finalists chosen from more than 500 applications nationwide, only 21 were awarded. Unfortunately, LSCPA fell just outside the list of final grant recipients.

The Build Back Better Regional Challenge Grant -- a \$1 billion program funded by the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act -- awarded up to \$100 million per applicant to address regional problems and create economic growth.

The coalition, which included LSCPA, Lamar University, Lamar State College Orange, the Deep East Texas College and Career Academy, Christus Southeast Texas Health Systems, Baptist Hospitals of Southeast Texas, the Southeast Texas Medical Center and Riceland Health Services included every provider of nursing education and every major medical facility within a 5,000-square-mile region of urban and rural Texas.

Regional hospitals currently report more than 700 vacant nursing positions with both urban and rural hospitals 25 to 30% below staffing .

To address the nursing shortage in Southeast and Deep East Texas, the coalition proposed increasing program capacity at each of the colleges that offer nursing and pre-nursing training and increasing clinical space at not-for-profit hospitals.

For-profit hospital partners agreed to make more nursing placements available and to open facilities not historically used for nursing clinical training.

The coalition had asked for \$70 million in federal funds and pledged almost \$20 million in matching funds in cash, \$50 million in salaries for new faculty members and nurses and \$100 million in public and private capital if the grant had been awarded.

Grant funds would also have been used to create new student recruitment programs targeted at underserved populations, create a new pre-nursing tutoring program in partnership with Region 5 Education Service Center, and create a tuition reimbursement program supported by the hospital partners.



NEW CONSTRUCTION SUPPORTS TRAINING OF ADDITIONAL NURSES

The Allied Health Department at LSCPA has long been popular among students and successful in the providing the medical industry with qualified employees. That popularity has the department bursting at the seams. Very soon, though, there will be plenty of room for even more growth.

LSCPA received a \$37.4 million Capital Construction Assistance Project Bond after Texas Gov. Greg Abbott signed SB 52, which across the state infused more than \$3.3 billion into capital improvements at public colleges and universities.

At LSCPA, that money will fund the construction of an Allied Health and Sciences Building. Plans are to situate the new facility along Procter Street near the center of campus.

“The credit for this tremendous opportunity to grow goes to Gov. Abbott, State Representative and Speaker of the House Dade Phelan, House Rep. Joe Deshotel, Senate Rep. Brandon Creighton and the Texas Legislature for investing in the future of higher education in such a physical and tangible way,” LSCPA President Dr. Betty Reynard said.

“We are especially indebted to the Texas State University System and Chancellor Dr. Brian McCall, who advocated tirelessly on behalf of the System’s institutions. Their hard work will change the lives of countless generations of students across the state.”

LSCPA’s Allied Health Department currently utilizes two facilities totaling just 7,730 square feet which serve Nurse Aide, Vocational Nursing, LVN to RN Upward Mobility, Surgical Technology and Drug and Alcohol Counseling programs.

NEW FACILITY TRAINS TOMORROW'S EMPLOYEES

The cavernous three-story building on Lakeshore Drive alongside the LSCPA softball field has stood mostly vacant for nearly a decade. The occasional welding class and dressing rooms for the Seahawks softball team have made the building home.

The Armory, so named because it was once used by the U.S. military prior to being donated to the college, will open in September 2022 as a state-of-the-art craft training facility that will provide education opportunities to help local residents get well-paying jobs quickly. The college received a grant after Hurricane Harvey that was intended to serve as a job catalyst to support economic recovery.

“Craft training differs from degree programs in that it focuses on short-term training



designed to bring a student quickly into the workforce at a profitable wage,” Dr. Ben Stafford, Vice President of Workforce Training and Continuing Education and author of the grant, said. “This center will train craftsmen of all types.”

The 23,000 square foot building was retrofitted to allow for training in welding, scaffold building, pipefitting, rigging, structural steel, electrical, instrumentation, carpentry, concrete work, and a wide variety of safety training.

While it is common to see advanced simulation in degreed programs,” Stafford said, “this craft training center will be one-of-a-kind in bringing realistic industry conditions into the College training environment.”

The facility includes classrooms, labs, office space and will continue to be home to the school’s softball program.

CDL TESTING CENTER CONSTRUCTION BEGINS SUMMER/FALL 2022

With a reputation for a top-notch Commercial Drivers License program, all LSCPA needed was a support facility.

Construction will begin in 2022 with planned completion during the summer of 2023 for a CDL Training/Testing Center located along Hwy. 69 between Mid-Jefferson County and Beaumont.

The new facility will be the largest in Texas that provides CDL testing opportunities. The U.S. Department of Commerce named LSCPA the recipient of a \$4.3 million Economic Development Administration CARES Act Recovery Assistance grant. This grant will fund the construction of a commercial driver education and examination center.

AFTER MAJOR UPGRADE, RUBY FULLER BUILDING WINS MULTIPLE AWARDS, RECOGNITION



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We knew we had to preserve the character of this historic church. We were able to mesh contemporary with traditional.

DR. BETTY REYNARD
PRESIDENT, LSCPA

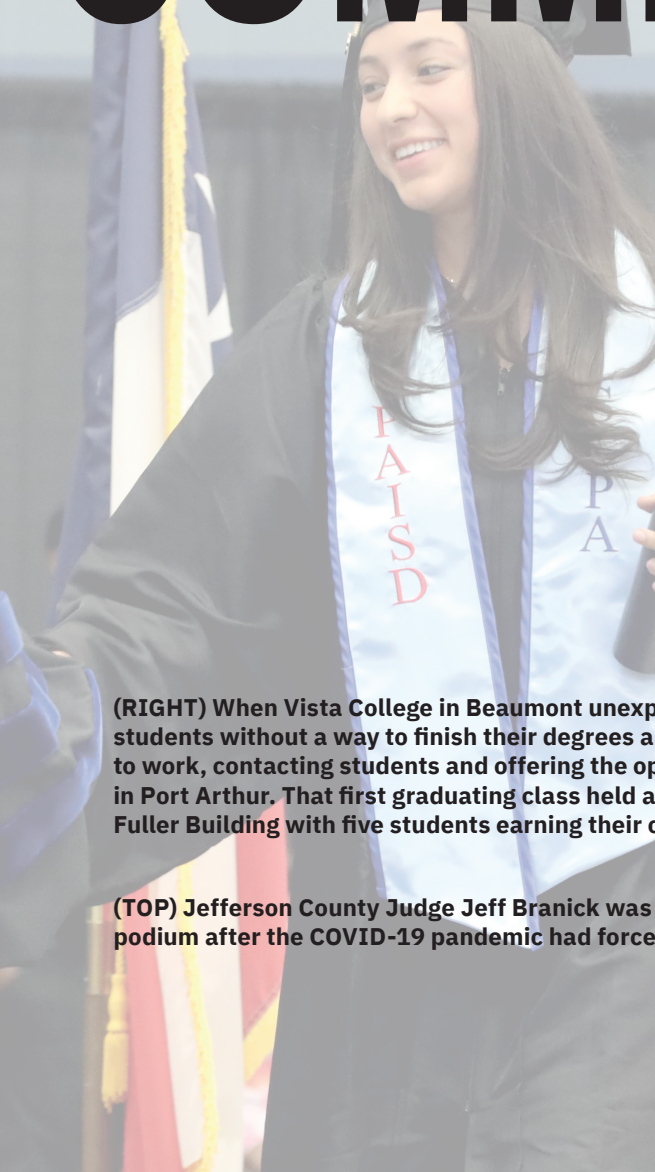
After a major renovation in 2021, the 107-year-old Ruby Fuller Education Annex was awarded the Houston Business Journal’s Public Assembly Landmark Award for 2022. In addition, the facility swept the REnews Awards in the categories of Redevelopment, Reuse, and Historical. The REnews Awards are presented by REjournals.com, which highlights commercial real estate news from across the nation. In addition, representative from the Fuller construction project have been invited to make a presentation at the Association of Texas College & University Facilities Professionals’ 2022 Conference, held in Austin in November.

Accepting the 2022 Houston Business Journal Landmark Award (ABOVE) are, from left, Justin Bailey, Project Manager, O’Donnell Snider Construction; Marcus Swayzer, Project Manager, Hill International, Inc.; Maria Garcia, Purchasing Director, LSCPA; Reed Richard, Physical Plant Director, LSCPA; and David Payne, Principal and Vice President, O’Donnell Snider Construction.



**SPRING 2022
GRADUATION**

COMMENCEMENT



(RIGHT) When Vista College in Beaumont unexpectedly shut down, leaving its students without a way to finish their degrees and certificates, LSCPA went to work, contacting students and offering the opportunity to complete their studies in Port Arthur. That first graduating class held a ceremony in the main lobby of the Ruby Fuller Building with five students earning their certificates and completing their goals.

(TOP) Jefferson County Judge Jeff Branick was the first keynote speaker to return to the podium after the COVID-19 pandemic had forced graduation into a virtual setting.

CULINARY ARTS PROGRAM

BEST IN THE STATE OF TEXAS

Special flavor of Southeast Texas spreads across the state as new Culinary Arts Program earns top accolades from education website

Everyone knows Southeast Texas is famous for its fantastic foods, from barbecue to boudin, crawfish boils and fajitas. Now the region is also known for producing some of the state's top chefs.

Lamar State College Port Arthur's Culinary Arts and Hospitality program has been selected as the best in Texas by Intelligent.com, a higher education resource website.

LSCPA's Culinary Arts and Hospitality program is the newest offering at the college, providing a world-class education for those students who hope one day to own their own restaurant or become an elite chef. The program offers classes food preparation, sanitation and safety, baking, regional cuisine, and hospitality supervision.

"This is a great compliment to our program and the hard work we've put into creating new career opportunities for Southeast Texans in the field of culinary arts," Ashley Taylor, director of the program, said. "This is one of those special programs where not only do you learn a great new skill, but you get to eat the final exam!"

Intelligent.com, a resource for online/on-campus program rankings and higher education planning, also included LSCPA to its list of the Best Community Colleges in Texas in 2022. The research identifies top programs based on flexibility, faculty, course strength, cost, and reputation.

The higher education-ranking website implemented a unique methodology that ranks each program on a scale from 0 to 100 across five categories. The scoring system compares each university according to program strength, student readiness, return on investment, cost, and student engagement. Researchers compared 179 programs from 112 universities and colleges across the United States.

The LSCPA Culinary Arts and Hospitality program is housed in The Press Building, located in downtown in the former Port Arthur News facility. That building underwent a complete renovation in part to give the LSCPA program a new home but also to provide other economic growth opportunities in the form of additional office space. The facility will offer 10 long-term office suites and five conference rooms in addition to the culinary arts training center.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR
ASHLEY TAYLOR



STUDENTS, FACULTY ON A NATIONAL STAGE

ALUMNI STORY OF SUCCESS



LANCE TAYLOR
Class of 2017

Lance Taylor, a double-degree graduate of LSCPA, accepted a full-time position with Walmart corporate headquarters as a financial analyst II in 2022. This offer comes after Taylor successfully completed a highly competitive internship program with the company.

Walmart is one of the world's largest corporations, ranking No. 1 in the Fortune 500 and Fortune Global 500 companies lists.

Taylor graduated from LSCPA with general studies and business administration associate's degrees. He earned a Master of Science in Accounting after a double-bachelor in finance and accounting at Lamar University.

DUAL CREDIT STORY OF SUCCESS



GINA FLORES
Memorial High School

Memorial High School's Gina Flores was accepted into the Harvard University Secondary Summer School in 2022.

Flores, who is a dual credit student taking Medical Coding classes at LSCPA, was chosen from an exceptional applicant pool based on her strong academic record and thoughtful application.

When she received her acceptance letter, Flores cried.

"Since I was little all I knew was that I wanted to be at Harvard because it's an Ivy League school," she said. "It's because it's challenging that it motivated me to strive harder and try to be the top while I try to put the best effort."

INSTRUCTOR STORY

GEORGE BOHN

Process Technology/Instrumentation

George Bohn has established himself as a leader with a depth of experience in the petrochemical industry. One of the jewels of LSCPA's technical education expertise is George Bohn.

In April 2022, he earned the accolades to be named the

George Bohn, coordinator of the Process Technology and Instrumentation at LSCPA, was named the Outstanding Teacher of the Year bestowed by the American Technical Education Association at its annual conference.

"It's truly satisfying to see George receive this honor for what he does as an advocate for our students' success," said LSCPA President. "Making the Process Technology and Instrumentation instructor said."

Bohn joined LSCPA as an instrumentation instructor in the Department of Instrumentation and Process Technology.

He started his career as an instrument/automation technician for 15 years. He moved to a similar position at In



Soft Skills

Eight Lamar State students earned national honors at the SkillsUSA competition.

LSCPA graduates earned SkillsUSA Soft Skills awards.

Six students earned medals in both categories.

Francisco Barrios won the top spot in the Game Development and Thien Phung won the Game Development.

Game Development.

Cory Turner won the Graphic Design bronze medal in the

OF SUCCESS

DHN mentation Director

gregarious personality with a industry that makes him one of the experience.

go along with that reputation.

ogy and Instrumentation programs Technical Teacher, a national honor cation Association during its

e nationwide recognition for the job success and the dedication he has to umentation programs thrive,” LSCPA President Dr. Betty Reynard

a instructor in 2015. By 2017, he had risen to the rank of Coordinator gy.

alyzer technician with DuPont in 1977 where he worked for 27 vista where he stayed until his move into higher education in 2015.



PROGRAM STORY OF SUCCESS

SKILLSUSA COMPETITORS

ware Developer/Game Design and Graphic Design

ate College Port Arthur students earned top state technical skills e 2022 Texas SkillsUSA competition, earning a trip to the national on in Atlanta during the summer of 2022.

earned seven gold medals, a silver and two bronze in the Texas USA competition. Six students from LSCPA’s Graphic Design and ware Developer/Game Design programs earned those top honors in rious skills competitions.

x Software Developer/Game Design students walked away with gold edals at the state competition. Hector Flores and Malcom Watkins, n of Port Arthur, took first place in Web Design & Development. rera-Cribas and Brian Magana, both also from Port Arthur, took n 3D Visualization & Development. Alaina Harbert of Nederland am of Port Arthur won gold in the Interactive Application & Video elopment competition.

ner of Beaumont earned two medals representing the LSCPA Design program, taking home a gold medal in Pin Design and a n T-shirt Design. Alejandro Padron of Beaumont took home a silver T-shirt Design and a bronze in Pin Design.

STUDENT STORY OF SUCCESS

CASEY FLITCRAFT DAISY Award Winner

Casey Flitcraft, a Summer 2022 semester LVN graduate, is the personification of perseverance.

As she took part in the LVN Pinning Ceremony at the Monroe Performing Arts Center main stage, tears streamed down her face. She was named this year’s DAISY Award winner. Likewise, those tears honored her husband, Greg, who passed away from a heart attack exactly six months earlier.

“There was no choice but for me to keep going,” she explained. “It was up to me to keep life for myself and my kids moving forward. I did it for them and I did it to honor my husband.”

The award is an annual recognition by the DAISY Foundation, which honors nurses, nursing instructors, and their students for extraordinary dedication to their field.

“Knowing what this award represents,” she said, “this is an incredible honor.”



SEAHAWKS ATHLETICS

NATIONAL SCHOLAR-ATHLETE

Sophomore Harlie Collier was named a National Junior College Athletic Association scholar-athlete after maintaining a perfect 4.0 grade point average. She graduated in Spring 2022 with an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Drafting Technology. She maintained her 4.0 GPA all four semesters at LSCPA while playing catcher for the Seahawks for two seasons.



Thewman selected as top Texas JUCO coach

Brock Thewman, the second-year assistant men's basketball coach at Lamar State College Port Arthur, has been named the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches Junior College Assistant Coach of the Year.

The group, which is made up of coaches and athletic directors from across Texas, honors the state's top college coaches and players each spring.

Thewman joined the Seahawks for the 2020-21 season as LSCPA finished with an 8-15 overall season. After a sophomore-laden recruiting class in the off-season, the Seahawks rolled to a 20-12 mark, reaching the semifinals of the NJCAA Region 14 tournament.

"This recognition and award is a true testament to bringing in the right players to fit our program as well as having a head coach in Lance Madison, who believes in me and trusts me," Thewman said.



HOSTING A NATIONAL BLOCK PARTY

Sophomore Myron Washington Jr. finished the 2021-22 men's basketball season as the No. 1 shot-blocker in the United States, averaging 3.5 blocks per game. He had 105 total blocks for the season, breaking the school record for blocks in a game with 15 against LSU-Eunice on Nov. 6, 2021. He had three games with double-digit blocked-shot totals.

Certificate in Pharmacy Technology



**PHARMACY
TECHNOLOGY
DIRECTOR TOY
THORNTON-WYCKOFF**

Four years of education to pursue a career in medicine might seem like a bitter pill to swallow for folks looking to make a quick transition into a well-paying job. Lamar State College Port Arthur offers a cure, though, with a two-semester answer resulting in a certificate in Pharmacy Technology. Not only are pharmacy technician graduates in demand but they can expect projected median hourly earnings of \$17.79 with a steady growth of 18 percent in job demand.

Texas has the second-highest employment level for Pharmacy Technicians, second only to California, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Pharmacy technicians work in either an inpatient or outpatient setting and function under the direct supervision of a registered pharmacist. Technicians receive and verify prescriptions, maintain inventory records, answer pharmacy calls, and prepare medications for patients by filling prescriptions.

The certificate program requires a total of 25 hours of credit, starting in fall and completed in the spring semester.

Associate of Arts Degree in Music

Music means different things to different people. For some, it's classical; for others, perhaps rock & roll, rap or jazz. What "Music" means at LSCPA is the introduction of a new Applied Arts and Science degree that will stand as the first two years of study for students seeking a bachelor's degree in that field.

The four-semester degree allows students to accumulate hours of credit that are required by all two- and four-year schools for Music majors.

This new degree joins Audiovisual Production, Audio Engineering and Performance as the two-year music-related associate degrees available through Commercial Music, Visual and Performing Arts Department. Certificates are also available over a two-semester period for Audio Engineering and Performance.



SBDC RECEIVES \$75,000 DISASTER RECOVERY GRANT

Through a generous \$75,000 grant provided by Local Initiatives Support Corporation and the Wells Fargo Foundation, Lamar State College Port Arthur's Small Business Development Center will be able to make that path to recovery more strategic and much smoother in the face of disaster.

The grant allows further development of the Small Business Resiliency Network, a 20-organization cohort in Alabama, New Jersey, New York, Louisiana, and Texas. Through that network, Lamar State College Port Arthur SBDC is providing one-on-one support, technical assistance, and workshops for small businesses to help them be more prepared for things such as weather-related disasters, pandemic impact, or an industrial emergency.

For information on workshops, check the SBDC website at www.sbdc.uh.edu/sbdc/Lamar_State_SBDC.asp

\$50,000 GRANT BOLSTERS STUDENT SUCCESS EFFORTS

LSCPA received a \$50,000 Accelerate Student Success Planning Grant from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. LSCPA is one of just 80 colleges and universities from across the state to receive part of the more than \$4 million grant.

This financial windfall allowed LSCPA to better assist with more engagement among incoming freshmen, enabling better student success and retention, ultimately leading to more degrees and certificates being awarded. First generation and economically



The Small Business Development Center celebrated America's Small Business Development Day in March 2022 with a ribbon cutting at its location on the campus of Lamar State College Port Arthur, 1401 Procter Street.

disadvantaged students are the focus population in this endeavor.

"There are plenty of challenges in being a college student in the best of situations," said Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Pamela Millsap. "Here, there seems to be unending obstacles that are beyond our control. Hurricanes, winter storms, unemployment and unfettered inflation combine to make being a successful college student so much more difficult.

"This generous grant will not only provide more activities to keep new students engaged and moving forward toward their degrees and certificates, it will also bolster critical resources like food and clothing that students need to maintain their momentum through school," she said.

FEDERAL GRANT PUTS REAL MONEY IN STUDENTS' HANDS

Nearly 1,500 students received \$944 in October 2021, thanks to money from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund, which was signed into law as part of the American Rescue Plan on March 11, 2021.

"We've heard so many stories of people who continue to struggle because of the pandemic," LSCPA President Dr. Betty Reynard said. "Some of our students have been faced with difficult decisions over

the past nearly two years when they have to choose between their education and paying their bills, or putting food on the table.

"We are thrilled to be able to provide this financial boost for our students," she said.

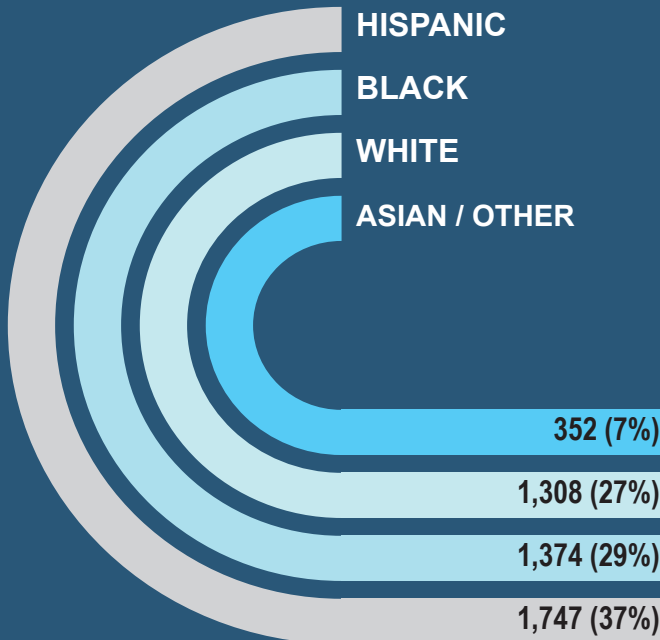
This money is part of the federal government's effort to support institutions of higher education and, especially, their students.

STUDENTS OFFERED TWO FREE SUMMER SEMESTER CLASSES

LSCPA offered two no-strings-attached free classes during the Summer 2022 semester.

"We have all been through an extremely difficult time with the pandemic and the impact of inflation across the nation," Dr. Betty Reynard, president of LSCPA, said. "Offering two free classes this summer is our way of making an immediate impact for our residents. We're excited to see people take advantage and seek out a better future as part of this opportunity."

Students were able to save more than \$708 during the summer semesters as LSCPA offered two free classes, up to six credit hours, with classes available in both technical and academic areas of the college.



Source: Fall 2021 / Spring 2022 Enrollment Reports

50+ ASSOCIATE DEGREE AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

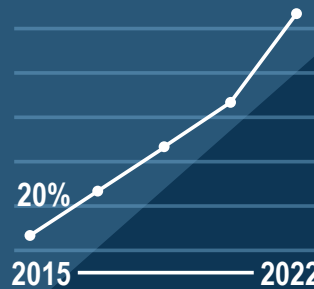
38% ★★★★★ OF STUDENTS ARE FIRST GENERATION

95% OF LSCPA GRADUATES FIND WORK OR TRANSFER TO A UNIVERSITY



17:1

STUDENT-TO-FACULTY RATIO



37% HISPANIC ENROLLMENT

The percentage of Hispanic students has grown from 20% to 37% since 2015, qualifying LSCPA for \$2.8M Department of Education Title V grant!

31% FULL-TIME STUDENTS 69% PART-TIME STUDENTS
STUDENT BODY MAKEUP
 55% ACADEMIC MAJORS 45% TECHNICAL MAJORS

DUAL CREDIT ENROLLMENT: **780**

\$18,538
 AVERAGE STUDENT LOAN DEBT AFTER EARNING DEGREE

DUAL ENROLLMENT

HAS INCREASED BY

23% OVER THE PAST 3 YEARS

86% OF STUDENTS RECEIVE SOME FORM OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE



PHI THETA KAPPA
HONOR SOCIETY
3-STAR CHAPTER

11%

OF LSCPA STUDENTS COME FROM OUTSIDE JEFFERSON COUNTY

46.9% 
6-YEAR GRADUATION RATE

4,746
FALL 2021-SPRING 2022
ENROLLMENT

THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

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Lamar State College Port Arthur Administration

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Mary Wickland, CPA.....	Executive Vice President for Finance and Operations
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LSCPA

LAMAR STATE COLLEGE ★ PORT ARTHUR

MEMBER THE TEXAS  STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM™