

DSC

GENERAL
INFORMATION

HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE

Dalton State College was chartered as Dalton Junior College by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia in July 1963. At that time, the local community was required to provide the site and initial buildings for the campus; thereafter, the state would provide operating and future building funds.

In May 1965, the voters of Whitfield County approved, by a 26 to 1 margin, a bond issue authorizing \$1.8 million for the new junior college. Construction grants under the Higher Education Facilities Act and the Appalachian Regional Development Act from the federal government supplemented the local bond funds. In October 1966, construction began on the original five buildings, situated on a 136 acre tract of land alongside Interstate 75 within the city limits of Dalton. When the College opened in September 1967, four of those buildings were complete; the fifth was occupied in February 1968. The development of Dalton Junior College embodied a vision within the community for a college in Northwest Georgia that dated as far back as the short-lived Joe Brown University of the 1880s.

The original buildings for Dalton Junior College included:

- Administration/Library (now Westcott Hall)
- Classroom/Science (now Sequoya Hall)
- Student Services (now Pope Student Center)
- Health and Physical Education (now Bandy Gymnasium)
- Maintenance/Warehouse

In Fall Quarter 1967, DJC opened as the 24th institution of the University System of Georgia to 524 students. Growth came quickly as programs were added and as the institution attracted larger numbers of students. In 1973 a Technical Division was authorized through a joint agreement between the University System and the State Department of Education, thus bringing an array of technical certificate and degree programs to the traditional pre-baccalaureate offerings with which the College had begun. In 1987 the word "Junior" was dropped from the institution's name as part of a University System initiative affecting most of the state's two-year schools. In 1996, Dalton College was authorized to assume responsibility for the Dalton School of Health Occupations, and as a result several new health-related programs were added to the institution's curriculum. By this time, enrollment had reached 3,000 credit students and over 6,000 non-credit (continuing education) participants. Meanwhile the campus grew to accommodate the increasing size and complexity of the institution. A new general classroom building, later named Gignilliat Memorial Hall, was occupied in 1970. A new library building, later named Derrell C. Roberts Library, was completed in 1972. Major additions to Pope Student Center, Westcott Hall, and the Maintenance/Warehouse Building were completed between 1973 and 1975. A new Technical Building was added in 1979, and a major addition to Sequoya Hall was completed in 1989.

1998 proved a watershed year. In August, the College switched from the quarter academic calendar to the semester academic calendar in accordance with University System policy. In September the College was authorized to begin developing its first bachelor's degrees, with start-up scheduled for the following fall. In November, the institution's name was changed to Dalton State College to reflect its expanded mission.

As the College continues to develop the depth and breadth of its offerings, a fresh round of construction projects is providing room for expansion. A new general classroom building, completed in late 1999, was later named the Lorberbaum Liberal Arts Building. A major addition to Roberts Library began in early-2001 and was completed in mid-2002. A new Continuing Education Building received funding in 2003 and construction is scheduled to begin in early 2005.

Dalton State College was initially accredited in 1969 by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award the associate degree, and full accreditation has been continuous since that time. In 1998 the institution received SACS approval to offer the bachelor's degree, and full re-accreditation was affirmed in 2003.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Dalton State College serves Northwest Georgia by offering associate, certificate, and targeted baccalaureate programs of study and a wide variety of public service and continuing education activities. Located at the center of the greatest concentration of carpet production in the world, the College is a comprehensive institution, one of only two in the University System authorized to offer a full range of technical programs in addition to the traditional pre-baccalaureate curricula and targeted baccalaureate offerings which meet workforce development needs of the Northwest Georgia area. Through direct and technological collaboration with neighboring technical institutes and other colleges and universities on the one hand, and outreach and cooperation with local preschool, primary, and secondary systems on the other, Dalton State College acts as an educational broker to meet the needs of business and industry and to provide opportunities for all persons within its service area to live self-fulfilling and productive lives.

Dalton State College shares with the other state colleges of the University System of Georgia the following core characteristics or purposes:

- a commitment to excellence and responsiveness within a scope of influence defined by the needs of the local area and by particularly outstanding programs and distinctive characteristics that have a magnet effect throughout the region or state;
- a commitment to a teaching/learning environment, both inside and outside the classroom, that sustains instructional excellence, functions to provide University System access for a diverse student body, and promotes high levels of student learning;
- a high quality general education program that supports a variety of well-chosen associate programs and prepares students for transfer to baccalaureate programs, learning support programs designed to insure access and opportunity for a diverse student body, and a limited number of certificate and other career programs to complement neighboring technical institute programs;
- a limited number of baccalaureate programs designed to meet the educational and economic development needs of the local area;
- a commitment to public service, continuing education, technical assistance, and economic development activities that address the needs, improve the quality of life, and raise the economic level within the college's scope of influence;

- a commitment to scholarship and creative work to enhance instructional effectiveness and to encourage faculty scholarly pursuits; and a responsibility to address local needs through applied scholarship, especially in areas directly related to targeted baccalaureate degree programs;
- a supportive campus climate, necessary services, and leadership and development opportunities, all to educate the whole person and meet the needs of students, faculty, and staff;
- cultural, ethnic, racial, and gender diversity in the faculty, staff, and student body, supported by practices and programs that embody the ideals of an open, democratic, and global society;
- technology to advance educational purposes, including instructional technology, student support services, and distance education;
- collaborative relationships with other System institutions, State agencies, local schools, technical institutes, and business and industry, sharing physical, human, information, and other resources to expand and enhance programs and services available to the citizens of Georgia.

In all that it does, Dalton State College strives for the highest possible standards of quality and excellence and systematically assesses and evaluates its effectiveness. Especially in its combination of associate level studies in the liberal arts and targeted baccalaureate degrees with a large complement of career programs in health-related, business, and technical fields; in the quality of its preparation of students for work or further study; and in its role as a broad-based information resource for the people of Northwest Georgia, the College seeks to build upon its strengths and to justify recognition as one of the most academically respected, student-oriented, and community-centered institutions of its kind.

NOTICE

Admissions policies, activities, services, and facilities of Dalton State College do not exclude any person on the basis of race, color, age, sex, religion, national origin, or disability. Dalton State College is an Affirmative Action Program institution.

In case of any divergence from or conflict with the By-laws or Policies of the Board of Regents, the official By-laws and Policies of the Board of Regents shall prevail. This catalog is prepared for the convenience of students and is not to be construed as an official publication of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.

The statements set forth in this Publication are for informational purposes only and should not be construed as the basis of a contract between a student and this institution.

While the provisions of this publication will ordinarily be applied as stated, Dalton State College reserves the right to change any provision listed in this catalog, including but not limited to academic requirements for graduation, without actual notice to individual students. Every effort will be made to keep students advised of any such changes. Information on changes will be available in the offices of the Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services. It is especially important that students note that it is their responsibility to keep themselves apprised of current graduation requirements for their particular degree or certificate program.

VISITORS WELCOME

College offices are open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. When the College is in session, the Office of Enrollment Services is open until 6:00 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday; the Business Office is open until 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday; and the Academic and Career Enhancement Center and the Financial Aid Office are open Monday through Thursday until 6:00 p.m.

Weekend and holiday period appointments with College officials may be secured through advance arrangements.

