



**Commission on Colleges
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools**

INSTITUTIONAL SUMMARY FORM PREPARED FOR COMMISSION REVIEWS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of Institution *Piedmont Technical College*

Name, Title, Phone number, and email address of Accreditation Liaison
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Name, Title, Phone number, and email address of Technical Support person for the Compliance Certification
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EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

1. Level of offerings (Check all that apply)

- Diploma or certificate program(s) requiring less than one year beyond Grade 12
- Diploma or certificate program(s) of at least two but fewer than four years of work beyond Grade 12
- Associate degree program(s) requiring a minimum of 60 semester hours or the equivalent designed for transfer to a baccalaureate institution
- Associate degree program(s) requiring a minimum of 60 semester hours or the equivalent not designed for transfer
- Four or five-year baccalaureate degree program(s) requiring a minimum of 120 semester hours or the equivalent
- Professional degree program(s)
- Master's degree program(s)
- Work beyond the master's level but not at the doctoral level (such as Specialist in Education)
- Doctoral degree program(s)
- Other (Specify) _____

2. Types of Undergraduate Programs (Check all that apply)

- Occupational certificate or diploma program(s)
- Occupational degree program(s)
- Two-year programs designed for transfer to a baccalaureate institution
- Liberal Arts and General
- Teacher Preparatory
- Professional
- Other (Specify) _____

INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION FOR REVIEWERS

Directions: *Please address the following and attach the information to this form.*

1. History and Characteristics

Provide a brief history of the institution, a description of its current mission, an indication of its geographic service area, and a description of the composition of the student population. Include a description of any unusual or distinctive features of the institution and a description of the admissions policies (open, selective, etc.). If appropriate, indicate those institutions that are considered peers. Please limit this section to one-half page.

2. List of Degrees

List all degrees currently offered (A. S., B.A., B.S., M.A., Ph.D., for examples) and the majors or concentrations within those degrees, as well as all certificates and diplomas.

3. Locations and Distance Education

List locations (country, state, and city) where course work toward a degree, diploma, or certificate can be obtained primarily through traditional classroom instruction. For each site, indicate the partial or complete degree offered and, for each degree, certificate, or diploma, whether a student can obtain 50 percent of credits toward any of the educational programs.

Provide a brief description of distance education credit offerings that can be obtained primarily through electronic means and indicate where the students are located. Indicate any degree or certificate programs that can be completed primarily through electronic means. Please limit this brief description to one-half page, if possible.

4. Accreditation

List all agencies that currently accredit the institution or any of its programs and the date of the last review for each. Identify the accrediting agency that is the gatekeeper for federal funds if it is not the Commission on Colleges. Describe any sanctions applied or negative actions taken by any of these accrediting bodies (including the Commission) during the two years previous to the submission of this report in regard to your institution.

5. Relationship to the U.S. Department of Education

Indicate any limitations, suspensions, or termination by the U.S. Department of Education in regard to student financial aid or other financial aid programs during the previous three years. Report if on reimbursement or any other exceptional status in regard to federal or state financial aid.

Updated: January 2007

History and Characteristic

Piedmont Technical College opened its doors to 300 students in the fall of 1966, the eighth of 16 colleges created to form the South Carolina Technical College System. This unique two-year college system was designed to meet the workforce needs of the employers within the state, and for Piedmont that translates to the seven-county region it serves. Workforce development, along with lifelong learning and community service remains the college's mission today.

Over the next 20 years Piedmont Technical College added several new associate degree, diploma and certificate programs, including the associate in arts and associate in science transfer programs in 1990. The college has grown from one building to more than 20 buildings and has a physical presence in each of the seven counties it serves. Today's enrollment approaches 5,000 credit students, with 90 percent coming from within the seven-county region.

The student body reflects the local community, with African Americans making up 38 percent of the student population. In the fall of 2007, women comprised 69 percent of the student body, largely in the nursing and health science programs. Although the college maintains an open-door admissions policy, these highly competitive programs require that students meet minimum core requirements for program entry. Strong partnerships with community agencies, business, industry and public schools; a supportive Foundation; and being the recipient of sizable federal and private grants have allowed Piedmont to become a leader among the two-year colleges within South Carolina.

List of Degrees

ARTS & SCIENCE

Associate of Arts
Associate of Science
General Studies Certificate

AGRICULTURE

Associate in Agriculture - major in Horticulture
Horticulture Landscape Management Certificate

BUSINESS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Associate in Business – major in General Business, concentrations in Accounting, Management, Office Management and Business Transfer.
Associate in Business – major in Funeral Service
Associate in Business – major in Office Systems Technology, concentrations in Accounting, Legal, Medical, Spanish and Medical Coding
Associate in Computer Technology – major in Computer Technology, concentrations in Programming, Networking and Internet.
Automated Office Diploma
Accounting Certificate
Advertising Design Certificate
Cisco Computer Networking Certificate
Desktop Publishing Certificate
Entrepreneurship Certificate
Funeral Service Education Certificate
Illustration Certificate
Internet Certificate
Interior Design Certificate
PC Technician Certificate
Microcomputer Software Specialist Certificate
Office Technician Certificate
Photography Certificate
Professional Clay Certificate

ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

Associate in Engineering Technology – major in Electronic Engineering Technology
Associate in Engineering Technology – major in Engineering Graphics Technology
Associate in Engineering Technology – major in General Engineering Technology
Associate in Engineering Technology – major in Mechanical Engineering Technology
Computer Aided Drafting and Design Certificate

OCCUPATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Associate Degree in Occupational Technology – major in General Technology
Associate Degree in Occupational Technology – major in Vocational Technical Education

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

Associate in Industrial Technology – major in Automotive Technology
Associate in Industrial Technology – major in Building Construction Technology
Associate in Industrial Technology – major in Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning Technology
Associate in Industrial Technology – major in Industrial Electronics Technology
Associate in Industrial Technology – major in Machine Tool Technology
Machine Tool Diploma
Welding Diploma
Carpentry Certificate
Computerized Numerical Control Certificate
Construction Management Certificate
Electrical Maintenance Technician Certificate
Gunsmithing Certificate
Heating Fundamentals Certificate
Industrial Maintenance Mechanics Certificate
Journeyman Welding Certificate
Machine Tool Operator Certificate
Refrigeration Applications Certificate

PUBLIC SERVICE

Associate Degree in Public Service – major in Criminal Justice
Associate Degree in Public Service – major in Early Care and Education
Associate Degree in Public Service – major in Human Services, concentration in Instructional Assistant
Early Childhood Development Certificate
Infant Toddler Certificate
Basic Officer Training Certificate

HEALTH SCIENCES

Associate in Health Science – major in Nursing
Associate in Health Science – major in Radiologic Technology
Associate in Health Science – major in Respiratory Care
Medical Assisting Diploma
Pharmacy Technician Diploma
Practical Nursing Diploma
Surgical Technology Diploma
Basic Emergency Medical Technician Certificate
Dental Hygiene Certificate
General Health Science Certificate
Massage Therapy Certificate
Medical Coding & Billing Certificate
Medical Laboratory Technology Certificate
Occupational Therapy Assistant Certificate
Patient Care Technician Certificate
Phlebotomy Technician Certificate
Physical Therapy Assistant Certificate
Veterinary Technician Certificate

Locations and Distance Education

Piedmont Technical College is located in Greenwood, South Carolina, and serves a seven-county region in the piedmont area of the state. All associate degree, diploma, and certificate programs offered by the college can be obtained primarily through traditional classroom instruction at this location, with the exception of Professional Clay and Veterinary Technician.

In 1991, Piedmont opened the first of six centers in each of the outlying counties it serves: Abbeville, Edgefield, Laurens, McCormick, Newberry and Saluda. General education courses, as well as a limited number of curriculum courses are taught in the traditional format in all six county centers, but they do not constitute 50 percent of the credits toward any associate degree. Courses in the Practical Nursing diploma program are offered at each of the two largest county centers, Laurens and Newberry, in the traditional format. However, effective with the fall of 2007, all lecture courses are taught on the main campus; therefore less than 50% of the program will be taught in the Newberry or Laurens County Centers. The last cohort of LPN students will complete their training at the Newberry County Center in December 2007. In the fall of 2006, we offered Professional Clay Certificate at the Edgefield County Center and in the fall of 2007, the Veterinary Technician Certificate program was offered at the Newberry County Center.

In 1995, the college added a unique fiber optic interactive network called the Piedmont Educational Network (PEN). By 1996, students in the county centers had greater class offerings, taught primarily by faculty at the Greenwood campus. The college also began the systematic development of standardized online courses using the WebCT course management system.

In 1997, the South Carolina Technical Education System submitted a substantive change to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools regarding the distance education programs being developed within the state system and by the 16 individual technical colleges.

Today, approximately 1500 students are enrolled in at least one online course, out of the 140 being offered. Most students are regular Piedmont students from our seven-county region, who choose to take one or more online class along with traditional classes. In the fall of 2007, 82 percent of the online students resided within our service region.

Students utilizing primarily electronic means can complete associate's degrees in Office Systems Technology, Business, Industrial Electronics Technology, Associate in Arts and Associate in Science, as well as a diploma in Automated Office Technology. Certificates that can be earned primarily online include General Studies, Microcomputer Software Specialist, Office Technician and Interior Design.

Accreditation

<u>Program</u>	<u>Accrediting Agency</u>	<u>Year</u>
College	Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools	1998
Associate in Business	Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs	2006
Associate in Business, Funeral Services Major	American Board of Funeral Service Education	2007
Associate Degree Nursing	National League for Nursing Accreditation Commission	2006
Associate Degree Nursing and Practical Nursing	State Board of Nursing for South Carolina	2006
Automotive Technology	National Institute for Automotive Excellence	2006
Electronic Engineering Technology and Engineering Graphics Technology	Technology Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology	2004
Medical Assisting	American Association of Medical Assistants	2007
Radiologic Technology	Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology	2002
Respiratory Care	Joint Review Committee for Respiratory Therapy Education	2001
Surgical Technology	Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education programs	2001

No sanctions or negative actions have been taken by any of these accrediting agencies within the past two years.

Relationship to the U.S. Department of Education

No limitations, suspensions or terminations with regard to student financial aid or other financial aid programs have been imposed on Piedmont Technical College by the U.S. Department of Education during the past three years.