

## PROGRAM REVIEW

CDL/Truck Driving	01	49.025	17 Credit hours	CP
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## BRIEF PROGRAM SUMMARY

**Enrollment Based on Productivity Outcomes/ Annual Completions:** 29.5 CPs based on ADHE five-year average. PCCUA has averaged more than 36.3 completers during the last three years, all do not get the Certificate of Proficiency which is what ADHE is counting. The CDL/Truck Driving program meets the ADHE productivity requirement

### Program Costs 2016-2021-\$ 547,822.14

Many of the costs for this program have been defrayed by various grants related to industry needs (Perkins Reserve, Regional Workforce Grant Phase II, DOL Arkansas Delta Workforce Opportunities for Rural Community Colleges (ADWORC)).

**Income from Tuition and Fees for 2016-21-\$541,000.00 (includes Summer 2021).** Current Fall numbers are not included; however, there are 30 students enrolled and one additional student who has enrolled for a review. This review is a new feature we have added for those who just need to renew an expired license.

**Future Plans:** PCCUA plans to add a CDL Class B Certification-Bus Driving and Passenger Certifications. The College also intends to promote more certifications for the drivers (hazmat, doubles and triples, and tankers) because these make the graduates more employable.

## PCCUA MISSION

Phillips Community College has always been a leader and innovator in higher education in Arkansas. The College has academic, occupational/technical, and continuing education programs. New programs are continually being researched and planned so that PCCUA will remain responsive to the needs and interests of the people of Eastern Arkansas. Phillips Community College consists of three campuses located in Helena-West Helena, DeWitt, and Stuttgart, Arkansas. The main campus is located in Helena-West Helena, Arkansas, and the school serves the needs of Eastern Arkansas. According to the mission statement:

*Phillips Community College is a multi-campus, two-year college serving the communities of Eastern Arkansas. The college is committed to helping every student succeed. We provide high-quality, accessible educational opportunities and skills development to promote life-long learning, and we engage in the lives of our students and our communities.*

## **HARSH REALITIES**

PCCUA is biracial and has one of the highest percentages of underserved minority citizens in Arkansas. All programs at PCCUA are designed to help our students succeed in college and in life. In our efforts we serve communities with extraordinarily high poverty, a high minority population, critically low educational attainment rates, and because the area has distressingly high teen pregnancy rates many of our students are single parents. We serve students that face so many obstacles in life and are some of the neediest in the region, state, or the nation. Our students must have hope and tenacity to complete programs that can help them change the quality of their lives and provide a decent living wage. The CDL program is that kind of opportunity. One young man drove across the state to enroll in the program. We knew he was using the food pantry and career closet. Once we discovered he was living out of his car, we found him shelter at a local mission. He completed his CDL and now has a good job and a home. Another student in his late forties enrolled in our Transitional Training Opportunities Program (TTOP) and took CDL classes. TOPP is focused on supporting post incarcerated, system impacted individuals. This student completed his CDL a couple of years ago and is now driving across country for a major trucking corporation. Both men visit the program each semester to share their stories with students.

## **HISTORY OF THE PROGRAM**

The 2015 Arkansas Labor Market and Economic Report for the State and Local Workforce Development Areas published by Arkansas Department of Workforce Service report listed truck driving first as a demand occupation for those needing moderate skills. Showing 810 annual openings in Arkansas. That same report shared that *Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer* had 33,608 people employed making it the second largest occupation in Arkansas. This encouraged PCCUA to seek approval for a Truck Driving program.

The American Trucking Associations (ATA) has reported serious shortages in the truck driving industry. The issues with the truck driving occupation according to companies who recruit from us is that the pandemic has made this worse. Also, a large number of drivers are retiring. That is what is causing the shortages and is what prompted PCCUA to examine and eventually seek permission to begin a CDL program. Many of our students are place bound and we knew that truck drivers do not always live where they work. It is a high demand, high wage, fast training program and graduates could easily find jobs.

The CDL/Truck Driving program began in the Fall of 2016 with three students on the Stuttgart Campus. Three semesters later the College expanded the program by delivering it at the Helena campus. The program is designed to prepare students for acquiring the CDL Commercial Drivers License. It also gives students an opportunity to acquire additional certifications such as hazmat, double and triples.

Semester	CDL/Truck Driving Completers		**Certifications (Hazmat, Doubles & Triples, Tankers)
	ADHE	PCCUA	
2016 Stuttgart Only	1	1	0
2017 Stuttgart Only	6	7	8
2018 Added Helena Campus	9	31	16
2019	29	38	33
2020	*53	38	17
2021	27	20	22
Total	125	**135	96
Students completing in the summer are counted in the next year's count by ADHE but not by PCCUA. This is why ADHE and PCCUA counts look different. Notice 2020.			
Enrolled for Fall 2021	30 and 1 student for review		
* The way ADHE calculates annual enrollment is different from how we count it. Our summer students are included in the annual count while ADHE included the summer count in the next year's number because of the end date.			
**Some students do not complete a CP so are not counted in ADHE counts.			

Note: Some students complete the CDL and leave before finishing the Certificate of Proficiency. We are in the process of changing that by reconfiguring the internship course. In addition, some students are not counted in the ADHE completion counts because they take longer than a semester to complete the program. PCCUA allows students to remain until they complete the program or pass the test (not to exceed three tries on passing the exam). THE ADHE recorded average between 2018-21 is 29.5 drivers per year; however, we actually produce more than that because we carry students into a second semester if needed although they are sometimes not counted in enrollment. All students seeking a job in this program are placed and the wages range from \$45,000-\$82,000 depending on what company hires them and the kind of driving they do.

## Program Costs

PCCUA has three trucks, two have been purchased through grants. We have retired one automatic truck and are using it for teaching truck maintenance. This may result in a large engine repair course. The program qualifies for Pell funds because it is 17 credit hours and leads directly to a high wage, high demand occupation.

## Instruction

1. Lead Instructor- hired in 2016 at a 12month rate. Since his hire, half his salary has been funded through grants. Jerry Baldrige
2. Instructor 2-12 months hired in 2019 Andy Green
3. Part-time support- no more than 40 hours per month/helps with teaching support and secretarial costs Mary Green

4. Adjunct instructors hired when needed for additional driving-not every semester  
Hank Boudinot  
Eugene Banks

Equipment	Supplies
Truck 1-Purchased through ADWORC Grant	Tires-purchased through Perkins funding
Truck 2-College Purchase	Truck Maintenance-ADWORC grant
Truck 3-Purchased through Perkins Reserve Fund Grant	Gas-PCCUA
Truck 4 Regional Workforce Grant Phase II Funded	
Trailers-4 all purchased through grants	

### Program Costs

	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	
Personnel	96,550.23	68,636.48	57,051.94	17,780.00	22,992.20	263,010.85
Benefits	26,742.23	17,997.62	11,397.89	5,382.50	5,566.84	67,087.08
Travel	00.00	549.6	657.89	00.00	00.00	1,207.49
Equipment	10,705.23	22,309.37	77420.16	15,203.67	9,609.84	135,248.27
Supplies	16,029.18	18091.29	25812.95	15459.61	5,875.42	81,268.45
Program Costs	150,026.87	127,584.36	172,340.83	53,825.78	44,044.30	547,822.14

Note: Grants have defrayed program costs. PCCUA will be purchasing its fourth truck but we have only paid for one. Grants have covered partial salaries, trucks, trailers, and tires. This is reflected in the differences in year to year costs.

### Program Income

Tuition and Fees (there is an additional \$1,000 program fee which is well below many other truck driving programs. This is a Pell eligible program approved by DOE and many of the students receive a Pell grant to support program costs.

This CDL \$1,000 fee covers additional driving time, insurance, permit and testing fees, cost of Drug testing and physical per student.

The total income collected from the program is \$541,000 (\$2,707 per semester for tuition and fees x 200 applicants from 2016-2021).

### Program Plans

The PCCUA Strategic Planning resulted in recommendations for the program based on the success of the CDL program. The College is exploring the possibility of an engine repair program, a CDL Class B Licensure program for bus drivers, and to expand the training to include additional certifications for hazmat, doubles and triples, and tankers. There was also some discussion about adding training to operate large farm equipment but that was not included as part of the plan.