



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contacts: Chandra Scott | cscott@alabamapossible.org | 205.939.1408
Keila Lawrence | klawrence@alabamapossible.org | 205.939.1408

First Historically Black Community College (HBCC) /Predominately Black Community College (PBCC) Alabama Network Forum

Alabama Possible host Alabama's eight HBCCs/PBCCs to enhance pathways creation, student basic needs support, and network development

Alabama (May 9, 2022) – [Complete College America](#) (CCA) has selected [Alabama Possible](#) to convene the nation's first Historically Black Community College (HBCC) and Predominantly Black Community College (PBCC) [network](#). This network, supported by Lumina Foundation and Annie E. Casey Foundation, will host its first HBCC/PBCC Alabama Network Forum on Monday, May 9, 2022, from 10AM-2PM at the Alabama Community College System office.

The [Alabama Community College System](#) has eight HBCCs/PBCCs: Drake State, Gadsden State, Lawson State, Shelton State, Wallace State-Selma, Chattahoochee Valley, Trenholm State, and Bishop State Community College. These institutions are joining 14 institutions across seven states to enhance pathways creation, student basic needs support, and network development. The HBCC/PBCC Network will provide a space for institutional leaders, faculty, and staff to learn the best student-centric practices and targeted supports to re-engage students who have paused or "stopped out" their studies.

"Alabama's HBCCs/PBCCs are key to fulfilling our state's goal of creating 500,000 credentialed Alabamians by 2025 to meet workforce demands of our state's business/industry," states Chandra Scott, executive director for Alabama Possible. "National partners like Complete College America provide proven strategies that will better identify and serve adult learners in attaining credentials of value aligned to career choices that will break barriers to prosperity."

Complete College America will engage institutional leadership to identify and provide various resources to support more students completing their degrees.

"The Alabama Community College System is committed to meeting the educational and workforce needs of all citizens in Alabama. The development of the Historically Black and Predominantly Black Community College Network supports and strengthens our efforts to make community colleges in Alabama

a place where all students can have a strong start and finish,” said Chancellor Jimmy Baker, Alabama Community College System.

“Institutional and state partners of the HBCC/PBCC Network are building strong pathways to advance college completion for adult learners of color,” said Complete College America President Dr. Yolanda Spiva Watson. “CCA welcomes Alabama’s eight institutions to this network to create credentials of value and provide support services for students. I am confident that this network will increase student success for Alabamians and close institutional performance gaps, especially for marginalized and historically excluded students.”

###

About Alabama Possible

Alabama Possible is a statewide nonprofit organization that breaks down barriers to prosperity through advocacy, education and collaboration. We influence public policy to ensure every high school graduate in our state can pursue technical or academic credentials after high school. Our programs connect Alabama’s educational leaders, students and families with resources necessary to cultivate a college-going culture and equitable educational attainment. For more information, visit www.alabamapossible.org