

GENERAL INFORMATION



General Information

History

The Alvin Community College District was approved by the qualified voters of the Alvin Independent School District on November 2, 1948. From its inception until the 1971-72 academic year, the College was administered by officials of the Alvin Independent School District. The 1971-72 academic year marked the beginning of a new era in the history of Alvin Community College. A separate administration, tax district, and College Board were established to assume the management, control, and operation of a newly created Alvin Junior College District.

Initially, when the College and public schools were in the same system, the College was part of Alvin High School. The first classes began on September 12, 1949, in facilities which grouped grades 11 through 14 in one building and which placed Alvin under a system known as the 6-4-4 plan. One of the more important changes in the program of Alvin Community College was the building of a separate physical plant for academic work at the college level and dropping of the 6-4-4 plan in favor of a 6-3-3-2 arrangement. The college program was strengthened by additional facilities, by an enlarged faculty, and by successfully meeting the standards of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools (1959). Alvin Community College moved to its present campus in the summer session of 1963.

By a vote of both the original district and voters of adjoining territories, the college district was enlarged to nearly twice its geographical size in 1974. Then, in the spring of 1975, an \$8 million bond issue was approved, providing funds for the facilities necessary to meet an expanding enrollment. In 1998 the College expanded into its service area with the establishment of the Pearland Center in the former C.J. Harris Elementary School in Pearland.

In the Spring 2005, a 19.9 million dollar bond issue was approved, providing funds for a new Science/Health Science Building to meet the needs of expanding health programs, overcrowded classrooms, and provide up to date technology and simulation labs.

The enrollment of Alvin Community College has grown from 134 students in 1949 to a record high of 5296 in 2010 . During this period of growth, Alvin Community College has had five presidents:

- Mr. A.G. Welch 1949-1954
- Dr. A.B. Templeton 1954-1964
- Mr. D.P. O'Quinn. 1964-1971
- Dr. T.V. Jenkins. 1971-1976
- Dr. A. Rodney Allbright 1976 to present

Philosophy

We believe in the dignity and worth of all individuals. Learning is a lifelong process, and all individuals should have opportunities for lifelong education. Education should help people develop, to their maximum capacity, technical excellence, occupational proficiency, and academic ability. Education should also provide for personal enrichment. To prosper in a complex and changing society, each individual must learn to think independently, value logical and tested conclusions, develop problem-solving abilities, and function effectively with other people. Competent performance contributes significantly to individual health and happiness and benefits the organizations and communities in which individuals work and live. Alvin Community College is an integral part of the community it serves, and it must respond to identified needs and interests. In delivering educational services, we believe that there is no substitute for the pursuit of excellence.

Mission

Alvin Community College is a public, two-year, comprehensive community college with a strong educational heritage and a continuing emphasis on providing quality educational experiences for all of its students. The College seeks to implement its philosophy by providing quality post-secondary educational services (including occupational/technical, college transfer, and adult programs) for all those who can benefit from them, as well as quality occupational/technical program opportunities for area secondary students. The College also seeks to provide accessible educational services, through varied formats and schedules and full- and part-time programs, which address a wide spectrum of individual needs and abilities, along with educational programming related to the economic and employment realities of the area served, and to offer expanded career options through cooperation with industry, business, professions, government, and other educational institutions. In addition, the College seeks to offer comprehensive programs which integrate communications, math, science, humanities, interpersonal skills, and reasoning. Further, the College seeks to provide students the opportunity to develop skills needed to enter and succeed in College programs through continuing opportunities to extend and upgrade skills, knowledge, and interests; through testing, evaluation, and counseling to allow students to make informed decisions regarding their abilities, achievements, and behavior; and through experiences to develop personal, social, and cultural dimensions. The College is accountable for its mission within the limitations of its physical and financial resources.

Institutional Goals

To fulfill its stated Mission, the College has established specific goals that are modified as needed to meet changing circumstances. These goals are as follows:

1. To provide appropriate academic courses in the arts and sciences for those pursuing associate degrees or planning to transfer to a senior institution.
2. To provide one and two-year technical programs that prepare graduates to enter business or industry with marketable skills.
3. To provide programs that assist students to master skills that are fundamental to academic and career achievement.
4. To provide continuing education programs that incorporate current and new technical courses, training partnerships with business and industry, and other opportunities for individuals to acquire and upgrade skills or seek personal enrichment.
5. To provide an environment that supports and encourages students in their academic advancement and assists them in their personal and social development.
6. To provide for the systematic measurement of academic excellence and institutional effectiveness and evaluate the progress of the institution's achievement of its strategic objectives.
7. To provide opportunities for collaboration, cooperation, and/or articulation with area schools, community colleges, universities, industries, and local government.
8. To maintain a commitment to educational excellence through intensive efforts to recruit, retain, develop, and support an outstanding faculty and staff.
9. To provide a cost-effective use of human, physical, and fiscal resources.
10. To maintain a safe and inviting campus environment.
11. To recruit, retain, and educate students to their selected level of educational success.

In addition to the goals described above, Alvin Community College subscribes to the purpose of the public community college as outlined in Section 130.003 of the Texas Education Code.

1. Technical programs up to two years in length leading to associate degrees or certificates;
2. Technical programs leading directly to employment in semi-skilled and skilled occupations;
3. Freshman and sophomore courses in arts and sciences;
4. Continuing adult education programs for occupational or cultural upgrading;
5. Compensatory education programs designed to fulfill the commitment of an admissions policy allowing the enrollment of disadvantaged students;
6. A continuing program of counseling and guidance designed to assist students in achieving their individual educational goals;
7. Work force development programs designed to meet local and statewide needs;
8. Adult literacy and other basic skills programs for adults; and
9. Such other purposes as may be prescribed by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board or local governing boards in the best interest of post-secondary education in Texas.

Facilities

The main campus of Alvin Community College, situated on 113 acres in Alvin, Texas, consists of seventeen buildings: Learning Resources Center, Fine Arts Center, Childcare Center, Business and Industrial Technologies Center, Student Center, Physical Fitness Center, Liberal Arts Building, Continuing Education - Workforce Training/Health Science Center, Occupational Technical Building, Court Reporting Center/KACC Radio-TV Building, Nolan Ryan Center, Maintenance Complex, Transportation Center, Shipping & Receiving Building, Science/Health Science Building, Art Instruction Laboratory.

The first floor of the Learning Resources Center contains the Department of Information Technology, Office of the Dean of Students, Enrollment Services Center, Advising Services, Financial Aid Office, Registrar's Office, Veterans and Graduation Offices, Cyberlink Lab and Business Office. The second floor houses the Learning Lab, Career Planning and Placement Office, classrooms, the Library, GED, and various faculty. The Fine Arts Center contains facilities for the Music Department, Drama Department, and Art Department. Facilities include studios, rehearsal rooms, offices, an art gallery, and the Theater/ auditorium.

The first floor of the Childcare Center houses classrooms, offices and kitchen facilities used by the Child Development Laboratory School and Kindergarten program. The second floor contains faculty offices and classrooms, as well as, offices used by the Upward Bound program and the Marketing and Communications department. In addition to the many classrooms and offices located in the Business and Industrial Technologies Center, laboratories are provided for the various programs in the area. Facilities include an open-concept office administration lab and a crime lab. Facilities for instruction in industrial programs include an electronics lab, a welding lab and fabrication shop. Also in this building are offices and classrooms for the Child Development program.

The Student Center consists of the Texas Room, Student Activities offices, campus cafe and College Store

The Physical Fitness Center includes the athletic offices, the gym, weight room, dance exercise studio, four racquetball courts, saunas, dressing rooms, lockers, eight tennis courts, a baseball field, two-mile jogging track, a soccer/football field, a softball field, and related fitness equipment.

The Liberal Arts Center contains classrooms, the foreign language lab, faculty offices, and the offices of the Dean of Academic Programs, and the Academic Division Chairs.

The Art Instruction Laboratory contains offices, storage, and space for art instruction and creation.

The Continuing Education-Workforce Training/Health Science Center contains offices, classrooms, and laboratories supporting workforce training in Health Sciences offered through the College's Continuing Education.

The Science/Health Science Building contains four teaching theaters, laboratories, classrooms, faculty suites, offices of Allied Health Division chairs, and office of the Provost Dean of Instruction.

The Occupational Technical Building includes a drafting lab/classroom, two additional laboratories, six classrooms, faculty offices, and the Criminal Justice Training Center.

The Court Reporting Center/KACC Radio-TV building is the operational center for 89.7 KACC, a federally licensed FM radio station and student laboratory. This center also includes faculty offices, a mock courtroom, and a performing arts venue.

The Nolan Ryan Center is a 12,000 square foot facility built by the Nolan Ryan Foundation and donated to the college in 1996. It contains classrooms, a community room that seats 216 people and kitchen facilities. The remaining portion of the building houses the Nolan Ryan Exhibit Center.

There is parking space on the main campus for approximately 1,940 vehicles.

Pearland Center

Continuing Education/Workforce Education classes are taught at the Pearland Center. Classes are offered Monday through Thursday and on weekends.

Public Notice, Compliance Statements

Civil Rights:

In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P . L . 88-352), Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (P.L. 92-318), and the Age Discrimination Act of 1978 (P.L. 95-256), Alvin Community College does not discriminate against or exclude from participation in any of its programs or activities, either in the student body or the staff, any person on the grounds of sex, race, color, religion, age, handicap, national origin, or veteran status.

Rights of Individuals with Disabilities:

Alvin Community College complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-112) and with the Americans With Disabilities Act (P.L. 101-336), and does not discriminate on the basis of a disability in the areas of admission, accessibility, treatment and employment. Individuals with disabilities, as defined under the law, who are otherwise qualified to meet the institution's academic and employment requirements will be provided with a variety of academic services and resources. ACC supports efforts in making the campus more accessible and encourages students with disabilities to participate in all activities. Students seeking assistance should contact the Advising Services. Information concerning college practices as they relate to Section 504 and ADA should be directed to the Dean of Students.

Access to Programs: Admission to College programs is based on requirements outlined in this catalog. Alvin Community College will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not restrict admission to and participation in its programs.

Students Right-To-Know

Student Right-To-Know (SRTK) is a federally-mandated public disclosure requirement which provides data about Alvin Community College's completion and transfer rates. The purpose of SRTK is to provide the public with standardized information that might be helpful in making a college determination. Information about this data may be obtained from the Office of Institutional Effectiveness

and Research. STRK rates are reported annually on the IPEDS-GRS (Integrated Postsecondary Educational Data System-Graduation Rate Survey).

Campus crime statistics are reported on the college home page - www.alvincollege.edu.

FERPA:

Family Education Rights and Privacy Act and Access to Student Records: The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (PL 93-380), commonly known as FERPA, provides that all records pertaining to a student that are maintained by the college must be open for inspection by the student and may not be made available to any other person without the written authorization of the student.

Release of Directory Information

The following items of directory information may be released without the written consent of the student: name, address, telephone numbers, date of birth, major, awards and degrees, email address, participation in sports and activities, weight and height of athletic team members, dates of attendance, most recent educational institution attended and enrollment status. The student is responsible for notifying the Registrar's Office by the 12th class day of every fall/spring semester and by the 4th class day of the summer sessions if any of the information listed above is not to be released.

The student must complete the FERPA Non-release Form in person and provide picture identification. The student also has the right to allow designated individuals to view their non-directory information. The student must complete the Limited FERPA Release Form in person and provide picture identification at the ESC at any time. The individual(s) who the student releases non-directory information to must request to view that information in person and provide picture identification at the ESC. No information will be given over the phone.

Students have the right under FERPA to inspect and review their education records within 45 days of the day the institution receives a request for access. Students should submit to the registrar, written requests that identify the record(s) they wish to inspect. The registrar will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. Records not maintained by the registrar will also be made available.

Students may ask the college to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should contact the registrar, identify the part of the record to be changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the college decides to amend the record as requested by the student, the college will notify the student of the decision and advise the student of the right to a hearing regarding the request of the amendment. Upon request the college may disclose education records without consent to officials of another school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

Students have the right to file a complaint with the United States Department of Education concerning alleged failures by Alvin Community College to comply with the requirements of FERPA.

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
600 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20202-4605
Phone: (202) 260-3887

Photo and Videotape Policy

The ACC's Marketing Office takes photographs (still and video) of students throughout the year. These photographs often include students in classrooms, study areas, attending events, etc. ACC reserves the right to use these photographs as a part of its publicity and marketing efforts. Students who enroll at ACC do so with the understanding that these photographs might include their likeness and might be used in College publications, both printed and electronic, for recruiting and advertising purposes. Permission will always be requested from the student prior to use.

Sex Offender Information: To comply with the Campus Sex Crime Prevention Act (section 1601 of Public Law 106-386), which is a Federal Law enacted on October 28, 2000, that provides for the tracking of convicted registered sex offenders enrolled as students at institutions of higher education, or working on college campuses, Alvin Community College provides a website: www.alvincollege.edu/police/sexoffenderinfo.htm. To access the website simply click on the address, then read the caveats and agree to the terms. You will be able to search by name or location.

Religious Holy Days: In compliance with Texas Education Code 51.911, Alvin Community College allows a student to be absent for the observance of a religious holy day. Students may request permission for this absence in the office of Dean of Students.

Illegal Drugs: In compliance with HR 253/SR 645, no illegal drugs shall be allowed on campus. Any student caught with an illegal drug will be liable to disciplinary action as described in the Alvin Community College Student Handbook.

Smoking Policy: ACC is a tobacco free campus. This policy applies to all college facilities (except parking lots), owned or leased, regardless of location, all athletic facilities and college vehicles.

Standard of Conduct: The college student is considered a responsible adult. The student's enrollment indicates acceptance of the standards of conduct published in the Student Handbook.

Sexual Harassment

It is the policy of Alvin Community College to maintain an educational environment free from sexual harassment and intimidation. Sexual harassment is expressly prohibited, and offenders are subject to disciplinary action. "Sexual harassment" is defined as either unwelcome sexual advances or requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature, by an employee of the college, when:

- (1) submission by a student to such conduct is made explicitly or implicitly a condition for academic opportunity or advancement;
- (2) submission to or rejection of such conduct by a student is used as the basis for academic decisions affecting that student; or
- (3) the intended effects to or reasonably foreseeable effect of such conduct is to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment for the student.

Racial Harassment

Alvin Community College assumes an affirmative action position to prevent racial harassment on campus by any faculty, staff employee, administrator, or student.

Equal Educational Opportunity

The college prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in any aspect of a student's education. Equal Opportunity is provided pursuant to the Title IX of the Education amendment of 1972, as amended.

Title IX Coordinators Responsible for Implementation and Enforcement

For information about your rights and grievance procedures, contact the Dean of Students, (281) 756-3517, or the Director of Human Resources, (281) 756-3639, at 3110 Mustang Road, Alvin, Texas 77511-4898.

Filing a Grievance

The Office of the Dean of Students and the Director of Human Resources have been given the primary responsibility for responding to questions about and receiving complaints of sexual harassment or violation of civil rights of students. Students may also address their questions or complaints to the department chairperson or other college administrative personnel. In such cases, the chairperson or the administrator should immediately contact the Dean of Students and/or the Director of Human Resources for consultation.

Investigation of a specific complaint of sexual harassment will be initiated upon submission of a written and signed statement by the student to the Dean of Students. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent permitted under the law, and the rights of the individuals involved will be protected. Disagreement with the resolution of the complaint will be handled according to the usual procedures for grievances as outlined in the Student Handbook.

Social Media Guidelines

Social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn, and blogs provide opportunities for students to communicate and share information. The college endorses "best practices" which help students make effective use of these opportunities. Please refer to the ACC Student Handbook for a comprehensive list of general cautionary recommendations.

Classroom Use of Personal Electronic Devices

Alvin Community College establishes the right of each faculty member to determine if and how personal electronic devices are allowed to be used in the classroom.

1. College instructors may restrict or prohibit the use of personal electronic devices in his or her classroom, lab, or any other instructional setting. An instructor may allow students to use laptops or other devices for taking notes or class work.
2. Individual students may be directed to turn off personal electronic devices if the devices are not being used for class purposes. If the student does not comply, the student may be asked to leave the classroom.
3. In establishing restrictions, instructors must make reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities in working with the Office for Disabilities Services.
4. Students are not permitted to record (whether audio or visual or both) any part of a class/lab/other session unless explicitly granted permission to do so by the instructor.
5. Students who fail to comply with an instructor's restrictions or prohibition will be subject to the Student Discipline and Conduct Code as published in the Alvin Community College Student Handbook or be asked to leave the class.