

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What is **Partners for Progress**?

A: **Partners for Progress** is an exciting new five-year program to expand and enhance education programs at Jefferson State Community College. The program grew out of a dynamic Strategic Plan developed in 2009 by more than 50 corporate and community leaders from the greater Birmingham, four-county region.

Q: Who is leading the **Partners for Progress** initiative?

A: The Jefferson State Community College Foundation, a 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt organization, is leading the initiative. Campaign leadership is composed of business, industry and community leaders in partnership with Jefferson State Community College administration, staff and alumni.

Q: How will the **Partners for Progress** initiative be funded?

A: **Partners for Progress** is a region-wide fundraising campaign, partnering with governmental entities, the region's business community and friends of Jefferson State Community College.

Q: What does the **Partners for Progress** initiative include?

A: **Partners for Progress** includes six critical action items that Jefferson State Community College will implement over the next five years:

- Establish and expand allied health programs, including nursing, at the St. Clair and Chilton campuses
- Enhance workforce development in the four-county region
- Develop and implement a University Center within the Jefferson State network
- Provide infrastructure for state-of-the-art technology at all Jefferson State campuses
- Enhance and expand distance learning capabilities for the entire College
- Expand, enhance and extend state-of-the-art technology to all Jefferson State students, faculty and administration

Q: How can I help?

A: The Jefferson State Community College Foundation needs your ideas and advice, as well as your financial support. The Foundation is counting on regional leaders like you to get involved in this extraordinary program during the next five years. If the **Partners for Progress** initiative is to succeed, it will take all of us working together to create and implement the education program our community needs and deserves.

Q: Is our investment in **Partners for Progress** tax deductible?

A: Yes! The Jefferson State Community College Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt organization. As a business, your five-year investment in **Partners for Progress** may be tax deductible as a trade or business expense. Your investment as an individual may be tax deductible as a charitable gift. However, either as an individual or on behalf of your business, you should contact your tax professional for specific information and advice regarding your commitment.

Q: Doesn't funding for our colleges come from the State Board of Education, tuition and our taxes?

A: While funding does come from appropriations allocated by the Alabama Board of Education and money generated by tuition, the dollars they provide go to the basic operational expenses of the College. They do not stretch far enough to enable Jefferson State Community College to implement these visionary programs outlined in the **Partners for Progress** initiative and the College's Strategic Plan. Your support will empower the College to implement an aggressive, comprehensive program that builds upon the strong foundation it offers now, greatly enhancing the College's courses of study.

Q: Who will benefit from the **Partners for Progress** program?

A: Every corner of the region will benefit from this initiative. Prospects for credit, corporate and community education, workforce development, economic development, entrepreneurial opportunities and quality of life all will be enhanced through this project. Students, faculty and staff at Jefferson State Community College, citizens, businesses, industries and organizations throughout the region can all benefit from a strategy that at its core provides the kind of quality education that this plan so clearly sets out over the next five years.

Q: Will we be informed of the progress and achievements of **Partners for Progress**?

A: Yes! The Jefferson State Community College Foundation will be accountable, developing and publishing an annual "Report Card" that will measure the College's progress in accomplishing each of the goals and objectives of **Partners for Progress**. As a Shareholder, you will receive regular updates of the progress of this vital program.

Q: Is the public sector participating in **Partners for Progress**?

A: Yes! Through the years, many of the municipalities and counties throughout the College's service area have been faithful partners with the College in developing and implementing much needed programs to support their communities. For **Partners for Progress** to succeed, it is important that the public sector continue its strong support.

Q: If so, why are you asking the private sector to participate?

A: For the **Partners for Progress** program to be a true "public / private partnership" for education and workforce development in the four-county area, it is essential that our region's corporate leaders join local communities and individual citizens in this effort. The success of this initiative depends on the synergy of a collaborative "team approach" by all of the leaders, public and private, throughout the region.

Q: How can I get additional information about **Partners for Progress**?

A: Please contact Wayne Collier at the **Partners for Progress** campaign office at (205) 983-5323.