

The Area of Student Engagement Highlights 2024-25

First Destination Survey

In the 2024–2025 academic year, Hocking College celebrated diverse graduation outcomes across various fields of study. This survey of 480 respondents provides valuable insight to graduate career outcomes.

Summer 2024 Graduates

- **Fields of Study:** Allied Health/Nursing (77%), Natural Resources/Public Safety (8%), Workforce (13%), General Studies (3%).
- **Post-Graduation Outcomes:**
 - 36% secured an interview for a position.
 - Among those who received offers:
 - 26% received one job offer.
 - 31% received 2–3 job offers.
 - 3% received 4–5 job offers.
 - Job acceptance:
 - 41% accepted a job offer.
 - 44% secured a new position with a new employer.
 - 31% obtained a new or better position with their existing employer from their student role.
 - 25% remained in the same position held as a student.

Autumn 2024 Graduates

- **Fields of Study:** Allied Health (46%), Workforce (24%), Natural Resources/Public Safety (21%), General Studies (9%).
- **Post-Graduation Outcomes:**
 - 50% had an interview for a position.
 - Among those receiving job offers:
 - 30% received one offer.
 - 25% received 2–3 offers.
 - 1% received 4–5 offers.
 - 2% received 6 or more offers.
 - Job acceptance:
 - 38% accepted a job offer.
 - 57% entered a new position with a new employer.
 - 34% achieved a new or better position with their student employer.
 - 9% continued in their same student position.

Spring 2025 Graduates

- **Fields of Study:** Natural Resources/Public Safety (41%), Allied Health/Nursing (35%), Workforce (19%), General Studies (5%).
- **Post-Graduation Outcomes:**
 - 58% participated in interviews.
 - Among those receiving job offers:
 - 28% received one offer.
 - 32% received 2–3 offers.
 - 5% received 4–5 offers.
 - 2% received 6 or more offers.

- Job acceptance:
 - 45% accepted a job offer.
 - 52% secured a new position with a new employer.
 - 30% obtained a new or better position with their existing employer from their student role.
 - 18% remained in the same position held as a student.

2024–2025 Plan to Transfer to a 4-Year Degree Program

- 22% of graduates indicated plans to transfer to a four-year institution to pursue further education.

2024–2025 Graduate Demographics

- Black: 13.64%
- Asian: 1.95%
- White: 87.66%
- Native American: 0.65%
- Hispanic: 1.30%
- Somali: 0.65%

Annual Salary Breakdown

During the 2024–25 academic year, a total of **480 students** participated in the First Destination Survey at Hocking College. The data provides insights into their employment status, salary outcomes, and general engagement while enrolled.

- **Employment Engagement:**
 - **53%** of students (255 individuals) reported having at least one job interview.
 - **42%** (203 students) accepted a job offer prior to or shortly after graduation.

- **\$10,000–\$19,000:** 20.3%
- **\$20,000–\$29,000:** 14.9%
- **\$30,000–\$39,000:** 11.8%
- **\$40,000–\$49,000:** 11.8%
- **\$50,000–\$59,000:** 12.3%
- **\$60,000–\$69,000:** 11.7%
- **\$70,000–\$79,000:** 8.4%
- **\$80,000–\$89,000:** 5.0%
- **\$90,000–\$99,000:** 0.7%
- **\$100,000 and above:** 2.9%

Student Engagement Fostering Career Readiness

The following annualized figures reflect the percentage of students involved in key activities during their enrollment:

- **Internships:** 52.95% of students participated in an internship, demonstrating strong experiential learning integration across programs.
- **Part-Time Employment:** 51.46% of students held part-time and campus jobs while enrolled, indicating a high level of workforce engagement concurrent with their studies.
- **Full-Time Employment:** 40.31% of students reported full-time employment, with many likely transitioning to professional roles post-completion or balancing employment with flexible schedules.
- **Club Participation:** 27.5% of students were involved in campus clubs, highlighting consistent extracurricular engagement and leadership development.
- **Athletics Participation:** 10.73% of students participated in athletics, contributing to student life and team-based learning.

Commencement Ceremonies

Summer 2024 Commencement:

- The Summer 2024 Commencement ceremony took place on Saturday, August 3, 2024. This is traditionally the smallest of the ceremonies for the year with about 50 graduates participating.
- A video recording of the ceremony is available online, the program is the same for autumn and spring.

Autumn 2024 Commencement:

- The Autumn 2024 Commencement Ceremony was held on Saturday, December 7, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in the Student Center.
- Over 140 graduates participated in this ceremony.
- The ceremony is described as marking the culmination of the graduates' hard work and dedication, set against the backdrop of autumn.
- A video of the Autumn 2024 Commencement Ceremony is available online.

Spring 2025 Commencement:

- The Spring 2025 Commencement was held on Saturday, May 10, 2025 with two ceremonies and over 320 graduates participating.
- This is the first ceremony where all graduates will wear mixed blue and gold tassels.
- A Graduation Pre-Party for Spring 2025 graduates was held on Wednesday, May 7, 2025, in the Student Center from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m with 255 graduates attending. The Pre-Party happens each semester on the Wednesday of finals week. This event allows graduates to pick up their cap and gown, meet with

Financial Aid and the Registrar, complete a graduation survey, and attend a rehearsal. Lunch is provided by the Hocking College Foundation.

Career Services

- The Career Center at Hocking College continues to be a valuable resource, playing a significant role in supporting students' academic and professional development. The results of this year's annual assessment indicate strong awareness and utilization of key services, reflecting the Center's ongoing commitment to student success.
- A total of **57% of survey respondents reported using in-person or virtual hiring events**; 233 students checked in to hiring events this academic year, making this service the most utilized among students. These events continue to serve as a critical bridge between students and prospective employers, offering practical networking opportunities and job prospects that align with students' future goals.
- In addition, **21% of students took advantage of the Career Closet**, while **33% reported meeting with staff to explore transfer options. In-person cover letter or resume development workshops were accessed by 44% of students**, reflecting an increasing focus on career readiness skills. This trend emphasizes the importance of equipping students with the tools necessary to enter the job market confidently.
- Many cited the **Career Closet** as a critical resource, especially for accessing **free professional and casual clothing with over 800 items being provided**. Students expressed a preference for professional outfits, including suits and

dresses, as well as seasonal items like coats, gloves, and shoes. Overall, the Career and University Center continues to deliver relevant, student-centered resources that support career readiness and professional growth.

New Student Orientation Programs: 2024-2025

The 2024-2025 academic year saw the successful implementation of comprehensive orientation programs designed to integrate new students into the Hocking College community. These programs were tailored to meet the diverse needs of both residential and commuter students, ensuring a smooth transition into college life.

Fall 2024: A Strong Start

The Fall 2024 orientation, held from August 7th to 11th, focused on creating a welcoming and informative environment for new students.

- **Residential Student Integration:** New residential students moved in on August 7th, with support from Alpha Phi Omega and opportunities to connect with Academic and Financial Aid services. The day included a Community Welcome session for both parents and students, addressing key topics such as community standards, conduct, and expectations. A Welcome Cookout provided an informal setting for students to meet college staff and faculty.
- **Academic Preparation:** August 8th was dedicated to Academic Day, where students received a welcome from the Deans of their respective schools and other interactive program based events.

- **Student Life Engagement:** The "Student Life Day" on August 9th featured "Start Strong" breakout sessions covering essential skills and resources, such as active bystander intervention, stress management, and campus involvement. Students also participated in "Hocking Happenings," choosing from various fun activities to connect with peers.
- **Community Building:** Throughout the week, various activities fostered community, including in-hall programming, a welcome bonfire, and a community engagement activity.

Spring 2025: Continuing the Momentum

The Spring 2025 orientation, held in January, mirrored the commitment to student success.

- **Residential Student Focus:** New residential students moved in on January 8th, followed by a Parent Welcome Session. January 9th was designated as Academic Day, featuring Blackboard training and orientation open houses for different academic schools. A Residential Community Meeting was held on the evening of January 9th.
- **Student Life Workshops:** January 10th was dedicated to Student Life Day workshops, including Active Bystander Intervention Training and a "Campus Toolbox" session covering Financial Aid, Student Employment, Well-being Center/Counseling, Campus Mail, and the Trio and Academic Success Center. Workshops also focused on becoming part of the campus community and getting involved.
- **Blackboard Training:** A key enhancement to the Spring 2025 orientation program was the inclusion of dedicated Blackboard training sessions.

Recognizing the critical role Blackboard plays in accessing course materials, submitting assignments, and communicating with instructors, these sessions were designed to equip new students with the essential skills to navigate the platform effectively. The session will continue into the 2025-26 Orientation programs.

- **Social Integration:** The orientation program included several social events to help students connect, such as "Hocking Happenings," a Wal-Mart run, in-hall events, and a Student Center Welcome Party.

Commuter Orientation

- To effectively serve the needs of our commuter student population, orientation programs are intentionally scheduled on Saturday of orientation week during both the Fall and Spring semesters. The Saturday scheduling aims to accommodate students who may have weekday work or other obligations, allowing for greater participation in this essential program. The commuter orientation, held from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, provides a focused introduction to key resources and services, including Welcome sessions, Financial Aid, Title IX/Campus Policies, Academic Success/Accessibility Services/TRIO, Career Planning, and Finding Your Why. The program also includes a campus tour, ensuring commuter students are well-equipped to navigate campus life and access the support they need to succeed.

Sexual Assault Prevention Programs

The 2024-2025 academic year at Hocking College saw a robust and multifaceted approach to sexual misconduct prevention programming. Building upon the foundational active bystander intervention training delivered during New Student Orientation, the Green Dot based campaign reinforced the crucial "4 D's" intervention model throughout the year.

- Integration of Title IX training within Pathways I, utilizing Therapy Assisted Online (TAO) modules, ensured comprehensive education for incoming students. A significant achievement was the award of the Expanding Campus Partners Grant in May 2024, enabling a three-week specialized program for the football team, delivered by the Ohio Men's Action Network, OMAN. Staff development was prioritized with training through NASPA's peer education program, enhancing their capacity through peer to peer support training for the 2025-26 year.
- Finally, Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April 2025 featured a three-week collaboration with SAOP (Sexual Assault Outreach Prevention of Athens Co.), providing extensive educational programming to the campus community. These efforts demonstrate Hocking College's commitment to fostering a safe and respectful learning environment.

Student Center Engagement

From August 1, 2024, to May 10, 2025, Hocking College's Student Center has served as a vibrant hub of activity and wellness, offering diverse recreational opportunities to our student body and the community. During this period, the Fitness

Center recorded an estimated 41,888 total visits, demonstrating its role as a key facility for personal fitness outside of structured athletics and events. This represents a significant increase compared to the academic year August 2024 to May 2025, when the Student Center welcomed an estimated 10,408 total guests. Such a significant increase is owed both to facility, staff, and procedural improvements as well as to significantly improved and refined methods of documenting and estimating facility usage.

- Facility rentals included usage of the Aux Gym (6 times), the Multiplex (2 times), the Climbing Wall (6 times), the Student Center as a whole (3 times), and the pool (62 times), reflecting its appeal as a venue for social, athletic, and professional gatherings. Repeat rentals included: Bobcat Swim Club renting the pool 15 times and the Aux Gym 3 times, Nelsonville-York City Schools renting the pool 13 times, Waylin Wayne Weekend renting the pool and the climbing wall 5 times, as well as Berne Band Camp renting the pool 2 times and the Aux Gym 5 times.
- Significant campus events hosted at the center included a large Quickstart Registration, several Career Showcases, two Hiring Events, the fall and spring graduation parties, and four commencement ceremonies, underscoring the center's role in celebrating academic milestones. Additionally, two lifeguard training sessions were held, emphasizing our commitment to safety and skills development.

Hawk Shop Engagement

After a prolonged closure the campus store [“Hawk Shop”] came under the management of Student Engagement, and was reopened on April 23, 2025. Between April 23, 2025 and May 10, 2025 the Hawk Shop kept a regular schedule – with some special hours for the Spring Graduation Party and Spring Commencement – and was open for a total of 9 days. In those days, we saw an outpouring of student, alumni, and community engagement. The Hawk Shop totalled \$3,614.29 in total sales, averaging \$392.14 in sales per day open and \$121.70 in sales per hour open. The level of engagement with the Hawk Shop clearly showcases the dynamic school spirit possessed by Hocking College students, alumni, staff, and the broader community.

Student Engagement Events

Throughout the 2024 to 2025 academic year, Hocking College deepened its commitment to creating a vibrant, inclusive, and student-centered campus environment. With support from the Student Activities Advisory Board (SAAB), the Hawks Center for Well-being, and active student organizations, programming provided meaningful opportunities for students to connect, decompress, and grow outside the classroom.

A variety of themed movie nights, including *Friday the 13th* under the stars, *JAWS* in the pool, and *The Mask* paired with a mask-painting activity, allowed students to engage socially in a relaxed setting. These events encouraged connection among peers while offering fun and memorable experiences that fostered a sense of community.

Creative workshops such as pumpkin painting, tie-dying, bracelet making, notebook design, and holiday ornament and card crafting gave students a hands-on outlet for

self-expression. These activities were designed to support mental wellness and encourage relaxation, while also inspiring creativity and personal development.

Seasonal celebrations played a key role in building community across campus. Events such as the Halloween Party, the Valentine's Day Sip and Paint, a Valentine's celebration with chocolate-covered strawberries, roses, and candy, Spring Ornament Painting, and the Easter Egg Hunt gave students opportunities to mark special moments in the year while enjoying festive, inclusive activities.

Social events like karaoke nights, bingo nights, and pizza parties offered welcoming spaces for students to meet new people and build friendships. These gatherings were especially valuable for fostering a sense of belonging, particularly among first-year and residential students.

School spirit was elevated through events such as Spirit Week, Pajamas and Pancakes Day, volleyball matches, Powderpuff flag football, and a campus pep rally. These programs helped cultivate campus pride and encouraged students to get involved and support one another in a fun and energizing environment.

Surveys conducted during and after the activities revealed that students found the crafting sessions particularly meaningful, as they provided a valuable opportunity for creative self-expression in a judgement-free zone. Additionally, students shared that other activities offered important benefits such as meeting new people, learning new skills, and finding time to relax and unwind.

In recognition of the challenges students face during the academic year, Stress-less Days were held during midterms and finals week. These events featured tea and cocoa stations, board games, crafting activities, and stress-relief grab bags. They provided

students with opportunities to relax, reset, and take care of their mental health while staying academically focused.

The Hawks Center for Well-being continued to support students through weekly drop-in programs. Mental Health Wednesdays in the Hawk's Nest provided information about wellness resources in a casual setting with snacks and giveaways. Monday night hangouts in Downhour gave residential students a consistent space to unwind and enjoy pizza with friends in a warm, welcoming environment.

Student clubs remained active and engaged throughout the year. Regular meetings and special activities gave members opportunities to lead and participate in unique experiences. The Paranormal Club hosted a trip to the Bellaire House in Bellaire, Ohio, where students explored paranormal investigation. The Fitness Club traveled to the Arnold Sports Festival in Columbus, Ohio, offering students exposure to health, wellness, and fitness resources aligned with their academic and personal interests.

Professional Development Day 2024 - 2025:

Student Life hosted two Professional Development days during the 2024-2025 academic year, focusing on personal growth and interpersonal skills.

- The Fall 2024 event, held on October 16th, centered on the theme "Be A Good Human! Skills for the Workforce". Sessions addressed conflict resolution, the importance of kindness in building a supportive community, and strengthening connections through effective communication.
- The Spring 2025 event, scheduled for March 19th, focused on "Cultivating Resilience and Mindfulness for a Successful LIFE". Key sessions included

strategies for overcoming adversity, "Flipping Failure" to transform setbacks into springboards, and exploring mindfulness and meditation practices.

Both events included a mix of interactive workshops, discussions, and social activities, with the goal of providing students with practical tools for personal, academic, and professional success.

Appendix

Listed below is data associated with each section narrative.

Graduation | Career and University Center | Student Resources

Graduation- Summer '24 Grads School of Study (N39)

Allied Health /Nursing 77% Natural Resources/PS 8% Workforce 13% General Studies 3%

Interviews

36% had an interview for a position

Received an Offer

26% received one job offer

31% received 2-3 job offers

3% received 4-5 job offers

0% received 6 or more job offers

Accepted an Offer

41% have accepted a job offer

44% have a new position with a new employer

31% have a new or better position with the same employer while they were a student

25% have the same position while they were a student

Plan to transfer to a 4 year degree program 36%

Autumn -'24 Grads School of Study (N115)

Natural Resources/PS 21% Workforce 24% Allied Health 46% General Studies 9%

Interviews

50% had an interview for a position

Received an Offer

30% received one job offer

25% received 2-3 job offers

1% received 4-5 job offers

2% received 6 or more job offers

Accepted an Offer

38% have accepted a job offer

57% have a new position with a new employer

34% have a new or better position with the same employer while they were a student

9% have the same position while they were a student

Plan to transfer to a 4 year degree program 47%

Spring- '25 Grads School of Study (N326)

Natural Resources/PS 41% Workforce 19% Allied Health/Nursing 35% General Studies 5%

Interviews

58% had an interview for a position

Received an Offer

28% received one job offer

32% received 2-3 job offers

5% received 4-5 job offers

2% received 6 or more job offers

Accepted an Offer

45% have accepted a job offer

52% have a new position with a new employer

30% have a new or better position with the same employer while they were a student
18% have the same position while they were a student

Plan to transfer to a 4 year degree program

22% of graduates indicated plans to transfer to a four-year institution to pursue further education.

Hiring Events

Autumn 2024 121 students attended in person and 5 online
Spring 2025 106 student attended in person and 1 online

Workforce/Leadership Experiences:

While at Hocking College I was involved with-

Part-time Job 51.46%

Full-time Job 40.31%%

Internship 52.95%

Member of a campus club 27.5%

Student Athlete 10.72%

Career Resources Annual Assessment (N115)

Attended an in-person/virtual hiring event 57%

Utilized in-person cover letter/resume review 44%

Met one on one with Career Center staff to explore transfer options 33%

Utilized online Job-Board 31%

Developed resume using SkillsFirst Resume Builder 28%

Visited the Career Closet 21%

60% Utilized professional clothing

52% Utilized casual clothing

Over 800 items of clothing and shoes were taken

Student Center Engagement

- Fitness Center Visits: 10,408 Unique Visits (not including athletics, classes, events, the climbing wall (if visited in isolation), the multiplex (if visited in isolation), many facility rentals, and silver sneakers)
- Climbing Wall: 366 Unique Visits (not including classes, the majority of wall rentals, and the majority of climbing wall meetings)
- Pool Parties: 35
- Facility Rentals:
 - Aux Gym 6
 - Multiplex: 1
 - Climbing Wall 7
 - Student Center as a whole: 3
- Water Aerobics: 36
- Silver Sneakers visits Aug 23- May 24 332
- Hosted the spring graduation party and graduation pool party
- Commencement Ceremonies: 4
- Lifeguard Training: 3 Trainings held

[August 2022 - May 2023] Over 450 unique guests (not including athletics)

[August 2022 - May 2023] Average 74 unique guests per week day

Student Activities

Student Activities Advisory Board

Established in August 2022, the Student Activities Advisory Board (SAAB) continued to serve as a key student leadership group throughout the 2024–2025 academic year. SAAB provided consistent feedback, creative ideas, and hands-on support in planning and executing campus events and engagement initiatives.

During the 2024–2025 school year, SAAB took leadership on the coordination of 20 events in the fall and 14 in the spring, working in collaboration with the Office of Student Activities to create a vibrant and inclusive campus environment.

With the support of SAAB, the area of Student Activities offered a wide variety of events throughout the year. These included:

- 4 Pancake Day events
- Outdoor Movie Night featuring *Friday the 13th*

- Movie in the Pool featuring *JAWS*
- *The Mask* movie night with a paint-your-own-mask activity
- Halloween Party
- Pumpkin Painting
- Valentine's Day Sip and Paint
- Chocolate-covered Strawberry and Rose Giveaway
- Valentine's Day Crafting
- Spring Ornament Painting
- Christmas Concert with Ornament and Card Making
- Easter Egg Painting and Campus-wide Egg Hunt
- Karaoke Nights (2)
- Bingo Nights (2)
- Students vs. Staff Dodgeball
- Spirit Week (including Pajamas and Pancakes)
- Volleyball Match
- Powderpuff Flag Football
- Pool Party, Games, and Cookout during Professional Development Day
- Stress-less Days during midterms and finals featuring crafting, tea and cocoa, board games, and stress-relief grab bags
- Bracelet Making

- Tie-Dye Activity
- Make-Your-Own Notebook Days (2)

Sexual Misconduct Prevention Programs

Active bystander intervention training provided to all students during Start Week Hawks that Help active bystander intervention campaign continued promoting the 4 D's of intervention, Delegate, Distract, Direct and Delay.

Title IX training in Pathways I with Therapy Assisted Online (TAO) sexual assault prevention courses utilized.

Awarded Expanding Campus Partners Grant, May 2024, Ohio Men's Action Network provided 3 weeks of programming to football.

Staff went through training in NASPA's peer education program.

Sexual Assault Awareness Month April 2025, provided educational programming for 3 weeks with SAOP, Sexual Assault Outreach Prevention of Athens Co.