

# WVU Potomac State College

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## General Information - WVU Potomac State College

WVU Potomac State College serves both the residential and commuter student. The College's curriculum (<https://admissions.potomacstatecollege.edu/academics/majors>) includes Associate of Arts (A.A.) transfer programs and Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) career and technical programs. The College also offers a Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.S.) degree with emphases in Business Management, Computer Information Systems, Criminal Justice, and Sustainable Agriculture Entrepreneurship (SAGE). The College offers West Virginia University's Regents Bachelor of Arts (R.B.A.) baccalaureate degree and, beginning fall 2018, students can complete WVU's Bachelor of Science in Nursing at the Potomac State location.

West Virginia University is a member of the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The University's educational programs are accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

The provisions of this catalog are not to be considered an irrevocable contract between the student and the College. The College reserves the right to change any course offerings, fees, requirements and regulations at any time within the student's term of enrollment.

Students are responsible for meeting the requirements for graduation set forth by the College. The student's adviser assists in the planning of a program of study, but the final responsibility for meeting the requirements for graduation rests with the student.

The West Virginia University community is committed to creating and fostering a positive learning and working environment based on open communication, mutual respect, and inclusion. Inquiries may be directed to the Chief Diversity Officer of West Virginia University at 304-293-5600 or [diversity@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:diversity@mail.wvu.edu).

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Potomac State College programs and courses will be accessible to individuals with disabilities. If you are a student with a disability and may require accommodations for a course or your academic program, please contact the Office of Accessibility Services at 304-788-7405 or 304-293-6700, [access2@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:access2@mail.wvu.edu).

## History of WVU Potomac State College

Potomac State College was created in 1901 as "Keyser Preparatory Branch of the West Virginia University" by an act of the legislature at the urging of Mineral County Delegate Francis M. Reynolds, who was concerned about the quality of secondary education in the area. The bill provided an appropriation of \$20,000 for buildings and empowered the governor to appoint a Board of Regents to govern the school.

Colonel Thomas B. Davis, a local businessman, donated more than 16 acres of land as a site for the new school. That location, formerly Fort Fuller, was a critical fortress in maintaining open roads leading to the South Branch and Shenandoah Valleys and in retaining Union control of the B&O Railroad during the Civil War; the railroad was a major supply route for the Union Army. Two notable figures each served as commander of Fort Fuller, also called Fort Kelly; Major Lew Wallace, who later wrote *Ben Hur*, and Major Benjamin Harrison, future President of the United States. The land on which the school is built came to be known as Fort Hill.

When it opened its doors for classes in October 1902 as West Virginia Preparatory School, the institution consisted of a multi-purpose administration building fronted by a four-sided clock tower. The building housed offices, classrooms, the library, and gymnasium. Lloyd F. Friend was appointed principal and teacher and was joined by four other teachers.

Potomac State continues today as a fully integrated division of West Virginia University enacted under a higher education reform measure, House Bill 2224, passed by the 2003 state legislative session. The integration became official on July 1, 2005.

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## WVU System Mission

As a land-grant institution, the faculty, staff and students at West Virginia University commit to creating a diverse and inclusive culture that advances education, healthcare and prosperity for all by providing access and opportunity; by advancing high-impact research; and by leading transformation in West Virginia and the world through local, state and global engagement.

## WVU Potomac State College Mission

As an integrated division of West Virginia University, Potomac State College provides a broad range of high quality associate degree programs as well as baccalaureate degree programs at a reasonable cost with a historic focus on teaching and learning and a commitment to providing access to a better life for all West Virginians.

## WVU System Vision

As one West Virginia University, we are purposeful in our studies and our work so that we can partner with our communities — both near and far — to bring needed and valued solutions to real-life problems within the pillars of education, healthcare and prosperity.

## WVU System Values

**Service:** We seek opportunities to serve others and are committed to providing the highest quality of service.

**Curiosity:** We ask questions, seek new opportunities and change through innovation.

**Respect:** We are respectful, transparent and inclusive with each other.

**Accountability:** We perform at our very best every day to create a University that is responsive, efficient and effective.

**Appreciation:** We support and value each other's contributions as we build a community that is One WVU.

## WVU Potomac State College Philosophy

We believe our most important concern is the total development of the individual student. Therefore, we commit to providing a comprehensive environment that invigorates the total individual: intellectually, creatively, culturally, physically, and socially. Potomac State College encourages students to:

- explore, discover and develop their special aptitudes and interests and to reach beyond their own perceived limitations;
- acquire the knowledge, critical thinking, problem solving, communication, teamwork, ethical, and social skills needed to support their immediate educational goals, as well as life-long learning in a world characterized by change;
- experience leadership;
- nurture social responsibility and receptive attitudes compatible with citizenship within a global society.

We support our faculty and staff in providing programs of study and instructional delivery that balance individual learning styles; didactic, cooperative and experiential learning environments; and outcome-based standards for academic excellence.

## Commitment to Assessment

West Virginia University conducts comprehensive and systematic assessment of student learning across all locations and delivery methods. Continuous improvement of student learning is faculty-driven; conducted at the course, program, and institutional levels, and grounded in the work of the Undergraduate Council, the Graduate Council, and the University Assessment Council (UAC). UAC members from WVU Morgantown, the WVU Institute of Technology, and WVU Potomac State College align assessment with WVU's mission and collaborate with the Faculty Senate's Curriculum Committee to ensure quality and rigor of academic programs and courses, the Teaching and Assessment Committee to ensure quality and rigor across sections of courses regardless of modality of delivery or location, and the General Education Foundations Committee to conduct assessment of the general education program. The Council works to strengthen the effectiveness of assessment across all programs by:

- Serving as an institutional-level clearinghouse for assessment best practices.
- Providing sustained attention on centralized, consistent, and systematic processes and policies across the University to reduce variability in assessment quality and engagement.
- Overseeing, reviewing, and commenting upon program review policies, processes, and reports.
- Facilitating faculty professional development in assessment.
- Providing consulting to departments to enhance their assessment planning and reporting.
- Compiling supporting documentation and evidence of the assessment work at WVU.

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## Governor of West Virginia

- Jim Justice, *Governor*

## West Virginia University Board of Governors

- William D. Wilmoth, *Chair, Wheeling*
- David B. Alvarez, *Vice Chair, Bridgeport*
- Taunja Willis Miller, *Secretary, Morgantown*
- W. Marston "Marty" Becker, *Charleston*
- Elmer F. Coppoolse, *Lewisburg*
- Thomas V. Flaherty, *Charleston*
- Thomas A. Heywood, *Charleston*
- Dr. Stanley Hileman, *Faculty Representative, Morgantown*
- Blake Humphrey, *Student Representative, Wheeling*
- J. Thomas Jones, *Morgantown*
- Lisa A. Martin, *Classified Staff Representative, Morgantown*
- Edward L. Robinson, *Charleston*
- J. Robert "JR" Rogers, *Hurricane*
- Benjamin M. Statler, *Pittsburgh, PA*
- Dr. Matthew C. Valenti, *Faculty Representative, Morgantown*
- Dr. Kimberly Weaver, *Baltimore, MD*

The West Virginia University Board of Governors (the "Board") was created by the West Virginia Legislature as the governing body of the West Virginia University System, including West Virginia University, West Virginia University Potomac State College, and West Virginia University Institute of Technology (collectively the "University"). The Board has the mission of general supervision and control over the academic and business affairs of the University.

## Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution

West Virginia University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution. The University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, age, physical or mental disability, marital or family status, pregnancy, veteran status, services in the uniformed services (as defined in state and federal law), religion, creed, sex, sexual orientation, genetic information, gender identity, or gender expression by the University's non-discrimination policy (BOG Governance Rule 1.6 (<https://policies.wvu.edu/finalized-bog-rules/bog-governance-rule-1-6-rule>)) in the administration of any of its educational programs or activities or with respect to admission or employment. Further, faculty, staff, students, and applicants are protected from retaliation for filing complaints or assisting in an investigation under the University's Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Plan. Inquiries regarding the University's non-discrimination policy may be sent to the Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (<https://diversity.wvu.edu>).

## West Virginia University Administration

- E. Gordon Gee, *President*
- Joyce McConnell, *Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs*

## WVU Potomac State College Administration

- Jennifer Orlikoff, *Campus President*
- Gregory Ochoa, *Dean of Academic Affairs*
- Phillip Douthitt, *Associate Dean of Academic Affairs*
- Beth Little, *Dean of Enrollment Management and University Relations*
- Rene Trezise, *Director of University Relations*
- Carol Combs, *Auxiliary Services Director*
- Michael Simpson, *Facilities Director*
- Lucas Taylor, *Director of Development and Strategic Initiatives*

The positions of Executive Director of Finance and Operations and Dean of Student Experiences will be filled for the 2018-2019 academic year.