

WVU Potomac State College

General Information - WVU Potomac State College

WVU Potomac State College (<https://www.potomacstatecollege.edu/>) serves both the residential and commuter student. The College's degree programs include 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. The College offers the Regents Bachelor of Arts (R.B.A.) and Bachelor of Integrated Studies baccalaureate degrees and the West Virginia University Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

West Virginia University is a member of the Higher Learning Commission and the University's educational programs are accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (<https://www.hlcommission.org/>).

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.

History of WVU Potomac State College

Potomac State College was created in 1901 as the "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.

In fall 2017, the integration of Potomac State College with West Virginia University was taken to another level when the OneWVU concept was implemented. Potomac State College, along with four other campuses across the state of West Virginia — to include the flagship campus at Morgantown, were aligned as one university.

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WVU 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

To provide access to an enriched life through a high-quality, affordable education.

WVU 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 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 Purpose

To inspire students to find joy in learning, connecting with others, and growing personally and professionally.

Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

West Virginia University is committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive culture by promoting diversity, inclusion, equality, and intercultural and intercommunity outreach. Accordingly, 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, service in the uniformed services (as defined in state and federal law), religion, creed, sex, sexual orientation, genetic information, gender identity, or gender expression in the administration of any of its educational programs, activities, or with respect to admission or employment.

In keeping with this commitment, members of the academic community are expected to demonstrate civility and mutual respect for all persons as well as understanding and appreciation for all persons, to express that perspective in every dimension of the institution's life and mission, and to work cooperatively, representing not only the interests of their own groups but also those of the wider community.

Individuals believing they may have been illegally discriminated against by any member of the university community at West Virginia University may file a complaint with the Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (<https://diversity.wvu.edu/>).

Center for Excellence in Disabilities

The mission of the WVU CED (<http://www.cedwvu.org/>) is to improve the lives of West Virginians with disabilities by supporting more diverse, inclusive communities. The WVU CED is a federally-funded center that provides direct clinical and community disability services; training opportunities; a variety of information on best practices, services throughout the state, and policy; and innovative research.

WVU CED is recognized, and trusted, as a leader and innovative agent in a statewide network of individual and community supports that promote respect, inclusiveness, interdependence, and access for everyone.

Office of Accessibility Services

The Office of Accessibility Services (<http://accessibilityservices.wvu.edu/>) is dedicated to enhancing educational opportunities for students with temporary or permanent disabilities at West Virginia University and all of its campuses. Our accessibility specialists works individually with students to achieve success by ensuring access to University programs and by authorizing reasonable and effective accommodations.

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 (authentic and embedded), conducted at the course, program, and institutional levels, and grounded in the work of the colleges and individual academic programs, the Provost's Office, the Undergraduate Council, and the Graduate Council.

The Office of Curriculum and Assessment members 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 Office works to strengthen the effectiveness of assessment across all programs by:

- Serving as an institutional-level resource 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

- Taunja Willis Miller, *Chair, Morgantown*
- Richard A. Pill, *Vice Chair, Martinsburg*
- Dr. Patrice Harris, *Secretary, Atlanta, GA*
- Charles L. Capito, Jr., *Charleston*
- Albert Bray Cary, Jr., *Charleston*
- Elmer F. Coppoolse, *Bethesda, MD*
- Kevin J. Craig, *Huntington, WV*
- Michael D'Annunzio, *Bridgeport, WV*
- J. Thomas Jones, *Chair, Boynton Beach, FL*
- Alan Larrick, *Daniels, WV*
- Susan Lavenski, *Hurricane, WV*
- Paul Mattox, *Hurricane, WV*
- Robert Reynolds, *Concord, MA*
- Dr. Stanley Hileman, *Faculty Representative, Morgantown*
- Frances "Frankie" Tack, *Faculty Representative, Chairperson of the Faculty Senate, Morgantown*
- Shirley D. Robinson, *Classified Staff Representative, Morgantown*
- Madison Santmyer, *Student Representative, Morgantown*

*Committee list is effective through July 1, 2024

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*
- Maryanne Reed, *Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs*

WVU Potomac State College Administration

- Dr. Christopher Gilmer, *Campus President*
- Brady Whipkey, *Chief of Staff*
- Phillip Douthitt, *Dean of Academic Affairs*
- Dr. Kimberly Colebank, *Interim Dean of University Relations*
- Scott McVicker, *Executive Director of Finance*
- Micah Pears, *Director of Facilities Management*