

University of Southern Mississippi, Gulf Coast

www.usm.edu

The University of Southern Mississippi offers a variety of two- and four-year degree programs at its main campus in Hattiesburg, approximately 70 miles north of Biloxi; at its 65-acre Gulf Coast Campus in nearby Long Beach; and at five other teachings sites: the Gulf Coast Research Lab in Ocean Springs, the Gulf Coast Student Service Center in Gulfport, at Stennis Space Center, and at two locations in Biloxi – on Keesler Air Force Base and aboard USM's research vessels that dock at the Point Cadet Marina.

In 2007, Cross Creek, located on the I-10 corridor in West Harrison County, was selected as the preferred location for an additional campus of USM. Academic programs will be addressed in the planning process to support university expansion in the areas of tourism, technology, business development and research.

Virginia College

www.vc.edu

Virginia College in Biloxi is a technical college that offers a variety of courses resulting in both diplomas and associate degrees. Programs are offered in office management, the paralegal field, various health and medical services areas including pharmacy technician and therapeutic massage, and an associate degree program in business administration.

William Carey University

www.wmcarey.edu

With its main campus in Hattiesburg, William Carey also offers higher education opportunities to Gulf Coast students at its 30-acre Tradition Campus, located in the planned community just north of Biloxi. Phase I of the new campus opened in 2009, at a cost of approximately \$14 million; additional phases are planned to accommodate up to 3,000 students. Offering bachelors' degrees in a variety of academic fields, William Carey also offers courses toward masters' degrees in business, education, psychology and nursing as well as a specialist degree in elementary education.



USM Research Buoy

Field-oriented classes offered through USM's Gulf Coast Research Lab maximize academic research opportunities in the Gulf and on the barrier islands, thanks to oceanographic and fisheries research vessels, such as the 97-foot Tommy Munro, which operates out of Biloxi's Point Cadet Marina.



Workforce Education in the Biloxi Area

Mississippi offers a comprehensive **Workforce Education Program**, at little or no cost, through the state's community college system. Designed to guarantee a new or expanding company has the workers it needs to succeed, the program includes customer-designed pre-employment training, post-employment training and upgrade/retraining services.

A program that can be leveraged with the Workforce Education Program is the federal government's **Workforce Investment Act**. Through WIA's on-the-job training program, an employer may be reimbursed up to 50% of new workers' wages for up to six months. When participants complete the training, the employer may realize additional savings through a tax credit under the **Targeted Job Tax Credit Program**. For more information, visit the **Workforce Investment Network (WIN)** office located at 2306 Pass Road in Biloxi or call (228) 388-7997.