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## SOUTHERN STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESS RELEASE

### Southern State Joins Choose Ohio First Initiative

Choose Ohio First is an initiative promoted and administered by the Ohio Department of Higher Education to bolster support for the next generation of Ohio science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, including focus areas of networking, robotics, cybersecurity, and programming.

"Having campuses on our list of Choose Ohio First awardees for the first time is a testament to the success - and the importance of this program," said Chancellor Randy Gardner. "I am pleased to have Southern State Community College as a new Choose Ohio First partner and know it will do great work in preparing its STEM scholars."

Students who receive a Choose Ohio First scholarship must participate in a work-based learning opportunity such as a STEM internship, or research to help them transition effectively to the STEM workforce after graduation.

Southern State's Executive Director of Workforce Development Amy McClellan said to have this new scholarship opportunity for students "We are honored to be a Choose Ohio First site and to see the benefits our students will receive from the program and the funding. We have amazing instructors who are engaging and prepare students for careers in Computer Technology," McClellan said.

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Southern State Community College does not discriminate, in its programs or activities, against applicants, employees, or students based on race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, national origin (ancestry), military status (past, present or future), disability, age (40 years or older), status as a parent during pregnancy and immediately after the birth of a child, status as a parent of a young child, status as a nursing mother, status as a foster parent, genetic information, or sexual orientation. The following people have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

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