For Immediate Release





Augusta Technical College announces major gift from SRP to sponsor Accelerate Augusta

Augusta, GA - October 11, 2024

Augusta Technical College, in partnership with the Downtown Development Authority of Augusta, proudly announces that SRP is the naming sponsor for Accelerate Augusta, the region's newest small business incubator and microenterprise center.

SRP has made a significant multi-year commitment to support the project. As



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a result, the initiative will be referred to as "Accelerate Augusta Powered by SRP" for the next 10 years. SRP's investment will provide furnishings and technology for the program, which will be headquartered at 600 Broad Street, as well as underwrite training programs for emerging businesses.

"SRP has long played a critical role in supporting businesses in the CSRA. We are delighted that they are committed to this hub for innovation and entrepreneurship," said Dr. Jermaine Whirl, President of Augusta Technical College. "This is the first of a three-part partnership between the college and the credit union. We look forward to announcing additional projects within the next few months."

Accelerate Augusta is poised to become a cornerstone for small business development, providing a dynamic space for entrepreneurs to thrive. Housed in the renovated I. M. Pei Building, situated in the heart of Downtown Augusta, the center will offer essential resources, mentorship, and opportunities for growth.

"Augusta Technical College is a driving force in the CSRA for enhancing workforce readiness and building economically stronger communities. Accelerate Augusta represents the next evolution of the college's ability to promote economic development by serving as a launching pad for entrepreneurs, startups and innovators. We are honored to forge a strategic partnership with Augusta Technical College on this initiative, which will have a generational impact on our communities," stated Eric Jenkins, CEO, SRP Federal Credit Union.

The search has begun for the founding director position, and renovations on

600 Broad Street will be completed by the end of the year.

Photo L-R: Dr. Jermaine Whirl, President, Augusta Technical College; Sandra DeVoe Bland, Chair of SRP Board; Margaret Woodard, Executive Director, Downtown Development Authority; Eric Jenkins, President and CEO of SRP

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About Augusta Technical College

Augusta Technical College, a unit of the Technical College System of Georgia, is a public postsecondary institution that provides academic and technical education, customized business and industry training, continuing education, student support, economic development, and adult education services to its service area (Burke, Columbia, Lincoln, McDuffie, and Richmond Counties) at a competitive financial value. Associate of Science Degrees, Associate of Applied Science Degrees, diplomas, and technical certificates of credit are provided through traditional and distance delivery methods. For more information, visit augustatech.edu.

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About SRP

Rated one of only twenty-two credit unions nationwide with a top rating by Weiss Financial Ratings, SRP Federal Credit Union is headquartered in North Augusta, SC and provides financial services to more than 194,000 members. For more information on SRP Federal Credit Union, visit <u>www.srpfcu.org</u>.

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