



**ATLANTA METROPOLITAN COLLEGE**

**BELIEVE . BEGIN . BECOME**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Regents Approve 'State College' Status for Atlanta Metropolitan College**

**ATLANTA – (May 10)** – The Board of Regents voted today to change the institutional mission of Atlanta Metropolitan College, a two-year college of the University System of Georgia (USG), to that of “state college.”

Atlanta Metropolitan College will offer its first bachelor of science with a major in the biological sciences. This degree is specifically designed to increase the pipeline of students who earn degrees in STEM disciplines – science, technology, engineering and mathematics. It will also prepare students for professional schools in the health sciences such as Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy. While the program as approved today by the Board does not include a teacher certification component, College officials have future plans to add this. Program graduates will have entry-level opportunities for immediate employment and offer the foundation for those students who seek a master’s or higher-level degrees.

“The Board’s actions reflect the evolving role of our access institutions as we identify specific job-related and economic development needs throughout the state,” said Rob Watts, chief operating officer for the USG. “Officials at these institutions have made a strong and data-driven case to the Board for the mission change and for the needs in these communities for specific baccalaureate degree programs.”

The state college sector was established in 1998 and categorizes two-year, associate-degree granting institutions that have been authorized by the Board to offer a limited number of four-year baccalaureate degree programs. The University System’s other institutional categories are: research universities, regional universities, state universities, and two-year colleges. With today’s actions, there are now 12 USG institutions in the state college sector.

“ We are extremely excited about this landmark event. This decision will change the trajectory of the institution and enhance our ability to more completely serve the educational needs of all Georgians, especially those who reside in Metropolitan Atlanta,” said President McGaha

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*Founded in 1974, Atlanta Metropolitan College is a two-year unit of the University System of Georgia. All courses offered by AMC are transferrable to senior-level colleges and universities.*