

2026-27 Plan of Representation



North (62,840)
South (62,870)

_____ School District Lines
----- County Lines
125,710 * District Population

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Fact Finder, American Community Survey Demographic & Housing Estimates, State of Wisconsin, 2024

SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE

PLAN OF REPRESENTATION

BACKGROUND OF THE DISTRICT

On July 31, 1965, the Wisconsin State Legislature passed Bill 501A, which is now Chapter 292, Laws of 1965. This law provided that all areas of the State of Wisconsin would be in vocational, technical, and adult education districts by July 1, 1970. Per the legislation, the Wisconsin Board of Vocational, Technical, and Adult Education and the Coordinating Council for Higher Education designated the establishment of sixteen comprehensive VTAE districts to encompass the State of Wisconsin's total geographical area.

The Southwest Wisconsin Vocational, Technical, and Adult Education District was created on July 1, 1967. It comprises 30 school districts operating public schools located primarily in the following five counties in Southwest Wisconsin: Crawford, Grant, Iowa, Lafayette, and Richland. Portions of Dane, Green, Sauk, and Vernon counties are also included in the District. The District encompasses approximately 3,800 square miles. The District Office is in Fennimore, Wisconsin.

In 1994, the system became the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS), and each of the sixteen districts is now known as a Technical College District. The official title of this district is now the Southwest Wisconsin Technical College District.

SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE DISTRICT POPULATION ESTIMATES

***Estimated Distribution of Males and Females**

	Population Estimate	Male	Female
Southwest Wisconsin Technical College District	124,609	63,999	60,611
Percent Distribution		51.4%	48.6

*Source: 2025 WTCS District Population Estimates

***2025 Estimate Population by Race and Ethnicity**

2025 WTCS District Population Estimates																
County	WTCS District Code	Estimated 2025 Population	Female	% Female	Male	% Male	White	Black or African American	American Indian and Alaska native	Asian	Hawaiian	Other	Two or More	Hispanic or Latino	Minority Population	Minority Pop as a % of District Population
CRAWFORD COUNTY	SWTC	14,868	7,154	48.1%	7,714	51.9%	13,519	236	43	77	14	93	595	291		
DANE COUNTY	SWTC	104	52	50.0%	52	50.0%	72	5	0	6	0	2	9	8		
GRANT COUNTY	SWTC	51,807	24,937	48.1%	26,870	51.9%	47,190	854	80	368	21	484	1,477	1,333		
GREEN COUNTY	SWTC	1,265	627	49.5%	639	50.5%	1,125	13	1	9	0	14	49	54		
IOWA COUNTY	SWTC	20,542	10,046	48.9%	10,496	51.1%	18,605	156	18	180	0	208	905	469		
LAFAYETTE COUNTY	SWTC	16,756	8,231	49.1%	8,525	50.9%	14,066	61	20	122	0	341	959	1,187		
RICHLAND COUNTY	SWTC	15,776	7,839	49.7%	7,937	50.3%	14,106	50	10	145	0	296	652	516		
SAUK COUNTY	SWTC	1,211	603	49.8%	608	50.2%	975	9	7	5	0	40	91	82		
VERNON COUNTY	SWTC	2,282	1,124	49.2%	1,158	50.8%	2,116	7	1	5	0	21	92	40		
SWTC		124,609	60,611	48.6%	63,999	51.4%	111,773	1,392	180	917	35	1,500	4,831	3,980	12,836	10.3%

*Source: 2025 WTCS District Population Estimates

BOARD COMPOSITION

Per Wisconsin Statutes, a Technical College District Board shall be composed of nine members who are residents of the district, including two employers, two employees, three additional members, a school district administrator as defined in s.115.001(8), Stats., and one elected official who holds a state or local office as defined in s.5.02, except for the office of party committeeman or party committeewoman. The SWTC District currently has a north/south plan of representation specifying one Employer Member, one Employee Member, and one Additional Member from both the north and south areas; and three floating positions – School District Administrator, Elected Official, and one Additional Member, with a minimum of four members representing each area each year.

BOARD APPOINTMENT

The appointment of Technical College District Board members shall be made by an appointing authority consistent with Statute 38.10. The appointing authority for the Southwest Wisconsin Technical College District is the group of school board presidents within the 30 school districts operating public schools within the technical college district.

In the appointment process, equal consideration is given to the general population distribution within the district, as well as to the distribution of women and minorities, with a minimum of three female members, three male members, and one minority member. The population estimates provided by the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) indicate that Southwest Tech has met the benchmark of 6.5% of the minority population in its district, requiring its District Board to include one minority member. See the previous page for details.

APPORTIONMENT NORTH/SOUTH PLAN

North: Barneveld, Boscobel, Dodgeville, Highland, Iowa-Grant, Ithaca, Kickapoo, North Crawford, Pecatonica, Prairie du Chien, Richland, Riverdale, Seneca, Wauzeka-Steuben, and Weston

South: Argyle, Belmont, Benton, Blackhawk, Cassville, Cuba City, Darlington, Fennimore, Lancaster, Mineral Point, Platteville, Potosi, River Ridge, Shullsburg, and Southwestern

- *The 2026-27 Plan of Representation was approved by the Appointment Committee on 4.2.2025. Description of the action that was approved: To balance the populations between the two areas within the district, Pecatonica was moved from the South Area to the North Area.*
- *January 2026: During the 2026-27 process, the Plan was updated to reflect the current population estimations. It was reviewed and approved at the Appointment Committee's Hearing and Meeting on Wednesday, March 4, 2026.*
- *May 2026: Another appointment process begins to fill an Additional Member-At-Large Board vacancy. There are no Plan updates/modifications since the March meeting.*
- *June 17, 2026: With no updates/modifications, this Plan was reviewed and approved again at the Board Appointment Committee Hearing and Meeting.*