



President Dwaun J. Warmack inspires future scholars at the ribbon-cutting celebration of the completely renovated HV Manning Library, 11-22-24.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2025 - 2026

FROM THE DESK OF PRESIDENT WARMACK

Since 1869, Claflin University has been a place where purpose and possibility meet. The past two years reflect that tradition in powerful ways—showing not only how far we have come, but where we are headed. As I approach my eighth year as Claflin’s ninth president, I am grateful for the momentum we are building together, always centered on one goal: ensuring that our students are prepared to succeed, lead, and make a lasting impact.

In Elevation, you will see the strength of our foundation—our academic achievements, national recognitions, and the outcomes that reflect our commitment to student success. These accomplishments are the result of focused work and shared belief in Claflin’s mission, and they continue to expand opportunities for the students and communities we serve.

In Transformation, you will see the gleaming future we are building. From new facilities and programs to growing partnerships and investments, we are shaping a campus and a community that reflect innovation and purpose. Our playful cover image—a child watching discovery unfold in the foyer of H.V. Manning Library—captures that spirit. It reminds us that the joy in our work is ultimately about people and possibility. Looking ahead, we are energized by Claflin’s history, its present impact, and our calling to create new pathways for the next generation to thrive. Thank you for all you have done and continue to do for the Claflin family.

With Panther Pride,



Dr. Dwaun J. Warmack
President

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ELEVATION

- 04 About Claflin
- 05 Board of Trustees
- 06 National Rankings and Distinctions
- 07 Institutional Profile
- 09 Academic Excellence
- 11 Panther Pride
- 12 Leaders Today, Ready for Tomorrow
- 13 Faculty & Staff Exemplars
- 14 Spotlight on Leadership

TRANSFORMATION

- 15 Investing in Tomorrow
- 16 Conversation. Collaboration. Celebration.
- 17 Center for Biotechnology and Innovation
- 18 H.V. Manning Library 2.0
- 19 Strategic Partnerships
- 20 Faithful Learners
- 21 Our Alumni Family
- 22 Our Supporters
- 23 Tradition. Thriving. **Transformation.**

OUR MISSION

Claflin University is committed to ensuring access to exemplary educational opportunities through its undergraduate, graduate, and continuing education programs that have a global reach. The institution provides a student-centered, liberal-arts education that is focused on STEAM and grounded in cutting-edge research, experiential learning, state-of-the-art technology, community service, and life-long professional and personal fulfillment.

As a historically Black university affiliated with the United Methodist Church, Claflin is a diverse and inclusive community of students, faculty, staff, and administrators who strive to cultivate practical wisdom, social justice, judgment, knowledge, skills, and character needed for engaged citizenship and visionary leadership in its vicinity and beyond.

OUR VISION

Claflin University will be recognized as a leading 21st Century university that develops a diverse and inclusive community of globally engaged visionary leaders.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

James K. Lehman, Esq., Chair of the Board

Ms. Lessie Price, Vice Chair of the Board

Mrs. Jessica Aaron

Ms. Aparna Bawa

Mr. Keith M. Clarke

Bishop Dr. Robin Dease

Dr. Willie L. Frazier

Artis Hampshire-Cowan, Esq.

(Ret.) Lt. Col. John O. Herring

William H. Johnson, Esq.

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Mrs. Janice Wannamaker Marshall

Mr. Virgil R. Miller

Ms. Hema Patel

Dr. Trudie K. Reed

Mr. Robert Scarborough

Rev. Dr. Albert Shuler

Ms. Joan Steward Stevens

William L. Thompson, Esq.

Mr. John Uprichard

(Ret.) Brigadier General Twanda Young

Mr. Charles Winton

Dr. Dwaun J. Warmack, Ex Officio

U.S. News & World Report

BEST COLLEGES 2026 RANKINGS

#1 HBCU in
South Carolina

#1 National Liberal Arts Colleges
Top Performers
on Social Mobility
in South Carolina

#3 HBCU Top Performers
on Social Mobility

#5 Among all
South Carolina
Colleges & Universities

#7 HBCU Among
Private Colleges

#13 Ranked among the
Top HBCU's for
15 consecutive years

NATIONAL RANKINGS

Washington[®]
MONTHLY

2025 COLLEGE RANKING

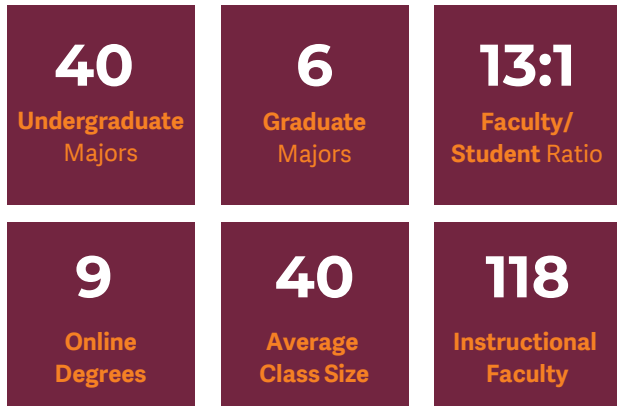
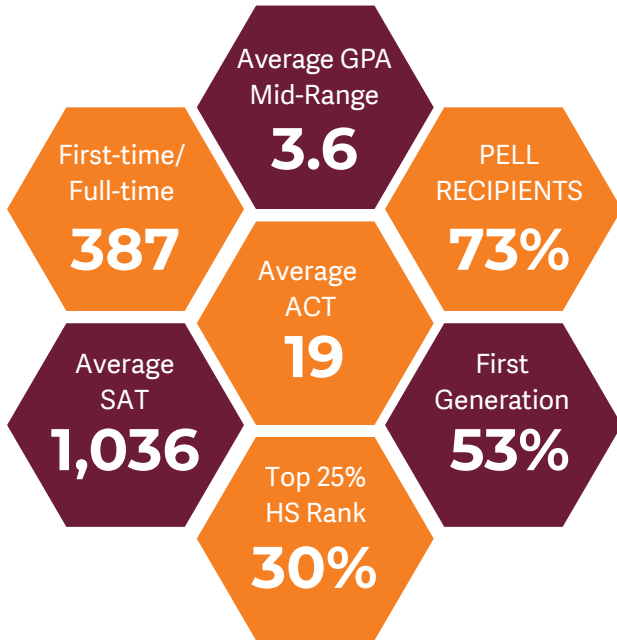
Best Colleges based on access,
affordability, outcomes, and promoting
public service.

#1 HBCU
Liberal Arts
Colleges

#2 Liberal Arts
Colleges in
South Carolina

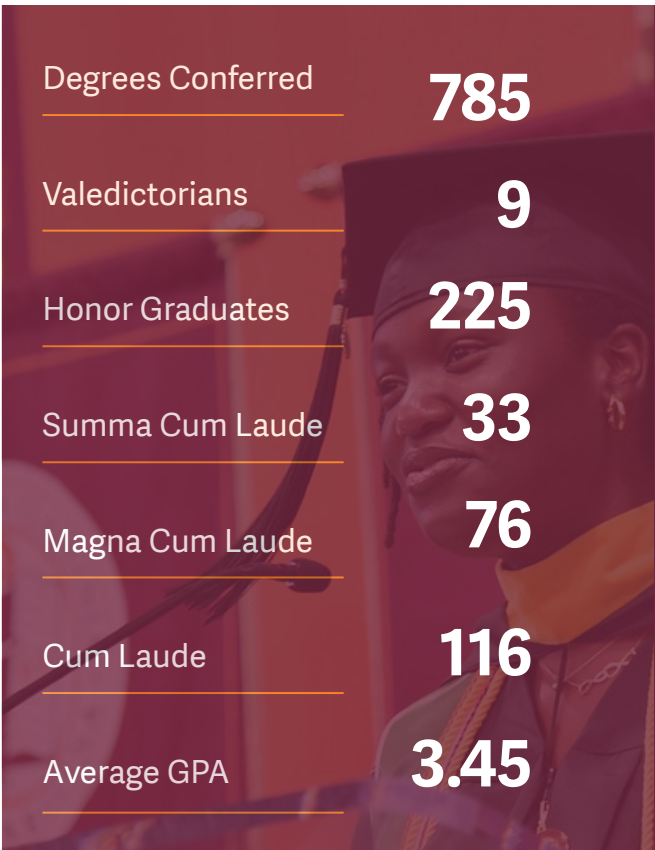


2024 Freshman Class Profile



INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE

Graduation by the Numbers August 2024 - May 2026



Oreoluwa Ala, from Lagos, Nigeria, was named the valedictorian for the Spring Class of 2025. Ala was one of four graduates with a 4.0 grade point average. That spring, five students, four from Africa, became the first graduates from Claflin's Master of Science in Biotechnology with a Concentration in Climate Change.



Commencement Convocation, December 12, 2025

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



In September, 2025, Claflin University is proud to be named as a **Fulbright HBCU**, underscoring Claflin's commitment to the University's vision of being a leading 21st Century institution of higher education that develops a diverse and inclusive community of globally engaged visionary leaders.

Claflin's Fulbright legacy includes its first Fulbright Scholar, Aundreta Conner, selected during her senior year in 2008. Amariyah Ayee, a 2022 graduate, served as a 2023 Fulbright English Teaching Assistant in India. She became a 2025 Fulbright Alumni Ambassador.



Institution and Program Accreditations



Accreditation Council for
Business Schools and Programs



Council for the Accreditation
of Educator Preparation



Council for the Accreditation
of Educator Preparation



American Chemical Society



Accreditation Board for
Engineering and Technology Inc.



Commission on Collegiate
Nursing Education



FROM RN TO PhD IN TEN YEARS

*How Claflin Built the Only HBCU
Nursing Pipeline in South Carolina*

Since launching in 2016, Claflin University has built the only nursing program at a Historically Black College or University in South Carolina offering both bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing — transforming healthcare access across the state's rural and underserved communities.

What began as a small cohort of 20 students has grown into a thriving pipeline for nursing education and workforce development. Through 2025, the program has produced 304 RN-to-BSN graduates, 25 Family Nurse Practitioner graduates, and 22 nursing leadership graduates, with dozens more expected to graduate in 2026. With 83 additional students set to complete one of the three programs in 2026, the total graduate count will exceed 430 — a number that staggers even those who built it.

The program was created to address a critical regional need. Communities along South Carolina's I-95 corridor have long faced healthcare shortages, limited access to providers, and persistent health disparities. Through partnerships with regional hospitals, the South Carolina technical college system, and other educational

ELEVATING NURSING

institutions, Claflin developed an accelerated pathway that allows working nurses to advance their careers while continuing to serve their communities.

"Our graduates are serving underserved populations, addressing health disparities, social determinants of health, and provider shortages across the Tri-County area," said Dr. Michelle Knight, interim associate dean of nursing and assistant professor of nursing. "Claflin's nursing program is strengthening healthcare access across the region."

The program's impact now extends beyond graduate education. Through a partnership with Clemson University, Claflin alumni are earning doctoral degrees in nursing through the Big Cat Fellowship, further expanding the pipeline from registered nurse to advanced practice and leadership roles.

Claflin will soon break ground on a new Center for Nursing and Public Health featuring a state-of-the-art simulation center that will further strengthen nursing education, workforce development, and healthcare outcomes across South Carolina.



Claflin University's first nursing program graduates to earn their doctorates celebrated their hooding ceremony with Dr. Verlie Tisdale, former dean of the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics (center) on May 7, 2026. Pictured from left: Deonte Thompson, Patrice Burgess, Shantanique Givens-Franklin, Verlie Tisdale, Tarah Simmons, Alecia Moody, Chevron Vice, and Adrain Sims.

Student-Athlete Excellence 2025 - 2026

- Student-Athletes Academic Success Rate: **88%**
- Average Grade-Point Average (GPA): **3.35**
- Number of Student-Athletes who Earned Degrees: **62**
- Number of Student Athletes who Earned All-American Honors: **7**
- Number of Academic All-Americans: **21**
- Number of All-CIAA Honorees: **46 athletic, 64 academic**

Coach of the Year

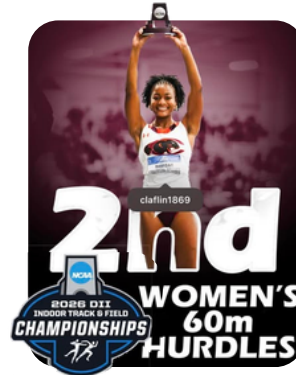
- 2026 - Malcolm Watts Named NCAA Division II Region Women's Indoor Track & Field Coach of the Year.
- 2025 - Malcolm Watts Named NCAA Division II Region Men's Indoor Track & Field Coach of the Year.



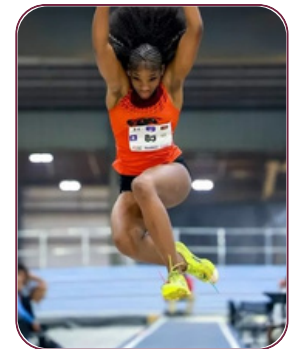
2025 - Panthers Claim Third Straight CIAA Men's Indoor Track & Field Championship



2025 - Panthers Claim Inaugural Black College Invitational Championship with 64-54 Win Over Virginia Union



2026 - Morgan Coverson-Springs Takes 2nd in Women's 60m Hurdles NCAA Division II National Championship.



2026 - Jhnyia Knuckles Named CIAA Women's Indoor Track & Field Athlete of the Year.

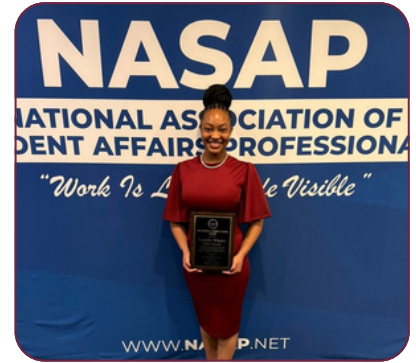
LEADERS TODAY READY FOR TOMORROW



Feb. 2026 - Junior
Ky' Seanne Rowe becomes
UNCF Pre-Alumni Council
Vice President.



Feb. 2026 - Seniors
**Joshua Williams and
Madison Maurice** become
Mr. and Miss CIAA 2026.



Feb. 2026 - Senior
Kamille Whaley wins
NASAP Outstanding
Student Leader Award.



Nov. 2025 - Senior
Kenneth White wins
inaugural UCEN Youth Social
Justice Advocate Award.



Feb. 2025 - Juniors
**Derrion Campbell and
Genesis Morris** become
Mr. and Miss CIAA 2025.



Dec. 2024 - Freshman
Camryn Jefferson
advocates for students at
the UNCF Mayor's Masked
Ball in Florence.

FACULTY & STAFF EXEMPLARS



Feb. 2025 - Institutional Advancement AVP **Veronica Cohen** named 2026 Pre-Alumni Council Advisor of the year



Feb. 2026 - Dean of Students **Arthur Doctor** named to 5th class of NASPA Black Diaspora KC



Feb. 2026 - Student Center Director **Timothy Johnson** named to 5th Class of NASPA Black Diaspora KC



Jan. 2026 - Vice President **Willie Jude II** wins Executive Crown Jewel Award at Diamond Awards.



June 2025 - **Rev. Dr. Lakerri Mack** wins 2025 Ali Chambers Professor of the Year.



Jan. 2026 - Athletic Director **Tony O'Neal** wins Diamond Award for Athletics.



SPOTLIGHT ON LEADERSHIP

DR. DWAUN J. WARMACK

President

Key to the City of Orangeburg

Presented by Mayor Michael C. Butler

Times & Democrat

Person of the Year

NASPA

2025 President Award

UNCF

2025 UNCF Institutional Excellence Award — National UNITE Summit

SC Higher Education Grants Commission

Vice Chair 2025-2026

HBCU Campaign Fund

Ten Most Dominant HBCU Leaders 2025

Not Alone Foundation

Crown Jewel Diamond Award — Supreme Honor in Visionary Leadership & National Impact 2026

TRANSFORMATION

INVESTING FOR TOMORROW

Total Assets
\$223,926,634

2019 Benchmark: \$107,437,797

▲ 108.4% Increase
EXCEEDED BY \$116,488,837

Endowment
\$83,962,971

2019 Benchmark: \$26,757,008

▲ 213.8% Increase
EXCEEDED BY \$57,205,963

**Total
Net Assets**
\$168,154,248

2019 Benchmark: \$60,374,446

▲ 178.5% Increase
EXCEEDED BY \$107,779,802

CAPITAL INVESTMENTS



- Center for Biotechnology and Innovation
- Center for Nursing & Public Health
- Alumni Center at Railroad Corner
- Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation Downtown

COLLABORATION. CONVERSATION. CELEBRATION.

CLAFLIN'S LIVING ROOM

In the two years since the **Student Center** opened in 2024, it has become the ideal space for executive meetings, community celebrations, fundraisers, coffee time with neighbors, study time before finals, national conferences, receptions, career development, leadership development, and much more.



BIOTECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION CENTER

Groundbreaking March 20, 2026 | Opening in 2027

Within these walls, artificial intelligence and robotics will converge with virtual and augmented reality, big data analysis will fuel cybersecurity advancements, and immersive technologies will simulate and create solutions for real-world industry challenges.

*A Signature Initiative of the
Clafin Confidence Campaign for Student Success*





H.V. MANNING 2.0

*Library Renovation Ribbon Cutting
November 22, 2024*

"In an era when many universities struggle with declining enrollment and questions about their relevance, Claflin has chosen to double down on the future.

They've traded dusty stacks for digital dreams, and their students are already living in that future." - **HBCU News**



STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS



Clafin Joins Workforce Edge

Deepening the University's ties to global, national, and regional partners, during this period Clafin has formalized relationships that promise to expand enrollment, support student success, improve the Clafin experience for faculty and staff, and strengthen the Orangeburg community.

Google expands Career Opportunities for Clafin STEM Students Through Free Techwise and TalentSpring Programs.



Dawn Kuenz, Google Program Manager



Nissan Theater at Clafin



CEO CANCER GOLD STANDARD

Clafin University joins more than 200 private, non-profit, and government organizations that have earned the CEO Roundtable **Gold Standard Accreditation**



NCNW Collegiate Section Chartered



Baccalaureate

FAITHFUL LEARNERS



ALUMNI RECOGNITIONS



Feb. 2026 - Dr. Liz Zimmerman Keitt, Class of '70, wins **2026 Smith-Hammond-Middleton Social Justice Award**.



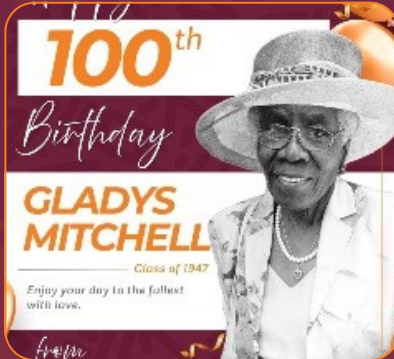
Dec. 2025 - **Cecil Williams**, '62, offers keynote address at 2025 Fall Commencement Convocation.



Nov. 2025 - National Black College Hall of Fame inducts **Tish Archie-Oliver**, Claflin Class of '00.



July 2025 - **Dr. Henry N. Tisdale**, Class of '65 and President Emeritus, receives UNCF's HBCU Champion Award.



April 2025 - Claflin University celebrates 100th birthday of distinguished alumna **Gladys McDaniel Mitchell**, Class of '40.



Sept. 2024 - SC ETV broadcasts "Arriving: Leo Twiggs and his Art," a documentary about **Dr. Leo Twiggs**, Class of '56.

OUR SUPPORTERS

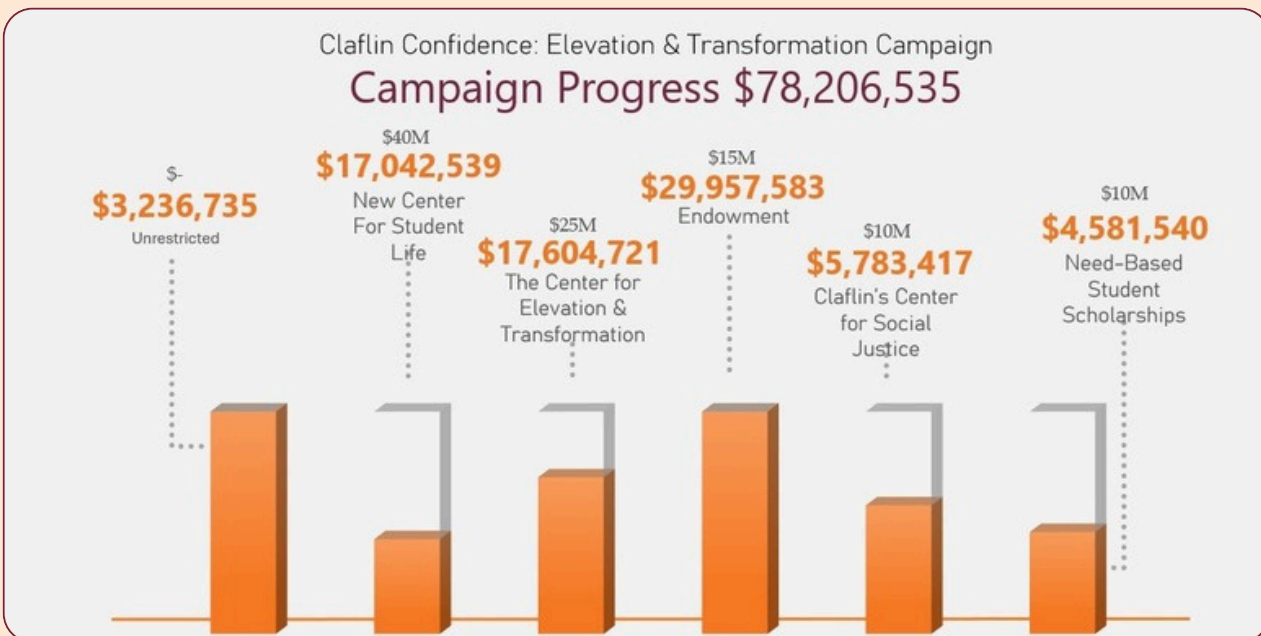
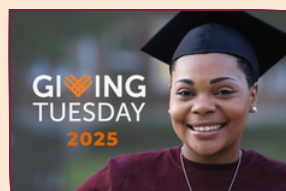
Record-Breaking Event Revenues:

- 2024 Presidential Gala
- 2025 Ecumenical Breakfast
- 2025 Day of Giving
- 2026 First Lady's Hats & Gloves Tea



More Fundraising Distinctions:

- Highest HBCU Alumni Giving Rate
- Young alumni giving increases 13.8% in FY25 and, *again*, in FY26.
- Alumni Giving tops \$1 million - 2025



Currently in its quiet phase, the \$100,000 **Claflin Confidence: Elevation and Transformation** capital campaign continues to make strong progress and, as of May 2026, it is more than **78% complete**.

TRADITION. THRIVING. TRANSFORMATION.



My friends,

I am deeply grateful to serve alongside a brilliant board, dedicated faculty and staff, extraordinary students, and loyal alumni. Each day is a reminder that our work is not only meaningful—it is a calling. Through every victory and every challenge, we continue to rise, and we continue to serve.

As we look ahead, we do so with confidence and joy. We are embracing the opportunities before us—from phenomenal technological advancements to the five powerful pillars of **Claxton Confidence: The Campaign for Student Success**. Together, we are building something enduring, something transformative, and something worthy of those who will follow us.

The future is bright. The work continues.

And the best is yet to come.



Dr. Dwaun J. Warmack
President



