**Distance learning takes area challenges head-on**

One of the University of West Alabama's goals is to address major educational, social and economic challenges of West Alabama through distance learning, research, service and partnerships with the public and private sectors. One way that UWA meets this goal is through the Division of Outreach Services.

The DOS coordinates a wide range of events, programs and workshops. The DOS also seeks to provide resources for the enhancement of government and community leadership, business activity, civic engagement and personal endeavors throughout the West Alabama region.

- Since 2008, DOS has received more than $174,000 to train 131 Certified Nursing Assistants for the region.
- From 2008-2013, DOS received more than $1.3 million dollars in grants and contracts to administer workforce training programs in the region.
- During the past five years, the Small Business Development Center has assisted in creating 125 jobs in five Black Belt counties. The center received more than $715,000 in small business loans and $1.6 million in equity capital for the above subjects.
- Since 2008, the DOS has awarded $100,000 to governmental entities to create long-term strategic plans for Black Belt communities.

---

**Special Events and Recognition...**

- 2010: Celebrated 175th Anniversary of the University
- 2012:
  - UWA became first institution in Alabama to partner with the Institute of Sustainability, a green certification program to further the University’s efforts to promote environmental awareness and a sustainable campus environment.
  - UWA was the first campus in Alabama to be named a Tree Campus USA by the Arbor Day Foundation.
  - The U.S. Green Building Council awarded a Silver Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certificate to the University for the Hoover Addition Project.
  - The University was recognized by the Minority Access Incorporated, Washington, DC, for its Commitment to Diversity (2010, 2011, and 2012).
  - Board of Trustees approved an eight percent across-the-board increase in salary for 2013-2014 and approved an increase of $486,813 in scholarship funds.
  - Established a recycling program in cooperation with the City of Livingston.

---

**Number of Students Graduated**

The University has awarded 26,108 degrees since 1879, of which twenty-four percent (6,223) have been awarded between 2008-2013.