

# FACT SHEET

*Demonstrating the Economic Value of Austin Community College*

DECEMBER 2014

*Austin Community College (ACC) creates a significant positive impact on the business community and generates a return on investment to its major stakeholder groups—students, society, and taxpayers. Using a two-pronged approach that involves an economic impact analysis and an investment analysis, the study calculates the benefits to each of these groups. Results of the analysis reflect Fiscal Year (FY) 2012-13.*

## INCOME CREATED BY ACC IN FY 2012-13 (ADDED INCOME)

**\$276.4 MILLION**

Operations spending impact

**\$63.6 MILLION**

Impact of student spending

**\$2 BILLION**

Alumni impact

**\$2.3 BILLION**

Total impact

## IMPACT ON BUSINESS COMMUNITY

During the analysis year, ACC and its students added **\$2.3 BILLION** in income to the ACC Service Area economy, approximately equal to **2.3%** of the Gross Regional Product. The economic impacts of ACC break down as follows:

### *Operations spending impact*

- ACC employed 4,882 full-time and part-time employees in FY 2012-13. Payroll amounted to **\$198.6 MILLION**, much of which was spent in the ACC Service Area to purchase groceries, clothing, and other household goods and services. The college spent another **\$98.2 MILLION** to support its day-to-day operations.
- The net impact of college payroll and expenses in the ACC Service Area during the analysis year was approximately **\$276.4 MILLION** in added income.

### *Impact of student spending*

- Around 9% of students attending ACC originated from outside the region. Some of these students relocated to the ACC Service Area and spent money on groceries, transportation, rent, and so on at regional businesses.
- The expenditures of students who relocated to the region during the analysis year added approximately **\$63.6 MILLION** in income to the economy.

### *Alumni impact*

- Over the years, students have studied at ACC and entered or re-entered the workforce with newly-acquired skills. Today, thousands of these former students are employed in the ACC Service Area.
- The accumulated contribution of former students currently employed in the state workforce amounted to **\$2.0 BILLION** in added income during the analysis year.

## JOB EQUIVALENTS BASED ON INCOME

Job equivalents are a measure of the average-wage jobs that a given amount of income can potentially support. They are calculated by dividing income by the average income per worker in the state. Based on the added income created by ACC, the job equivalents are as follows:

Operations spending impact = **5,749** job equivalents

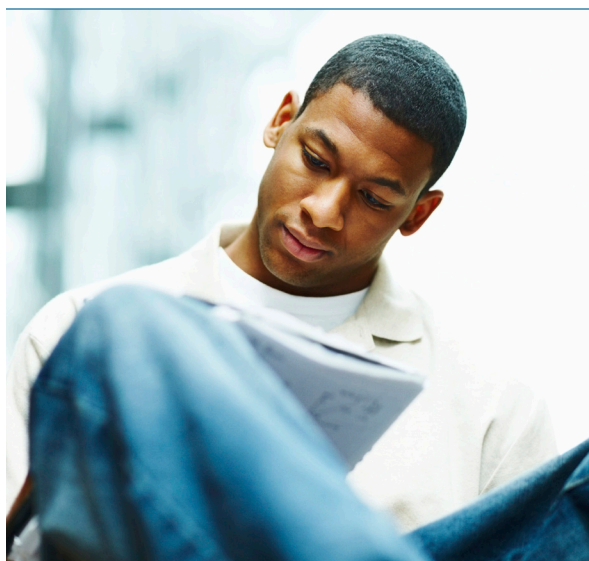
Impact of student spending = **1,106** job equivalents

Alumni impact = **30,030** job equivalents

Overall, the added income created by ACC and its students supported **36,884** job equivalents.

## FOR EVERY \$1 SPENT BY...

<b>STUDENTS</b>	<p><b>\$4.10</b> Gained in lifetime income for STUDENTS</p>
<b>SOCIETY</b>	<p><b>\$18.40</b> Gained in added state income and social savings for SOCIETY</p>
<b>TAXPAYERS</b>	<p><b>\$5.30</b> Gained in added taxes and public sector savings for TAXPAYERS</p>



## RETURN ON INVESTMENT TO STUDENTS, SOCIETY, AND TAXPAYERS

### Student perspective

- ACC's 2012-13 students paid a total of **\$83.9 MILLION** to cover the cost of tuition, fees, books, and supplies. They also forwent **\$385.3 MILLION** in money that they would have earned had they been working instead of learning.
- In return for the monies invested in the college, students will receive a present value of **\$1.9 BILLION** in increased earnings over their working lives. This translates to a return of **\$4.10** in higher future income for every \$1 that students invest in their education. The average annual return for students is **16.1%**.

### Social perspective

- Society as a whole in Texas will receive a present value of **\$12.9 BILLION** in added state income over the course of the students' working lives. Society will also benefit from **\$132.8 MILLION** in present value social savings related to reduced crime, lower unemployment, and increased health and well-being across the state.
- For every dollar that society spent on ACC educations during the analysis year, society will receive a cumulative value of **\$18.40** in benefits, for as long as the 2012-13 student population at ACC remains active in the state workforce.

### Taxpayer perspective

- In FY 2012-13, state and local taxpayers in Texas paid **\$169.5 MILLION** to support the operations of ACC. The net present value of the added tax revenue stemming from the students' higher lifetime incomes and the increased output of businesses amounts to **\$856.9 MILLION** in benefits to taxpayers. Savings to the public sector add another **\$36.2 MILLION** in benefits due to a reduced demand for government-funded services in Texas.
- Dividing benefits to taxpayers by the associated costs yields a **5.3** benefit-cost ratio, i.e., every \$1 in costs returns \$5.30 in benefits. The average annual return on investment for taxpayers is **14.7%**.