



The Economic Value of Kansas City Kansas Community College

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**Emsi اا.** 



ANSAS City Kansas Community College (KCKCC) creates value in many ways. The college plays a key role in helping students increase their employability and achieve their individual potential. The college draws

students to the region, generating new dollars and opportunities for the KCKCC Service Region. KCKCC provides students with the education, training, and skills they need to have fulfilling and prosperous careers. Furthermore, KCKCC is a place for students to meet new people, increase their self-confidence, and promote their overall health and well-being.

KCKCC influences both the lives of its students and the regional economy. The college supports a variety of industries in the KCKCC Service Region,<sup>1</sup> serves regional businesses, and benefits society as a whole in Kansas from an expanded economy and improved

quality of life. The benefits created by KCKCC even extend to the state and local government through increased tax revenues and public sector savings.

This study measures the economic impacts created by KCKCC on the business community and the benefits the college generates in return for the investments made by its key stakeholder groups—students, taxpayers, and society. The following two analyses are presented:



## **Economic impact analysis**



#### Investment analysis

All results reflect employee, student, and financial data, provided by the college, for fiscal year (FY) 2016-17. Impacts on the KCKCC Service Region economy are reported under the economic impact analysis and are measured in terms of added income. The returns on investment to students, taxpayers, and society in Kansas are reported under the investment analysis.

1 For the purposes of this analysis, the KCKCC Service Region is comprised of Leavenworth and Wyandotte Counties.

The value of KCKCC influences both the lives of its students and the regional economy.

# Economic impact analysis

KCKCC promotes economic growth in the KCKCC Service Region through its direct expenditures and the resulting expenditures of students and regional businesses. The college serves as an employer and buyer of goods and services for its day-to-day operations. The college's activities attract students from outside the KCKCC Service Region, whose expenditures benefit regional vendors. In addition, KCKCC is a primary source of higher education to the KCKCC Service Region residents and a supplier of trained workers to regional industries, enhancing overall productivity in the regional workforce.

#### **Operations Spending Impact**

KCKCC adds economic value to the KCKCC Service Region as an employer of regional residents and a large-scale buyer of goods and services. In FY 2016-17, the college employed 774 full-time and part-time faculty and staff, 21% of whom lived in the KCKCC Service Region. Total payroll at KCKCC was \$38.4 million, much of which was spent in the region for groceries, mortgage and rent payments, dining out, and other household expenses. In addition, the college spent \$25.9 million on day-to-day expenses related to facilities, supplies, and professional services.

KCKCC's day-to-day operations spending added \$34.4 million in income to the region during the analysis year. This figure represents the college's payroll, the multiplier effects generated by the in-region spending of the college and its employees, and a downward adjustment to account for funding that the college received from regional sources. The \$34.4 million in added income is equivalent to supporting 762 jobs in the region.

## Student Spending Impact



Around 27% of students attending KCKCC originated from outside the region in FY 2016-17, and some of these students relocated to the KCKCC Service Region to attend KCKCC. These students may not

have come to the region if the college did not exist. In addition, some in-region students, referred to as retained students, would have left the KCKCC Service Region if not for the existence of KCKCC. While attending the college, these relocated and retained students spent money on groceries, accommodation, transportation, and other household expenses. This spending generated \$3.3 million in added income for the regional economy in FY 2016-17, which supported 61 jobs in the KCKCC Service Region.

IMPACTS CREATED BY KCKCC IN FY 2016-17









\$182.3 million

- OR -

2,811
JOBS SUPPORTED

#### Alumni Impact



The education and training KCKCC provides for regional residents has the greatest impact. Since its establishment, students have studied at KCKCC and entered the regional workforce with greater

knowledge and new skills. Today, thousands of former KCKCC students are employed in the KCKCC Service Region. As a result of their KCKCC educations, the students receive higher earnings and increase the productivity of the businesses that employ them. In FY 2016-17, KCKCC alumni generated \$144.7 million in added income for the regional economy, which is equivalent to supporting 1,989 jobs.

#### Total Impact

KCKCC added \$182.3 million in income to the KCKCC Service Region economy during the analysis year, equal to the sum of the operations spending impact, the student spending impact, and the alumni impact. For context, the \$182.3 million impact was equal to approximately 1.4% of the total gross regional product (GRP) of the KCKCC Service Region. This contribution that the college provided on its own was larger than the entire Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation industry in the region.

KCKCC's total impact can also be expressed in terms of jobs supported. The \$182.3 million impact supported 2,811 regional jobs, using the jobs-to-sales ratios

specific to each industry in the region. This means that one out of every 50 jobs in the KCKCC Service Region is supported by the activities of KCKCC and its students. In addition, the \$182.3 million, or 2,811 supported jobs, impacted regional industries in different ways. Among non-education industry sectors, KCKCC supported the most jobs in the Health Care & Social Assistance industry sector – supporting 538 jobs in FY 2016-17. These are impacts that would not have been generated without the college's presence in the KCKCC Service Region.

TOP INDUSTRIES IMPACTED BY KCKCC (JOBS SUPPORTED)



538

Health Care & Social Assistance



339

Retail Trade



247

Government, Non-Education



219

Other Services (except Public Administration)



135

Accommodation & Food Services

Source: Emsi impact model.

One out of every 50 jobs in the

KCKCC Service Region is supported by the activities of KCKCC and its students.

# Investment analysis

An investment analysis evaluates the costs associated with a proposed venture against its expected benefits. If the benefits outweigh the costs, then the investment is financially worthwhile. The analysis presented here considers KCKCC as an investment from the perspectives of students, taxpayers, and society in Kansas.

#### Student perspective



In FY 2016-17, KCKCC served 8,302 credit students. In order to attend the college, the students paid for tuition, fees, books, and supplies. They also took out loans and will incur interest on those

loans. Additionally, students gave up money they would have otherwise earned had they been working instead of attending college. The total investment made by KCKCC's students in FY 2016-17 amounted to a present value of \$56.5 million, equal to \$15.9 million in out-of-pocket expenses (including future principal and interest on student loans) and \$40.5 million in forgone time and money.

In return for their investment, KCKCC's students will receive a stream of higher future earnings that will continue to grow throughout their working lives. For example, the average KCKCC associate degree graduate from FY 2016-17 will see an increase in earnings of \$8,400 each year compared to a person with a high school diploma or equivalent working in Kansas. Over a working lifetime, the benefits of the associate degree over a high school diploma will amount to an undiscounted value of \$336 thousand in higher earnings per graduate. Altogether, KCKCC's FY 2016-17 students will receive \$186.3 million in higher future earnings over their working lives, as a result of their education and training at KCKCC.

#### STUDENTS SEE A HIGH RATE OF RETURN FOR THEIR INVESTMENT IN KCKCC



14.1%

Average annual return for KCKCC students



10.1%

Stock market 30-year average annual return



0.8%

Interest earned on savings account (National Rate Cap)

Source: Forbes' S&P 500, 1987-2016. FDIC.gov, 7-2016.

The average associate degree graduate from KCKCC will see an increase in earnings of \$8,400 each year compared to a person with a high school diploma or equivalent working in Kansas.



Source: Emsi complete employment data.

The students' benefit-cost ratio is 3.3. In other words, for every dollar students invest in KCKCC, in the form of out-of-pocket expenses and forgone time and money, they will receive a cumulative value of \$3.30 in higher future earnings. Annually, the students' investment in KCKCC has an average annual internal rate of return of 14.1%, which is impressive compared to the U.S. stock market's 30-year average rate of return of 10.1%.

#### Taxpayer perspective



KCKCC generates more in tax revenue than it takes. These benefits to taxpayers consist primarily of taxes that the state and local government will collect from the added revenue created in the

state. As KCKCC students will earn more, they will make higher tax payments throughout their working lives. Students' employers will also make higher tax payments as they increase their output and purchases of goods and services.

By the end of the FY 2016-17 students' working lives, the state and local government will have collected a present value of \$56 million in added taxes.

Benefits to taxpayers will also consist of savings generated by the improved lifestyles of KCKCC students and the corresponding reduced government services. Education is statistically correlated with a variety of lifestyle changes. Students'

For every dollar of public money invested in KCKCC, taxpayers will receive a cumulative value of \$1.30 over the course of the students' working lives.

KCKCC educations will generate savings in three main categories: 1) healthcare, 2) crime, and 3) income assistance. Improved health will lower students' demand for national health care services. In addition, students will be less likely to interact with the criminal justice system, resulting in a reduced demand for law enforcement and victim costs. KCKCC students will be more employable, so their reduced demand for income assistance such as welfare and unemployment benefits will benefit taxpayers. For a list of study references, contact the college for a copy of the main report. Altogether, the present value of the benefits associated with a KCKCC education will generate \$5.9 million in savings to state and local taxpayers.

Total taxpayer benefits amount to \$61.9 million, the present value sum of the added taxes and public sector savings. Taxpayer costs are \$48.1 million, equal to the amount of state and local government funding KCKCC received in FY 2016-17. These benefits and costs yield a benefit-cost ratio of 1.3. This means



#### STUDENT PERSPECTIVE

\$186.3 million Present value benefits

\$56.5 million Present value costs

\$129.8 million Net present value

Benefit-cost Ratio

Rate of Return

3.3

14.1%



#### **TAXPAYER PERSPECTIVE**

\$61.9 million Present value benefits

\$48.1 million Present value costs

\$13.9 million Net present value

Benefit-cost Ratio

Rate of Return

1.3

2.0%



#### **SOCIAL PERSPECTIVE**

\$664.9 million Present value benefits

\$115.5 million Present value costs

\$549.4 million Net present value

Benefit-cost Ratio

Rate of Return

5.8

n/a³

\* The rate of return is not reported for the social perspective because the beneficiaries of the investment are not necessarily the same as the original investors.

that for every dollar of public money invested in KCKCC in FY 2016-17, taxpayers will receive a cumulative value of \$1.30 over the course of the students' working lives. The average annual internal rate of return for taxpayers is 2.0%, which compares favorably to other long-term investments in the public and private sectors.

#### Social perspective



Society as a whole in Kansas benefits from the presence of KCKCC in two major ways. Primarily, society benefits from an increased economic base in the state. This is attributed to higher student earnings and increased business output, which raise economic prosperity in Kansas.

Benefits to society also consist of the savings generated by the improved lifestyles of KCKCC students. As discussed in the previous section, education is statistically correlated with a variety of lifestyle changes that generate social savings. Note that these costs are avoided by the consumers but are distinct from the costs avoided by the taxpayers outlined above. Healthcare savings include avoided medical costs associated with smoking, alcohol dependence, obesity, drug abuse, and depression. Savings related to crime include reduced security expenditures and insurance administration, lower victim costs, and reduced expenditures by the criminal justice system. Income assistance savings include reduced welfare and unemployment claims. For a list of study references, contact the college for a copy of the main report.

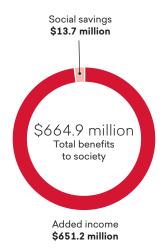
Altogether, the social benefits of KCKCC equal a present value of \$664.9 million. These benefits include \$651.2 million in added income through students' increased lifetime earnings and increased business output, as well as \$13.7 million in social savings related to health, crime, and income assistance in Kansas. People in Kansas invested a present value total of \$115.5 million in KCKCC in FY 2016-17. The cost includes all the college and student costs.

The benefit-cost ratio for society is 5.8, equal to the \$664.9 million in benefits divided by the \$115.5 million in costs. In other words, for every dollar invested in KCKCC, people in Kansas will receive a cumulative value of \$5.80 in benefits. The benefits of this investment will occur for as long as KCKCC's FY 2016-17 students remain employed in the state workforce.

## Summary of investment analysis results

The results of the analysis demonstrate that KCKCC is a strong investment for all three major stakeholder groups—students, taxpayers, and society. As shown, students receive a great return for their investments in a KCKCC education. At the same time, taxpayers' investment in KCKCC returns more to government budgets than it costs and creates a wide range of social benefits throughout Kansas.

#### SOCIAL BENEFITS IN KANSAS FROM KCKCC



Source: Emsi impact model.

# Conclusion

The results of this study demonstrate that KCKCC creates value from multiple perspectives. The college benefits regional businesses by increasing consumer spending in the region and supplying a steady flow of qualified, trained workers to the workforce. KCKCC enriches the lives of students by raising their lifetime earnings and helping them achieve their individual potential. The college benefits state and local taxpay-

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ers through increased tax receipts and a reduced demand for governmentsupported social services. Finally, KCKCC benefits society as a whole in Kansas by creating a more prosperous economy and generating a variety of savings through the improved lifestyles of students.

#### About the Study

Data and assumptions used in the study are based on several sources, including the FY 2016-17 academic and financial reports from KCKCC, industry and employment data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and U.S. Census Bureau, outputs of Emsi's Multi-Regional Social Accounting Matrix model, and a variety of studies and surveys relating education to social behavior. The study applies a conservative methodology and follows standard practice using only the most recognized indicators of economic impact and investment effectiveness. For a full description of the data and approach used in the study, please contact the college for a copy of the main report.



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