

THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF CALDWELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTE'S Electrical Lineworker Program



The Electrical Lineworker program¹ was established in 2011. In FY 2019-20, CCC&TI enrolled 113 students in the program.



THE NORTHWEST PROSPERITY ZONE, NC

CAREER OUTLOOK

The Electrical Lineworker program can lead students into a number of occupations, which may include electrical & electronic engineering technologists & technicians; electrical power-line installers & repairers; and telecommunications line installers & repairers. Many of the Electrical Lineworker program students will enter the Northwest Prosperity Zone² workforce.

Using the total regional number of annual openings for these occupations (126) and subtracting the FY 2019-20 Electrical Lineworker program students who may fill these openings (113), we arrive at a gap of 13 job openings.³ The top three posting companies in the Northwest Prosperity Zone are Pike Corporation; Duke Energy; and Blue Ridge Energy.

ALUMNI IMPACT

Former students of CCC&TI's Electrical Lineworker program added \$1.8 million in income to the Northwest Prosperity Zone economy in FY 2019-20. This figure represents the increased wages collected by former students active today in the regional workforce as a direct result of their education, the increased output of businesses that employ these students, and the multiplier effects that occur.

PROGRAM TO OCCUPATION MAPPING METRICS IN THE NORTHWEST PROSPERITY ZONE

Number of occupations	9
Jobs (2020)	1,103
Projected avg. job growth (2020-2029)	+1.3%
Annual openings (2020)	63
Median annual wage (2020)*	\$51,880

* The median annual wage reflects all award levels.

ALUMNI LIFETIME EARNINGS INCREASE AND IMPACT

Lifetime earnings increase per completer

\$302.7 thousand

Total alumni impact in FY 2019-20

\$1.8 million

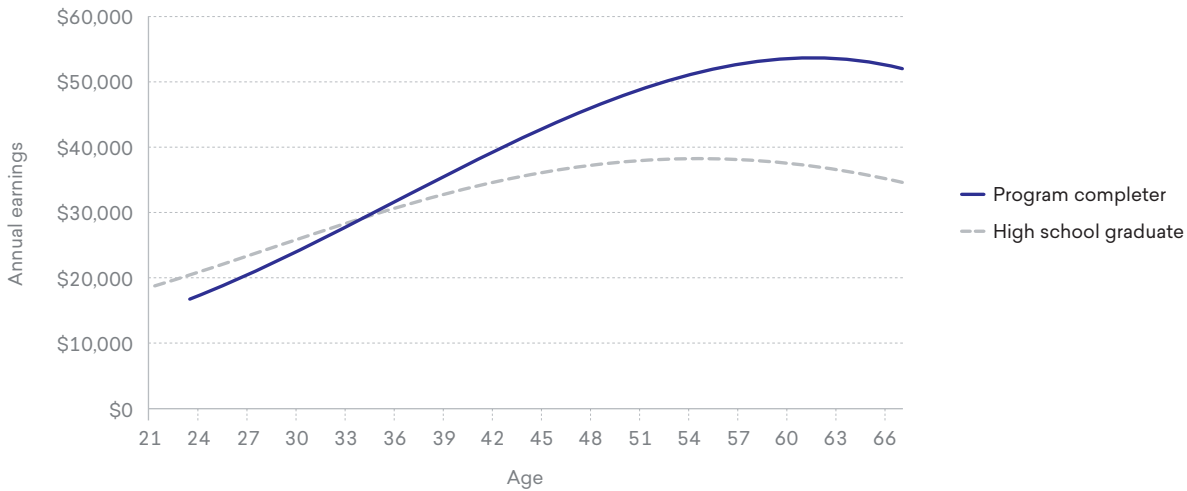


- 1 The Electrical Lineworker program is defined by the following CIP codes: Lineworker (46.0303), Electrical & Power Transmission Installation/Installer, General (46.0301), and Telecommunications Technology/Technician (15.0305).
- 2 For the purposes of this analysis, the Northwest Prosperity Zone is defined as Caldwell, Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Burke, Catawba, McDowell, Mitchell, Watauga, Wilkes, and Yancey Counties.
- 3 For the purposes of this analysis, only CCC&TI students were considered when comparing to annual openings.

STUDENT RETURN ON INVESTMENT

To complete the program, students experience costs in the form of tuition and fees, books and supplies, and the opportunity cost of attending school instead of working. In return for this investment, students can earn higher wages. For every dollar students invest in their education in the program, they will receive \$9.20 back over the course of their working lives. This investment can also be seen in terms of a rate of return of 33.4%. This is an impressive return, especially when compared to the U.S. stock market 30-year average return of 10.6%.

LIFETIME EARNINGS OF A PROGRAM COMPLETER
COMPARED TO A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE



TAXPAYER BENEFITS

Taxpayers will receive an estimated present value of \$3.7 million in added tax revenue stemming from the students' higher lifetime earnings and the increased output of businesses. Savings to the public sector add another estimated \$127.3 thousand in benefits due to a reduced demand for government-funded social services in North Carolina. Throughout the students' working lives, North Carolina taxpayers will receive a total of \$3.8 million in benefits.

Throughout the students' working lives, **North Carolina taxpayers** gain in added tax revenue and public sector savings
\$3.8 million

