



# The Economic Value of Davidson-Davie Community College

Davidson-Davie Community College (DDCC) creates a significant positive impact on the business community and generates a return on investment to its major stakeholder groups—students, taxpayers, and society. Using a two-pronged approach that involves an economic impact analysis and an investment analysis, this study calculates the benefits received by each of these groups. Results of the analysis reflect fiscal year (FY) 2019-20.



DAVIDSON & DAVIE COUNTIES, NC

# ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

In FY 2019-20, DDCC added **\$133.1 million** in income to the Davidson and Davie Counties economy, a value approximately equal to **2.2%** of the region's total gross regional product (GRP). Expressed in terms of jobs, DDCC's impact supported **2,664 jobs**. For perspective, the activities of DDCC and its students support **one out of every 32 jobs** in Davidson and Davie Counties.

### **OPERATIONS SPENDING IMPACT**

- DDCC employed 626 full-time and part-time faculty and staff. Payroll amounted to \$22.2 million, much of which was spent in the region for groceries, mortgage and rent payments, dining out, and other household expenses. The college spent another \$16.5 million on day-to-day expenses related to facilities, supplies, and professional services.
- The net impact of the college's operations spending added **\$25.2 million** in income to the regional economy in FY 2019-20.

### STUDENT SPENDING IMPACT

- Around 37% of students attending DDCC originated from outside the region. Some of these students relocated to Davidson and Davie Counties. In addition, some in-region students, referred to as retained students, would have left Davidson and Davie Counties for other educational opportunities if not for DDCC. These relocated and retained students spent money on groceries, mortgage and rent payments, and other living expenses at regional businesses.
- The expenditures of relocated and retained students in FY 2019-20 added
  \$3.1 million in income to the Davidson and Davie Counties economy.

### IMPACTS CREATED BY DDCC IN FY 2019-20



### **ALUMNI IMPACT**

- Over the years, students have studied at DDCC and entered or re-entered the workforce with newly-acquired knowledge and skills. Today, thousands of these former students are employed in Davidson and Davie Counties.
- The net impact of DDCC's former students currently employed in the regional workforce amounted to **\$104.7 million** in added income in FY 2019-20.

## **INVESTMENT ANALYSIS**

### STUDENT PERSPECTIVE

- DDCC's FY 2019-20 students paid a present value of \$5.1 million to cover the cost of tuition, fees, supplies, and interest on student loans. They also forwent \$27.9 million in money that they would have earned had they been working instead of attending college.
- In return for their investment, students will receive a cumulative present value \$167.9 million in increased earnings over their working lives. This translates to a return of \$5.10 in higher future earnings for every dollar students invest in their education. Students' average annual rate of return is 27.1%.

### TAXPAYER PERSPECTIVE

- Taxpayers provided DDCC with \$26.1 million of funding in FY 2019-20. In return, they will benefit from added tax revenue, stemming from students' higher lifetime earnings and increased business output, amounting to \$49.3 million. A reduced demand for government-funded services in North Carolina will add another \$3.3 million in benefits to taxpayers.
- For every dollar of public money invested in DDCC, taxpayers will receive \$2.00 in return, over the course of students' working lives. The average annual rate of return for taxpayers is 6.1%.

### SOCIAL PERSPECTIVE

- In FY 2019-20, North Carolina invested \$70.6 million to support DDCC. In turn, the North Carolina economy will grow by \$549.8 million, over the course of students' working lives. Society will also benefit from \$9.9 million of public and private sector savings.
- For every dollar invested in DDCC in FY 2019-20, people in North Carolina will receive **\$7.90** in return, for as long as DDCC's FY 2019-20 students remain active in the state workforce.

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



Average annual return for DDCC students 27.1%



Stock market 30-year average annual return 10.6%



Interest earned on savings account (National Rate Cap) 0.8%

Source: Forbes' S&P 500, 1991-2020. FDIC.gov, 6-2021.

### For every \$1...



Students gain in lifetime earnings \$5.10



Taxpayers gain in added tax revenue and public sector savings \$2.00



Society gains in added income and social savings \$7.90