



THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF NASH COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S Public Safety Program



The Public Safety program¹ was established in 1976. In FY 2019-20, NCC enrolled 260 students in the program. Of these students, 52 graduated with a certificate and 19 graduated with an associate degree in FY 2019-20.



NASH COUNTY, NC

CAREER OUTLOOK

The Public Safety program can lead students into a number of occupations, which may include emergency management directors; forensic science technicians; and firefighters. Many of the Public Safety program students will enter the Nash County workforce.

Using the county number of annual job openings for these occupations (26) and subtracting the FY 2019-20 NCC completers that may fill these openings (71), we arrive at a surplus of 45 student completers.² There are 30 unique job postings at the associate degree or below for these occupations in Nash County. The top three posting companies are: Army National Guard; Pfizer, Inc.; and Cummins, Inc.

PROGRAM TO OCCUPATION MAPPING METRICS IN NASH COUNTY

Number of occupations	21
Jobs (2020)	914
Projected avg. job growth (2020-2029)	+0.5%
Annual openings (2020)	26
Median annual wage (2020)*	\$49,738

* The median annual wage reflects all award levels.

ALUMNI IMPACT

Former students of NCC's Public Safety program added \$1.6 million in income to the Nash County economy in FY 2019-20. This figure represents the increased wages collected by former students active today in the county workforce as a direct result of their education, the increased output of businesses that employ these students, and the multiplier effects that occur.

ALUMNI LIFETIME EARNINGS INCREASE AND IMPACT

Lifetime earnings increase per completer

\$254.9 thousand

Total alumni impact in FY 2019-20

\$1.6 million



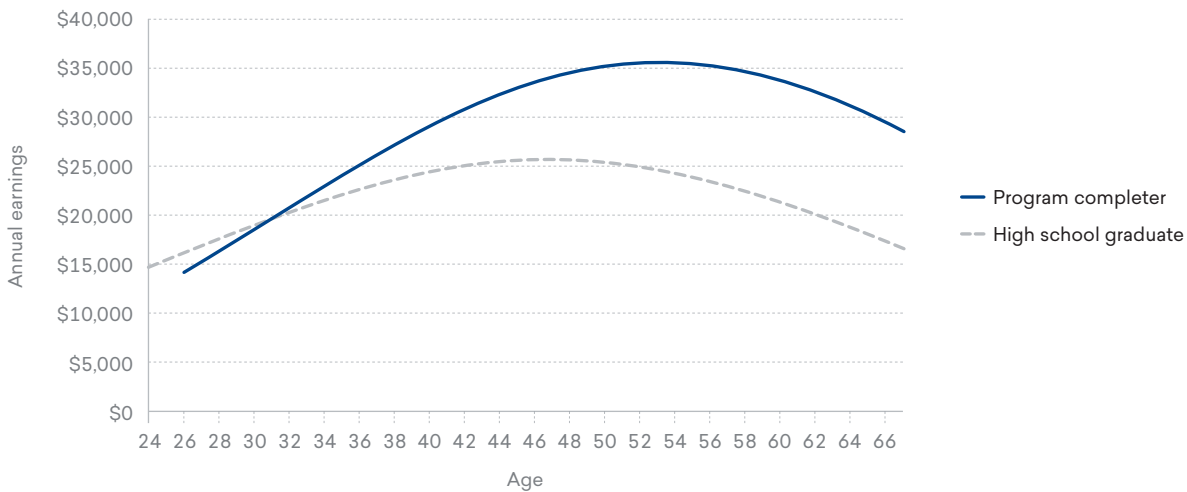
1 The Public Safety program is defined by the following Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes: Criminal Justice/Safety Studies (43.0104), Fire Prevention & Safety Technology/Technician (43.0201), Crisis/Emergency/Disaster Management (43.0302), Criminal Justice/Police Science (43.0107), and Forensic Science & Technology (43.0106).

2 For the purposes of this analysis, only NCC completers were considered when comparing to annual openings.

STUDENT RETURN ON INVESTMENT

To earn a degree or certificate in 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 \$6.90 back over the course of their working lives. This investment can also be seen in terms of a rate of return of 22.0%. 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 \$2.6 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 \$172.1 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 \$2.7 million in benefits.

Throughout the students' working lives, **North Carolina taxpayers** gain in added tax revenue and public sector savings
\$2.7 million

