



# THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF **ROCKINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S** Criminal Justice/BLET Program



The Criminal Justice/BLET<sup>1</sup> program was established in 1998. In FY 2019-20, RCC enrolled 121 students in the program. Of these students, 12 graduated with a certificate and five graduated with an associate degree in FY 2019-20.



ROCKINGHAM COUNTY, NC

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The Criminal Justice/BLET program can lead students into a number of occupations, which may include compliance officers; probation officers & correctional treatment specialists; and bailiffs. Many of the Criminal Justice/BLET program students will enter the Rockingham County workforce.

Using the county number of annual job openings for these occupations (10) and subtracting the FY 2019-20 RCC completers that may fill these openings (17), we arrive at a surplus of seven student completers.<sup>2</sup> There are seven unique job postings at the associate degree or below for these occupations in Rockingham County. The top three posting companies are Corecivic, Inc.; United States Department of the Navy; and City of Reidsville.

# **ALUMNI IMPACT**

Former students of RCC's Criminal Justice/BLET program added \$1.1 million in income to the Rockingham 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.

#### PROGRAM TO OCCUPATION MAPPING METRICS IN **ROCKINGHAM COUNTY**

Number of occupations	8
Jobs (2020)	319
Projected avg. job growth (2020-2029)	+0%
Annual openings (2020)	10
Median annual wage (2020)*	\$43,230

<sup>\*</sup> The median annual wage reflects all award levels.

#### ALUMNI LIFETIME EARNINGS INCREASE AND IMPACT

Lifetime earnings increase per completer

\$258.5 thousand

Total alumni impact in FY 2019-20  $\mathsf{S}1.1\,\mathsf{million}$ 



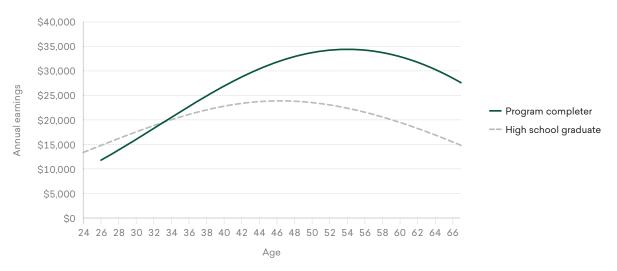
The Criminal Justice/BLET program is defined by the following CIP codes: Criminal Justice/Safety Studies (43.0104), and Criminal Justice/Police Science (43.0107).

<sup>2</sup> For the purposes of this analysis, only RCC 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 \$5.80 back over the course of their working lives. This investment can also be seen in terms of a rate of return of 18.3%. 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 \$882.1 thousand 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 \$81.4 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 \$963.5 thousand in benefits.

Throughout the students' working lives, North Carolina taxpayers gain in added tax revenue and public sector savings \$963.5 thousand

