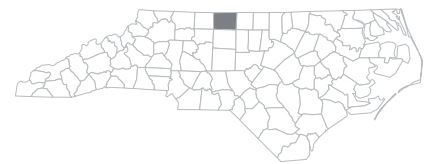


THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF
ROCKINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S
**Welding/Computer Integrated
Machining Program**



The Welding/Computer Integrated Machining program¹ was established in 1966. In FY 2019-20, RCC enrolled 104 students in the program. Of these students, 16 graduated with a certificate in FY 2019-20.



ROCKINGHAM COUNTY, NC

CAREER OUTLOOK

The Welding/Computer Integrated Machining program can lead students into a number of occupations, which may include industrial engineering technologists & technicians; first-line supervisors of construction trades & extraction workers; and plumbers, pipefitters, & steamfitters. Many of the Welding/Computer Integrated Machining program students will enter the Rockingham County workforce.

Using the county number of annual job openings for these occupations (34) and subtracting the FY 2019-20 RCC completers that may fill these openings (16), we arrive at a gap of 18 job openings.² There are 51 unique job postings at the associate degree or below for these occupations in Rockingham County. The top three posting companies are Bhi Energy; Army National Guard; and Beta Fueling Systems, LLC.

ALUMNI IMPACT

Former students of RCC's Welding/Computer Integrated Machining program added \$363.7 thousand 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	24
Jobs (2020)	978
Projected avg. job growth (2020-2029)	+0.5%
Annual openings (2020)	34
Median annual wage (2020)*	\$40,254

* The median annual wage reflects all award levels.

ALUMNI LIFETIME EARNINGS
INCREASE AND IMPACT

Lifetime earnings increase per completer

\$251.4 thousand

Total alumni impact in FY 2019-20 

\$363.7 thousand

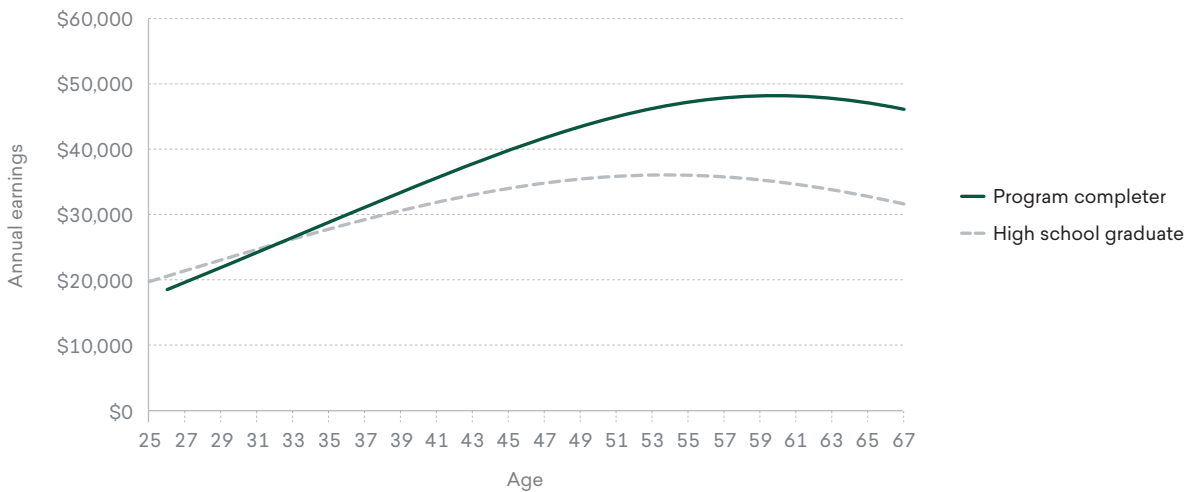
1 The Welding/Computer Integrated Machining program is defined by the following Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) code: Welding Technology/Welder (48.0508), Machine Tool Technology/Machinist (48.0510), Industrial Production Technologies/Technicians, and Other (15.0699).

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

STUDENT RETURN ON INVESTMENT

To earn a 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 \$4.80 back over the course of their working lives. This investment can also be seen in terms of a rate of return of 17.1%. 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 \$785 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 \$71 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 \$856 thousand in benefits.

Throughout the students' working lives, **North Carolina taxpayers** gain in added tax revenue and public sector savings **\$856 thousand**

