



THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF SOUTHEASTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S Engineering Technologies Program



The Engineering Technologies program¹ was established in 1996. In FY 2019-20, SCC enrolled 365 students in the program. Of these students, five graduated with a certificate and 16 graduated with an associate degree in FY 2019-20.



COLUMBUS COUNTY, NC

CAREER OUTLOOK

The Engineering Technologies program can lead students into a number of occupations, which may include electro-mechanical & mechatronics technologists & technicians; industrial engineering technologists & technicians; and electrical & electronics drafters. Many of the Engineering Technologies program students will enter the Columbus County workforce.

Using the county number of annual job openings for these occupations (seven) and subtracting the FY 2019-20 SCC completers who may fill these openings (21), we arrive at a surplus of 14 student completers.² There are one unique job postings at the associate degree or below for these occupations in Columbus County. The top company posting is Parexel International Corporation.

ALUMNI IMPACT

Former students of SCC's Engineering Technologies program added \$2.5 million in income to the Columbus 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 COLUMBUS COUNTY

Number of occupations	12
Jobs (2020)	185
Projected avg. job growth (2020-2029)	+2.1%
Annual openings (2020)	7
Median annual wage (2020)*	\$48,538

* The median annual wage reflects all award levels.

ALUMNI LIFETIME EARNINGS INCREASE AND IMPACT

Lifetime earnings
increase per completer
\$389.4 thousand

Total alumni impact
in FY 2019-20
\$2.5 million



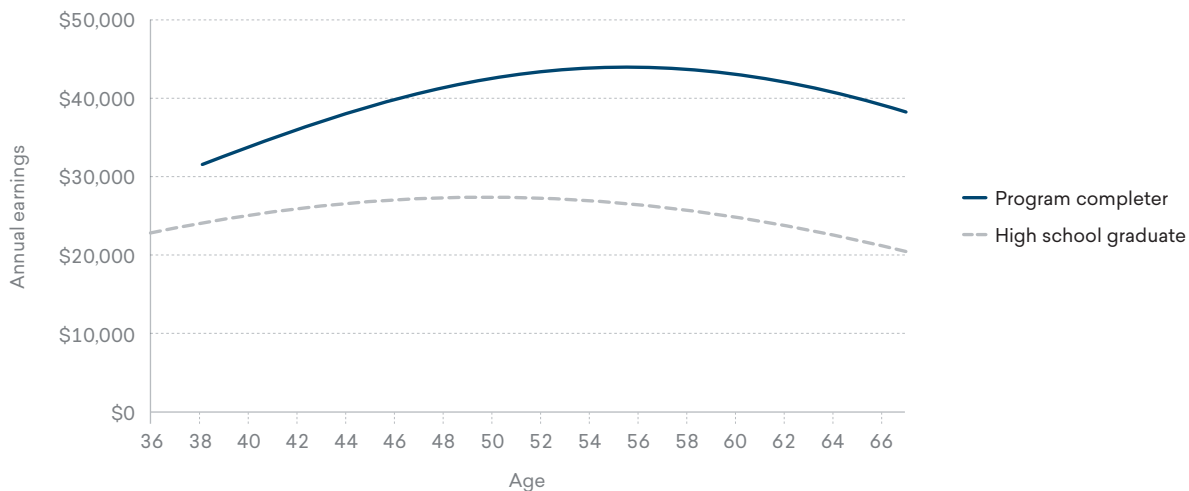
¹ The Engineering Technologies program is defined by the following Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes: Electrical, Electronic & Communications Engineering Technology/Technician (15.0303), Electrical & Electronic Engineering Technologies/Technicians, Other (15.0399), Mechatronics, Robotics, and Automation Engineering Technology/Technician (15.0407), Industrial Production Technologies/Technicians, Other (15.0699), and Occupational Safety & Health Technology/Technician (15.0701).

² For the purposes of this analysis, only SCC 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 41.5%. 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 \$935.4 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 \$66.1 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 \$1 million in benefits.

Throughout the students' working lives, **North Carolina taxpayers** gain in added tax revenue and public sector savings
\$1 million

