

BUSINESS & COMMERCE IMPACTS

The Economic Value of Orange County's Community Colleges | July 2018

In FY 2016-17, OC Community Colleges's total impact on the Orange County economy was \$6.4 billion in added income, equal to 2.6% of the county's GRP. This contribution that the colleges provides on its own is nearly as large as the entire Accommodation & Food Services industry in the county.

OC COMMUNITY COLLEGES PAYROLL, EXPENSES, & CONSTRUCTION SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES

- In FY 2016-17, OC Community Colleges employed **9,509** full-time and part-time faculty and staff, with an annual payroll of **\$788.2 million**. Much of this was spent in Orange County to purchase groceries, clothing, and other household goods and services.
- The colleges is itself a buyer of goods and services and spent **\$395.8 million** to support its operations during the analysis year.
- OC Community Colleges's net impact of payroll and expenses in the county was **\$1.1 billion** in added income.
- In addition, the college spent another **\$94.6 million** on construction projects in FY 2016-17, which amounted to a short-run net impact of **\$68.1 million** in added income.

OC COMMUNITY COLLEGES STUDENTS BOOST LOCAL SPENDING

- Around 26% of students attending OC Community Colleges originated from outside the county. Some of these students relocated to Orange County and spent money on groceries, transportation, rent, and so on at county businesses.
- In addition, a number of in-county students would have left the county for other education opportunities if not for the existence of OC Community Colleges.
- The expenditures of these relocated and retained students added approximately **\$619.1 million** in income to the county during the analysis year.

OC COMMUNITY COLLEGES TRAINING SUSTAINS A SKILLED WORKFORCE

- Over the years, students have studied at OC Community Colleges and entered or re-entered the workforce with newly-acquired skills. Today, thousands of former students are employed in Orange County.
- As students apply the skills they acquired at the colleges, they are rewarded with higher earnings. They also raise business profits through their increased productivity. These higher earnings and increased profits create even more earnings as they are spent in the county.
- In FY 2016-17, the impact of former OC Community Colleges students on the county economy amounted to **\$4.6 billion** in added income.

ADDED INCOME CREATED BY OC COMMUNITY COLLEGES IN FY 2016-17

