

# Overview Fact Sheet

*South Texas College plays a significant role in the local economy and is a sound investment from multiple perspectives. Students benefit from improved lifestyles and increased earnings. Taxpayers benefit from a larger economy and lower social costs. Finally, the community as a whole benefits from increased job and investment opportunities, higher business revenues, greater availability of public funds, and an eased tax burden.*

## INVESTMENT ANALYSIS

### Student Perspective

- STC served **30,958** credit students and **5,684** non-credit students in the 2008-09 reporting year.
- Education increases lifetime income. The average income at the career midpoint of someone with an associate's degree in the STC Service District is **\$30,100**, 36% more than a student with a high school diploma.

**Students enjoy a 15.4% rate of return on their investment in STC.**

- Throughout his or her working career, the average STC student's discounted lifetime income increases by **\$5.20** for every dollar invested in STC.
- Students enjoy an attractive **15.4%** average rate of return on their STC educational investment, recovering all costs (including tuition, fees, and forgone wages) in 9.7 years.

### Social Perspective

- Higher earnings of STC students and associated increases in state income expand the tax base in Texas by about **\$54.2 million** each year.
- Texas will see avoided social costs amounting to **\$6.1 million** per year due to STC students, including savings associated with improved health, reduced crime, and reduced welfare and unemployment.

### Taxpayer Perspective

- State and local government allocated approximately **\$85.7 million** in support of STC in FY 2008-09.

- State and local government see a real rate of return of **3.2%** on their support for STC.

## ECONOMIC GROWTH ANALYSIS

### College Operations Effect

- The STC Service District economy annually receives roughly **\$68 million** in income due to STC operations. This is a conservative figure adjusted to account for monies that leave the economy or are withdrawn from the economy in support of the college.

**Added income attributable to the accumulation of STC skills amounts to \$107.4 million each year.**

### Student Spending Effect

- About **4%** of STC's students come from outside the region, bringing with them monies that would not have otherwise entered the local economy.
- The off-campus expenditures of STC's non-local students generate roughly **\$826,100** in added income in the STC Service District each year.

### Productivity Effect

- The current STC Service District economy embodies an estimated **1.5 million** credits that have accumulated over the past seventeen-year period as thousands of former STC students (completers and non-completers) enter the workforce year after year.
- STC skills translate to higher student earnings and increased output of businesses. The added income attributable to the accumulation of STC credits in the workforce amounts to around **\$107.4 million** each year.