

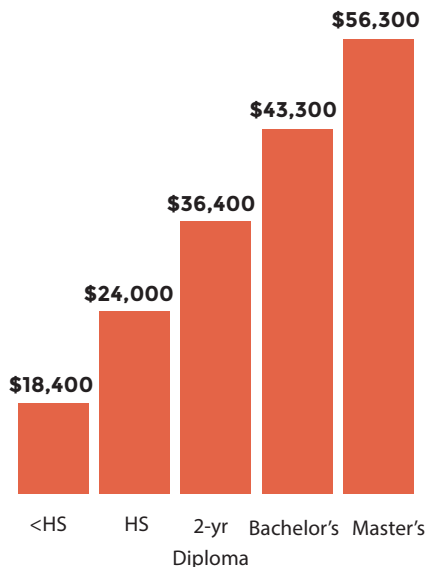
BENEFITS TO STUDENTS

Demonstrating the Value of Northwest Community College

DECEMBER 2013

Education has the power to raise students' earning potential and increase their employability. In return for their investment in education, NWCC's 2012-13 students will receive higher wages that will continue to grow throughout their working lives.

Annual earnings by education level at career midpoint in the Northwest College Region



EDUCATION RETURNS VALUE FOR MONEY SPENT

- To meet the costs of going to college, students rely on their own earnings or on the earnings of their families. At NWCC, students paid a total of **\$4.6 million** in 2012-13 to cover the cost of tuition, fees, books, and supplies.
- While at college, students spend time focusing on their studies, time they would have otherwise spent in employment or with their families and friends. For NWCC students, the value of time and earnings forgone was estimated to be **\$14.4 million**.
- In return for the costs of going to college, students will receive a stream of higher lifetime earnings. These earnings gains will fully recover the money that students invested and will continue to grow throughout the students' working lives.

EDUCATION INCREASES PEOPLE'S EARNING POTENTIAL

- Average annual earnings increase as students attain higher levels of education. On average, two-year diploma completers in the Northwest College Region will earn \$36,400 at the midpoint of their careers, **\$12,400** more than someone with a high school diploma.
- Two-year diploma completers will earn **\$1,164,800** (undiscounted) over their working lifetime, an increase of \$396,800 compared to someone with a high school diploma.

EDUCATION IS ONE OF THE BEST INVESTMENTS STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES CAN MAKE

- NWCC's 2012-13 students will receive an average internal rate of return of **21.1%** on their investment in the college. This rate of return continues throughout their working lives.
- Had students and their families taken the money they spent on education and invested it instead in a standard bank savings account, they would have received a rate of return of less than 1%.
- On average, NWCC's 2012-13 students will receive a cumulative **\$3.30** in higher future earnings for every \$1 they invested in their education. In other words, students not only recover the cost of their original investment but also receive an additional **\$2.30** for every \$1 they paid.