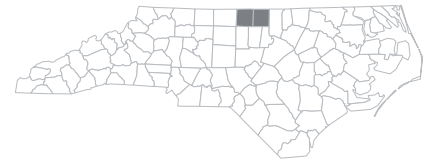


THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S Mechatronics Technology Program



The Mechatronics Technology program¹ was only recently established in 2017. In FY 2019-20, PCC enrolled 33 students in the program. Of these students, one graduated with a certificate in FY 2019-20.



THE PCC SERVICE AREA, NC

CAREER OUTLOOK

The Mechatronics Technology program can lead students into a number of occupations, which may include architectural & engineering managers and engineers, all other. Many of the Mechatronics Technology program students will enter the PCC Service Area² workforce.

In 2020, there were no job openings in the region within the mapped occupations. Comparing the annual openings to the supply of student completers, we find a surplus of one student completer.³ Due to data limitations, job postings with the names of county employers are unavailable for occupations related to this program.

PROGRAM TO OCCUPATION MAPPING METRICS IN THE PCC SERVICE AREA

Number of occupations	2
Jobs (2020)	14
Projected avg. job growth (2020-2029)	+1.4%
Annual openings (2020)	0
Median annual wage (2020)*	\$117,857

* The median annual wage reflects all award levels.

ALUMNI IMPACT

Former students of PCC's Mechatronics Technology program added \$7.3 thousand in income to the PCC Service Area economy in FY 2019-20. This figure represents the increased wages collected by former students active today in the regional workforce as a direct result of their education, the increased output of businesses that employ these students, and the multiplier effects that occur.

ALUMNI LIFETIME EARNINGS INCREASE AND IMPACT

Lifetime earnings
increase per completer

\$642 thousand

Total alumni impact
in FY 2019-20

\$7.3 thousand



¹ The Mechatronics Technology program is defined by the following Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) code: Mechatronics, Robotics, & Automation Engineering (14.4201).

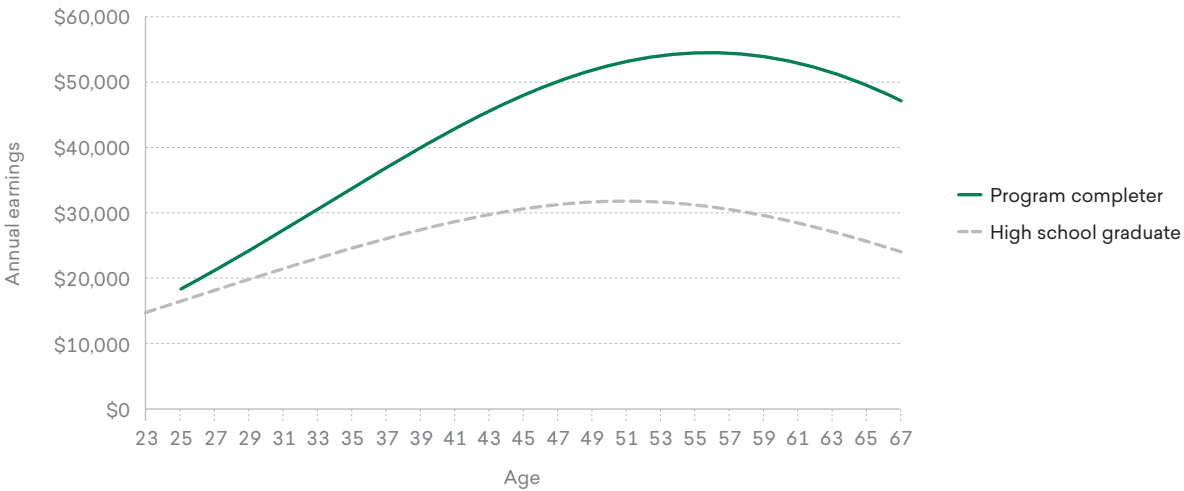
² For the purposes of this analysis, the PCC Service Area is defined as Person and Caswell Counties.

³ For the purposes of this analysis, only PCC 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 \$19.80 back over the course of their working lives. This investment can also be seen in terms of a rate of return of 34.5%. 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 \$816 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 \$18.7 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 \$834.8 thousand in benefits.

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



\$834.8 thousand