



Southeastern promotes economic growth in the Southeastern Primary Impact Area through its direct expenditures and the resulting expenditures of visitors, students, and regional businesses. The university serves as an employer and buyer of goods and services for its day-to-day, construction, and research operations. Numerous spin-off companies have formed as a result of programs and knowledge at Southeastern. The university's reputation and activities attract visitors and students from outside the Southeastern Primary Impact Area, whose expenditures benefit regional vendors. Southeastern encourages its students and employees to volunteer in the community, helping businesses and organizations grow. In addition, Southeastern is a main source of higher education to the Southeastern Primary Impact Area residents

visitors for commencement, cultural, and sports events. It is important to remind the

that employ them. In FY 2021-22, Southeastern alumni generated \$815.3 million in added income for the regional economy, which is equivalent to supporting 12,950 jobs.

Total impact

students' investment in Southeastern has an average annual internal rate of return of 15.6%, which is impressive compared to the U.S. stock market's 30-year average rate of return of 10.5%.

Taxpayer perspective



Southeastern generates more in tax revenue than it takes. These benefits to taxpayers consist primarily of taxes that the state and local government will collect from the added revenue created in the state. As Southeastern students will earn more, they will make higher tax payments throughout their working lives. Students' employers will also make higher tax payments as they increase their output and purchases of goods and services. By the end of the FY 2021-22 students' working lives, the state and local government will have collected a present value of \$73.4 million in added taxes.

Benefits to taxpayers will also consist of savings generated by the improved lifestyles of Southeastern students and the corresponding reduced government services. Education is statistically correlated with a variety of lifestyle changes. The educations that Southeastern students receive will generate savings in three main categories: 1) healthcare, 2) justice system, and 3) income assistance. Improved health will lower students' demand for national health care services. In addition, costs related to the justice system will decrease. Southeastern students will be more employable, so their reduced demand for income assistance such as welfare and unemployment benefits will benefit taxpayers. For a list of study references, contact the university for a copy of the main report. Altogether, the present value of the benefits associated with an education from Southeastern will generate



Benefits to society also consist of the savings generated by the improved lifestyles of Southeastern students. As discussed in the previous section, education is statistically correlated with a variety of lifestyle changes that generate social savings. Note that these costs are avoided by the consumers but are distinct from the costs avoided by the taxpayers outlined above. Healthcare savings include avoided medical expenditures associated with alcohol abuse.

These savings are estimated to be \$13.1 billion annually. The savings are calculated by multiplying the percentage of students who are employed (13.1%) by the average annual income of Southeastern students (\$100,000) and then subtracting the cost of education (\$17.95 billion). The net benefit is \$13.1 billion.

The results of this study demonstrate that Southeastern creates value from multiple perspectives. The university benefits regional businesses by increasing consumer spending in the region and supplying a steady flow of qualified, trained workers to the workforce. Southeastern enriches the lives of students by raising their lifetime earnings and helping them achieve their individual potential. The university benefits state and local taxpayers through increased tax receipts and a reduced demand for government-supported social services. Finally, Southeastern benefits society as a