INVESTMENT ANALYSIS

Student Perspective
- WWCC served 7,190 credit students and 3,634 non-credit students in the 2009-10 reporting year.
- Education increases lifetime income. The average income at the career midpoint of someone with an associate’s degree in the WWCC Service Area is $48,700, 35% more than a student with a high school diploma.
- Throughout his or her working career, the average WWCC student’s discounted lifetime income increases by $7.00 for every dollar invested in WWCC.
- Students enjoy an attractive 23.1% average rate of return on their WWCC educational investment, recovering all costs (including tuition, fees, and forgone wages) in 6.6 years.

Social Perspective
- Higher earnings of WWCC students and associated increases in state income expand the tax base in Wyoming by about $31 million each year.
- Wyoming will see avoided social costs amounting to $879,500 per year due to WWCC students, including savings associated with improved health, reduced crime, and reduced welfare and unemployment.

Taxpayer Perspective
- State and local governments see a rate of return of 9.6% on their support for WWCC. This return compares very favorably with private sector rates of return on similar long-term investments.
- State and local governments allocated approximately $23.4 million in support of WWCC in FY 2009-10.
- For every dollar of this support, taxpayers see a cumulative return of $2.50 over the course of students’ working careers (in the form of higher tax receipts and avoided costs).

ECONOMIC GROWTH ANALYSIS

College Operations Effect
- The WWCC Service Area economy annually receives roughly $18.3 million in income due to WWCC 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 This is a conservative figure adjusted to account for monies that leave the economy or are withdrawn from the economy in support of the college.

Student Spending Effect
- WWCC estimates that approximately 4% of its students come from outside the region, bringing with them monies that would not have otherwise entered the local economy.
- The expenditures of WWCC’s non-local students generate roughly $2.1 million in added income in the WWCC Service Area each year.

Productivity Effect
- The current WWCC Service Area economy embodies an estimated 572,700 credits that have accumulated over the past 30-year period as thousands of former WWCC students (completers and non-completers) enter the workforce year after year.
- WWCC skills translate to higher earnings for students and increased output of businesses. The added income attributable to the accumulation of WWCC credits in the workforce amounts to around $139 million each year.