CHAPTER 5: Conclusion

While MCC’s value to the MCC Four County Service Area is larger than simply its economic impact, understanding the dollars and cents value is an important asset to understanding the college’s value as a whole. In order to fully assess MCC’s value to the regional economy, this report has evaluated the college from the perspectives of economic impact analysis and investment analysis.

From an economic impact perspective, we calculated that MCC generates a total economic impact of $1.2 billion in total added income for the regional economy. This represents the sum of several different impacts, including the college’s operations spending impact ($93.1 million), construction spending impact ($16.8 million), student spending impact ($34.4 million), and alumni impact ($1.1 billion). This impact means that MCC is responsible for 18,268 jobs in the MCC Four County Service Area. For perspective, this means that one out of every 31 jobs in the MCC Four County Service Area is supported by the activities of MCC and its students.

Since MCC’s activity represents an investment by various parties, including students, taxpayers, and society as a whole, we also considered the college as an investment to see the value it provides to these investors. For each dollar invested by students, taxpayers, and society, MCC offers a benefit of $3.70, $3.50, and $11.90, respectively.

Modeling the impact of the college is subject to many factors, the variability of which we considered in our sensitivity analysis. With this variability accounted for, we present the findings of this study as a robust picture of the economic value of MCC.