

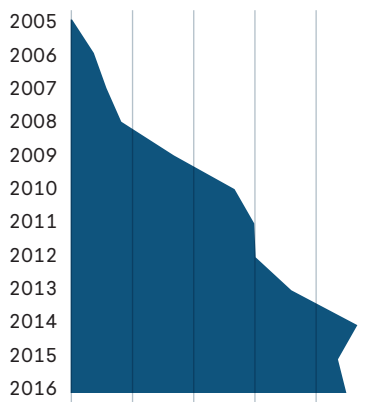
FACT SHEET

The Economic Value of Blue Ridge Community and Technical College Bridging the Gap Programs

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Alumni from Blue Ridge Community and Technical College (BRCTC) Bridging the Gap Programs create a significant positive impact on the business community and receive a positive return on their investment in their education. Using a two-pronged approach that involves an economic impact analysis and an investment analysis, this study calculates the benefits for these students. Results of the analysis reflect Fiscal Year (FY) 2015-16.

BRIDGING THE GAP ENROLLMENT GROWTH



ALUMNI IMPACT ON BUSINESS COMMUNITY

- In FY 2015-16, the BRCTC Bridging the Gap Programs served 450 students. This represents considerable growth since 2005 when the first of these programs began by serving just three students.
- Completers of Bridging the Gap Programs generated **\$1.2 million** in added income to the BRCTC Service Area during FY 2015-16. This figure represents the increased wages collected by former students as a direct result of their education, the increased output of businesses that employ these students, and the multiplier effects.

Added income	\$1.2 million
Jobs Supported	11

STUDENT RETURN ON INVESTMENT

- In the 450 FY 2015-16, students enrolled in BRCTC's Bridging the Gap Programs paid a total of **\$673 thousand** to cover the cost of tuition, fees, and supplies. They also forewent **\$3.8 million** in money that they would have earned had they been working instead of learning. In return for the monies invested, students will receive a present value of **\$11.5 million** in increased earnings over their working lives.
- The FY 2015-16 students can expect to receive a return of **\$2.60** in higher future earnings for every \$1 that they invested in their education. The average annual return is **10.2%**.

Benefit-Cost Ratio	2.6
Rate of Return	10.2%