

OVER THEIR LIFETIME

ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE HOLDERS CONTRIBUTE	BACHELOR'S DEGREE HOLDERS CONTRIBUTE
<b>\$81K</b>	<b>\$278K</b>
MORE TO THEIR LOCAL ECONOMY	MORE TO THEIR LOCAL ECONOMY

BACHELOR'S DEGREE  
HOLDERS CONTRIBUTE  
**\$44K**  
MORE IN-STATE AND  
LOCAL TAXES

*\* COMPARED TO AVERAGE-WAGE WORKERS WITH ONLY A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA*

## Colleges Build Local Economies

According to a report by the WVU Bureau of Business and Economic Research, West Virginia's 12 four-year institutions and nine two-year institutions supported 22,000 jobs. Compensation in supporting those jobs was reported at \$1.4 billion. Economic impact for individual institutions ranges from \$5.6 to \$1.4 billion. That activity generated more than \$60 million in tax revenue for the state.

When combined with tuition, student spending and other sources of revenue, the economic impact of the institutions was nearly seven times the amount of the state's appropriation for the schools. Even smaller institutions have an economic impact as an economic driver for many communities.

Graduates contribute more, too. According to the Brookings Institute in 2015, those with bachelor's degrees contribute over their lifetime more than \$250K to their local economies and over \$40K in state & local taxes.\* Those with associate's degrees contribute over \$80K to their local economies.

\*Compared to average-wage workers with only a high school diploma.

## West Virginia Higher Education Faculty Issues 2021-2022

- Ensure that higher education is funded to develop the educated workforce needed to grow the state economy.
- Support an initiative to recruit and retain global talent in West Virginia.
- Ensure that the changing employee healthcare needs are effectively and continually met.
- Ensure transparent and fair employment practices by strengthening due process protections, enhancing shared governance, and preserving tenure and academic freedom.
- Support the improvement of the state's broadband coverage.
- Ensure institutions of higher education are able to regulate the safety and security of their campuses



**Higher education faculty are committed to serve**

- our students through quality instruction in academic and workforce development programs;
- our institutions through instruction, professional development, research and scholarship, and direct service;
- our local communities through engagement and programs that bring workforce development, jobs, economic growth, cultural and artistic events, business and educational partnerships, and research.

**The Advisory Council of Faculty (ACF) was established by West Virginia Code §18B-6-2, as an advisory body of higher education faculty to**

- serve as a resource to the legislature and advise the legislature on higher education;
- provide advice to the Higher Education Policy Commission and the Council for Community and Technical College Education in the development of policies and issues pertaining to higher education;
- report to and advise local boards of governors and faculty constituents on issues pertaining to higher education.

## Higher Education Builds a Flexible Workforce!



## THE WEST VIRGINIA ADVISORY COUNCIL OF FACULTY 2021-2022

**The ACF Advises**  
The West Virginia Legislature

The West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission

The West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education

West Virginia Institutions of Higher Education Boards of Governors



[www.wvacf.org](http://www.wvacf.org)



## 2021-2022 Advisory Council of Faculty Member

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### Grads Have Better Job Prospects

Higher education is a powerful engine for positive change. For those who earn degrees, as well as the people and communities that benefit from their achievements, a college education is transformative.

A college education provides college graduates with the opportunity to prosper. Through learning new skills, gaining recognizable credentials, and exploring new venues and opportunities, tomorrow's graduates will be equipped with the skills needed to boost their earnings and enhance their career prospects. The vast majority of bachelor's programs, regardless of the field of study, were likely to earn more than if they hadn't enrolled, with some fields paying off even faster.

With colleges and universities losing fiscal support, the nation may face a shortage of five million college-educated workers needed to keep the economy thriving. A college education is positively correlated with improved health, marriage stability, and earnings.

**Sources:**

- WV Higher Education Policy Commission & WV Council for Community and Technical College Education 2020 Almanac
- WVU Bureau of Business and Economic Research Report, 2016

NY Times, "Will that College Degree Pay Off?" August 2021