North Idaho College plays a significant role in the local economy and is a sound investment from multiple perspectives. Students benefit from improved lifestyles and increased earnings. Taxpayers benefit from a larger economy and lower social costs. Finally, the community as a whole benefits from increased job and investment opportunities, higher business revenues, greater availability of public funds, and an eased tax burden.

INVESTMENT ANALYSIS

Student Perspective
- NIC served 16,877 students in the 2010-11 reporting year.
- Education increases lifetime income. The average income at the career midpoint of someone with an associate's degree in the Northern Idaho is $32,500.

Students enjoy a 16.1% rate of return on their investment in NIC.

- The average NIC student's income increases by $3.60 for every dollar invested in NIC.
- Students enjoy an attractive 16.1% average rate of return on their NIC educational investment, recovering all costs in 8.4 years.

Social Perspective
- Higher earnings of NIC students and associated increases in state income expand the tax base in Idaho by about $24 million each year.
- Idaho will see avoided social costs amounting to $1.4 million per year due to improved health, reduced crime, and reduced welfare and unemployment.

Taxpayer Perspective
- State and local governments allocated approximately $30.4 million in support of NIC in FY 2010-11.
- For every dollar of this support, taxpayers see a return of $1.50 (in the form of higher tax receipts and avoided costs).
- State and local governments see an annual rate of return of 5.8% on their support for NIC.

ECONOMIC GROWTH ANALYSIS

College Operations Effect
- The Northern Idaho economy annually receives $32.9 million in income due to NIC operations.

Added income attributable to the accumulation of NIC skills amounts to $112.5 million each year.

Student Spending Effect
- NIC estimates that approximately 28% of its students come from outside the region.
- The expenditures of NIC's non-local students generate roughly $19.2 million in added income in the Northern Idaho each year.

Productivity Effect
- The Northern Idaho economy embodies an estimated 1 million credits that have accumulated over the past 30-year period as thousands of former NIC students enter the workforce.
- NIC credits translate to higher earnings for students and increased output of businesses. The added income attributable to the accumulation of NIC credits in the workforce amounts to around $112.5 million each year.

Total Effect
- The total annual impacts on the Northern Idaho sum to $164.6 million.
- The total impact represents 2.7% of the total regional economy and roughly 4,690 average wage jobs.