In FY 2014-15, the colleges’ total impact on the Washington economy was $20.5 billion in added income, equal to 5.1% of the state’s gross state product.

### THE COLLEGES’ PAYROLL & EXPENSES SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES

- In FY 2014-15, the colleges employed 19,025 full-time and part-time faculty and staff, with an annual payroll of $1.1 billion. Much of this was spent in Washington to purchase groceries, clothing, and other household goods and services.
- The institutions are buyers of goods and services and spent another $841.6 million to support their collective operations during the analysis year.
- The net impact of the institutions’ payroll and expenses in Washington was $1.2 billion in added income.

### THE COLLEGES’ STUDENTS BOOST LOCAL SPENDING

- Around 2% of students attending the colleges originated from outside the state. Some of these students relocated to Washington and spent money on groceries, transportation, rent, and so on at state businesses. These expenditures helped support local businesses.
- In addition, a number of in-state students would have left the area for other education opportunities if not for the existence of the colleges.
- The expenditures of these students added approximately $612.1 million in added income to the state during the analysis year.

### THE COLLEGES’ TRAINING SUSTAINS A SKILLED WORKFORCE

- Over the years, students have studied at the colleges and entered or re-entered the workforce with newly-acquired skills. Today, thousands of former students are employed in Washington.
- As students apply the skills they acquired at the institutions, they are rewarded with higher earnings. They also raise business profits through their increased productivity. These higher earnings and increased profits create even more earnings as they are spent in the state.
- In FY 2014-15, the effect of former the colleges’ students on the state economy amounted to $18.7 billion in added income.