

# RETURN ON INVESTMENT TO SOCIETY

Demonstrating the Economic Value of Aims Community College

DECEMBER 2015



Benefits created by Aims extend to far more people than just its students. As students and employers enjoy higher earnings and increased output, society as a whole benefits from an expanded economy and a range of savings associated with the students' improved quality of life.

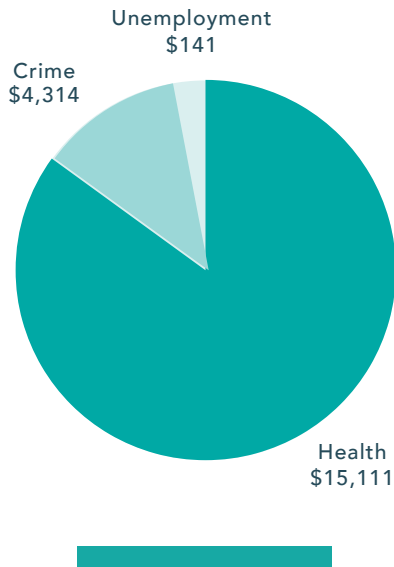
## Aims Raises Prosperity in the State

- Students earn more because of the skills and qualifications they acquire at Aims. Further, employers earn more because the added skills of the students they hire make their businesses more productive.
- Together, increases in earnings and business output stimulate corresponding increases in earnings and employment throughout the state. Over their working lives, Aims's 2013- 14 student population will increase the state's economic base by \$1.1 billion.

## Aims Improves Quality of Life

- As Aims students achieve higher levels of education, they are statistically more likely to develop good health habits. This leads to a present value of \$15.1 million in savings to students and to society as a whole for medical treatment related to smoking, alcoholism, obesity, drug abuse, and mental disorders.

## PRESENT VALUE OF SOCIAL SAVINGS (THOUSANDS)



## Benefits to Society Outweigh Social Costs

- Students enjoy better employment opportunities as a result of their education at Aims. This makes them less likely to require earnings assistance and less likely to commit crimes. These effects translate to a present value of **\$140,501** in unemployment-related savings and **\$4.3 million** in law enforcement savings to society as a whole.
- Altogether, savings to society amount to a present value of \$19.6 million, equal to the sum of avoided costs related to health, crime, and unemployment.
- In FY 2013-14, society invested **\$109.9 million** in Aims educations. This includes all Aims expenditures, all student expenditures, and all student opportunity costs. In return for this investment, society as a whole will receive a present value of **\$1.1 billion** in benefits, the sum of the increased economic base and social savings that Aims's 2013-14 student population will generate in the state.
- For every dollar spent on Aims educations, society as a whole in Colorado will receive a cumulative value of **\$10.20** in benefits, for as long as Aims's 2013-14 students remain active in the state workforce.