Students and society as a whole enjoy a range of benefits due to their educational investment in Virginia Western. A portion of these benefits accrues to state and local taxpayers in the form of higher tax receipts and a reduced demand for government-supported social services.

**Virginia Western Increases Tax Revenue**

- Approximately 96% of Virginia Western’s students remain in Virginia upon completing their educational goals. As students earn more, they pay higher taxes. Employers also pay higher taxes through their increased output and spending.

- Over the students’ working lives, state and local government in Virginia will collect a present value of $63.2 million in the form of higher tax receipts.¹

**Virginia Western Reduces Government Costs**

- Virginia Western students who achieve higher levels of education are statistically less likely to have poor health habits, commit crimes, or claim welfare or unemployment benefits.

- The improved lifestyles of students result in a reduced demand for government-supported services. Better health leads to reduced health care costs. Reduced crime leads to a reduced burden on the criminal justice system. Further, increased employability leads to fewer claims for welfare and unemployment benefits.

¹ This analysis excludes the additional economic impact of dual enrollment courses taught in local high schools.
As a result, taxpayers in the state of Virginia will see a present value of $5 MILLION in savings to government over the students’ working careers.

VIRGINIA WESTERN IS A SOLID INVESTMENT FOR STATE AND LOCAL TAXPAYERS

- In FY 2012-13, state and local taxpayers in Virginia paid $11.9 MILLION to support the operations of Virginia Western.
- For every $1 of public money spent on Virginia Western, taxpayers receive a cumulative return of $5.70 over the course of students’ working lives in the form of higher tax receipts and public sector savings.
- Taxpayers see an annual return of 15.0% on their investment in Virginia Western. This return compares favorably with the 1.1% discount rate used by the federal government to appraise long-term investments.

COMPARING TAXPAYER RATE OF RETURN TO DISCOUNT RATE

15.0%

1.1%

Discount rate  Virginia Western