Students and society as a whole enjoy a range of benefits due to their educational investment in Maryland’s community colleges. 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.

**MACC Increases Tax Revenue**

- Approximately 88% of Maryland’s community colleges’ students remain in Maryland 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 Maryland will collect a present value of $1.1 billion in the form of higher tax receipts.

**MACC Reduces Government Costs**

- Students from Maryland’s community colleges 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.

- As a result, taxpayers in the state of Maryland will see a present value of $184.1 million in savings to government over the students’ working careers.

**MACC Is a Solid Investment for State and Local Taxpayers**

- In FY 2015-16, state and local taxpayers in Maryland paid $830.9 million to support the operations of Maryland’s community colleges.

- For every $1 of public money spent on the community colleges, taxpayers receive a cumulative return of $1.50 over the course of students’ working lives in the form of higher tax receipts and public sector savings.

- Taxpayers see an annual return of 4.2% on their investment in Maryland’s community colleges. This return compares favorably with the 1.1% discount rate used by the federal government to appraise long-term investments.

**Summary of the Taxpayer Investment**

- $1.50
  
  For every $1 invested by state/local taxpayers

- 4.2%

  Return of Return