Students and society as a whole enjoy a range of benefits due to their educational investment in OJC. 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.

**OJC INCREASES TAX REVENUE**
- Approximately 90% of OJC’s students remain in Colorado 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 Colorado will collect a present value of $19 million in the form of higher tax receipts.

**OJC REDUCES GOVERNMENT COSTS**
- OJC 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.
- As a result, taxpayers in the state of Colorado will see a present value of $1.7 million in savings to government over the students’ working careers.

**OJC IS A SOLID INVESTMENT FOR STATE AND LOCAL TAXPAYERS**
- In FY 2015-16, state and local taxpayers in Colorado paid $8.8 million to support the operations of OJC.
- For every $1 of public money spent on OJC, taxpayers receive a cumulative return of $2.30 over the course of students’ working lives in the form of higher tax receipts and public sector savings.
- Taxpayers see an average annual internal rate of return of 6.8% on their investment in OJC. This return compares favorably with the 0.7% discount rate used by the federal government to appraise long-term investments.

**SUMMARY OF THE TAXPAYER INVESTMENT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit-cost ratio</th>
<th>2.3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rate of return</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>