South Orange County Community College District

Report to the Community

Saddleback College • Irvine Valley College
Advanced Technology & Education Park
The vision of the South Orange County Community College District is to create an environment of excellence that best serves the students and community. Our mission is to provide academic opportunities, cultural enrichment and social experiences to foster student success and contribute to the community.

Access is made available through Saddleback College in Mission Viejo, Irvine Valley College in Irvine and the Advanced Technology and Education Park (ATEP) in Tustin. Courses and programs will promote critical thinking, intellectual growth and lifelong learning.

Hallmarks of the South Orange County Community College District will be: student academic achievement, sound financial management, state-of-the-art facilities and technology, and responsiveness to local residents, business and industry.

The impact of South Orange County Community College District on the regional economy is both cost-effective and beneficial. Saddleback College and Irvine Valley College are major gateways to higher education and university transfer for local students. With very little cost to the taxpayer, both campuses generate large economic and social benefits to South Orange County.

The South Orange County Community College District serves over 26 growing communities and employs more than 2,500 professionals who are dedicated to the success of our students. This success is reflected in our stunning enrollment growth, which has soared to over 38,000 students.

We have been providing Orange County students with nationally-recognized instruction for more than 38 years at our beautiful campuses, Saddleback College in Mission Viejo and Irvine Valley College in Irvine. We are planning to continue this proud tradition at our newest campus, the innovative Advanced Technology and Education Park (ATEP), located at the former Marine Base in Tustin.

This Report to the Community outlines the beneficial impact of our programs and services on current and future residents of Orange County. Our Colleges’ programs not only improve our students’ individual economic situations, but have an enormous positive impact on the regional economy as a whole.

We now have proof that community colleges are cost-effective and efficient. A recently published, ground-breaking study shows that the advanced education provided by our Colleges directly benefits local businesses and the economy.

The South Orange County Community College District is providing Orange County with economic opportunities that result in a substantial return on investment for the local community, the state and the nation. Together, with the guidance and leadership of the Board of Trustees, we are building a 21st Century workforce that will keep California competitive and the national economy strong.

Raghu P. Mathur, Ed.D.
Chancellor
The Economic Impact Report

The South Orange County Community College District (SOCCCD) engaged in a comprehensive analysis of the economic impacts generated in its service region and in the State of California. The study, conducted by CCBenefits, Inc., and titled The Economic Contribution of South Orange County Community College District: An Analysis of Investment Effectiveness and Economic Growth, applied a model designed to capture and quantify the economic and social benefits of community colleges. Four types of benefits were tracked: 1) regional economic benefits (contributions to local jobs and income formation); 2) higher earnings captured by existing students; 3) a broad collection of social benefits (improved health, lower welfare and unemployment); and 4) the return to taxpayers for their college support.

Research findings are highlighted and explained on the following pages. For additional information, or to receive an online version of this report, please call the SOCCCD Marketing and Public Affairs Office at 949.582.4347 or send your request by email to marketing@socccd.org.

SOCCCD and the Local Economy

SOCCCD positively impacts the local economy in two ways: 1) through its local purchases, including the wages paid to faculty and staff, and 2) through a human capital effect stemming from an increase in the skill-base of the local workforce.

The CCBenefits, Inc. study clearly shows that SOCCCD has a positive major economic impact on Orange County in a variety of ways. Each year students leave Saddleback College or Irvine Valley College and either rejoin the workforce or go on to seek an advanced degree at a four-year college or university, many of which are located here in Orange County. Their added skills translate to higher earnings and a more robust Orange County economy. Faculty and staff earnings generate additional incomes as they are spent. Likewise, operations and capital expenditures generate yet further earnings. And these earnings increase incrementally into the future.

Among this study’s findings:

- SOCCCD contributes $1.7 billion in regional labor and non-labor income in the Orange County Service Area economy. This is equivalent to 25,800 jobs.
- The $1.7 billion represents 1.5% percent of a typical year’s earnings in Orange County.
- SOCCCD employed 2,050 full and part-time faculty and staff in fiscal year 2004 with a $88.6 million payroll of salaries and benefits.
- The direct and indirect spending by SOCCCD contributes $101.8 million to the Orange County Service Area economy.

District at a Glance

Fiscal Year 2005

Accomplished Faculty

Full-time Faculty: 330
Doctoral Degrees: 91
Master’s Degrees: 294

Employees

Fulltime: 797
Part-time: 1,771

Semester Enrollment Figures

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<th>College</th>
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<td>Saddleback College</td>
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<td>Irvine Valley College</td>
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Total: 37,368

Revenues

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Total: $154,408,882

General Fund Expenditures

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Total: $148,974,481

YOUR MONEY IS SPENT WHERE IT MATTERS MOST

We take pride that such a high percentage of your tax dollars goes directly to educational programs and services for students.
Regional Economic Impact

SOC Cecil creates regional income through the earnings of faculty and staff, as well as through its own operating and capital expenditures. Adjusting for taxes and other monies withdrawn from the local economy in support of SOCCCD, operations annually contribute $19.1 million* in labor and non-labor income to the Southern California economy.

- Every dollar of state and local taxes invested in the SOCCCD brings a return of 15.1 percent to state and local governments. Students who attend SOCCCD programs have higher earnings, pay more in taxes and use fewer social services.
- Skills gained by current and former SOCCCD students in the workforce increased earnings in the region by $88.1 million.* For every dollar of tax money invested today a cumulative total of $18 will be returned over the next 35 years.

A Wise Investment on the Part of Students

Compared to their counterparts in Orange County who only attain a high school diploma, the typical Saddleback College or Irvine Valley College student who graduates with an associate degree will see an increase in annual earnings of $10,600, or approximately $373,300 over the course of his or her working lifetime.

- For every course credit completed, Saddleback College and Irvine Valley College students will, on average, earn $131 more per year each year they are in the workforce.
- A student earning an Associate degree from Irvine Valley College or Saddleback College will earn $10,600 more annually compared to someone with only a high school diploma.
- From an investment standpoint, Saddleback College and Irvine Valley College students enjoy a 17% rate of return on their investments of time and money.
- For every $1 a student invests in a Saddleback College and Irvine Valley College education, he or she will receive a cumulative of $4.99 return in higher future earnings over the next 30 years or so.
- The payback period (the time needed for a student to recover all costs) is 8.3 years.

The Social Benefits of Community Colleges

Taxpayer investment in SOCCCD is made even more attractive when social benefits are included in the assessment. Returns far outweigh the costs when it can be shown that Saddleback College and Irvine Valley College students are less likely to smoke, abuse alcohol or draw welfare or unemployment benefits.

- The study’s statistics show a distinct positive correlation between higher education and improved health habits.
- Associated dollar savings (“avoided costs”) amount to approximately $19 per course credit per year, which can be counted as an indirect benefit of education at Saddleback College and Irvine Valley College.
- The State of California will benefit from $12.9 million of “avoided costs” per year for all students exiting from Irvine Valley College or Saddleback College in that year.

Health Benefits

- Improved health benefits from Saddleback College and Irvine Valley College graduates include a substantial decline in health-related absenteeism (over 15,000 days per year), approximately 900 fewer smokers and 200 fewer alcohol abusers.
- The corresponding dollar savings are $2.6 million and $1.3 million per year, now and into the future. These savings include insurance premiums, co-payments and deductibles, and withholding for Medicare and Medicaid.

Reduced Crime

- Incarceration drops with each year of higher education.
- In Orange County, about 250 fewer individuals will be incarcerated per year, resulting in annual savings of $2.8 million (combined savings from reduced arrest, prosecution, jail and reform costs).
- The fact that people are employed rather than incarcerated adds $1.5 million of earnings per year to the economy.

Reduced Welfare/Unemployment

- Saddleback College and Irvine Valley College graduates help guarantee that there will be approximately 1,200 fewer people on welfare, and 300 fewer people drawing unemployment benefits per year, saving some $2.2 million and $397,000 per year, respectively.
Meeting the Needs of Local Employers

When area business leaders need additional training for employees, they often turn to Irvine Valley College and Saddleback College with their proven track record of providing skills training programs in a wide variety of disciplines.

The Colleges develop and implement programs custom tailored to each company’s needs, including supervisory skills, workplace English and math, business writing, customer service, workplace safety, computer applications and advanced information technology (IT) certification.

The Colleges provide leading-edge curriculum in such vital areas as homeland security, crime prevention, identity theft, computer espionage, laser electro-optics, wireless network security and computer counter-surveillance.

They also provide customized training and consulting in the latest technologies, including six sigma greenbelt, rapid prototyping, human resource management, and a low-cost, Microsoft Certified System Engineer (MCSE) certification preparation program taught via computer-based course software.

From aquaculture to horticulture, from cosmetician to aviation technician, the Colleges remain committed to providing Orange County employers with a skilled, qualified and competitive workforce.
Building a 21st Century Workforce

Cooperative Work Experience

Cooperative Work Experience Education is a venture in which students, employers and the Colleges work together to provide relevant, quality education and valuable work-related experiences for students. It is called Cooperative Work Experience Education because it is dependent upon employers and educators cooperating to offer a more complete educational program for the students. This is a unique plan of education combining classroom education with planned, supervised work experience and allows students to earn college credit for work experience. This combination of instruction provides students with educational opportunities that lead directly to productive employment in the community.

Students benefit by learning or improving employment skills under actual working conditions. They also apply classroom theory to “real job experience,” thus gaining a perspective on future career goals. In Cooperative Work Experience, the student’s education, career and personal development advance simultaneously. Students earn college credit for what they learn and contribute on the job.

Employers benefit because this program helps maintain a flow of trained personnel into the local business community, reducing the cost of employee turnover by employing people who are on a career path. The employer is provided with the opportunity to communicate business and industry needs to the colleges, thus helping them to stay current in a fast-changing job market.

Saddleback College Advanced Technology Center (SCATC)

The Saddleback College Advanced Technology Center (SCATC) partners with local companies and economic development efforts in Orange County to discover new methods to innovate processes and take new products from concept to successful implementation. It is dedicated to improving the educational, technological, strategic and operational competitiveness of Orange County’s economic structure to enhance its standing in a global marketplace. Activities include: product development; concept models; reverse engineering; rapid prototyping; additive manufacturing; data manipulation and file repair; packaging assistance; resin casting; economic development workshops and business seminars.

Center for Applied Competitive Technologies (CACT)

The Center for Applied Competitive Technologies (CACT) is a cutting-edge program that helps serve Orange County manufacturers who want to update their design and production processes. Offering innovative training and retraining in computer-aided design (CAD), laser optics and robotics, the CACT has received several training grants from IBM. These grants helped build the certified program in Computer-Integrated Manufacturing and Technology, which can be combined with General Education classes for a full Associate of Science Degree. For the majority of students in the program, this means being able to upgrade skills for those who are employed, or an opportunity to acquire new skills for those retraining for new careers. Only about one-third of each class consists of recent high-school graduates.

CACT will be housed at the new ATEP campus in Tustin.

Irvine Valley College Business and Professional Institute

Many organizations, from small, entrepreneurial firms to some of the nation’s most recognized institutions, have found that partnering with the Colleges can be very cost effective. For instance, the Business and Professional Institute at Irvine Valley College can provide high quality training for local businesses and industry, often at lower cost than that available through private training firms and consultants. Employers can even determine the place and time for seminars and training sessions, offering their employees the convenience of training close to home with the quality of instruction enjoyed in campus classrooms.
The most ambitious construction, expansion, renovation and upgrade initiatives in the 38 year history of South Orange County Community College District are currently underway. Sound financial management, combined with a healthy Orange County economy are ensuring that SOCCCD can keep pace with the changing needs of students, the community and regional businesses.

**Saddleback College**

A $16 million Health Sciences Building opened for classes in January 2005. The new larger instructional area increases capacity for up to 20 percent more students. The Saddleback College Foundation raised more than $3 million to make sure the very best training equipment and facilities are available to meet the critical shortage of healthcare professionals.

A $1.3 million renovation at the 400-seat McKinney Theatre resulted in state-of-the-art sound and lighting systems. Students now learn on equipment comparable to the workplace and the patron experience is enhanced.

The Business and General Studies, and Technology and Applied Science buildings will be renovated at a cost of over $8 million. The installation of temporary units during the renovation will ensure uninterrupted classroom instruction.

**Irvine Valley College**

A $31 million Performing Arts Center is currently under construction. The 53,207 square-foot facility will seat 400 people. Its striking design promises to serve as the defining image of the campus, as well as an architectural gem for the community.

A $20 million Business Sciences and Technology Innovation Center will begin construction soon. The 42,000 square-foot, two-story facility will house lecture and office space, and state-of-the-art laboratories for the School of Business Sciences.

A $2 million first phase of the Police/Maintenance Annex is under construction to provide 10,000 square-feet of offices and a shop, as well as a maintenance yard. The second phase will include an 8,600 square-foot building for Campus Police and a warehouse.

**Throughout the District**

More than $10 million is being invested to upgrade and acquire the latest technology throughout SOCCCD. More than 750 new desktop computers are in classrooms and offices. A new telecommunications and data network features the most recent developments in IP telephony that integrates voice and data into one network. Upgrades in servers and applications software are underway. Award-winning design teams are actively developing new software that directly benefits students in registration, educational planning and curriculum management. Over 70 percent of students now register online.

The National Science Foundation has invested $829,911 in grant funding to Saddleback College to continue development of the Rapid Prototyping Education Program.

Knowledge becomes obsolete incredibly fast. The continuing professional education of adults will be the number one industry in the next 30 years.”

—Peter Drucker

Saddleback College is gearing up to help meet the national nursing shortage. The Orange County Workforce Investment Board and the State Chancellor’s Office have invested $275,000 and $875,000 in grants, respectively, to support increased enrollment in the renowned nursing program.

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Advanced Technology & Education Park

A $7 million one-acre development is underway in Tustin. This first phase of the 68-acre campus will feature five buildings for classrooms, labs and offices.

“Orange County offers unparalleled opportunities for business investment and for the skilled workers and professionals who choose to live here. As labor markets become tight…our community’s ability to compete and prosper economically will depend on the availability of an adequate supply of educated and skilled workers.”

—Bill Campbell, Chairman, Orange County Board of Supervisors

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Saddleback College

Founded in 1967 with a freshman class of 1,546, Saddleback College is now one of the largest of California’s 109 community colleges, with a student population of 24,000. Fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Saddleback College is a comprehensive two-year institution of higher education which offers 140 programs leading to an associate degree in both academic and occupational subjects, and career education certificate programs.

Located on a 200-acre hillside campus in Mission Viejo, Saddleback College is treasured by the community. The celebrated Performing Arts programs have an international reputation, with sold out concerts and shows. The Community Education program provides every member of the family with opportunities for learning, for those as young as two months to those sharpening job skills and others just wanting to learn for enjoyment. Thousands of older adults attend Emeritus Institute classes held throughout the community and at Laguna Woods Village. For all classes offered, there are more than 40 off-campus sites throughout Mission Viejo and the neighboring communities.

While the College is well-known in the region for its health sciences programs, it is equally well-known for its 18 intercollegiate athletic teams which have garnered more than 100 conference, state, and regional titles. A vibrant Study-Abroad program provides students with semester learning experiences in other nations, most recently in Oxford, England and Salamanca, Spain. There are more than 50 campus clubs for students to get involved in everything from ceramics to journalism and from interior design to poetry.

Irvine Valley College

Irvine Valley College was established in 1979 as a satellite campus – Saddleback College North – and quickly distinguished itself for its high quality instruction and small-college atmosphere. In 1985 it was fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, and assumed its current name. Since its founding, Irvine Valley College has established a reputation for academic excellence. The College offers a comprehensive curriculum, from the traditional liberal arts and sciences to the study of advanced technologies. Irvine Valley College serves a sophisticated community which includes seven area high schools, the University of California at Irvine and the Irvine Spectrum, a modern, planned complex with one of the highest concentrations of high technology, manufacturing, business, finance and retail in California.

While the first class on the 100 acre campus numbered 2,600 students, enrollment now exceeds 13,000. There are also 18 off-campus class sites throughout Irvine, Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Laguna Woods, Lake Forest and Tustin. The well-regarded Fine Arts program will take center stage in a new $31 million Performing Arts Center and a new Business Sciences and Technology Innovation Center will break ground soon.

Students may choose from among 41 career education certificate programs and, for those pursuing a two-year associate degree, 73 majors in preparation for university transfer. To enhance the college experience, there are 25 active clubs for every interest from administration of justice to yoga, including the Associated Students of Irvine Valley College.
ATEP—
Advanced Technology & Education Park

The newest campus of the SOCCCD, the Advanced Technology and Education Park (ATEP), will be a unique, 21st Century educational collaboration that relies on partnerships with technology-oriented businesses and other two- and four-year educational institutions.

The 68-acre campus will be located on the former Marine Corps Air Station—Tustin. ATEP is part of Tustin Legacy, a 1606-acre development in the heart of Orange County that includes regional parks, housing, commercial businesses, a million square foot mall, a research park, a conference center and hotels.

Educational project ideas include anything involving education and technology that ultimately trains a better workforce and contributes to the economic vitality of Orange County. Current ideas for the campus include: biotech and biomedical business incubators; virtual reality; simulation; digital film production and technology; robotics; automotive design; museum curator programs; and culinary arts programs.

ATEP’s initial one-acre campus is under construction and scheduled to open in 2007.

“We will be able to educate and train students in current technologies and at the same time allow them to gain valuable experience with companies practicing these technologies right here in Orange County.”

—Dr. Robert Kopecky, Provost
The South Orange County Community College District includes Saddleback College, Irvine Valley College and the Advanced Technology and Education Park. The SOCCCD is governed by its Board of Trustees. No oral or written representation is binding on the SOCCCD without the express approval of the Board of Trustees.

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