South Central College

Your Success Starts Here

With 50 programs at its campuses in Faribault and North Mankato, South Central College is making an impact in a twelve-county region. As a comprehensive community and technical college, South Central College prepares students to immediately start a rewarding career after graduation or transfer to a 4-year institution to pursue a bachelor’s degree. In addition, the Center for Business and Industry at South Central College provides businesses and professionals with customized training and continuing education opportunities. The college offers many programs aligned with, or related to, the region’s three biggest industries – advanced manufacturing, agribusiness, and healthcare, providing opportunities for students and the workforce employers need.

South Central College plays an important role in the region and was recently selected to be part of Achieving the Dream, a national network of colleges dedicated to student success initiatives based on data analytics and national best practices. Specialized programs catering to student needs will help all students achieve their goals for academic success, personal growth, and economic opportunity.

Contributing to the Minnesota Economy

- South Central College has a combined economic contribution of $161.0 million. This includes a direct impact of $81.6 million and indirect/induced impact of $79.4 million.
- Of the $161.0 million in economic impact South Central College generates in Minnesota annually, $73.4 million comes from operational and capital spending and $87.6 million comes from student and visitor spending.

Supporting and Sustaining Jobs in the State

- South Central College directly employs 318 people.
- Overall, South Central College supports more than 1,410 Minnesota jobs (881 direct and 529 indirect/induced).
Students and Alumni in the State Generate Additional Impact

In the 2016-2017 academic year, South Central College awarded 563 associate degrees, diplomas, and certificates. With college graduates earning a (conservative) average of $6,250 annually more than those with high school degree, the impact over the course of a 40-year career, would be $250,000. This means that the 15,942 South Central College alumni living and working in Minnesota (80% of total alumni since 1972) will have contributed a total of nearly $3.2 billion in impact over the span of their careers.

As part of its commitment to student success, the Campus Foundations at South Central College award more than $400,000 in scholarships each year. In addition, the college’s Lifesaver Grant program provides short-term financial support when students risk dropping out due to an unforeseen expense. Thanks to the generosity of businesses and community members, the Campus Foundations are also able to provide equipment donations and academic program support to enhance student success.

Making a Difference in the Community and State

There is a connection between South Central College, its alumni, students, faculty, and staff. With working farmers, well-respecting agricultural programs, community events like Ag Symposium, and a program that promotes generational knowledge and passion, South Central College extends its impact beyond the numbers. The Minnesota State Southern Agricultural Center of Excellence located at South Central College focuses on attracting students, sustaining the industry, providing rural mental health counseling, and farmer well-being support.

South Central College cultivates strong ties to the business community, responding to needs of employers with programming that supports local economic development. The mechatronics program, which provides comprehensive instruction and hands-on experience with Mechanical Systems (Mecha), Electronics (Tronics), Fluid Power, Automation and Robotics, was born when local manufacturers partnered with South Central faculty and staff to develop the program—and helped fund it. Mechatronics is now one of the strongest programs at the college, training Minnesota students in the high-demand field. Students are often hired prior to their graduation, with local employers paying for them to complete their studies. In addition, South Central College partners with area employers to offer apprenticeships, allowing students to earn wages and gain experience while attending college.

An estimated $1.3 million in charitable donations and volunteer services is generated annually by South Central College faculty, staff, and students:

- $303,276 donated to local charitable organizations by South Central College faculty, staff, and students
- $1.0 million of volunteer time by South Central College faculty, staff, and students

“The mission of South Central College is to provide accessible higher education to promote student growth and regional economic development. This important mission is at the core of everything we do here.”

- Dr. Annette Parker
President of South Central College

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