



HBCUs Make America Strong:

THE POSITIVE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF LAWSON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE - BIRMINGHAM

Lawson State Community College - Birmingham is a valuable economic engine in its community, generating substantial economic returns year after year. The benefits flow to Lawson State Community College - Birmingham's graduates, of course, who'll enter the workforce with sharper skills and vastly enhanced earning prospects. But, as a landmark study commissioned by UNCF—*HBCUs Make America Strong: The Positive Economic Impact of Historically Black Colleges and Universities*—makes clear, the benefits also flow to the local and regional economies that are connected to Lawson State Community College - Birmingham.

The presence of an HBCU means a boost to economic activity, on and off—and even well beyond—campus. Stronger growth. Stronger communities. More jobs. And a more talented workforce.

The study's key findings (based on 2014 data) make a persuasive case:

Total Economic Impact: \$99 Million

- Lawson State Community College - Birmingham generates \$99 million in *total* economic impact for its local and regional economies. This estimate includes direct spending by Lawson State Community College - Birmingham on faculty, employees, academic programs and operations—and by students attending the institution, as well as the follow-on effects of that spending.
- Every dollar spent by Lawson State Community College - Birmingham and its students produces positive economic benefits, generating \$1.50 in initial and subsequent spending for its local and regional economies. Communities and regions hoping to foster a more robust and diversified economic climate find HBCU-connected spending a critical component of that effort.

Total Employment Impact: 930 Jobs

- Lawson State Community College - Birmingham generates 930 jobs for its local and regional economies. Of this total, 408 are on-campus jobs, and 522 are off-campus jobs.
- For each job created on campus, another 1.3 public- and private-sector jobs are created off campus because of Lawson State Community College - Birmingham-related spending.
- Looked at in a different way: Each \$1 million initially spent by Lawson State Community College - Birmingham and its students creates 14 jobs.

Total Lifetime Earnings for Graduates: \$769 Million

- Lawson State Community College - Birmingham plays a major role in the economic success of its graduates by enhancing their education, training and leadership skills. A college degree opens the door to economic prosperity through greater employment and earnings potential. In fact, the 433 Lawson State Community College - Birmingham graduates in 2014 can expect total earnings of \$769 million over their lifetimes—that's 24 percent more than they could expect to earn without their college credentials.
- Or viewed on an individual basis, a Lawson State Community College - Birmingham graduate working full time throughout his or her working life can expect to earn \$339,000 in *additional* income due to a college credential.¹

¹This estimate reflects incremental earnings averaged across degree and certificate programs.

