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RCC Contributed $325.6 Million to Southern Oregon Economy, New Study Finds

An economic impact study released last week by the Oregon Community College Association showed Rogue Community College providing a $325.6 million boost to the economies of Jackson and Josephine counties, or about 1.9% of the region's total gross regional product.

The RCC analysis, published by Lightcast in April 2026, is based on the college's 2023-24 academic, employee and financial data and examines RCC's economic impact on Jackson and Josephine counties as well as its return on investment for students, taxpayers and society.

The largest share of RCC's economic impact comes from alumni who enter the regional workforce with new knowledge and skills. RCC's total impact also includes $45.3 million from college operations and $8.3 million from student spending. The combined impact was equal to approximately 1.9% of the gross regional product of Jackson and Josephine counties.

The study found that RCC's activities supported jobs across a range of sectors, including healthcare and social assistance, retail trade, as well as professional, technical, and other services.

RCC contributes to the regional economy through its own operations. It also generated $40.9 million in present-value benefits for state and local taxpayers through increased tax revenue and public-sector savings.
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