

Key Findings

- The current annual impact of the University to the Florida economy is calculated to be more than \$161 million in gross domestic product at the local and state level.
- This annual level of economic activity sustains 2,350 jobs and generates an annual total of \$97.6 million in wages to workers and income to business proprietors.
- Of this annual economic impact, more than \$72 million per year of this GDP impact occurs in Polk County alone, assuming that about 10 percent of Florida Poly graduates go on to live and work in Polk.
- At current levels of enrollment, annual federal, state and local tax revenue due to the economic impacts of Florida Poly is \$38,235,650.
- A Florida Poly education is becoming increasingly valuable over time, relative to both a High School diploma and an average SUS degree. All signs indicate that these trends will continue.
- While the average Florida job paid about \$46,155 in 2018, the jobs most highly associated with the Florida Poly CIP codes paid an average of \$82,524 on a statewide basis.
- The average annual differential between the earnings of a Florida Poly graduate and a worker in Florida with only a High School degree, at \$45,913 per year (when measured at median earnings per year by occupation across occupations typically requiring a degree credential in a Florida Poly concentration versus typically requiring a High School diploma), is the highest of any university in the SUS.
- The high earnings differential means that the average Florida Poly graduate can expect to earn over \$13 in additional personal income (in present money value) over a working career for every dollar of current outlay to pursue a degree. Using the same costs of a degree but with wage differentials taken from the 2016 study of the SUS, the average SUS graduate can expect to earn about \$4.1 in discounted additional personal income over a working career for every dollar of current outlay to pursue a degree.
- About 61 percent of the economic impact of the University, as measured by the increment to state and local GDP, is driven by the skills, credentials, and increased earning capacity of the graduating students.
- As of 2019, Florida Poly had established relationships with 301 industry partners, with some 234 of them serving as career collaborators who hire interns or graduates, participate in career recruitment events, or sponsor senior capstone projects. 21 companies provided 35 of the 36 senior capstone projects completed during the past year.