

LONG TERM IMPACTS OF JOBPATH GRADUATES IN PIMA COUNTY - SUMMARY

JobPath is a non-profit workforce development organization that sponsors unemployed and underemployed adults in Tucson and Pima County through long-term education and job training opportunities. JobPath's mission is to support long-term job training in order to make a meaningful increase in the wages of graduates and address skilled workforce shortages.

Data from unemployment insurance records maintained by the Arizona Department of Economic Security was used to evaluate graduates from 2010 through 2014 and determine whether they are currently working in Pima County and how their wage levels have increased over time. Below are key findings from outside evaluator Applied Economics that demonstrate the value of the JobPath program for these graduates and for Pima County's economy.

- Over the past five years, 378 individuals have completed the JobPath program. Of that total, **79 percent, or 300 individuals, are still employed in Pima County.**
- **From 2010 to 2014, JobPath graduates working in Pima County increased their income by nearly \$10 million** over pre-training levels.
- JobPath created a **total economic impact of \$34.3 million on the Pima County economy in 2014-15** based on the current contributions of graduates from the past five years. JobPath consistently created this significant economic impact with an average budget of \$797,000 per year.
- This translates into a total annual impact per person of \$114,000, or a **total lifetime impact of \$5.2 million per person over a working life of 45 years.**
- **The average wage increase from pre-training to current levels ranged from 265 to 448 percent,** with many of the graduates not in the workforce prior to participating in the JobPath program.
- Despite one of the worst recessions in Arizona history, **salaries for graduates increased by about \$3,700 for every additional year of work experience** (as compared to their initial post-training wage).
- About 81 percent of JobPath graduates over the past five years work in high-demand occupations with job openings that are projected to increase by 25 percent or higher in Arizona over the next ten years.

JobPath creates long-term value by providing individuals with the ability to begin a career path that will allow them to increase their earnings as they accumulate experience in their selected field. This type of investment in human capital continues to provide benefits long after individuals complete the training programs. Most of these long term benefits remain within Pima County given the high retention rate of graduates within the county.

*This research was generously underwritten by Valenzuela Dry Wall and The Estes Company
in memory of Bill Valenzuela and Bill Estes, Jr.*

