The University of Illinois at Springfield (UIS) creates a significant positive impact on the business community and generates a return on investment to its major stakeholder groups—students, taxpayers, and society. Using a two-pronged approach that involves an economic impact analysis and an investment analysis, this study calculates the benefits received by each of these groups. Results of the analysis reflect fiscal year (FY) 2017.

**IMPACT ON BUSINESS COMMUNITY**

During the analysis year, UIS and its research activities, along with its students and visitors, added $833.6 million in income to the Illinois economy, approximately equal to 0.1% of the state’s total gross state product. The impact of UIS supported 8,142 jobs in FY 2017 (July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017). The economic impacts of UIS break down as follows:

**Operations spending impact**
- UIS employed 1,077 full-time and part-time employees (not including research employees) in FY 2017. Payroll amounted to $87 million (excluding payroll from research employees), much of which was spent in Illinois to purchase groceries, clothing, and other household goods and services. The university spent another $40.1 million to support its day-to-day operations, excluding research expenditures.
- The net impact of university payroll and expenses in Illinois during the analysis year was approximately $113 million in income.

**Research spending impact**
- Research activities at UIS impact the state economy by employing people and making purchases for equipment, supplies, and services. In FY 2017, UIS spent $1.9 million on payroll to support research activities.
- Research spending of UIS generated $3.5 million in added income for the Illinois economy.

**NOTE:** Added income should not be confused with personal income or sales. It is important to bear in mind, that much of this sales revenue leaves the state economy through intermediary transactions and costs. Rather, income remains in the region and is synonymous to value added or gross state product.
Impact of student spending
- Around 34% of graduate and undergraduate students attending UIS originated from outside the state. Some of these students relocated to Illinois. In addition, a number of students from Illinois might have left the state if not for UIS. These relocated and retained students spent money on groceries, transportation, rent, and so on at state businesses.
- The expenditures of relocated and retained students during the analysis year added approximately $13.9 million in income to the Illinois economy.

Visitor spending impact
- Out-of-state visitors attracted to Illinois for activities at UIS brought new dollars to the economy through their spending at hotels, restaurants, gas stations, and other state businesses.
- Visitor spending added approximately $481,014 in income for the Illinois economy.

Alumni impact
- Over the years, students have studied at UIS and entered or re-entered the workforce with newly-acquired skills. Today, thousands of these former students are employed in Illinois.
- The impact of former students currently employed in the state workforce amounted to $702.7 million in added income during the analysis year.

**RETURN ON INVESTMENT TO STUDENTS, TAXPAYERS, AND SOCIETY**

**Student perspective**
- UIS’s FY 2017 students paid a total present value of $43.5 million to cover the cost of tuition, fees, supplies, and interest on student loans. They also forwent $60.3 million in money that they would have earned had they been working instead of learning.
- In return for the monies invested in the university, students will collectively receive a present value of $658.6 million in increased earnings over their working lives. This translates to a return of $6.30 in higher future earnings for every dollar that students invest in their education. The average annual return for students is 20.1%.

**Taxpayer perspective**
- In FY 2017, taxpayers invested in the University of Illinois System. Taxpayers will then experience significant benefits from each of the universities within the system. The net present value of the added tax revenue stemming from the UIS students’ higher lifetime earnings and the increased output of businesses amounts to $179.7 million in benefits to taxpayers. Savings to the public sector
add another $8.4 million in benefits due to a reduced demand for government-funded services in Illinois. This sums together to $188.1 million in benefits to Illinois taxpayers.

**Social perspective**

- The economic base in Illinois will grow by $2 billion over the course of the students’ working lives. Society will also benefit from $28 million in present value social savings related to reduced crime, lower unemployment, and increased health and well-being across the state.

- For every dollar that society spent on UIS FY 2017 educations, society will receive a cumulative value of $10.20 in benefits, for as long as the FY 2017 student population at UIS remains active in the state workforce.

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<tr>
<th>STUDENTS</th>
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<td><strong>Gained in lifetime earnings for STUDENTS</strong></td>
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<th>SOCIETY</th>
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<td><strong>Gained in added state revenue and social savings for SOCIETY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>TAXPAYERS*</th>
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<td><strong>Gained in added taxes and public sector savings for TAXPAYERS</strong></td>
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* Because the University of Illinois System receives the taxpayer funding and controls the funding structure for the individual universities, measuring a benefit-cost ratio is not appropriate for the taxpayer perspective.