



High Returns, Affordable, Efficient, and Accountable

June 2009



JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE
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High Returns on Low Investments

- District dollars stay in the district, resulting in thousands of jobs and millions in economic development. 90% of JJC graduates continue to live in the district after graduation, meaning district tax dollars stay in the district.¹
- A JJC graduate can expect to earn \$900,000 more than a high school graduate over the course of his/her working lifetime.¹
- Nearly 75% of area employers hired a JJC student at some point over the last ten years.¹
- JJC's operating expenditures in the district produce over \$5 million in output, resulting in a total economic impact of nearly \$15 million.¹
- As a major employer and business entity, Joliet Junior College contributes local sales and wages and an estimated 1,643 jobs to the local economy.¹
- JJC offers many services that are free to the public, including workforce services focusing on job search and resume-building skills, free computer training courses, youth programs, and various cultural and arts events.
- JJC receives \$49 local tax dollars per district resident compared to a state average of \$84.²
- It is estimated the current Facilities Master Plan will generate 8,000 new jobs in the district through the direct and indirect impacts of construction and the college's ability to produce more graduates.³
- JJC has maintained this affordability and efficiency in spite of decreasing state support. ² In FY 2000, 19% of JJC operating funds came from state sources. By FY 2008, that number had dropped to 11%.



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Affordable

2008-09 Tuition & Fees at Illinois Colleges & Universities

College	Tuition & fees	Two years of college	JJC savings
JJC	\$2,640	\$5,280	–
4-year public	\$9,215	\$18,430	\$13,150
4-year private	\$23,480	\$46,960	\$41,680

The average JJC student can save **\$13,000 in tuition and fees alone** by attending JJC for the first two years of college instead of a four-year public university and nearly **\$42,000** over a four-year private university.⁴

- JJC awards over \$10 million annually in federal, state, and institutional financial aid. 75% of that amount is in the form of non-repayable grants and tuition wavers.⁵
- JJC awarded nearly 1,900 federal Pell Grants and nearly 1,500 state MAP grants in 2007. The amount of these grants are often enough to offset the entire cost of tuition, fees, and books, including for middle-income students.⁵
- In FY 2008, JJC received 30% of its total operating budget from tuition and fees, compared to a state average of 34%.²
- JJC has made significant efforts to enhance affordability:
 - The implementation of STARS (Scholarship Tracking and Review System), an online scholarship application that allows students to easily apply for over \$600,000 in available scholarships from the JJC Foundation and other institutional sources. In the past year, the number of students who applied for JJC scholarships through STARS increased from 602 students and 2,092 scholarship applications in 2007-08 to 1,871 students and 8,103 applications in 2008-09. This is a 32% increase in students applying for scholarships and a 25% increase of applications received.
 - JJC holds an annual financial aid FAFSA/scholarship workshop. JJC professionals provide free assistance to the public in completing the FAFSA and starting the scholarship process, with sessions and forms available in Spanish. The attendance this year has more than doubled from the previous year. The college plans to offer more workshops to accommodate the increase.
 - JJC provides FACTS, a service for students to pay tuition and fees over the course of a semester interest free, as opposed to making one or two large payments at once.
 - JJC's Financial Aid Office conducts workshops, presents to high schools and community organizations, and participates in recruitment events on campus.



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Efficient

- In FY 2007, JJC spent \$76 per credit hour on administration and support. This is 21% lower than the state average of \$96 and 46% lower than the peer group average of \$111.⁶
- In FY 2007, JJC spent \$220 per credit hour on instruction, 13% lower than the peer group average of \$237.⁶
- JJC currently employs the second most full-time faculty of any community college in Illinois, despite being sixth in enrollment.
- JJC has made efforts to increase efficiency in college operations:
 - A renegotiated agreement with MidAmerican Energy Services, resulting in an estimated savings of \$113,000 annually.
 - An extension of our current contract with Constellation Energy for the purchase of natural gas resulting in an approximate savings of \$78,225 over the next three years.
 - A new agreement with Office Depot as the college supplier of office supplies and equipment. In addition to cost savings, this program streamlines our current process by reducing in-house labor and giving rebates back to the college annually.
 - JJC's cafeteria now accepts all forms of credit and debit cards from our students for an easy payment process.
 - JJC food service recently expanded its meal plan options and they are now offered to our Pell Grant students.
 - Re-pricing texts each semester to address rising publisher prices (anywhere from 8% to 37% per title this fall semester). Due to oil/fuel costs this year, there have been across-the-board increases on all textbooks and supplies as well as shipping charges and fuel surcharges.
 - While the national average for book markups in the college market is 25%, our markup is between 2.75% and 20% with the average being 14-15%.
 - The JJC bookstore conducts a daily buy-back at up to 50%. Many colleges offer a daily buy-back but do not pay up to 50% except at the end of the semester. Books are listed online and are available on the shelves 4-5 weeks prior to the start of classes so that students can comparison shop.
 - Purchasing has reduced paper usage by eliminating all mailings for bids, quotes and proposals – all vendors register and are solicited via e-mail since January 2009.





Accountable

- JJC recently received an upgrade on its bond rating from AA to AA+.⁸ This will reduce what the college has to spend on any bond issuances in the future.
- JJC is one of only 14 colleges in the nation to with the Government Financial Officers Association (GFOA) award.⁹
- The JJC Board of Trustees recently approved the college's 37th consecutive balanced budget.⁹
- At \$8.7 million in FY 2007, the JJC Foundation currently holds the largest community college endowment in Illinois and is in the top 50 for community college endowments in the U.S.¹⁰
- In the FY 2008 Annual Financial Audit, no material weaknesses, unusual transactions, significant deficiencies or noncompliance issues were identified.¹⁴
- JJC's property tax rate is 19.4, compared to the state average of 40.4.¹¹
- In an effort to maintain environmental sustainability, JJC's new Master Plan includes designs for new, environmentally friendly buildings. These buildings save students and taxpayers money through alternative energy sources like solar and geothermal energy and improved lake and storm water management.



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More Information

In an effort to be accountable and transparent, JJC posts information online, open to the public. For more information please visit the following websites.

- Institutional Accreditation (AQIP): <http://www.jjc.edu/about/college-info/institutional-research/aqip/Pages/default.aspx>
- Financial Reports: <http://www.jjc.edu/about/college-info/Pages/financial-reports.aspx>
- Master Plan: <http://www.jjc.edu/about/college-info/master-plan/Pages/default.aspx>
- Sustainability: <http://www.jjc.edu/about/committees/sustainable-campus/Pages/default.aspx>
- Institutional Research & Effectiveness: <http://www.jjc.edu/about/college-info/institutional-research/Pages/default.aspx>
- JJC Foundation: <http://www.jjc.edu/about/foundation/pages/give.aspx>
- Community interests: <http://www.jjc.edu/about/community-interests/Pages/default.aspx>

Information about JJC at other sites:

- Illinois Community College Board: <http://www.iccb.org/index.html>
- Illinois Board of Higher Education: <http://www.ibhe.org/>

Questions? Please contact the Institutional Advancement & Research division at 815-280-2352.



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Sources

1. Economic Impact of Joliet Junior College, <http://www.jjc.edu/about/operational/communications/Pages/economic-impact.aspx>
2. JJC Financial Services Office, Three-year Financial Plan.
3. JJC Office of Institutional Research & Effectiveness. Analysis based on total construction costs of \$127 million using a 15.35 multiplier per \$1 million in construction, leading to a total direct and indirect impact of over 3,700 jobs. The remaining amount is based on the number of graduates projected to graduate from the new programs associated with the new construction.
4. JJC Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Research, *Tuition and Fees at JJC with Comparisons*, http://web.jjc.edu/admin/ie/Information/Tuition_Financial_Aid/Tuition_00_09.pdf
5. JJC Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Research, *Financial Aid at Joliet Junior College, 2007*, http://web.jjc.edu/admin/ie/Information/Tuition_Financial_Aid/JJC_Financial_Aid_FY07.pdf
6. Illinois Community College Board, *Annual Unit Cost Report*, Table 7: Unit Cost by Instructional Support Areas, <http://www.iccb.org/pdf/reports/unrestrictedcostonlyUC07.pdf>. JJC peer group includes community colleges in the Chicago suburban area with fall enrollments close to or over 10,000: DuPage, Elgin, Harper, Lake County, Moraine Valley, Oakton, Triton, and Waubonsee.
7. Illinois Community College Board, *Data and Characteristics: 2008*. <http://www.iccb.org/pdf/reports/databook2008.pdf>
8. JJC receives positive bond rating from S&P, <http://www.jjc.edu/about/college-info/master-plan/Pages/bond-rating.aspx>
9. JJC Board of Trustees Approves FY 09-10 Budget, <http://www.jjc.edu/about/operational/communications/pages/news.aspx?i=157>
10. U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds>
11. JJC Financial Services Office, Financial Reports, including audits, <http://www.jjc.edu/about/college-info/Pages/financial-reports.aspx>





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