



HBCUs Make America Strong:

THE POSITIVE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF OKLAHOMA'S HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITY

The landmark study commissioned by UNCF—*HBCUs Make America Strong: The Positive Economic Impact of Historically Black Colleges and Universities*—makes it clear: Oklahoma's HBCU is an economic engine in its community and beyond, generating substantial economic returns year after year.

HBCU faculty, employees and students produce—and consume—a wide range of goods and services, which spurs economic activity on and beyond campus. The result? More jobs, stronger growth and more vibrant communities. Meanwhile, Oklahoma's workforce is bolstered by a steady supply of highly trained and success-oriented HBCU graduates.

The positive economic impact of Oklahoma's HBCU is large and lasting. The numbers (based on 2014 data) tell the story.

Total Economic Impact: \$129 Million

- 📍 Oklahoma's HBCU generates \$129 million in *total* economic impact. This estimate includes direct spending on faculty, employees, academic programs and operations and by students attending the institution, as well as the follow-on effects of that spending.
- 📍 Every dollar in *initial* spending by Oklahoma's HBCU generates \$1.60 in initial and successive spending. This "multiplier effect" means that, on average, each dollar spent by the state's HBCU and its students generates an additional 60 cents for its local and regional economies.
- 📍 Many HBCUs are located in regions of the country where overall economic activity has been lagging, making their economic contributions to those communities all the more essential.

Total Employment Impact: 1,035 Jobs

- 📍 Oklahoma's HBCU generates 1,035 jobs in total for its local and regional economies. Of this total, 353 are on-campus jobs, and 682 are off-campus jobs.
- 📍 For each job created on the HBCU campus in Oklahoma, another 1.9 public- and private-sector jobs are created off campus because of HBCU-related spending.
- 📍 Looked at in a different way: Each \$1 million initially spent by the Oklahoma HBCU and its students creates 13 jobs.

Total Lifetime Earnings for Graduates: \$1.2 Billion

- 📍 HBCUs play a major role in the economic success of their graduates by enhancing their education, training and leadership skills. In fact, the 436 Oklahoma HBCU graduates in 2014 can expect total earnings of \$1.2 billion over their lifetimes—that's 54 percent more than they could expect to earn without their college credentials.
- 📍 Or, viewed on an individual basis: An Oklahoma HBCU graduate working full-time throughout his or her working life can expect to earn \$951,000 in *additional* income due to a college credential.¹

¹This estimate reflects incremental earnings averaged across degree and certificate programs.

HBCUs in Oklahoma:

- Langston University