

# Wisconsin Student Government



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The WSG Legislative Seminar is the forum for which WTCS' Student issues are brought to Wisconsin's Legislators. The following position paper's focus is relevant for the 2003 Legislative Seminar.

## **The Next Proposed Bi-ennium Budget for the Wisconsin Technical College System**

Our state faces an uphill battle with a budget deficit at almost astronomical proportions and rising daily. We, as taxpaying students, need to look at how we can help this situation get better for ours and our families sake. We need to come together and make a united stand to help our state get back to a secure financial stand.

First, we need to understand how this happened, with reduced income from wages and from lost employment across the state. Also, we lose sales tax from all the money not being spent on items people would normally purchase. We need to find ways to help our state's economy rebound, not just today but for the long-term.

The WTCS' next proposed Biennium Budget includes new money for the increase in available offering of classes for the nursing and medical fields. It includes money for individual colleges to target employment needs in their specific areas. This budget targets putting people back to work and paying taxes in their local communities and Wisconsin, not in other states.

Here are some facts showing the effectiveness of the Wisconsin Technical College System for you to share with others:

*For every Dollar invested in the WTCS the State of Wisconsin gets back two dollars in just 2.2 Years.*

*WTCS adds \$3,900,000,000 a year in new earnings to Wisconsin's economy.*

*The existence of the WTCS amounts to \$385,000,000,000, of annual earnings in the State of Wisconsin generating about \$570,000,000 in state tax revenue. This equal to about 125,000 jobs and growing.*

*For every credit completed, a WTCS student will average \$131.00 per year in the work force.*

*For every full-time year they attend, they will earn an additional \$3940.00 per year.*

*In aggregate this amounts to about \$228,900,000 per year, every year!*

The above facts do not take into account the intangibles shown in the Socio-Economic Benefits Study, such as lower crime rate and more personal involvement in community. In conclusion we have shown how we can, as students, citizens, and taxpayers, help our state back into its financial stability.