Central Washington University was founded in 1891 as a teachers’ college. Today, CWU is a comprehensive university that serves the state by producing highly skilled graduates, performing practical research, and providing vital community services.

With about 10,500 students and 1,500 employees, CWU is a medium-sized university. However, its impact is big, especially in the state’s central region. And just as CWU gives the region a boost, the university’s continued success depends on the support of the local community.

“CWU is our county’s largest employer and economic contributor several times over. Nothing else comes close. But just as importantly, Central brings theater, the arts, athletics, and talented faculty and staff that significantly enhance the lives of all of us who choose to live here. They are a big part of what makes this an extraordinary place.”

—Jim Armstrong, CEO, Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce
Employing an Educated Workforce
One in nine jobs in Kittitas County is at CWU, or about 1,500 out of 13,590 jobs. The impact is even greater in the city of Ellensburg where about one out of every seven jobs is at the university.

The $91-million payroll for this educated workforce supports retail, food, housing, and entertainment businesses, particularly throughout central Washington. About $4.2 million in wages goes to Yakima County alone.

“As a major employer, CWU has a very stabilizing effect on Kittitas County, and so whether agriculture goes up or down with the price of hay or apples, the ability for the economy to be stable with CWU’s workforce is very beneficial.”

—Obie O’Brien, Kittitas County Commissioner, District 3
Generating Local Business
Retailers in the Ellensburg area know that CWU employees, students, and guests generate more business throughout the year than any other single entity. Camps, conferences, and events hosted by CWU draw more than 50,000 people to restaurants, hotels, and retail businesses each year.

CWU contracts for goods and services with small businesses throughout central Washington. From napkins to fencing and concrete to water bottles, small businesses provide the materials and expertise essential to university operations.

### CWU Supports Business*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CITY OF ELLENSBURG</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local Businesses</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payments to Local Businesses</td>
<td>$7M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KITITAS COUNTY including Ellensburg</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local Businesses</td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payments to Local Businesses</td>
<td>$8M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YAKIMA COUNTY</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local Businesses</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payments to Local Businesses</td>
<td>$2.8M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRAND TOTAL Kittitas and Yakima Counties</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local BUSINESSES</td>
<td>306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAYMENTS TO LOCAL BUSINESSES</td>
<td>$10.8M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* From 7/1/2012 – 6/30/2013 for selected counties based on zip code
* 50 Local Businesses = $1 Million
Creating Government Revenue
University expenditures create revenue for city and county governments in Kittitas County. Often these revenues derive from sales taxes and permitting fees associated with large capital construction projects. The $62 million Science Phase II construction project is expected to generate $1.2 million in fees for the city of Ellensburg.

CWU’s 350-acre campus includes 89 residential and non-residential facilities—a total of more than 3 million square feet. The physical plant eclipses all other facilities in Kittitas County. Its vast size and complexity makes CWU a top utility customer for the city of Ellensburg and other providers. CWU student fees also help fund the city’s free bus service, Central Transit.

“Central Washington University is a major part of the local economy. The impacts include family wage jobs, student spending, large scale utility purchasing and sales tax revenue directly related to capitol construction projects.”

—Rich Elliott, Mayor of Ellensburg

### Annual Utility Expenditures*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>1,767,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Gas</td>
<td>1,736,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water</td>
<td>436,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sewer</td>
<td>341,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storm Water</td>
<td>17,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refuse</td>
<td>114,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cable and Fees</td>
<td>300,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Protection</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,812,300</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Based on Fiscal Year 2013
Providing Public Safety
The 24-hour CWU Department of Police Services is one of five regional law enforcement agencies that provides outstanding public safety in the central region of Washington State. CWU has mutual aid agreements with the Kittitas County Sheriff’s Office, the Ellensburg Police Department, the Cle Elum-Roslyn-South Cle Elum Police Department, and the Kittitas Police Department. CWU also works with the Washington State Patrol and supports federal law enforcement, and emergency fire, medical, and utility responders.

CWU police is made up of commissioned, state-certified officers who provide active outreach, offering programs, activities, and events designed to educate the community and improve safety.

As a community member, CWU provides emergency support in times of crisis. When wildfires ravaged Kittitas County in 2013 and 2012, CWU moved quickly alongside local responders. The university opened residence and dining halls to displaced residents, firefighters, and Red Cross volunteers. CWU provided public information support, community meeting space, and storage for donations. CWU communications personnel worked side by side with state and federal response agencies to quickly publish accurate situation updates.
Participating in the Community
WU employees buy homes, rear children, and pay taxes in central Washington. They volunteer in K-12 schools, raise money for the arts, and support restoration of community icons such as the Northern Pacific Train Depot and the Geddis Building. CWU employees bring their expertise to marketing, capital planning, and natural resources preservation as informed members of city, county, and state boards and commissions. Service-minded staff and students are Rotarians, Kiwanis members, and belong to other local clubs. They volunteer their time, talents, and money to help better the community.

Central Communication Agency partners with the Ellensburg Downtown Association and the Ellensburg School District. Excel, the school district’s alternative high school program, is housed on CWU’s campus. Advanced high school students are challenged in Running Start, also operated on campus. And CWU teachers-to-be enrich classrooms throughout central Washington. The education students also develop interactive displays for the Children’s Activity Museum.

Hundreds of CWU students and employees participate in the annual Yakima River Clean-Up. The Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship supports regional economic development by providing education, expertise, and support for new and existing businesses. The Office of the President sponsors a gift drive that ensures hundreds of our community’s most needy children receive holiday gifts.

“Kittitas Valley Healthcare has an active partnership with Central Washington University to place students in formal internships. This volunteer experience benefits the students, KVH, and the patients and families that KVH serves.”
—Paul Nurick, CEO of KVH
Performing Practical Research
WU performs practical research and services to corporations, local, state, and federal agencies and tribal governments in central Washington and beyond. Grant funding for fiscal year 2013 totaled more than $9.4 million. Among the many projects are:

- A major wildlife monitoring effort for the Interstate 90 Snoqualmie Pass East Project—the largest-scale study of its kind ever conducted in the United States
- Evaluating irrigation strategies for sustainable water management of hay production in Washington State
- Monitoring Yakama Nation riparian restoration sites
- Archaeological mitigation, monitoring and cultural resource services in Yakima, Kittitas, Chelan, and Grant counties
- Studying the effects of wind on solar panels
- Assessing urban stream fish passage in Ellensburg
- Mapping the fair and rodeo grounds in Ellensburg
- Creating comprehensive economic development strategies for Yakima and Kittitas counties
Offering Cultural Enrichment
The campus community brings new energy and rich talent to a vibrant local arts scene by working with organizations such as Jazz in the Valley and Gallery One and participating in art walks, community choirs and theater productions.

The university creates cultural enrichment with outstanding educational and entertaining offerings, including:

• Dance performances and several theater productions per year, more than 150 music recitals and concerts, and two-dozen art exhibits—the vast majority of which are free to attend.

• The Museum of Culture and Environment features timely exhibits of regional importance.

• The school’s talented faculty members share their passions with local families during popular events such as Science is Central and Nature of Night.

• And CWU routinely hosts guest lecturers who are accomplished in their fields.

The university also brings the excitement of college sports to central Washington. Wildcats compete in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II, and teams have been perennially ranked among the leaders in the conference, region, and the nation.
Adding Up the Impact
$91 Million
Payroll distributed to CWU’s educated workforce

306
Number of vendors in Kittitas and Yakima counties CWU contracts with for goods and services

$276,000
Fees paid to the city of Ellensburg during the construction of Barto Hall.

$1.2 Million
Fees for city of Ellensburg to be generated by Science Phase II construction

80 Percent
Amount of all takeoffs and landings at Bowers Field by CWU’s Department of Aviation

$9,453,197
Grants funded during fiscal year 2013

1,876
Single transactions in two-hour time frame at the 2013 Fred Meyer Night for Students.