

VALUE PROPOSITION: Citizens are receiving a great return on their investment in the Library.

In 2024, patrons checked out physical items valued at more than \$ 26,000,000.

PLUS patrons downloaded more than 1.3 million ebooks, at an approximate value of an additional \$ 18,600,000.

That constitutes a DIRECT SAVINGS to the people in our community of \$ 44,600,000 during 2024.

This does not begin to count the value of other items including research, information, and training that EBRPL patrons accessed through the Digital Library or in person.

ROI for Just a <i>FEW</i> SERVICES or RESOURCES:	COST TO LIBRARY'S PATRONS	APPROXIMATE COST TO BUY <u>YOURSELF</u>
Make data-informed decisions with Statista Data Platform - used constantly by local business owners, students, and researchers	FREE	\$ 11,508 annually
Research the competition with Data Axle Reference Solutions (Reference USA) - used constantly by local business owners, investors, and individuals researching companies and individuals	FREE	\$ 5,000 annually
Language Learning with Mango Languages for adults and Muzzy for the kids (similar to Rosetta Stone or Duolingo)	FREE	Duolingo \$120; Rosetta \$240 annually
Take an online class through LinkedIn Learning (Formerly Lynda.com)	FREE	\$ 75 – \$ 450 per course
Check out a Book and enjoy some “me time” with a new bestseller	FREE	\$ 25 per title
Bring home a Movie to watch – whether a new blockbuster or a film classic	FREE	\$ 19 per DVD
Download an eBook – over 200,000 to choose from, available anywhere, any time	FREE	\$ 5 – \$ 30 per title
Upgrade your job prospects at the Career Center: receive assistance in preparing your resume'	FREE	\$300 - \$1,000 per resume'
Get personalized job coaching at the Career Center	FREE	\$ 150 per hour
Use library computers with access to the Internet, printing, and Microsoft Office	FREE	\$ 69.99 annually for Microsoft Office
Bring in your own devices to use in the Library and take advantage of free Wi-Fi at the Library (or spend \$35 per month for Home Wi-Fi or between \$ 80 - \$ 110 per month for Gigabit Fiber Home Internet service)	FREE	\$ 80 - \$ 110 per month for equivalent speed service
Find your family's story: Get personalized assistance from the Genealogy Staff in Special Collections	FREE	\$ 150 per hour
Check out a Hotspot	FREE	\$ 30 - \$ 95 per month
Check your blood pressure, either in the library or with a circulating blood pressure kit	FREE	\$ 50 – 150 per device
Learn Vocational Skills such as welding, plumbing or HVAC repair with SkillMill's or Transfr's AR/VR technology	FREE	\$ 2,146 per 12 credit hours
Enrich your life: Attend a performance or program on cultural, historical, or leisure topics for every interest	FREE	\$ 20 per event
Stay involved: schedule and attend your organization's monthly meeting	FREE	\$ 100 per meeting
Keep up with technology: receive computer training online or in person	FREE	\$ 75 – \$175 per class
Learn how to use all kinds of equipment in one of the Library's MakerSpaces	FREE	\$ 500
Get fast and dependable answers with Library Information Service: in person, or by phone, text, mail, or chat	FREE	\$ 25 per hour
Raise your score on standardized tests such as the ACT or PRAXIS in Learning Express or Mometrix	FREE	\$ 75 – 125 per hour

Connect with an online tutor on any topic and for any grade via Homework Louisiana, any day till midnight	FREE	\$ 30 – 125 per hour
Upgrade your skills with workforce development and leisure learning online	FREE	\$ 450 per class
Listen to an audiobook	FREE	\$ 10 - \$ 30 per title
Use Ancestry to research your family’s genealogy yourself	FREE	\$ 229 annually
Read the <i>New York Times</i> , <i>Wall Street Journal</i> , <i>Washington Post</i> online, at your convenience	FREE	NYT \$ 300 annually Post \$204 annually WSJ \$468 annually
Read <i>The Economist</i> at your convenience	FREE	\$ 400 annually
Stream 10-15 documentaries and indie films per month on Kanopy	FREE	\$ 3 - \$ 5 per digital movie rental
Share a book with your child: 15 minutes a day changes everything! Track it in 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten	FREE	\$ 10 - \$ 30 per book
Borrow materials of your choice at any of 15 locations: return to ANY location	FREE	\$ 2.90 per gallon/gas
Try something new: check out an Arduino kit or digital microscope	FREE	\$ 45 - \$ 450
Stay current: Access technology with full-service business, technology, and upgraded computer resources	FREE	\$ 20 - \$ 50 per month
Make the Library your Homeschooler’s classroom, either in person, or online, on demand	FREE	\$ 125 per class
Bring the family together for game night: check out a game or family activity kit	FREE	\$ 15 - \$ 60 per game
Research and even preserve your local history through the BR Room and the Digital Archive	FREE	\$ 75 per hour
Create your Business Plan with personalized assistance from the Small Business Service	FREE	\$ 75 – \$ 125 per hour
Download an audiobook from Libby	FREE	\$ 8 per month on Audible
Print out up to 20 pages of your research paper or homework	FREE	\$ 0.21 per page
Download 7 tunes a week from Freegal	FREE	\$ 10 per MP3 album
Improve your skills at Pickle Ball via HiveClass	FREE	\$ 30 per class
Learn how to play a musical instrument on ArtistWorks	FREE	\$ 50 per lesson
Figure out how to finish that family quilt with Craftsy	FREE	\$ 30 per class
Host a job fair for your company	FREE	\$ 500 - \$2,500 for a venue
Get your kiddos Kindergarten-ready with Press Start! Ready, Set! Read!	FREE	\$ 10 per issue
Develop pre-literacy habits in Storytime	FREE	\$ 25 per event
Run a property title search	FREE	\$ 75 - \$ 200
Research an old lawsuit in Lexis Nexis	FREE	Individual subscription to LexisNexis \$3,876 annually
<i>Go old school and make black and white copies - \$ 10 cents at the Library versus \$ 0.21 at commercial retail establishment</i>		
Cost to study for 4 hours at the Library, versus at a local coffee shop		\$ 10 - \$ 15 for coffee and snacks

SPOTLIGHT ON THE CAREER CENTER:

The Library operates the Career Center at the Main Library on Goodwood from Monday through Saturday each week. Staff assist patrons one-on-one in the Center, offer workshops and job trainings, host or attend job fairs, and manage a robust YouTube site filled with specialized micro-classes geared to our locale. In 2024:

- Staff in the Career Center served patrons with 815 private appointments and 2,147 conference sessions.
- Staff answered 2,956 reference questions, and 6,992 general information questions.
- Career Center staff served 3,205 patrons during outreach visits.
- The Career Center taught classes to 741 patrons.
- The Career Center's YouTube channel logged 265,423 views

The savings to a community for transitioning an unemployed person to employment can be **significant**, as it reduces social costs, increases tax revenue, and boosts economic productivity. Below is a breakdown of the potential **savings per person**: To put it into perspective, cost savings for bringing an unemployed person into employment:

1. Reduced Government Spending on Welfare Programs

- **Unemployment Benefits:** Average savings of ~\$18,200 per year (e.g., \$350/week in unemployment benefits).
- **Other Assistance:** Reduced reliance on food stamps, housing subsidies, and Medicaid.
 - **Savings:** ~\$5,000–\$15,000 per person annually, depending on the level of support.

Subtotal: \$23,200–\$33,200 annually per person.

2. Increased Tax Revenue

- **Income Tax:** Employed individuals contribute ~\$3,000–\$6,000 annually in income taxes for a \$40,000/year job.
- **Sales Tax:** More disposable income leads to increased spending, generating ~\$500–\$2,000 in additional sales tax revenue.

Subtotal: \$3,500–\$8,000 annually per person.

3. Reduced Social Costs

- **Crime Reduction:** Employment reduces crime-related costs, saving ~\$5,000–\$10,000 annually per person.
- **Healthcare Costs:** Employment improves access to healthcare and reduces stress-related health issues, saving ~\$2,000–\$5,000 per person.

Subtotal: \$7,000–\$15,000 annually per person.

4. Economic Multiplier Effect

- **GDP Contribution:** Each employed person contributes ~\$50,000–\$70,000 annually to the economy.
 - **Multiplier:** Additional spending generates ~\$20,000–\$40,000 in economic activity.

Subtotal: \$70,000–\$110,000 annually per person.

Total Savings Per Person

Category	Estimated Annual Savings
Reduced Welfare Spending	\$23,200–\$33,200
Increased Tax Revenue	\$3,500–\$8,000
Reduced Social Costs	\$7,000–\$15,000
Economic Multiplier Effects	\$70,000–\$110,000
Total Savings	\$103,700–\$166,200

We don't have exact numbers of how many people we helped to go from unemployed to employed, or from underemployed to employed, or just to a better higher paying job. But this fits a high portion of the roughly **3,775 people we listed under reference and appointment in our 2024 statistical summary**. Basically, the Library's Career Center creates a considerable amount of savings for the community because of our services.