Sonoma State University is a liberal arts and sciences university dedicated to providing high-quality undergraduate education and selected professional graduate programs. Known for its active use of technology, SSU offers an educational experience that fosters intellectual, cognitive, social and personal growth. The faculty and staff of Sonoma State provide close mentoring relationships and an education that promotes ethical exploration, civic engagement, social responsibility, and global awareness combined with a solid foundation in an academic discipline. It is the only university in California to be invited to join the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges, a prestigious national group of institutions.

High Magnitude Economic Impact
Sonoma State’s annual impact on the Bay Area region and the State of California is enormous:

- Annual spending related to Sonoma State ($213 million) generates a total impact of nearly $330 million on the regional economy and more than $376 million on the statewide economy.
- This impact sustains more than 2,500 jobs in the region and statewide more than 3,200 jobs.
- Per year, the impact generates $19 million in local and $21.4 million in statewide tax revenue.
- Even greater—more than $941.5 million of the earnings by alumni from Sonoma State are attributable to their CSU degrees, which creates an additional $1.6 billion of industry activity throughout the state.

Sonoma State University improves California’s economy with research, innovation and entrepreneurship.

- The CSU system significantly contributes to the skilled workforce of California’s technical industries. Sonoma State University’s School of Science and Technology established undergraduate and graduate programs in engineering sciences in response to the urging of the regional telecommunications industry. Telecom businesses invested more than $8 million to help the university create the Cerent Engineering Science Laboratories, which house state-of-the-art equipment for research and teaching in computer and engineering sciences. Students have unique opportunities to work with high-tech companies in the area.
One reason that CSU succeeds in teacher education is because its programs have strong linkages with local school districts. Sonoma State University places student teachers in more than 50 schools in 30 districts each semester.

Named one of the nation’s 12 most “green” campuses by The Princeton Review, SSU is working to promote sustainability in all aspects of the campus facilities and curriculum. Known as a “building that teaches,” the Environmental Technology Center is a unique demonstration of sustainable architecture and energy efficiency. The Center’s mission is focused on solutions to the effects of buildings on the environment, economy, and people. The ETC provides educational resources and technical assistance to design/construction professionals, students, local government, businesses, and community members.

The university owns and operates the 411-acre Fairfield Osborn Preserve near campus and the 3,200-acre Galbreath Wildland Preserve in Mendocino County, which offer major and unique opportunities for biological, ecological, and environmental research in the natural sciences that are especially rare for undergraduates.

Sonoma State University improves life in the Bay Area region through research, arts and community service.

Sonoma State University serves as an educational and cultural resource for its region by offering courses, lectures, workshops, and performing arts programs that are open to the public and by entering into partnerships with local businesses, industries, and cultural and educational institutions to enhance the quality of life in the North Bay and beyond.

Opening in the next few years, the Green Music Center has been designed to become one of the great concert halls of the world and is modeled after Seiji Ozawa Hall at Tanglewood in Massachusetts.

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute is a popular program for students more than 50 years of age and has become a model for similar programs throughout CSU and UC. With an enrollment of more than 800 people, the program offers a variety of courses taught by both current and retired faculty. It is supported by a $1 million endowment from the Bernard Osher Foundation.