

The following information is presented by the Oregon Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development to help local college board members and their constituents understand what has been happening to community college legislation and funding, and what they may expect during the coming biennium.

Oregon Legislative Update

Since the 2011 Legislative Session, Oregon has been enmeshed in educational reform work. The 2013 session saw community college funding become a top priority, 16 capital construction projects funded, as well as the passage of legislation that radically changed the governance of public postsecondary education in Oregon.

- HB 3120 restructured the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) so it now provides coordination at the state level of community colleges, universities, the Oregon Student Access Commission (OSAC). As part of this restructuring, community colleges will move from under the State Board of Education to the HECC effective July 1, 2014.
- SB 270 created institutional boards for the University of Oregon, Oregon State University and Portland State University while also outlining a process through which regional institutions could also request individual boards.
- HB 3341 repealed the requirement that community colleges enter into agreement with for-profit higher education before implementing potentially duplicative postsecondary programs (known as “adverse impact”). Due to a Legislative Counsel drafting error of removing only one of two needed sections in the signed bill, HB 3079 original provisions were removed and that bill was passed to correct the error.

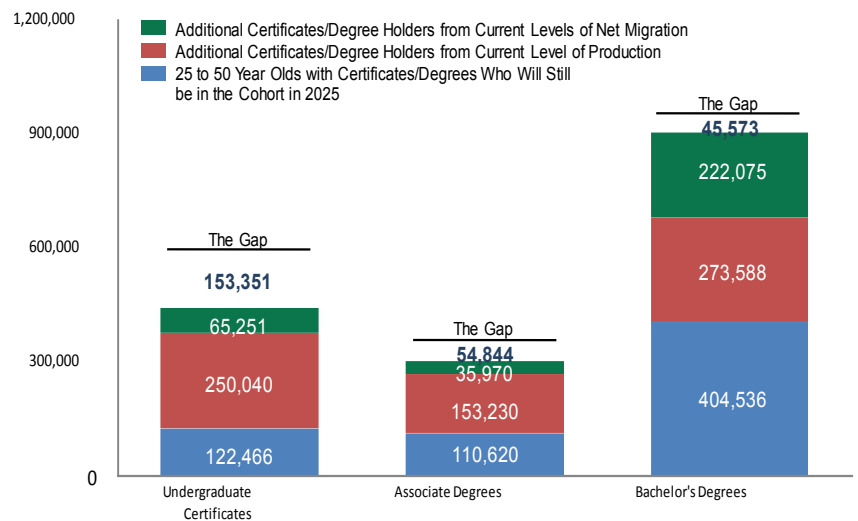
Educational Attainment

During the 2011 session, the Oregon Legislature adopted SB 253, which declares that the mission of all higher education includes the achievement by 2025: 20% of residents with a high school diploma, 40% with a post-secondary credential or associate’s degree, and 40% with a bachelor’s degree or higher.

However,

- Only about half of Oregon high school graduates head to college – ranking our state 47th in the nation.
- Oregon’s current generation of young adults – ages 25-34 – is less educated than their parents’ generation as well as less educated than the national average with only about 46 percent of young Oregonians possessing a postsecondary degree or certificate.

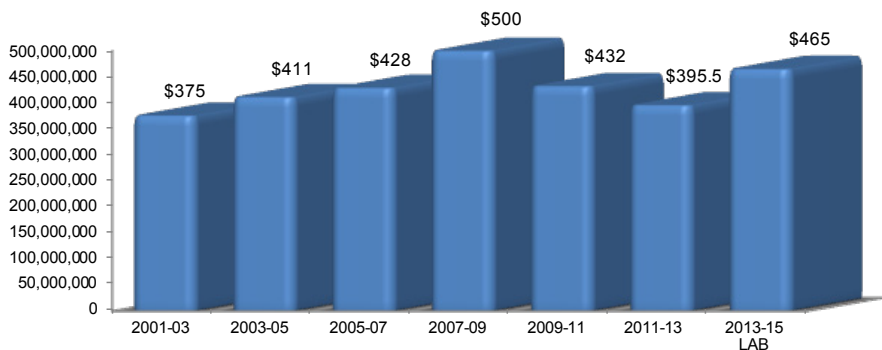
The GAPS - Additional Certificates and Degrees Needed by 2025 to Meet the 40-40-20 Goal



Source: Analysis conducted by NCHEMS; using data from the National Center for Education Statistics and the U.S. Census Bureau (2007 American Community Survey)

What's been happening with funding?

State Appropriations to Community Colleges (in millions)



State Support per Student FTE



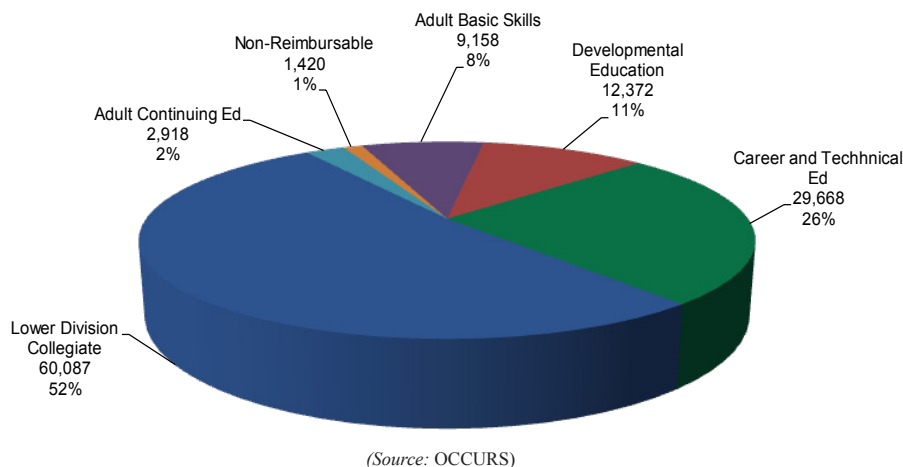
State appropriations to Oregon's community colleges grew in the mid-2000s. However, the recent "great recession" led to a decrease in funding of over \$100 million from 2001-2012. That tide began to change as legislative leaders made it clear that community college funding was a priority. Thus, after five years of budget cuts, the Community College Support Fund (CCSF) received a significant increase in the 2013 legislative session with funding going from \$395.5 million in 2011-13 to \$465 million for the 2013-15 biennium.

State funding per full-time equivalent students was severely impacted by the budget cuts, hitting the lowest it had been in over a decade in 2011-13. Even with the increase in funding from the legislature, student tuition remains nearly 50 percent of community college revenue statewide.

What does this mean for educational attainment in Oregon?

The \$465 million allocated to community colleges for the 2013-15 biennium will stabilize operating revenue allowing colleges to better support current program offerings. This is particularly important as community colleges continue to have historically high enrollments. One trend seen for the past few years and especially during the recent recession was more students enrolling in Lower Division Collegiate courses. In 2012-13, Lower Division Collegiate enrollments accounted for over 52 percent of total enrollments over a 10 percent increase since 2001, while Career and Technical courses decreased to only 26% of total enrollments.

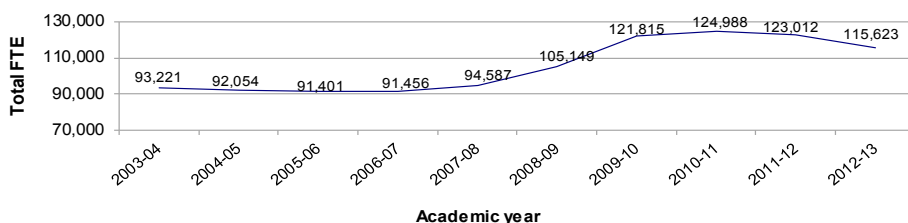
Oregon Community College Enrollment by Program Area 2012-13 Total: 115,623



How does this affect enrollments?

Community colleges are the key access point for Oregonians seeking a post-secondary education. They provide **opportunity** for students to advance their education levels and acquire new skills regardless of their starting point.

Community College Full-time and Part-time Enrollment (FTE)



What is the impact on community college tuition?

For 2013-14 Oregon community colleges have the second highest tuition in the 15 western states. Tuition and fees for 2013-14 at Oregon community colleges rose to \$4,535 statewide, an increase of over 20 percent in five years. According to the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education (June 2011), 68 percent of community college students report that they chose their college because of costs. Another important factor to community college students is financial aid, loan debt and grants. In 2012-13, there were 112,307 community college students eligible for the Oregon Opportunity Grant; only a mere 15.1% actually received those grant funds.

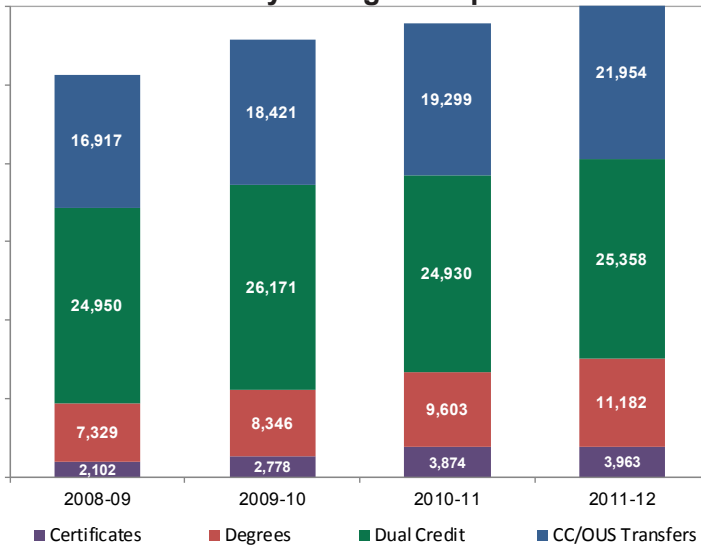
Average Annual In-District Tuition and Fees



Source: Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)

Student Success

Community College Completions



The value of student success goes beyond meeting individual educational goals - it ensures the civic benefits of an educated citizenry as well as economic growth and vitality. The focus of Oregon community colleges on the enhancement of student academic progression and completion is the critical piece if Oregon is to achieve the “middle 40” of the 40-40-20 goal. This focus includes an intentional shift from simply an ‘access to education’ mantra to a focus on education outcomes that provide access to life success.

What’s going on with capital construction?

Since 2005, the Oregon Legislature has approved over \$221 million in Article XI-G and Lottery bonds to finance community college capital construction and deferred maintenance projects at all 17 community colleges. Article XI-G bonds must be matched dollar for dollar by local revenues. Lottery bonds, however, do not have a local match requirement. Bonds and local matching funds must be dedicated to community college capital construction, renovation and deferred maintenance.

The agency’s legislatively approved budget for 2013-15 contains \$108,581,600 in Article XI-G bonds for new construction and deferred maintenance projects at 16 colleges:

- **Blue Mountain Community College:** Applied Animal Science Education Center: approved \$3,331,350 Article XI-G bonds to construct new facilities for animal science and agriculture programs.
- **Central Oregon Community College:** Academic and Student Services Center: approved \$5,260,000 Article XI-G bonds to provide state funds to retire outstanding Central Oregon Community College general obligation bonds sold for construction of a building leased to Oregon State University for operation of its Cascades campus. Once the debt is repaid, COCC will terminate the contract with OSU and remodel the building for college academic and student support use.

Capital Construction Projects (continued)

- **Chemeketa Community College:** Applied Technology Classroom Center: approved \$8,000,000 Article XI-G bonds to construct new space for the Welding/Metal Fabrication and Machining programs and to remodel existing space to accommodate college services displaced by the new construction.
- **Clackamas Community College:** Clairmont Career and Technology Education Center: approved \$8,000,000 Article XI-G bonds to replace a 1960's era building that will provide additional classroom and industrial space. In addition, the horticulture program, the joint Clackamas/Oregon State University Extension Service office, and industrial technology programs will be located in the new facility.
- **Clatsop Community College:** Health and Wellness Center: approved \$7,990,000 Article XI-G bonds for construction of a new facility with gymnasium, fitness room, equipment storage, lockers, showers, and wellness activity area for physical education, community education, and health and wellness programs.
- **Columbia Gorge Community:** Advanced Technology Center, phase two: approved \$7,320,000 Article XI-G bonds for construction of a facility on the Hood River campus to support science, technology, engineering, and mathematics programs.
- **Klamath Community College:** Student Success and Career-Technical Center: approved \$7,850,000 Article XI-G bonds for construction of a new facility housing a research library and computer labs, a testing center, tutoring and advising areas, and space for GED, ABE, and ESL programs. The project will also expand the CTE center for auto and diesel mechanics and construction management programs.
- **Lane Community College:** The Center for Student Success: approved \$8,000,000 Article XI-G bonds to remodel an existing building that houses the library, tutoring center, bookstore, Academic Learning Skills Department, and Culinary Arts and Hospitality programs.
- **Linn-Benton Community College:** Nursing and Allied Health Facilities: approved \$8,000,000 Article XI-G bonds for construction of a new facility for 12 Allied Health programs located in proximity to major healthcare providers or education centers. The funds will also be used to repurpose space on the Albany campus.
- **Mt. Hood Community College:** Student Services Enhancement: approved \$8,000,000 Article XI-G bonds to remodel and expand student service facilities, centralizing academic advising, career counseling, financial aid, admissions, registration, testing, business office and other functions.
- **Portland Community College:** Health Professions Center: approved \$8,000,000 Article XI-G bonds to construct or purchase and remodel a facility near the Sylvania campus for Dental Hygiene, Dental Assisting, Dental Lab Technology, Radiography, and Nursing programs.
- **Rogue Community College:** Health and Science Center: approved \$8,000,000 Article XI-G bonds to increase space for health science programs by constructing new facilities or buying and remodeling existing ones.
- **Southwestern Oregon Community:** College Health and Science Technology Building: approved \$8,000,000 Article XI-G bonds for construction of a new facility with laboratory, classroom, and auxiliary space for expansion of allied health and science programs.
- **Tillamook Bay Community College:** Career and Technical Workforce Facility: approved \$2,000,000 Article XI-G bonds to construct a new building that will house OSU Extension Services and Open Campus programs, Oregon Regional Solutions, Tillamook County Economic Development Council, and the college Small Business Development Office as well as classroom, office, and laboratory space for career and technical education, natural resources, and hospitality and tourism programs
- **Treasure Valley Community:** College Workforce Vocational Center: approved \$2,830,250 Article XI-G bonds for construction of a new facility to expand space for welding training and to house Natural Resource, Renewable Energy, Wild Land Fire, Construction Trades, and Waste Water Management programs.
- **Umpqua Community College:** Industrial Technology Building: approved \$8,000,000 Article XI-G bonds to construct a new facility on campus for automotive, manufacturing, construction, and welding technology programs.

The Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee approved the extension of the project expiration dates and expenditure limitations for the following projects: Clackamas Community College – Harmony Campus Phase II: extended to June 30, 2017; and Umpqua Community College – Roseburg Regional Health Occupation Training Center: extended to June 30, 2017.

For additional information please contact Gerald Hamilton, Interim Executive Director
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